



**International Society of Automation**  
*Setting the Standard for Automation™*



**CASE STUDY**

# Building Practical OT Security Expertise Through ISA Education and Community: **An Authorized Training Reseller's Journey**



Sun Square Co. Ltd., a consulting firm specializing in industrial cybersecurity and compliance for critical infrastructure sectors, was built around a simple idea: industrial cybersecurity only delivers value when it works in the real world — on real sites, with real constraints and real operational priorities. Sun Square emphasizes practical, scalable approaches that help organizations strengthen operational technology (OT) security without disrupting reliability, safety or continuity of critical processes.

That same practical mindset is also what brought Sun Square and its co-founder, SZ Lin, into a deeper relationship with the International Society of Automation (ISA). ISA's training ecosystem, rooted in widely adopted international standards such as ISA/IEC 62443, provided the foundation necessary for Sun Square to scale its mission with confidence.

## **What Sun Square Delivers to the Market**

Based in Taiwan with active engagement across international standards and industry ecosystems, Sun Square supports organizations operating in industrial control systems (ICS) environments worldwide, including manufacturing, energy, utilities, semiconductors, transportation and oil & gas.

Sun Square positions its training and advisory services as cross-functional enablement, providing engineering teams, operational leadership and cybersecurity practitioners with a shared reference framework for risk, requirements and standards-based implementation. Its approach emphasizes alignment with globally recognized standards and regulatory expectations while remaining grounded in real-world industrial operations.

Sun Square's mission is to empower industrial organizations with the knowledge, skills and practical frameworks needed to safeguard critical control systems against evolving cyber risks. With deep roots in Taiwan's advanced manufacturing ecosystem, Sun Square aims to serve as a trusted bridge between global cybersecurity standards and operational reality across international markets.



## SZ Lin's Journey with ISA

Sun Square co-founder SZ Lin brings more than a decade of experience from industrial product supplier environments, with sustained focus on software development and cybersecurity engineering. His work sits squarely in the operational realities of industrial automation and control systems, where cybersecurity outcomes depend on engineering discipline, clear roles and repeatable practices.

Lin's relationship with ISA took shape through close attention to ISA activities during the ISA99 era, the standards lineage that evolved into what is now widely recognized as ISA/IEC 62443. "From the beginning, ISA99 stood out as a practical and engineering driven approach to industrial cybersecurity, addressing the realities of industrial products and control systems rather than treating cybersecurity solely as an IT issue," Lin says.

Lin joined the ISA99 standards committee and contributed to technical discussions and standards development connected to ISA/IEC 62443. That standards-facing work expanded further through service on the ISASecure Technical Steering Committee, where discussions centered on conformity assessment and certification programs aligned with ISA/IEC 62443. Lin also serves on the ISA Global Cybersecurity Alliance (ISAGCA) Advisory Board, supporting global promotion and adoption of ISA/IEC 62443.

Over time, Lin's role increasingly connected standards and education. In 2021, Lin became an official ISA instructor, enabling direct contribution to professional education through formal ISA training programs based on ISA/IEC 62443. In 2023, Lin became President of the ISA Taiwan Section and led its initial development and activation.



SZ Lin at the 2025 ISA Automation Summit & Expo



“My continued engagement with ISA is driven by a long-term commitment to bridging international standards, real world engineering practice and regional industry needs,” Lin says. “I believe sustainable industrial cybersecurity depends not only on strong standards such as ISA/IEC 62443, but also on education, governance and an active professional community.”

Sun Square’s partnership with ISA reflects both a professional commitment to industrial cybersecurity practice and a community commitment to sustained skills development. As an ISA Authorized Training Reseller, Sun Square establishes a structured approach to delivering ISA/IEC 62443 training and helps to build the long-term capability of industry in Taiwan.

## **The Value of ISA Training to Sun Square and Its Local Customers**

Lin describes ISA training as essential groundwork for establishing strong OT cybersecurity practices. “For me as a professional, ISA training provides a trusted and consistent foundation for engaging with global customers, partners and regulators through a shared technical language,” he says.

That shared language enables structured and credible communication around industrial cybersecurity requirements, risk management and implementation expectations, particularly in the context of ISA/IEC 62443. In practice, this kind of consistency supports clearer project framing, clearer accountability and clearer conversations between asset owners, service providers and product suppliers.

At the national and regional level, Lin frames ISA training as helping to strengthen industrial cybersecurity maturity across asset owners, service providers and industrial product suppliers in Taiwan. ISA training establishes a common understanding of roles, responsibilities and technical expectations defined in ISA/IEC 62443.

The ISA/IEC 62443 individual certificate has also been formally recognized by Taiwan’s Ministry of Digital Affairs. This recognition supports alignment between international expectations and local qualification signals, helping organizations participate in global supply chains and increasing confidence among international partners.



As an ISA Authorized Training Reseller, Sun Square connects its customers to the globally recognized structure and credentialing offered by ISA — with the advantage of local delivery and context. Being a part of ISA’s broader training ecosystem reinforces that the learning path is validated, supported and widely used.

## Delivery and Impact in Taiwan

In 2025, Sun Square delivered more than a dozen ISA training courses in Taiwan, reaching more than 100 professionals from government agencies, critical infrastructure operators and industrial product suppliers. The courses were attended by asset owners, service providers and engineering teams with direct responsibility for OT environments. This mix matters because ISA/IEC 62443 outcomes often depend on shared accountability across these stakeholder groups.

