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.

EMERGE EVENTS CONNECT FIRST RESPONDERS, INDUSTRY, STAKEHOLDERS

This fall, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science & Technology (S&T) EMERGE accelerator program hosted interactive events to bring together responders with participating startups as well as to connect entrepreneurs with corporations and industry stakeholders.

National Capital Region police, fire, rescue, county emergency management departments, and national and industry organizations worked side-by-side with the EMERGE startups and provided feedback on how the commercial technology is applicable and could be adapted for first responders’ use. Many first responders offered to pilot or test and evaluate the technologies.

In December, in Chicago, Illinois, the EMERGE startups also met with local responders, DHS, PNNL, and experts from industry.

The goal of the events was to connect end users (first responders) with technology developers and other stakeholders to inform product development to help bring to market practical technology solutions to make future first responders better protected, connected, and fully aware.

This work is part of the EMERGE accelerator program launched by DHS S&T, focused on wearable technology for first responders. Since announcing the program in August 2016, DHS S&T, Center of Innovation Technology, TechNexus, and PNNL have worked with more than 200 accelerators, incubators, and university partners to evaluate more than 260 startups. Ultimately, 10 startups were selected.

In March 2017, DHS S&T will showcase the technology with first responders, industry, and government and talk about the results. To learn more about EMERGE, visit https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/accelerator.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 14-15, 2017 – Red Cross Instructor Training Classes, Gig Harbor, WA
- Jan. 24, 2017 – Transition to Practice Technology Demonstration, Washington DC
- 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://nwrtc.pnnl.gov
- Contact the NWRTC with questions and comments at nwrtc@pnnl.gov
TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION HIGHLIGHTS CYBERSECURITY

On Jan. 24 in Washington DC, the Transition to Practice (TTP) Technology Demonstration Day will feature eight innovative cybersecurity technologies from the TTP Programs’ fourth cohort. The TTP identifies promising federally funded cybersecurity technologies and facilitates their adoption into broader use through partnerships with the private sector and commercialization.

The technologies were selected from Department of Energy and Department of Defense affiliated laboratories and have the potential to strengthen an organization’s cybersecurity posture. The event will feature research teams who developed the technologies and discussions with technology investors from private industry on piloting or licensing the technologies and driving further development of cybersecurity solutions. Two of the technologies—FLOWER and SilentAlarm—were developed by PNNL. Read about these and other TTP technologies in the Cyber Security Division TTP Technology Guide.

The event is open to all cybersecurity professionals, technology investors, system integrators, and information technology companies. Register online at http://www.cvent.com/d/pvqf6k.

The event is hosted by the DHS S&T Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency Cyber Security Division’s TTP program, which recently announced its eighth cybersecurity technology transitioning to commercialization. ZeroPoint, an exploit detection and analytics tool funded by the National Science Foundation and developed by researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, spun off as a startup company called ZeroPoint Dynamics. The technology focuses on analyzing documents, email, web content, and server traffic for potentially hazardous content known as exploit payloads. For more information, read the press release.

RESILIENT WASHINGTON TO FOCUS ON THE ‘BIG ONE’

In November, Gov. Jay Inslee issued a directive establishing a Resilient Washington subcabinet tasked with launching a coordinated approach to preparing for and responding to a major earthquake or tsunami. This will include educating the public about personal preparedness; planning for major disruptions to utility and fuel services and destruction of major roads, bridges, and airports; and developing recommendations and plans for ensuring availability of medical and human service operations. The subcabinet’s first meeting is planned for January and initial recommendations are due June 30, 2017. To learn more, visit the governor’s website.

PREPARING COMMUNITIES FOR COMPLEX COORDINATED TERRORIST ATTACKS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Program to Prepare Communities for Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks. Through a competitive process, selected local, state, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions will receive funding to build and sustain capabilities to enhance their preparedness for complex coordinated terrorist attacks. The application period closes Feb. 10, 2017. Visit the FEMA web site to find out how to apply and access the fact sheet, webinar, and frequently asked questions.

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.

PNL-S-123147