



TRANSCRIPT FROM WEBCAST 3/22/2011

DESCRIPTION: Open & Overview

WHO: John Verrico, Teresa Lustig, David Lamensdorf

[Music]

>> The Los Angeles Regional ICBRNE project is designed to save lives and protect property by providing near realtime vetted emergency management information to the responder community. ICBRNE integrates existing chemical, biological, radiological nuclear and explosive sensors, consolidates their data and delivers information over shared open standards to remote integrated display software. For its Los Angeles deployment, data from multiple regional agencies instruments is acquired through wireless connections. This wireless detection system is comprised of an off the shelf meter coupled to a WiFi transmitter relaying data through a cellular gateway reproduced and integrated with other alert information utilizing the DHS common alerting protocol. Using this standard multiple vendors easily integrated the CBRNE data into a variety of situational awareness and reporting tools.

>> Welcome to the ICBRNE Program Milestone Webcast. We're here live at the Los Angeles Emergency Operations Center which is the center point for emergency management here in the City of the Angels. Today, we've come to this impressive facility to talk about ICBRNE, Integrated Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives detection. Our web audience out there consists of emergency managers and first responders from local, state and federal government agencies, public health and healthcare professionals, policy and decision makers, military personnel and private sector representatives including infrastructure holders, industry and research partners. Thank you all for being with us today. So what is ICBRNE? How does it help officials with incident prevention, response and mitigation? How has ICBRNE been developed, tested and used here in the Los Angeles area? And finally, how can you apply this capability and the lessons learned to your own region? With the help of our live guests today and some videos we're going to explore these issues. Among other guests we have with us today Teresa Lustig who is the program manager for the ICBRNE program at the Department of Homeland Securities Science and Technology Directorate.

[Pause]



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>> So, Theresa in a simplified view what this program is, is it takes readings off of commercial sensors and puts the meter readings onto a common platform so that everybody can access them. All the people, the emergency responders can access these. These can include individual response teams, county level, state level, even national level resources being able to push meaningful information out to expert resources. I mean it's more than an ideal. I mean, this is a fundamental necessity. Many things in today's high tech world it's kind of surprising that this is not already in place. So, the fact is I understand there are no standards, there have been no standards to date, and the most advanced implementation of the concept is right here now in Los Angeles. We've funded this project through the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate. This is your program. So, why don't you tell us a little bit about it? How DHS got involved in this whole thing.

>> Sure John, first though I wanted to thank James Featherstone, he's director of the Emergency Operations Center here in L.A. for allowing us to broadcast from the Emergency Operations Center. Now, the program originally had a goal of integrating detection systems that were being deployed throughout DHS to various cities across the country. And it became really obvious from the beginning that if we weren't including the locals in that integration we weren't gonna have a successful project. So, we looked at starting a number of pilots throughout the country so that we can demonstrate integration and in our survey of cities we found that L.A. was very progressive in how they were going about doing integration in their own city. And so, we chose them for their progressive ideas. It also became very obvious in their program that if we were not using their existing equipment with their existing emergency management systems that we were setting ourselves up for failure. So, what we did had to be used with whatever it was already in place with their grant funds. So, we turned to our standards office within Science and Technology Directorate to look at standards that were emerging in emergency management to see how we could leverage those for this program. And I think we--over the past few years we've been very successful in demonstrating that. We've had a number of major demonstrations including--

>> Tell us.

>> Well, it's just been deployed for the Grammy and Academy Awards, also some sporting events and we've actually had a formal large scale demonstration here last



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August that was a scenario with a 10 kiloton nuclear device. So, a very large formal demonstration that we'll talk about later in the show.

>> Excellent. Thank you, Teresa. Well that gives us a good overview. Throughout this webcast we're gonna be hearing from a wide variety of people from agencies who have been involved in this project. You're gonna see the equipment. You're gonna learn a little bit about how ICBRNE works and what it means for the region and ultimately for you. So, let's begin with an animation that explains really the architecture behind the ICBRNE. It will be presented by David Lamensdorf, he is the president of Safe Environment Engineering. He is our private sector partner in this effort. David has been an instrumental figure in this ICBRNE project from the get go. David, let's take it to you and take a look at the animation.

>> Thanks John. I appreciate it. So, essentially I'm gonna veer a little bit off the animation here. We're connecting technologies that really connect a lot of the sensors together and relay that data to any offsite computer or mobile device specifically using the standards that you have mentioned earlier. So, essentially what we're doing is connecting a variety of different instruments together from chemical detectors to biological or particulate monitors to radiological nuclear devices to explosive detectors, pretty agnostic if you will to the sensor itself. And to that we're marrying it with a communications device that allows those off the shelf legacy sensors to tie in with GPS location tracking and a wireless network and essentially what we do is we tie those devices together. So we're connecting the instrument to the wireless device and relaying that data back out over the internet or actually out over any network type connection. I think that's kind of an important point as that it's--we now give these instruments a network to move over. And once we have accomplished that we're essentially as live readings are taken they are displayed instantly back with the subject matter expert at remote locations. We're taking that meter reading and showing it like in the back of the house match up or at a subject matter expert location. And they're reading that in realtime and can see if there is any alarm situation that occurs. And then once we get that data we're distributing it via the standards to offsite servers that are routing and formatting that data into this capped format, this standards format that we'll get into a little bit later and then sharing with a bunch of different applications that remote subject matter experts are using. So, we're looking at devices that create it. Look at CLUE models integrated into sensor data into local maps or national maps, federal systems or even national or local GIS tools. So, a variety of different tools that are using the data in this structured standards format. Thanks.



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>> Excellent. Thank you, David.