



Around the Region in Homeland Security December 2008

The Northwest Regional Technology Center (NWRTC) is a virtual resource center, operated by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), to support regional preparedness, response, and recovery. The center enables homeland security solutions for emergency responder communities and federal, state, and local stakeholders in the Northwest. This monthly status report summarizes activities related to Homeland Security in the Pacific Northwest, and this issue highlights

- Radiation detection practice on Puget Sound
- Results from the latest Visualization and Analytics Centers Consortium meeting
- Suggestions from the former Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection on extending homeland security beyond infrastructure.

Puget Sound Agencies Practice Radiation Detection

During the week of October 27, PNNL staff led a series of drills in Puget Sound to reinforce learning on radiation/nuclear detection and equipment use. The drills were conducted under the auspices of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office's (DNDO)



Puget Sound Small Vessel Preventive Rad/Nuc Detection Pilot Project. The project will develop a radiation detection architecture that reduces the risk of radiological and nuclear threats which could be illegally transported across territorial seas on recreational or small commercial vessels.

As part of the project, DNDO had procured human-portable radiation surveying equipment and coordinated with the U.S. Coast Guard Integrated Support Command Seattle to distribute it to various stakeholder agencies. The equipment comes with 3 years of maintenance support.

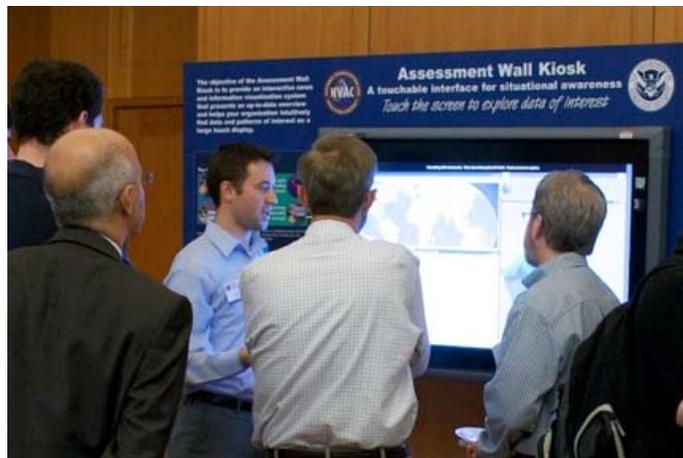
Emergency responders from the U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Customs and Border Protection; Ports of Everett and Seattle;

at the University of Konstanz, Germany; Dario Leslie of the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence's Counter-Terrorism Science and Technology Centre; and Andrew Vallerand, Director of Public Security Technical Program of Defence Research and Development Canada's Center of Security Science.

One of the key roles of the consortium is to help mature new technologies and make them widely available. VAC Consortium Director Kris Cook and NVAC Deputy Director Richard May updated participants on current activities and how consortium members could play a role. Consortium members from industry, NVAC, and regional VACs also shared research in presentations and poster sessions. Participants were particularly excited by the recent research results and how the field of visual analytics is maturing.

Other presentations focused on how visual analytics can support law enforcement, the intelligence community, cyber security, and public health. The technologies described in these presentations ranged from basic science to full deployment.

Corporal Steve Shephard of National City, California, Police Department; Detective Aaron Reynolds, Seattle Police Department; and Lieutenant Ron Leavell, Seattle Police Department, shared their positive experiences with using visualization tools in law enforcement. Joe Kielman of the DHS Science and Technology Directorate's Command, Control, and Interoperability Division also shared his vision of how visual analytics will expand in the next 5 years.



After the meeting, Kielman thanked the NVAC team for an outstanding job in preparing and hosting the meeting. "The team's attention to detail and concern for the interests and needs of all the participants were obvious. The discussions were marvelous." PNNL manages NVAC for DHS.

Homeland Security Lecture Series Continues with Insights on Infrastructure Protection

On November 21, Robert Liscouski offered suggestions on why DHS must move beyond infrastructure protection to accomplish its goals. The talk was part of the Homeland Security Lecture Series, which features internationally known homeland security leaders sharing insights on policies, practices, challenges, and opportunities. The lectures are held in the Battelle Auditorium in Richland and are open to the public.



“Homeland security will only be achieved with local government and private sector industry involvement,” said Liscouski. Over 75% of a company’s value is now in intangible aspects like reputation and brand. DHS must be business relevant; solutions must add business value or they won’t be embraced. Community and corporate resiliency will be the new watchwords for the next Administration.

Liscouski was appointed the first Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection for DHS and held the position until 2005. He led the development and implementation of the nation’s first efforts to protect critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks and natural disasters.



Rear Admiral David Stone (retired) will present the next lecture on January 8. From January 2004 to June 2005, Stone served as Assistant Secretary for the Transportation Security Administration, where he was responsible for the security of the U.S. transportation system including mass transit, rail, highway, pipeline, maritime, and aviation. He will speak on scarcity of resources leading to global instability and critical infrastructure security.

Upcoming Events

January 8, 2009

Homeland Security Lecture Series: Rear Admiral David Stone
PNNL Richland Campus, Washington

February 23-26, 2009

DHS Science and Technology Directorate’s Stakeholders Conference West
Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue, Washington



Around the Region in Homeland Security is a monthly report from the Northwest Regional Technology Center, operated by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The goal of the NWRTC is to bring together major stakeholders from across the region that have a vested interest in homeland security issues and provide a collaborative environment that addresses Northwest regional homeland security requirements, needs, and challenges. For more information, contact Director Steve Stein at

steve.stein@pnl.gov or 206-528-3340, Deputy Director Mary Peterson at mary.peterson@pnl.gov or 509-372-4655, or see the website at <http://nwrtp/pnl.gov>.