

## Plenary Session Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005

### **Robert Clerman, Vice President, Mitretek Systems**

Robert Clerman welcomed the group to an early morning meeting.

### **Peter Miller – Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology**

Peter Miller commented on recent congressional activity, specifically the Joint Hearing with the Subcommittees on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity and Emergency Preparedness, Science, and Technology: "[SCADA and the Terrorist Threat: Protecting the Nation's Critical Control Systems](http://homeland.house.gov/release)," held on Tuesday, October 18, 2005. Full testimonies can be reviewed at <http://homeland.house.gov/release>.

Peter was a participant behind the scenes with briefings to the staffers. Some of the important results from this dialog are:

- The PCSF needs a true "call to action." This call to action must be consensus-based, results-oriented, and achievable.
- The PCSF needs to have a draft charter of goals by February 2006, with a three-year forecast. Measurable goals are needed, to ensure that this call to action is successfully implemented.

Peter suggested to the congressional staffers that they look for progress on the identification of these goals, and for subsequent action to be taken once the goals are published. He plans to go back and brief the committee on the goals and action plans and tell them that, if we do not achieve measurable success, then Congress should take action to put something in place.

Peter has asked management of the DHS Science & Technology Directorate for additional financial resources to support the PCSF, and a plan will be in place by the end of November on how these resources will be managed. It is envisioned that Working Groups will present a Statement of Work to be reviewed by the PCSF Governing Board for potential approval and funding.

Peter closed by emphasizing the significance of the SAFETY Act and how important it is to understand its impact.

### **Michael Torppey, Senior Principal, Mitretek Systems; Technical Manager, PCSF**

Mike Torppey presented an overview of PCSF work in progress and future plans.

Mike placed special emphasis on the Congress of Chairs (CoC) Interest Group and its accomplishments to date. CoC is off to a fast start, having completed two successful meetings and begun work on two active projects:

- One project focuses on standards assessment mapping, or what is sometimes referred to as a standards framework. One of the findings thus far is that there is a need to consolidate several initiatives that involve performing standards assessment and mapping/framework. CoC has been asked to address the consolidation issue.
- The second project focused on a Common Glossary is an ongoing compilation designed to provide assistance with terminology differences to assist with alignment of standards objectives.

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On upcoming PCSF meetings, Mike mentioned that the PCSF 2006 Spring meeting will be held in San Diego, CA in June and there is a possibility that the 2006 Fall Meeting could be held in an international setting.

To assist with the operation of interest and working groups, PCSF will provide resources to support Live Meeting and Teleconferencing organizational assistance for special group meetings when requested, and funding when the process is finalized.

The governing board met on October 26, 2005 and, among other things, discussed:

- The number of seats up for election in Spring 2006.
- The election process, including how a nominations committee will be formed and will participate. Those interested in participating in the committee should send an e-mail to [secretariat@pcsforum.org](mailto:secretariat@pcsforum.org).
- The Congress of Chairs transition to working group status

View the full [PCSF presentation](#).

#### **Alan Paller, Director of Research, SANS Institute**

Alan Paller described the SANS Institute's SCADA Security Summit and its goal to accelerate the adoption of security tools that work.

The current situation shows that there is an acceleration of cyber attack by nation states.

Key opportunity areas to accelerate buy-in by the asset owners were discussed. The intent is to explore these opportunities toward results that can be implemented soon rather than 15 years from now.

In Mr. Paller's opinion, several messages came out loud and clear from the House Joint Hearing with the Subcommittees on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity and Emergency Preparedness, Science, and Technology\*:

- There is no expectation of new federal money.
- Legislation and regulation are measures of last resort.
- There is a need to create procurement language that allows buyers to be sure they are ordering the right stuff.
- Sufficient buying power can be consolidated to offer incentives to manufacturers to develop and deliver secure systems.

SANS is willing to fund pilot programs that demonstrate effective security solutions.

View the full [SANS Institute presentation](#).

#### **Michael S. Friedman, David McWhorter – DHS SAFETY Act**

Michael S. Friedman is the Special Assistant (contractor) to the Director of the Office of SAFETY Act Implementation in DHS. Michael described the Act, its implementation, criteria to qualify, and benefits.

David McWhorter described the SAFETY Act technical evaluation criteria and review process.

The SAFETY Act is intended to facilitate the development and deployment of anti-terrorism technologies by providing limits or caps on liability exposure.

The full application evaluation kit is available on the Web site [www.safetyact.gov](http://www.safetyact.gov).

View the full [Friedman SAFETY Act presentation](#).

View the full [McWhorter SAFETY Act presentation](#).