Around The Region In Homeland Security
November 2014

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. This monthly newsletter summarizes activities related to homeland security in the region, and this issue highlights:

- Securing America’s Critical Infrastructure
- First Responder Ebola Protection
- Cyber Security Awareness
- Managing a Weapons Program in a Nonproliferation World
- Upcoming Events

**Securing America’s Critical Infrastructure**

This month recognizes Critical Infrastructure Security & Resilience, focusing on the vital role of critical infrastructure and the need to expand and reinforce critical infrastructure security and resilience. The effort includes raising awareness about the importance of securing the assets, systems, networks, and partnerships to further enhance the nation’s critical infrastructure in the future. For more information, visit Critical Infrastructure Security & Resilience Month online and follow @DHSgov and #infrastructure on Twitter.

Researchers at PNNL are a part of this national effort as they develop science and technology to enable resilient cyber infrastructure. Multi-disciplinary teams are addressing technically challenging and nationally relevant cyber security problems by developing the tools, methods, and technologies that will enable a resilient, time-critical cyber infrastructure with an asymmetric advantage to thwart adversaries.

Several of these efforts were on display at National Lab Day in Washington D.C on Sept. 16. Representatives from all 17 Department of Energy (DOE) Laboratories came together to exhibit and demonstrate their contributions to DOE’s key mission areas. Secretary Moniz and members of Congress visited the ”Keeping Our Homeland Secure” exhibit for a first-hand look at advancements in cyber security and explosives detection, including PNNL’s millimeter wave and vapor detection technologies, novel swipe materials, and Physical and Cyber Risk Analysis Tool (PACRAT).

To learn more about research in critical infrastructure security and resilience, visit http://cybersecurity.pnnl.gov/.
IAB Blog: First Responder Ebola Protection

The InterAgency Board (IAB) released recommendations for first responders to properly choose and use personal protective equipment (PPE) to avoid contracting the Ebola virus. The recommendations build on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s PPE information and provide more detailed information on the selection and use of PPE based on the risk of exposure. More information is available on the First Responder blog.

Cyber Security Awareness

October marked the 11th year of National Cyber Security Awareness month (NCSAM), a collaborative effort between government and industry to educate the public about cyber security and share the resources available to stay safe and secure online. NCSAM is sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security in cooperation with the National Cyber Security Alliance and the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center.

Although October has passed, cyber security is an ongoing priority and more information about cyber security is available at http://www.dhs.gov/topic/cybersecurity.


Managing a Weapons Program in a Nonproliferation World

Dr. Donald Cook, Deputy Administrator for National Nuclear Security Administration’s (NNSA) Defense Programs (NA-10), recently visited PNNL where he presented "Managing a Weapons Program in a Nonproliferation World."

Speaking to a packed auditorium of PNNL staff, Dr. Cook described the background policy and steps taken to manage a weapons program in a non-proliferation world. Dr. Cook met with PNNL personnel and toured several facilities including the Physical Sciences Facility and Radiochemical Processing Laboratory.

Appointed to the position by President Barack Obama, Dr. Cook is responsible for managing the U.S. nuclear security enterprise of laboratories and manufacturing facilities.

Upcoming Events

December 10, 2014
Training: Twitter 101 for first responders
Everett, Washington

December 16-18, 2014
2014 Cyber Security Division R&D Showcase and Technical Workshop
Washington, DC

February 10-12, 2015
International Disaster Conference and Expo (IDCE)
New Orleans, LA

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@pnnl.gov or 206-528-3340, Deputy Director Ryan Eddy at ryan.eddy@pnnl.gov or 509-372-6622, or Deputy Director Regional Programs Ann Lesperance at ann.lesperance@pnnl.gov or 206-528-3223, or see the website at http://nwrtc.pnnl.gov.
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