



Mission Statement: Meeting the array of needs for the established IT professional while seeking to develop the IT profession and provide a service to our community and society.

A Publication of the Minnesota Information Professional Society (www.mnips.org) – Vol. 7, No. 3, March 2006

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Published nine times per year (September – June) by the Minnesota Information Professional Society. We welcome materials for publication (articles, news or letters). Submit materials on disk or via email to:

Bob Groethe
3301 Girard Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55408
Tel. (612) 716-5605
E-mail: newsletter@mnips.org

NOTE MEETING INFORMATION

MEETING PLACE:
Holiday Inn – Bloomington
35W at 94th St.
Phone (952) 884-8211

Meeting Times:

3:30 PM Networking Event
5:00 PM Social Hour
6:00 PM Buffet Dinner
6:45 PM Meeting & Program
8:00 PM Adjourn

For a Dinner and Program Reservation, send email to:
reservations@mnips.org

no later than 5 pm on
Thursday, Feb. 16

\$28 Members
\$33 Non-members

Meeting NOTICE

Tuesday, Mar. 21, 2006

Minnesota Information Professional Society

Networking Event Topic:

“To be determined”

Speaker:

To be determined

Dinner Topic:

“The Global Sourcing of Knowledge Work through Offshoring and Outsourcing”

Speaker:

Mani Subramani

SPEAKER TOPIC

Outsourcing - the decision to take advantage of market efficiencies in a make vs. buy choice - is a familiar practice in most firms. Through such an arrangement, firms rely on external vendors to manufacture items or provide specialized services so that the client firm can focus on activities that it enjoys a natural advantage on. Offshoring is the move by the firm to move the execution of an activity to a location that is geographically remote from the client firm. Increasingly, outsourcing and offshoring are being considered for activities beyond just the arena of structured and routine tasks (such as manufacturing) in *knowledge work* - unstructured and non-routine tasks such as software design and devel-

opment, medical diagnosis and new product design.

In this talk, Professor Mani Subramani will discuss the factors underlying the recent trends regarding the global sourcing of knowledge work, the different areas in which we observe these changes, and reflect on the implications of these trends for knowledge workers in developed countries such as the USA. He recently led a group of Carlson MBA students on a tour of India to meet managers in firms engaged in providing products and services to US clients and will discuss some of the interesting experiences the group had

SPEAKER PROFILE

Mani Subramani is an Associate Professor at the Information and Decision Sciences (IDSc) Department in the Carlson School of Management, at the University of Minnesota. His research focuses on the strategic role of information technology within the organization and in inter-organizational relationships. His current areas of research are knowledge management and the leveraging of organizational capabilities using information technologies.

In 2005 and 2006, he taught an MBA course titled “Managing Globally” in the Carlson School to expose students to the implications of the global diffusion of capabilities. The course included a 2-week visit to India where students had the opportunity to visit the operations of

multinationals like Honeywell, Dell and Reuters and global Indian firms such as Wipro, Mindtree and Genpac.

President's Letter

The topics covered in this month's Presidents Letter include, new members, the final results of the balloting for changes to the MnIPS bylaws, and election of officers.

First, at the last few meetings, I have had a chance to talk with many of our new members. New members help our organization grow. They also bring new ideas and different perspectives that contribute to the vitality of the organization. Welcome to all of you. I am confident you will find your involvement in MnIPS to be a rewarding experience.

Next, the balloting for changing the MnIPS bylaws passed. Balloting closed on January 31, 2006. The final count was 38 in favor of the changes. In order for the changes to be accepted by the membership, at least 26 members had to vote in favor. Please refer to the MnIPS web site (www.mnips.org) for more information about the bylaws change.

Finally, in April MnIPS will elect new officers. Interested candidates can run for President, Vice President, Treasure, and Secretary. It truly is a rewarding experience and looks good on a résumé. Email nominations to president@mnips.org

As always I look forward to seeing all of you at our March 21st meeting.