Lin describes how organizations used ISA training as a starting point for building internal cybersecurity capabilities aligned with ISA/IEC 62443. “In several cases, training outcomes supported the establishment of internal roles and responsibilities, supplier engagement activities and long-term cybersecurity planning based on shared understanding of industrial cybersecurity requirements,” he says.

This is a clear through-line from classroom learning to organizational design: training becomes an enabling mechanism for governance and program structure.

Lin also observes a market signal tied to credentials. Some asset owners and procurement authorities in Taiwan began referencing ISA/IEC 62443 individual certificates in procurement policies and tender requirements. In these cases, ISA training enabled professionals to meet qualification expectations and supported organizations in responding to customer and project requirements in a structured and credible manner.

This demonstrates how training partnerships can shift qualification norms in a market, giving employers and buyers a consistent way to express competency expectations.



## Why Strong Partnerships Matter

Lin characterizes Sun Square's relationship with ISA as built on long-term trust, transparency and shared objectives.

"Our collaboration goes beyond transactional activities and focuses on sustained capability building, quality assurance and alignment with industrial and market realities," Lin says. "Strong business partnerships matter because industrial cybersecurity requires continuity and long-term commitment. Effective training, standards adoption and professional development depend on consistent quality, mutual understanding and close coordination between global organizations and local partners."

Lin's description places the Sun Square partnership with ISA in the domain of programmatic outcomes: consistent delivery, consistent standards interpretation and consistent professional development pathways. The reseller model builds long-term capability, supported by a community that connects international standards work to regional implementation realities.

"Sun Square continues to be a great supporter and successful turnkey training solution provider for localization in international markets," says Kimberly Belinsky, manager of strategic alliances and education services at ISA. "The emphasis and protection placed on the value of our official ISA/IEC 62443 certificate programming is essential for customers' professional development needs in the area."



SZ Lin teaches an ISA training course



## Scaling OT Cybersecurity with Trustworthy Training and Practical Leadership

Sun Square's partnership with ISA as an Authorized Training Reseller reflects a shared commitment: OT cybersecurity must be built on standards, delivered with credibility and applied with real-world discipline. For Lin, the journey with ISA is ultimately about helping industrial organizations move beyond abstract goals and into sustained capability — where teams know what “good” looks like, understand why it matters and can execute it consistently.

ISA training provides the structured, standards-based foundation. Sun Square provides the localized, customer-centric delivery that leads companies to measurable progress on their security and compliance goals. Together, the partnership enables customers across critical industries to strengthen their cybersecurity posture in ways that are realistic, defensible and built to endure.



SZ Lin participates in a panel discussion with the ISA Global Cybersecurity Alliance at the 2025 ISA OT Cybersecurity Summit



## Expert Overview: Q&A with SZ Lin, Co-founder of Sun Square Co., Ltd.

*This interview has been edited and condensed.*

**ISA:** What needs are you meeting through your collaboration with ISA as an Authorized Training Reseller?

**SZL:** Many organizations face challenges in correctly understanding cybersecurity requirements and applying them to real operational technology environments. ISA training enables organizations to make informed decisions, strengthen the protection of their OT environments and reduce cybersecurity risk in a systematic and practical manner.

In addition, the sustainability provided by authorized training activities allows us to dedicate more time and resources to contributing to the ISA/IEC 62443 ecosystem. This includes active participation in standards development and continued involvement in conformity assessment and certificate program discussions. This approach creates a virtuous cycle in which training delivery, implementation experience and standards and certificate governance reinforce one another.

**ISA:** What opportunities are you creating through your involvement with ISA training and other ISA affiliates?

**SZL:** Through my involvement with ISA training and related activities, I am creating opportunities to strengthen participation from Asia in the global industrial cybersecurity community. Beyond training delivery, I have actively encouraged professionals to engage in ISA/IEC 62443 standards development activities and encouraged organizations to participate in ISASecure to contribute to the evolution of conformity assessment and certificate programs.



**SZ Lin**



**ISA:** Is there anything else you would like to share?

**SZL:** I view ISA as a professional organization that advances industrial automation and cybersecurity through standards development, knowledge sharing and community engagement. Education and training are important outcomes of this ecosystem, but they are grounded in a much broader mission centered on standards, professional practice and global collaboration.

This partnership allows us to support practical and globally aligned industrial cybersecurity capability in Taiwan while remaining closely connected to international standards development and industry expectations. I value this relationship and look forward to continuing and expanding our engagement with ISA in the years ahead.

### **About Sun Square**

Sun Square Co., Ltd. delivers specialized industrial consulting services, strategic guidance and ISA automation security training. Its certified experts help organizations implement ISA/IEC 62443 standards serving critical industries, including manufacturing, energy and infrastructure sectors, transforming complex security requirements into actionable protection strategies through practical, standards-based solutions.

### **About ISA**

The International Society of Automation (ISA) is a non-profit professional association founded in 1945 to create a better world through automation. ISA's mission is to empower the global automation community through standards and knowledge sharing. ISA develops widely used global standards and conformity assessment programs; certifies professionals; provides education and training; publishes books and technical articles; hosts conferences and exhibits; and provides networking and career development programs for its members and customers around the world. Learn more at [www.isa.org](http://www.isa.org).



To find more information about ISA Authorized Training Resellers, go to [www.isa.org/training/training-resellers](http://www.isa.org/training/training-resellers).