

Homeland Security

MAKING THE BUSINESS OF SECURITY HAPPEN

Security Requires Intelligent Information Sharing

Tom Richey, Director, Homeland Security, Microsoft Corp.

The role of industry in working to support the technology requirements of the Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) must focus on building and deploying “solutions” where intelligent information-sharing is at the heart of every system.

Critical to the DHS aim of creating a National Response System is the concept of interoperable computer systems — a primary goal for industry that must span every product and initiative. Considerable effort must be made to help

Siemens: Providing and Protecting America's Infrastructure

After the 9/11 attacks, business and government looked to companies like Siemens to help protect people, assets, and information across all areas touching our daily lives. A company that provides vital infrastructure solutions throughout the U.S. — in transportation, healthcare, communications, automation, water, and power — New York-based Siemens Corp., the U.S. unit of Siemens AG, has become a major source of America's security technologies.

From installing and servicing baggage-screening devices at the nation's commercial airports, to designing ventilation and filtration systems for the USPS, to providing intelligent IT systems that protect the nation's power grid, Siemens is helping to protect vital infrastructure services. Siemens also aids U.S. industry by providing ID management solutions, healthcare IT systems, building-control technologies, and remote monitoring and video surveillance.

“We tailor solutions to reflect the specific needs and qualities of an enterprise and integrate them seamlessly,” says Alan Calegari, head of Siemens' security business. “Siemens has helped thousands of customers in the public and private sectors achieve their security goals.”

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agencies meet their requirements based on existing technology investments. Using industry-standard protocols, the result will allow government organizations to seamlessly share data across different systems, from disparate mobile devices all the way to the data center.

Success for DHS, and a chief Microsoft goal, is to enable agencies to harness the power of their existing systems — government doesn't need to start from scratch to gain the immediate benefits of interoperability. Microsoft is focused on eliminating friction within mixed computing environments without compromising their distinctive underlying capabilities. Along with thousands of our business partners, we are committed to creating software that is interoperable by design, and we expect it to play a key role in solving government's data-sharing challenges.

There will always be other long-term barriers to information sharing — some cultural, others political and legal — but if we can agree on an interoperability roadmap, and drive through the governance issues by ensuring the protection of intellectual property, technology will continue to be the key driver in eliminating silos and enabling improved information exchange for the safety of the nation.

Our Nation's Security Needs Private Industry

Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, USA (ret.), CEO, HNTB Federal Services Corp.

America's homeland security infrastructure needs are staggering. Our global economy depends on the efficient and secure cross-border transport of people, goods, and

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services. The Dept. of Homeland Security must protect thousands of miles of sea frontiers and land borders—plus more than 300 international ports of entry.

We must harness intelligent transportation systems and our experience with tolling technologies to separate “low risk” movements at our ports of entry from the general flow of traffic. Instead of looking for the proverbial needle in the haystack, we need to “move the hay” and look for the needle in the stack’s remnants. Our airports, seaports, and land ports of entry, along with the transportation corridors that connect them to domestic markets, must expand to keep pace with international trade, which has doubled since 1985 and will double again by 2025. But these sites weren’t designed to counter today’s threats. Combining the resources of private enterprise with the latest federal tools and technologies to retrofit their infrastructure is key.

The current domestic military infrastructure is also inadequate. As we reduce our overseas bases, we must assure our military families a decent quality of life to be able to reenlist the all-volunteer Armed Forces. This, too, requires the engineering design, project management, and integrated technologies that exist in private industry.

The federal government must initiate the process of integrating government and industry resources by specifying security standards that local governments can apply. These government bodies can then engage private-sector resources to help deliver the enormous job of securing this homeland.

Law Enforcement and Homeland Security

Rafi Ron, President, New Age Security Solutions Inc.

This nation’s law enforcement community is probably our most important asset in the struggle to protect the homeland against the threat of terrorism—exceeded perhaps only by effective intelligence. The community, 700,000 men and women, is present in every corner of the land. While it has law enforcement authority, it is the least mobilized, financed, and professionally supported element in the overall homeland security effort.

Traditionally, police forces were perceived as crime fighters and first responders. This view was adequate when terrorism was not a threat to the homeland. It is no longer adequate.

When fighting crime, law enforcement officers are measured by their ability to make arrests and collect the evidence that will lead to a conviction. By definition, this can be done only after a crime has been committed. This reactive mode of operation is totally insufficient in a terrorist attack, because once the attack takes place, the battle (not the war) is over and the terrorist has won. The damage to human life and property has been done, and the terrorist’s desired effect has been achieved.

SAP for Defense and Security – Transforming Ideas into Reality

SAP, the leader in enterprise applications and integration technologies, has been a pioneer in helping defense and government organizations transform operations. SAP’s defense and security portfolio has expanded to include solutions for global trade and customs compliance, incident management and emergency response, national assets management, and border protection.

“SAP understands the importance of integrating information, operations, and resource visibility to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from an attack or national disaster,” says Steve Peck, president of SAP Public Services Inc., in Washington, D.C.

SAP works with 1,500 public sector organizations, including 14 NATO countries, seven national police forces, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, Defense Logistics Agency, and numerous state and local organizations.

“SAP helps simplify processes and integrate disparate systems, so organizations can share information, collaborate across organizational or inter-jurisdictional boundaries, and more effectively coordinate homeland security resources,” says John Barry, Maj. Gen., USAF (Ret.), SAP vice president, defense and security.

For more information, visit
www.sap.com/defense-security.

Homeland security requires a proactive approach that is aimed at prevention and deterrence, not just investigation and conviction. Information and skills are critical resources to making our law enforcement community an effective player in the war on terrorism. Officers must be educated in the nature of terrorism, its sources, its tactics, its weapons, and the behavior indicators that help identify terrorists in advance of acts of terror.

Let’s provide the funding and resources needed for our nation’s front lines at home.

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