Thomas Dawkins, Senior Audience Marketing Manager at Microsoft Corporation

Thomas has held a number of positions as an IT Professional over his 28 years' experience in the computer industry. His IT experience is very diverse from managing PC environments to large raised-floor computer centers. He moved into training and consulting to share his expertise with people wanting to learn about computer technology and to service companies who needed technology solutions. During this time, Thomas co-authored a book on Microsoft's Internet Information Server. His move to Microsoft evolved his career into business and marketing management where he was instrumental in the development of several new consulting offerings, constructing a new partner channel and has played a strategic role in several product acquisitions.

Prior to his recent role, Thomas worked in the Trustworthy Computing Group where he managed the strategic relationship between Microsoft and leading global security industry associations. His focus was to help these organizations further the progress of the security profession while at the same time help members understand the high level approach that Microsoft was making to improve the security and quality of their products through in-depth security practices. With his business and marketing skills, Thomas was able to help (ISC)2 create a virtual community of their members and certified security professionals though a member only social media environment called InterSec. Thomas also helped the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA) develop their vendor sponsorship programs to help fund strategic research and progress the careers of security professionals worldwide. He has several articles published in different security professional journals and newsletters focused on IT security state awareness and the use of Microsoft's free security assessment tool which he developed.

For his international industry contributions, Thomas is the August 2011 nominated director of the IFIP IP3 Global Industry Council (GIC). "Global Industry Council Directors are specially nominated and invited to serve within the UN-[founded] body as internationally recognized luminary executives, thought leaders, and visionaries and for their strong history of providing substantive contributions to global business, industry, society, education, and governments. The IP3-GIC is a first of its kind focusing on Computing as a Profession, which will further align computing with organizational strategy and business agility driving innovation, entrepreneurship, business growth, regional GDP growth, high yield investment opportunities, and regional economic development. Global GDP is nearly 60 Trillion USD and the global program for computing as spearheaded by IP3 and IP3-GIC will be a catalyst for a more than a 20% increase in global GDP in the next 10 years to 80 Trillion USD."

Today, Thomas is responsible for Microsoft's strategic plans to engage with over 21 million IT Professionals worldwide. His relationship with GITCA is core to this strategy. Demonstrating his recognized leadership, Thomas is the founding Chairman of the GITCA Global Sponsor Advisory Board. With his solid business acumen and experience with other large industry consortiums, his experience will help GITCA evolve and grow. Thomas's key to success is with his ability to build relationships and synergies across industries, organizations and companies. He thrives on aligning and developing strategies that make organizations successful through his leadership, business management and marketing abilities.