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As 2015 comes to a close, CIPS would like to wish its members, partners and other industry professionals a safe and happy holiday season. As we reflect on the past year for the industry, we would like to provide the readers of *CIPS Connections* a look at the most accessed articles from the year. Our regular publication will resume Thursday, Jan. 7, 2016.

10. VW software puts all IT under suspicion



IT World Canada

From Oct. 8: Volkswagen has done the whole IT profession a disservice. The software in their cars has recently been found to give false results when authorities tested the car for emissions. The software changed the engine tuning when there was a test going on. There are cries demanding that the proprietary software be inspected (apparently this is already required of elevator software). The public has now learned that software is not to be trusted. [READ MORE](#)

9. How writing has benefited me as an IT professional



IT World Canada

From May 21: On celebrating my third month of blogging, I would like to share with you what beginning to write has done for me so far. If you're in IT and are on the fence about writing, you may want to check out these benefits. [READ MORE](#)

8. Consumerism, mass extinction and our throw-away society



CIPS via Electronic Recycling Association

From July 9: We've got kind of a problem here. On the right side of the pendulum, consumerism has reached an all-time high, with products reaching their planned obsolescence within absurdly short timespans and new products being rolled out (and bought) by the millions every day. And, since every action has an equal and opposite reaction, we have to expect consequences. [READ MORE](#)

7. CIPS National 2014-2015 Annual Report



CIPS

From Oct. 1: Dear CIPS Members; This year saw the completion of the CIPS National office becoming a virtual office, which has resulted in the reduction of operational costs. Many thanks to the Transition Committee and CIPS

staff for all their hard work to see us through the changes that happened behind the scenes, with no disruption to service delivery. [READ MORE](#)

6. Information technology: Trade or profession?



IT World Canada

From Oct. 22: A subject that has generated some lively discussions recently is the perception of IT as a whole. Is IT merely a trade or is it a true profession? [READ MORE](#)

5. 7 steps to becoming an IT manager



IT World Canada

From March 12: Are you ready to take it to the next level? You've been working in IT for several years now, and have mastered almost all the aspects of your job. You have been given increasingly responsible roles and you've received outstanding performance reviews. You are an excellent developer, an effective business analyst, a skilled network technician or a superior QA analyst. Now you want to take the next step on the ladder to become a manager. [READ MORE](#)

4. Free security tools recommended by experts



CIPS

From May 14: Network security pros are known for their colourful language, usually because when something hits the fan they get called first. But their favourite four letter word might be "free" — as in free tools that are available to solve problems. [READ MORE](#)

3. IT professional careers: is being a generalist a dead end option?



IT World Canada

From June 18: Recently, I have been involved in several discussions with IT pros who were seeking employment and a common theme appeared to come up in most of the discussions. Everyone wanted to know if there was any future in becoming an IT generalist, rather than specializing in a single track. In some cases this came about because they were having a difficult time finding a position in their particular specialization. In others, their old specialization was no longer in demand, and usually, this was because the product the specialization was based on either no longer existed, or had been supplanted by a better product that did the same thing — only better! [READ MORE](#)

2. New CIPS member benefits via Perkopolis!



CIPS

From Aug. 27: CIPS is proud to offer access to exclusive discounts on tickets, hotels and various other products and services to members through our new discount partner Perkopolis. Perkopolis is a free, easy to use, and exclusive benefit program that provides you with access to a variety of entertainment offers, hotels, products, and services. [READ MORE](#)

1. New re-certification requirements and PD Log reminder (I.S.P. & ITCP holders)



CIPS

From Feb. 26: Attention CIPS Certified members. To maintain your I.S.P. and/or ITCP certification(s) you must comply with the new re-certification policies that were introduced in April of 2013. [READ MORE](#)

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