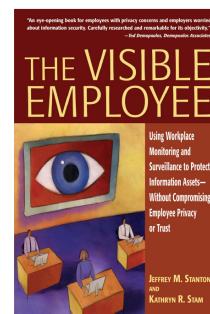# NEWS RELEASE

Information Today, Inc.

For Immediate Release
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The Visible Employee

New Book Asserts That Firms Can Monitor Wired Workers to Improve Information Security Without Compromising Employee Privacy or Trust

May 19, 2006, Washington, DC—Information Today, Inc. (ITI) has announced the publication of *The Visible Employee*: *Using Workplace Monitoring and Surveillance to Protect Information Assets—Without Compromising Employee Privacy or Trust* by Jeffrey M. Stanton and Kathryn R. Stam.

Despite the staggering sums organizations spend on information security, employee behavior is a major risk factor that is frequently overlooked or ignored, often leading to serious problems. The misuse of information systems by employees—whether through error or intent—can result in leaked and corrupted data, crippled networks, lost productivity, legal problems, public embarrassment, and more. In response, companies are increasingly monitoring and controlling employee usage of network resources including the Web, but how well are they doing?

The Visible Employee reports the results of an extensive four-year research project, covering a range of security solutions used by organizations as well as the perceptions and attitudes of employees toward workplace surveillance. Emphasizing the human element in information protection, the authors consider whether employee monitoring, supported by well-designed, clearly communicated policies, can strengthen a firm's information security. The result, according to Ted Demopoulos—a leading consultant, author, and speaker on business technology topics including information security—is "an eye-opening book for employees with privacy concerns and employers worried about information security." Demopoulos described the book as "carefully researched and remarkable for its objectivity."

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The Visible Employee includes the following chapters:

1. An Introduction to Information Protection and Employee Behavior
2. How Employees Affect Information Security
3. Information Security Technologies and Operations
4. Employee Monitoring, Surveillance, and Privacy
5. Managerial Perspectives
6. Information Technology Professionals' Perspectives
7. Employee Perspectives on Information Security and Privacy
8. Overall Analysis and Interpretation
9. Recommendations for Managers, Employees, and Information Security Professionals

According to Gene Kim, Director of Research at the IT Process Institute, "There are three questions about information security that every IT professional needs to ask: What to change, what to change *to,* and how to motivate the change." Kim said that while the first question may seem somewhat obvious, "managers have been looking for good answers to the second and third questions for decades. *The Visible Employee* addresses issues such as tone at the top and accountability, and does it directly and objectively, laying a foundation that any business executive will understand and appreciate."

To celebrate the book's publication, Jeffrey M. Stanton will sign copies from 12:00–1:00 PM on Sunday, May 21, at ITI's booth #825 at Book Expo America (BEA), being held at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC. For more information about BEA visit www.bookexpoamerica.com.

Jeffrey M. Stanton, PhD is an associate professor in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University and Director of the Syracuse Information Security Evaluation Project. He is an associate editor at the scientist-practitioner journal *Human Resources Management* and his work has been published in top behavioral science journals. **Kathryn R. Stam, PhD** is an assistant professor of Anthropology at the SUNY Institute of Technology in Utica, NY, where she teaches courses in anthropology, sociology, cultural diversity, and the social and ethical aspects of information technology. Her qualitative research on information technology and other topics has been published in numerous academic journals.

The Visible Employee (376pp/softbound/$24.95/ISBN 0-910965-74-9) is a CyberAge Book from Information Today, Inc. It is available in better bookstores through Independent Publishers Group (IPG) or by calling (800) 300-9868 [outside the U.S. call (609) 654-6266]; faxing (609) 654-4309; e-mailing custserv@infotoday.com; or on the Web at www.infotoday.com.

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