



#29

Jason Stead

Chief Information Security Officer
Choice Hotels International

Public role source revisited. Employer/self sources and association/event biographies are distinguished; direct role acceptance is not established. **Current-role source**

Direct business email and telephone: not publicly verified.

Public professional route: named role biography. Personal LinkedIn URL remains unverified.

Source: summit2026.rhisac.org

Work base: Not established from reviewed sources. Actual work base, DC access and willingness require direct confirmation.

Recommendation and rationale

Reserve / second-group qualification. Hospitality enterprise CISO and RH-ISAC chair; thin personal commentary and policy output need depth.

Research rank #29 - Sector qualification. Final research recommendation for this pass; ISA selection and outreach approval pending.

Company capacity and proposed benefit

Major hotel franchisor; FY2025 issuer results available. **Source: investor.choicehotels.com**

Proposed company benefit: Test Choice Hotels' oversight of distributed services and partner dependencies.

Proposed executive benefit: Contribute hotel-sector and collaboration experience.

What This Recruit Could Add to ISA

Develop a hospitality AI threat scenario with workforce responsibilities and recovery trade-offs. **Source: enterprisesoftware.blog**

Handbook connection: Tool E 48-50; H 57-59. Proposed output and benefits require agreement. **Source: www.nacdonline.org**

Introduction and next decision

No named introducer established. ISA to designate an approved contact route; no private relationship inferred.

ISA to reconcile account status and route; then validate current remit, contribution, corporate payer and participation directly.

Policy history and board-selection fit

Policy evidence gap: Reviewed commentary supports an operating or governance perspective, but attributable testimony, formal policy input or a government advisory role has not been verified in this pass.

December 11, 2025 announcement - RH-ISAC | Retail & Hospitality ISAC Announces New Board Members and Officers - RH-ISAC. RH-ISAC announced Stead as Board Chair. [Source: rhisac.org](https://rhisac.org)

Sector collaboration signal; personal legislation or regulatory input unverified.

Benchmark: ISA recommendations, current ISA board practitioner profile, operating authority, company capacity, attributable policy work, concrete contribution, and portfolio balance. Corporate directorship alone does not determine priority.

Qualification status and ownership

Requirement	Evidence and remaining confirmation
Current role	Public role support; recheck directly before contact; direct confirmation pending.
ISA membership	Unknown current company/account and designated-representative status. Public board absence does not establish nonmembership.
Eligibility	Operating practitioner fit supported by research. ISA acceptance and employer designation pending.
Board feedback / introducer	No named introducer established. Introduction completion: not confirmed.
Corporate sponsorship	Published annual dues \$75,000; corporate payer, budget approver and written authorization not confirmed.
Executive interest	Not directly confirmed. Published interest in cyber topics is not membership interest.
Time / participation	Four meetings yearly, including two in Washington, DC and two virtual, plus agreed preparation. Availability, travel and term commitment not confirmed.
ISA output and benefits	Person-specific hypotheses documented; prospect and employer acceptance not confirmed.
Portfolio	Industry/expertise rationale assessed. Work base and DC access require direct confirmation.

[ISA public board / meeting baseline](#) | [Bylaws](#) | [Published sponsorship](#)

1631 owns researched case and source accuracy; ISA owns current membership/eligibility/introducer decision; employer/prospect must confirm funding, interest, availability and proposed output.

Image and contact provenance

Portrait: Exact named source asset; manually selected. [Source: summit2026.rhisac.org](https://summit2026.rhisac.org)

Company mark: Current employer website brand asset [Source: www.choicehotels.com](https://www.choicehotels.com)

Attributable commentary and evidence ledger

4 / 10 substantive sightings recorded. Depth target remains open; no biographies, awards or duplicate syndications added to fill the gap.

1. Ep 10: AI and the Future of Protecting Hospitality with Choice Hotels CISO Jason Stead - AI in the Enterprise

2024 | Original podcast transcript [Source: enterprisesoftware.blog](#)

Discusses hospitality's varied threat actors and the implications of AI for cybersecurity and workforce skills.

Attribution / limitation: Not evidence of ISA interest or employer sponsorship.

ISA relevance: AI preparedness across a complex operating ecosystem.

2.

Date not shown | Vendor case study with direct remarks [Source: files.abnormalsecurity.com](#)

Explains hotel-industry social-engineering exposure, gaps in employee consistency and reducing costly email-security risks.

Attribution / limitation: Vendor-produced case study; performance claims are not independently audited.

ISA relevance: Human-risk management and measurable business protection.

3. Fighting Back: Hotel Companies Combat Cybercrime

2024-10-18 | Industry-publisher direct Q&A [Source: lodgingmagazine.com](#)

Stead discusses protecting franchisees' guest information and investing in endpoint detection and response against recurring attackers.

Attribution / limitation: Only Stead/JS-labeled answers assigned to him; other hotel executives' statements remain separate. Commercial effectiveness claims are not independently validated.

ISA relevance: Proposed ISA contribution: a franchisor/franchisee case on distributed responsibility and shared controls.

4. Hotel cyber threats during the pandemic: AHLA Safety Summit remarks

2021-04-28 | Publisher report of attributed conference remarks [Source: www.costar.com](#)

Stead describes pandemic-themed phishing, attacks on both franchisors and franchisees, loyalty fraud and threats to guest-location information.

Attribution / limitation: Historical event remarks; other speaker Ben Vaughn's board comments are not assigned to Stead. One conference report counted once.

ISA relevance: Proposed ISA contribution: threat scenarios showing business impact beyond stolen credit cards.