

An Introduction to the APA's Panel on International Developments in Polygraphy

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In 2005, at the APA seminar in San Antonio, the first-ever APA "International" panel was organized. The purpose of the Panel was to serve as a forum for discussion of contemporary events in Polygraphy and Credibility Assessment in countries outside of the U.S. The advent of the internet, changes in social, political and legal areas, the menace of terrorism and the growing problem of trans-national crime have raised the need for an awareness of developments in the field of Polygraphy. The panel was the APA's initial step in that direction.

The International Panel presentations, hopefully, will be a continuing feature of the annual seminar. Generally the organization will be as follows: Each Panel will consist of three or four presenters, each from a different country. Panelists will make a 20-30 minute presentation, after opening remarks from the moderator. After the featured "country" presentations, the moderator will summarize and integrate the important points. That will be followed by a question and answer session, with questions posed by audience members to the panelists. This organization is intended to promote greater interest in international issues and a better understanding of how practices and policies in other countries are related to those in the U.S.

In addition to a presentation at the seminar, each panelist also agrees to prepare a more detailed paper, in a relatively consistent way, that will be submitted to the APA's Editor for publication consideration. Examples of items that are to be covered in each of the papers include: Who is credited with the initial development of polygraph testing in the country? When? Who uses polygraph testing? How many examiners are there and how are they selected and trained? What kind of instrumentation is used? What are the dominant procedures ("techniques") in use? What are the legal issues of most concern? What is the public perception of Polygraphy?

In past issues of *Polygraph* papers from several International Panels have been published. In this issue of we are pleased to publish a paper from the third International Panel in 2007. In this paper the author describes Polygraphy in Singapore. I note here, however, that the paper does not include specific mention of Polygraphy in the military, security or intelligence communities. Although it is known that polygraph testing is used in agencies in each of those communities, discussion of that usage was omitted from the paper by agreement of the author and others in Singapore.

About the Author

Mr. Dominique Ngoo, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Singapore Police Force

Dominique Ngoo is Head, Specialised Interview Section of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in the Singapore Police Force (SPF). He played a pivotal role in establishing the Polygraph Branch 1999. The Branch was renamed Specialised Interview Branch in 2001. His main area of responsibility lies in the interviewing and polygraph testing of criminal suspects and in supervising the team of 12 polygraph examiners.

Dominique joined the SPF in 1976. After completing his basic police training in 1977, he performed general policing duties, including being a drug undercover agent and a criminal investigator. He was posted to CID in 1986 where he specialized in fraud investigations (1986-1992) and secret society and triad investigations (1992 - 1998). He rose through the ranks and was promoted to Deputy Superintendent in 2005.

Dominique has been a polygraph examiner since graduating from the American Institute of Polygraph (Lynn Marcy's school) in 1993. He is an associate member of the

American Polygraph Association. He is also a certified primary instructor accredited by the APA and a member of its International Advisory Panel. He is recognized for his involvement in countermeasures research, the findings of which he presented at the APA's annual seminar in New Mexico in 2002 and the International Polygraph Conference in Rome in 2004.

Dominique played a pivotal role in forming the Singapore Association of

Polygraphers (SAP) in 2004 and bringing the polygraph examiners in Singapore under an umbrella body. Since then, he has been the President of the SAP.

Dominique is married and has a 20-year old son, Gary, and a 12-year old daughter, Flora. He divides his time mainly between his work and family and spends the rest on his hobby of collecting stamps and gardening.