

Telecommunications Systems Management Alumni Spotlight

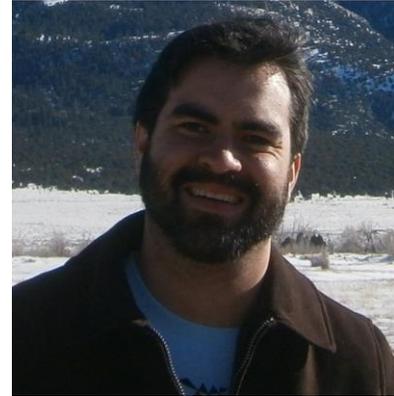
Name: Sebastian Coe

MSU Degree: M.S. TSM '09
B.S. TSM '08

Home Town: Cartagena, Colombia
(born while father was stationed there
by the U.S. Navy)

Current Town: Englewood, Colorado

Current Job: Senior Information Security Analyst, GBprotect



Current Job Description: Providing on-site Symantec Data Loss Prevention expertise for a customer environment of over 85,000 users.

Certifications:

CompTIA Network+, CompTIA Security+, CompTIA Healthcare IT, ITIL Foundation, Lean IT Foundation, Proofpoint Enterprise Security Certified Engineer, Websense TRITON Gladiator

Previous Jobs held (since graduation):

- Senior Information Security Analyst, BEW Global
- Network Security Instructor, Xi'an SiYuan University
- Economics Department Head, Shanghai Guanghua College
- Business and Economics Department Head, Suzhou Foreign Language School
- Instructor, Suzhou Industrial Park Institute for Vocational Training (Murray State University Partnership)

Family & Personal:

Four years married to my beautiful wife Pilar, a Public Administrator from Chile. Two brothers. One finishing a Master's in Computer Science in Helsinki, Finland; another finishing his Master's in Operations Management at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Parents just retired from the U.S. Foreign Services after being evacuated from the U.S. Embassy Cairo, Egypt. They now live in Dallas where they keep busy with Church activities.

Organizations and Activities:

Graduated Cum Laude, B.S. TSM (May 2008)
Intern of the Year, Kentucky World Trade Center (December 2007)
Mentor, CyberPatriot (2012 – Present)
Mentor, Creating IT Futures Foundation (2012 – Present)

TSM Q & A:

Since graduation, what is the most exciting thing you have been able to experience in your work?

Getting into the world of Data Loss Prevention would be it. Rather than dealing with the bits and bytes, you get to protect critical enterprise data in real-time. There's nothing like catching someone in the act and preventing millions of dollars in potential losses. It's a lot more glamorous than other very necessary parts of IT security, but that usually don't get non-IT folks out of bed at night.

What class(es) were the most beneficial to your career so far?

My undergraduate security class was a huge catapult to what I do today. But, surprisingly the business classes have been enormously relevant as well. On a daily basis, I am interacting with senior managers, directors, auditors, and VP's. The ability to bridge technology in a manner that enables the business was one of the central tenets of the TSM program that has left a lasting mark on my career.

What activities outside your classwork were most valuable to your career?

Working on IEEE articles with Prof. Yarali that eventually became published papers. This allowed me to present at conference events in Denmark and China. The biggest takeaway was that I was able to interact with some of the top minds from around the world in IT, and as a MSU TSM master's student I could measure up intellectually. This was a huge ego-boost, as before that I erroneously thought that our program was weaker than those given at so-called top-ranked universities. But, I guess the proof is in the pudding as MSU grads are landing jobs at GE and other well-known firms.

What is one piece of advice that you would give to current or future TSM students?

Don't ever think that your education ends once you have your bachelor's degree in your hands. The master's program at Murray State is one of the best values in the country, so go for it while you have the momentum going.

Also, certifications are not to be overlooked. If you take a security class, go for the Security+. After taking networking classes, go for the Network+, and so on. It's an excellent way to validate your skills with employers, and are must-haves if you want to get a good government job. A lot of recruiting calls will come your way once you get vendor and vendor-neutral certifications on your resume.