– Jeff O'Connor,
MnIPS President
president@mnips.org

Simplified Sign-on

(Summary of the Feb. 2006 dinner topic presented and written by Brian Polick, CISSP - Security Solution Director with Computer Associates (CA Entrust) in the Midwest Region)

Single sign-on grants users access to applications or systems without requiring users to juggle multiple usernames and passwords or re-enter their credential information each time they access an application. Our primary focus was on Web and Enterprise SSO. We touched briefly on Federated SSO which is an emerging standards-based technology used to enable SSO between trusted domains. Web SSO provides a centralized security infrastructure for managing user authentication and access across internal and external websites. Enterprise SSO provides simplified and secure end-user access to legacy applications, databases, and client/server applications. Integration between the products enables customers to:

- greatly simplify everyday computing tasks through seamless authentication between resources protected by either solution
- deploy a combination of authentication schemes, with more sensitive applications requiring re-authentication with stronger authentication as appropriate

Enterprise SSO provides full-featured single sign-on across the extended enterprise. It logs users into mainframe, middleware or web applications from a single authentication, providing a seamless user experience for both legacy and web applications in business settings and special environments, such as kiosks or clinics.

Web SSO helps to make on-line com-

merce websites more manageable and secure. Web SSO provides companies with the ability to centrally manage user identity and entitlement information and to share this information across a variety of applications. This capability greatly reduces the cost and complexity of administering and developing these websites. Web SSO platforms are usually managed through a rules-based policy engine. These services enable administrators to define policies that the Web SSO platform will use to deliver single sign-on, authentication, entitlement management, and auditing. Web SSO tools are also used to manage B2B user-driven transactions between companies with trusted affiliate networks.

Federated SSO: Today, the Internet, Internet-compliant technology and standards have matured to the point that effective coordination and mass integration between trading partners is now achievable and affordable. Moreover, the advent of general purpose and industry specific standards are easing the extension of today's enterprises by lowering the barriers to connecting disparate business applications both within and across corporate boundaries. This enables businesses to substantially reduce costs, create new revenue opportunities and provide greater convenience, choice and control for its users.

In summary, benefits of SSO include:

- helps reduce operational costs
- provides risk mitigation
- helps drive regulatory compliance
- increases end-user satisfaction and productivity
- supports new business models

**April 18 Dinner Topic:
"RFID – What is it? How
to use it."**

Don't miss our **Education Seminar on May 3rd** and **Golf Outing on June 23rd**
See below for more information on both events

**Mark your calendar and register for
MnIPS 11th Annual Education Seminar on May 3, 2006:**

Topic: Risk Management: Anticipating, Preventing and Surviving a Crisis

We all know that risk is a part of life, but how to respond effectively? Even when plans are in place, they must be re-evaluated regularly to meet changing conditions in the legal and technical arenas. A comprehensive strategy is the key to adequately assessing and preparing for the uncertain future.

This seminar is designed for Managers and Senior Developers who are responsible for implementing their corporation's risk management initiatives. Attendees will be presented a comprehensive, interactive look at Risk Management issues, tools and best practices.

Topics include:

Data Center Management	Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity
Data Risk and Internal Security	Legal Aspects
Risk Management tools	Case Studies
Risk Management through the Development Lifecycle	

Presenters: (tentative)

Slumberland	Darlene Tester	State of Minnesota
Nextel	IST	Hennepin County
Berbee	ClearNorth	James Danburg

When: Wednesday May 3, 2006, 8:00am to 4:30pm

Where: Hamline University, Saint Paul

Cost: MnIPS member: \$98 before April 21, \$118 after; Non-member individual attendee: \$118 before April 21, \$138 after; Add-on attendee with another registrant: \$98 before April 21, \$118 after

Contact: Mary Brown, committee chair, seminar@mnips.org

Don't Miss MnIPS' 26th Annual Charity Golf Outing

Benefiting the Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women and the Fairway Foundation

Golf reservations are already starting to fill-up for this fun event. This is the most heavily attended event of the MnIPS season, with several vendors and more than 150 Twin Cities MIS attendees participating. **So get your reservations in early and join us for a fun day.**

When: **Friday, June 23rd, 2006**

Where: **Braemer Golf Course**

Questions: **Contact Joe at 612-455-6060 or jperzel@jperzel.com or
check us out at www.mnips.org.**

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MnIPS MEETING

Mar. 21, 2006, 3:30-5:00 PM

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Speaker: **To be Determined**

Dinner Topic:

**"The Global Sourcing of
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35W & 94th (1201 W. 94th St.)

**When the Geek Squad
came, I asked if they
could make my
computer younger.**



**They said, "our job is to
make sure your
computer gets older!"**

by Earl C. Joseph, Futurist