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.

REPORT SUMMARIZES WASHINGTON STATE CYBER, GRID SECURITY SUMMIT

The final report from the 3rd Annual Washington State Cybersecurity Summit is now available online. The report features summaries of the panel discussions as well as presentations from the event, which was hosted by Snohomish County Public Utility District (SnoPUD) and PNNL on Feb. 29 at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA.

“These workshops are helping ignite the dialogue to define the challenges we face and collaboratively explore how we can build better solutions,” said Jessica Matlock, SnoPUD Government Relations Director.

The event brought together industry leaders and policymakers to review what is being done in Washington and engage in a dialogue about how to build a better defense network, combat cyberattacks, and train next-generation cyber professionals.

The event featured a range of leaders spanning the private and public sector, including guest speakers Scott Charney, Corporate Vice President for Trustworthy Computer at the Microsoft Corporation, and Patricia Hoffman, Assistant Secretary at the Department of Energy Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

The report is available at the SnoPUD website. SnoPUD and PNNL are working together to schedule a fourth summit in 2017.
ACCELERATOR SEEKING WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science & Technology (S&T) Directorate is looking to the startup community to bring wearable technologies to first responders. Building on the success of its EMERGE Accelerator Pilot last year, DHS S&T continues to mobilize innovators to help first responders whose difficult and grueling job requires them to carry outdated and heavy equipment.

In August, DHS S&T announced the launch of the EMERGE 2016: Wearable Technology Accelerator Program in partnership with the Center for Innovative Technology, located in the Dulles Innovation Corridor, and TechNexus, a venture collaborative based in Chicago, as well as with PNNL as part of the Responder Technology Alliance (RTA).

Applications closed on Sept. 2 for the solicitation seeking early-stage companies with next-generation wearable technologies that could be adapted for first responders such as body-worn electronics, advance sensors, and integrated voice and data communications embedded into gear. Selected participants will be featured on our website and will have the opportunity to demonstrate their technology in front of first responders, strategic industry partners, and investors. For more information, visit cit.org/emerge.

WORKSHOP ADDRESSES CLEAN ENERGY INNOVATION

In August, the University of Washington hosted the Northwest Regional Clean Energy Innovation Partnership Workshop to bring together clean energy leaders from across the region with U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest J. Moniz and other elected officials to discuss the region’s challenges and what collective and collaborative actions are necessary to advance clean energy needs.

The workshop included panel discussions aimed at advancing clean energy innovation and regional collaborations, including opportunities for universities, industries, community stakeholders, and the Department of Energy’s national laboratories to leverage emerging clean energy technologies to stimulate regional economic development.

FUTURE OF FIRST RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS TECHNOLOGY NEEDS

As new technologies come to market at a record pace, how can wearable technologies enhance the health, safety, and performance of our nation’s first responders? PNNL is working hand-in-hand with the first responder community and other stakeholders on the RTA, which PNNL manages for the DHS S&T First Responder Group to envision first responder needs 10 years out and accelerate the development of, and bring to market, integrated technology solutions.

PNNL partnered with Continuum, a multidisciplinary design consultancy firm, to produce the Future of First Response video series that captures the RTA’s partnering with the first responder community to craft a shared vision on the needs and requirements for future technologies. Watch the series at the links below:

- Future of First Response: System Summary
- Future of First Response: Vision for Firefighting
- Future of First Response: Vision for Police
- Future of First Response: Vision for Emergency Medical Services

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