



Around The Region In Homeland Security August 2009

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

- A pilot of a mobile technology by the Seattle Police Department
- Results of a maritime table top exercise
- The Secretary of Homeland Security's visit to Washington's northern border
- Progress on a regional partnership between the states and the U.S. Department of Energy national labs
- An opportunity for state and local agencies to shape U.S. Department of Homeland Security policies and priorities for the next 4 years.

Seattle Police Department Pilots Mobile Technology

The Seattle Police Department recently piloted the Law Enforcement Information Framework (LEIF) during the 4th of July fireworks in Gasworks Park and the July 25 Torchlight Parade in downtown Seattle associated with Sea Fair.

LEIF, developed by PNNL with funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is a deployable mobile and web-based incident analysis and collaboration toolkit that allows first responders to rapidly detect patterns, trends, events, and entities of interest in streaming incident data.

Police officers made use of the technology to share information during the events and provided input to PNNL developers on ways to improve the toolkit. Some of the officers found the technology so useful that they requested the option to continue using it during normal operations as well.



LEIF allows first responders to use mobile phones to capture and share incident data in real time.

Local Maritime Agencies Team on Table Top

On July 14, the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Seattle's Area Maritime Security Committee and DND0's West Coast Radiation and Nuclear Detection Pilot Project sponsored a Radiation/Nuclear Table Top Exercise for agencies involved in maritime activities. Operation action officers, planners, and

communication officers from the agencies updated an organizational flow chart depicting the proposed structure of the Unified Command supporting rad/nuc response. The exercise was in part preparation for an on-the-water exercise in September.

Napolitano Visits Northern Border

On July 27, the Secretary for Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, visited Washington State to tour the Federal Operations Coordination Center built in Bellingham for the 2010 Olympics. Washington's Adjutant General Timothy Lowenberg, Governor Christine Gregoire, and Representative Rick Larsen (D) served as hosts. The center, which underwent a successful trial run during the World Police and Fire Games earlier this month, includes work stations for more than 50 people from up to 40 agencies.

States Offer Comments on Alert System

On July 14, Secretary Napolitano formed a task force to assess the effectiveness of the Homeland Security Alert System, the color-coded system used to inform the public about terrorist threats and communicate protective measures across the government and the private sector. The task force has 60 days to produce a report to the Secretary, which she will consider as she conducts her own review. The NWRTC worked with the 11 Western states and the Territory of Guam to gain state feedback on the system.

Opportunity for State/Local Input on Homeland Security Review

DHS is requesting input from state and local agencies on the first Quadrennial Homeland Security Review. This Congressionally mandated, top-to-bottom review of homeland security policies and procedures will

guide DHS for the next 4 years. The first national dialogue was held August 3-9; additional sessions will be held August 31-September 6 and September 28-October 4.

These dialogues will enable partners from across the nation to weigh in on homeland security missions, goals, and priorities. Participants can review current proposals, suggest their own alternatives, refine them in open discussion, and rate the best ones. DHS will consider participant input in the final report to Congress.

Participants must preregister at www.homelandsecuritydialogue.org. For more information, see www.dhs.gov/qhsr.

Upcoming Events

August 18-19

National Visualization and Analytics Center Consortium Meeting, Richland, Washington

August 22

Northwest Citizen Corp Expo

Washington Fire Academy, North Bend, Washington

September 14-17

Joint Oregon/Washington Emergency Management Conference

Lincoln City, Oregon

September 22-24

Maritime Craft Rad/Nuc Preventative Pilot On-the-Water Exercises

Puget Sound, Washington

Around the Region in Homeland Security is a monthly report from PNNL's Northwest Regional Technology Center for Homeland Security. For more information, contact Director Steve Stein at steve.stein@pnl.gov or 206-528-3340, Deputy Director Ryan Eddy at ryan.eddy@pnl.gov or 509-372-6622, or Deputy Director Regional Programs Ann Lesperance at ann.lesperance@pnl.gov or 206-528-3223, or see the website at <http://nwrtpc.pnl.gov>.



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