



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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 16-19, 2016 – [Economic Leadership Forum](#), Boise, ID
- Jan. 14-15, 2017 – [Red Cross Instructor Training Classes](#), Gig Harbor, WA
- Feb. 23-25, 2017 – [EMS Today JEMS Conference & Exposition](#), Salt Lake City, UT
- April 18-20, 2017 – [Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference](#), Tacoma, WA

CONTACT

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

CELEBRATE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY, RESILIENCE MONTH

November is observed as “Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month” to build awareness and appreciation of the importance of critical infrastructure and to reaffirm the nationwide commitment to keep critical infrastructure and communities safe and secure.



Throughout the month, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Infrastructure Protection, within the National Protection and Programs Directorate, is partnering with [InfraGard of the National Capital Region \(InfraGardNCR\)](#) to highlight four themes related to critical infrastructure security and resilience:

- Connected infrastructure – Cyber and physical interdependence
- Hometown Security – “Connect, Plan, Train, Report”
- Partnering with the public and private sectors to build resilience
- Fostering innovation and investment in resilient infrastructure

DHS also published the [2016 Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Toolkit](#) that includes suggested activities and resources (templates, collateral, etc.) that governments, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and community organizations can use to promote the effort.

To learn more about Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience month, including resources and opportunities to get involved, visit <https://www.dhs.gov/cisr-month>.

FRAMEWORK ENVISIONS FUTURE FOR SMARTER BUILDINGS

As smarter, energy-efficient buildings are part of the puzzle to protecting critical infrastructure, PNNL has developed a vision for future buildings a century from now. Funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and guided by the collective views of forward-thinking partners, the newly developed framework will help guide the evolution of American buildings. The framework comprises five focus areas: Occupants, Building Systems, Utilities, Community, and Environment. Each focus area has defined goals and conceptualizes the functions/capabilities of future buildings. To learn more, watch [A Vision for Future Buildings](#) or visit the [Buildings of the Future website](#).

DHS SELECTS STARTUPS FOR FIRST RESPONDER TECHNOLOGY



DHS announced the selection of 10 startups to be part of the [EMERGE 2016: Wearable Technology program](#). The startups will engage with first responders, strategic industry partners, and investors to speed the

delivery of innovative wearable technologies to first responders. [See the full list of startups.](#)

The program is led by a partnership between CIT, TechNexus, the DHS Science and Technology Directorate, and PNNL. Applications for the program opened in August 2016 and resulted in a highly competitive selection process in which the partners evaluated 261 ventures from 149 different cities. The selected companies come from a diverse set of fields and possess next generation technology that has the potential to make a profound impact.

Over the course of the EMERGE program, companies will explore various avenues to bring their technologies into the first responder market. For more information, [read the press release.](#)

SEATTLE FIREFIGHTER HONORED FOR YEARS OF SERVICES

Seattle Fire Department Assistant Chief A.D. Vickery was recently recognized for his 50 years of service—the longest on record at the department.

Having witnessed five decades of firefighting, “Technology and safety have changed significantly—but that hasn’t come without tragedy,” Vickery said. “What has not changed is the need for men and women to enter dangerous situations to save a life. Advances in equipment and standards and an increased emphasis on responder safety have the opportunity to make a difference in how that happens.”

Looking forward for future generations of firefighters, Vickery noted, “The job used to be limited to firefighting. Today, it has taken on more emergency medical services and so much more. We increasingly become the first contact for a person in distress and that can have a meaningful and lasting impact. What matters most is that our people have the tools and techniques as well as the passion to keep learning to get better and be safer in what we do.”

On Aug. 4, Vickery received a plaque and pin and Mayor Ed Murray proclaimed the day as “A.D. Vickery Day.” See photos from the celebration at [KOMO News](#).



Left to right, Grant Tietje and Melanie Godinez (PNNL), A.D. Vickery, Steve Stein and Ann Lesperance (PNNL), and D’Arcy Morgan (DHS).

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