



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

- May 28-31, 2015 – [International Hazardous Material Response Teams Conference](#), Baltimore, MD
- June 9-11, 2015 – [National Homeland Security Conference](#), San Antonio, TX
- June 14-20, 2015 – [Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week](#)
- June 22-25, 2015 – [National Fire Protection Association Conference and Expo](#), Chicago, IL

CONTACT

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

SYMPOSIUM EXPLORES CYBERSECURITY SAFEGUARDS

Cyber professionals from across the region came together at the [Northwest Cybersecurity Symposium](#) May 5 at the University of Washington (UW) Tacoma campus. In the wake of highly publicized cyberattacks on Sony Pictures Entertainment and Anthem Inc., the focus of the event was to discuss emerging challenges and share information to protect networks and critical information systems against threats of increasingly sophisticated hackers.



“The symposium challenged us to rethink the roles we play in cyber incident response and what the future of cybersecurity and cyber professionals will need to look like in order to protect our critical information systems,” said Deb Gracio, PNNL National Security Program Development Office Director.

U.S. Senator Patty Murray, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, and U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer chaired the event. Keynote speakers included Lieutenant General Edward C. Cardon, Commander, U.S. Army Cyber Command; and Michael Echols, Director, Cyber Joint Program Management Office National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The event also featured two panels focused on the government’s role in coordinated response and challenges and opportunities for the private sector and workforce development and education. *(Continued on pg. 2)*

The event was sponsored by the Institute of Technology at the UW Tacoma, UW Tacoma Office of the Chancellor, Pierce Military and Business Alliance, and Propel Insurance, in collaboration with the [Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity](#) (CIAC), a collaboration of the UW and PNNL. CIAC was recently re-designated as a Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance.

“Through CIAC and other efforts at UW, we are helping to build the next generation of cyber professionals. We are scaling our efforts by equipping transitioning military with skills to protect the Homeland on the cyber front. We had a large contingent of these individuals at the event. It was heartwarming as an instructor to hear their intelligent questions, their enthusiastic cheers, their evident engagement in the subject. This is a mission they can embrace,” said Barbara Endicott-Popovsky, Ph.D. and Professor at the UW Institute of Technology.

NEXT GENERATION FIRST RESPONDER VIDEO RELEASED

The Department of Homeland Security Science & Technology Directorate (DHS S&T)



released a [4-minute video describing the Next Generation First Responder \(NGFR\)](#). The video features interviews with responders and DHS S&T First Responders Group Acting Director Dan Cotter. NGFR Program is part of the [DHS Apex Programs](#) under way to address the nation’s security challenges and operational needs. NGFR is also part of the DHS S&T Responder of the Future [visionary goal](#) to envision and assist a future responder who is protected, connected, and fully aware.

To learn more, visit the <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/ngfr>.

WORKSHOPS SHAPING FUTURE OF RESPONDER TECHNOLOGY

In late March, PNNL hosted two more technology visioning workshops, one in San Francisco, CA, and one in Seattle, WA. The first



workshop was held in Boston, MA, earlier this year. Altogether, the events welcomed more than 80 first responders and representatives from the technology industry to discuss the equipment and technology needs of future responders.

Feedback from the workshops will inform the development of responder technology prototypes that will later be shared with responders for their feedback about fit and functionality. The ultimate goal is to develop and deploy integrated technology solutions that improve the safety and capability of responders.

The workshops are part of the [Responder Technology Alliance \(RTA\)](#), which brings together first responders, industry, federal agencies, research institutions, investors, and academia to develop a practical vision of the Responder of the Future.

REPORTS STUDY RESPONDER TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES

The DHS S&T First Responders Group recently published several reports exploring first responder needs and issues:

- [Body-Worn Video Cameras for Law Enforcement Assessment Report \(SAVER\)](#)
- [Ambulance Patient Compartment Human Factors Design Guidebook](#)
- [Research Study of Ambulance Operations and Best Practices](#)

For more first responder resources and information, visit www.firstresponder.gov.

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