UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 25, 2015 – [3rd Annual Washington Safety Summit](#), Tacoma, WA
- April 14, 2015 – [Washington Emergency Public Information Network Workshop](#), Tacoma, WA
- April 14-16, 2015 – [Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference](#), Tacoma, WA
- June 9-11, 2015 – [National Homeland Security Conference](#), San Antonio, TX

CONTACT

- Want to know more? Visit us on the web at http://nwrtc.pnl.gov
- Contact the NWRTC with questions and comments at nwrtc@pnnl.gov.

AROUND THE REGION IN HOMELAND SECURITY

The Northwest Regional Technology Center (NWRTC) is a virtual resource center, operated by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), to support regional preparedness, resiliency, response, and recovery. The Center enables homeland security solutions for emergency responder communities and federal, state, and local stakeholders in the Northwest.

FIRST RESPONDER VISIONING WORKSHOP HELD IN BOSTON

PNNL hosted the first of three First Responder Visioning Workshops in Boston, MA, on March 11-12. The event welcomed more than 40 representatives from across the first responder community to identify needs and define a vision for future equipment and technology for the Responder of the Future.

"While the event was successful in envisioning future technology needs and requirements for first responders a decade from now, the briefings provided by participating technology companies made it clear to the responders that game-changing technologies are much closer to the market than they expected," said Steve Stein, PNNL's NWRTC Director.

The workshop is part of the [Responder Technology Alliance (RTA)](#), established by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate's (S&T) First Responders Group to bring together first responders, industry, federal agencies, research institutions, investors, and academia to focus resources on difficult long-term technology challenges and develop a practical vision of the Responder of the Future.

The next workshops are scheduled for March 24-25 in San Francisco, CA, and March 31-April 1 in Seattle, WA. These workshops will focus on integrating feedback from the first workshop and further envisioning the technology needed to enable future responders.

FIRST RESPONDER WEBINARS AND TRAINING AVAILABLE ONLINE

First responders can access more than 30 hours of podcasts at the Capacity Building Webinar homepage, hosted by DHS S&T's First Responder Group. The webinars feature instruction, lessons learned, and best practices presented by field practitioners and national leaders. Recent features include a live webcast of the #DisasterTech Hackathon at the 2015 International Disaster Conference and Expo, Communicating with International Partners during Emergencies, and Responding to Power Outage Emergencies.

Additionally, as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Preparedness Directorate, the National Training and Education Division offers more than 150 courses to help responders build skills and to prepare state and local first responders to prevent, protect, respond to, and recover from manmade and natural catastrophic events. Courses include Awareness and Response to Biological Events, Essentials of Community Cyber Security, and Principles of Planning and Implementing Recovery. Click here to review the course catalog.

DHS S&T LAUNCHES THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND FIRST RESPONDER TECHNOLOGY

DHS S&T recently launched the National Conversation on Homeland Security Technology. The forum hosts a series of dialogues relative to the first responder and homeland security communities.

Topics include:

- Responder of the Future: Ensuring responders and operational users are protected, connected, and fully aware.
- Enable the Decision Maker: Ensuring actionable information is available at the speed of thought
- Screening at Speed: Ensuring security matches the pace of life
- Trusted Cyber Future: Ensuring protection of privacy, commerce, and community
- Resilient Communities: Ensuring society is disaster-proof

Participants can engage in a variety of ways including virtual question and answer, virtual idea exchange, virtual and in-person meetings, and webinars. The conversation also includes a First Responder of the Future question and answer, addressing the situational awareness, communications, and other needs of responders. For more information, visit http://scitech.ideascale.com/.

INTEGRATING CYBERSECURITY AS AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUNCTION

In January, PNNL's NWRTC Deputy Director Ann Lesperance and Director Steve Stein and shared in the *Domestic Preparedness Journal* insight on the impact of cybersecurity threats on emergency managers. In the article, Stein and Lesperance explore opportunities to build cyber response into the national incident management system and foster an all-hazards approach to emergency management, including cybersecurity. To read the article in full, visit Domestic Preparedness online.

For more information, contact Director Steve Stein at steve.stein@pnnl.gov or 206-528-3340, Deputy Director Ryan Eddy at ryan.eddy@pnnl.gov or 509-372-6622, or Deputy Director of Regional Programs Ann Lesperance at ann.lesperance@pnnl.gov or 206-528-3223, or visit us online at http://nwrtc.pnnl.gov.