



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

- Sept. 1-30 2017 – [National Preparedness Month](#)
- Sept. 20-22, 2017 – [4th Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference](#), Lemoore, CA
- Oct. 21-24, 2017 – [International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference and Exposition](#), Philadelphia, PA
- Nov. 5-7, 2017 – [Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Economic Leadership Forum](#), Victoria, BC

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.

IN MEMORIAM: MAJ. GEN. TIM LOWENBERG

On August 27, 2017, the NWRTC and PNNL, Washington State, and our nation lost a valued constituent, Major General (Ret.) Tim Lowenberg. A tribute to his life and lasting impact, "[Remembering Maj. Gen. \(Ret.\) Tim Lowenberg](#)," is available on the Washington Military Department web site.



Maj. Gen. Lowenberg was with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Law, LLP and Vice President of Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs, supporting clients in the firms' federal, multi-state, Washington State, and international business groups. Prior to joining Gordon Thomas Honeywell, he was the nation's longest tenured Homeland Security Advisor and culminated a 44-year military career as Washington Adjutant General, a Governor's Cabinet position he held from 1999 to 2012.

Maj. Gen. Lowenberg was instrumental in standing up the NWRTC 10 years ago. His endorsement of partnering state military and emergency management departments, national laboratories, and the Department of Homeland Security was critical in establishing the center's mission, vision, and values. He helped refine our work to support a broad engagement of northwestern states in helping the Department of Homeland Security set the research and development agenda for homeland security, driven by the needs at the state and local level. He embraced the challenge to shape and inform the emergency management processes at the federal level to aid our first responders and their valuable, enduring mission.

Maj. Gen. Lowenberg was the rare leader who would champion any effort to improve unity of effort knowing that team effort was key to success in public safety. His gentle demeanor and thoughtful analysis of complex situations and ability to rally resources to improve capabilities that strengthened preparedness and public safety was noteworthy. He will be sorely missed.

- Northwest Regional Technology Center

WORKSHOP EXPLORES WEARABLE SENSORS FOR CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL THREATS

This summer, the International Workshop on Innovative Technologies for Chemical Security held in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, brought together international experts to explore scientific and technological advances for chemical security.

The workshop was attended by 45 scientists and engineers from 22 countries, including Rich Ozanich from PNNL, who presented, “Chem/Bio Wearable Sensors: Current and Future Direction.” Rich shared about the current state of wearable sensors and future potential applications to enhance remote sensing of chemical/biological threat agents.

“This was a great opportunity to hear from experts around the world about how new and innovative technologies can benefit chemical security challenges,” Rich said.

The event was hosted by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Scientific Advisory Board in cooperation with the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry; the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine of the United States of America; the Brazilian Academy of Sciences; and the Brazilian Chemical Society.

Read “[Scientists Review Innovative Technologies for Chemical Security](#)” on the OPCW website to learn more.



DRILLS TEST REGIONAL RESPONSE TO MARITIME ISSUES

In late August, 112 personnel across more than 20 federal, state, county, local, and private law enforcement and first responder agencies from across the Puget Sound area participated in drills to ensure proper response and use of their radiological/nuclear detection equipment. The training is part of the Puget Sound Regional Small Vessel Maritime Preventative Radiological/Nuclear Detection program designed to maintain a regional capability to deter the illicit movement of radioactive materials within, and potentially through, the Puget Sound maritime environment.



“This capability is unique in the country because of the region’s commitment to national security and its strong spirit of collaboration,” said Melanie Godinez, PNNL Project Manager.

With support from a Port Security Grant via the Seattle Fire Department, PNNL manages the purchase, inventory, and distribution of equipment and coordinates training and dock-side drills for participating organizations. This outreach ensures those with radiation detection equipment are fluent in the use of the equipment if and when their devices alert.

In FY2017, the program hosted three sets of drills. Based on lessons learned, PNNL is reviewing and updating the program’s standard operating procedures and concept of operations for future drills.

For more information about PNNL’s regional response capabilities, read “[PNNL lending a hand — and technology — to first responders](#),” in the *Tri-City Herald*.

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