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From The Editor

Anything that doesn't focus on the humanitarian aspects of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina on the U.S. Gulf Coast seems insensitive. But the disaster — any disaster of this magnitude, in fact — clearly also has a security dimension to it. For one thing, it was Michael Chertoff, secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), who took the leading role at the August 31 press conference that outlined the U.S. government's response to the disaster.



Chertoff took center stage thanks to the new National Response Plan, established earlier this year. The plan enables the DHS to designate a major

TOP STORY

New York subway gets security overhaul

The Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) of New York City has announced a three-year, US\$212 million deal with Lockheed Martin Transportation and Security Solutions (TSS) to install surveillance equipment and other security technology on the city's vast network of subways, commuter rail lines, bridges, tunnels and transit hubs. Lockheed Martin TSS will act as prime contractor for the upgrade, which will include 1000 surveillance cameras, 3000 motion sensors and the upgrading of 277 subway stations to enable cellphone service.

The overhaul goes by the cumbersome title of Integrated Electronic Security System and Command, Communications and Control (IESS/C3). The core team includes ARINC Inc., Slattery Slanska USA Civil, SYSTRA Engineering, Intergraph, Cubic Corporation and Lenel Systems International. Maintenance options could extend the deal through September 2013.

It's tempting to see the contract as a response to the July subway bombings in London, but MTA executive director Katherine Lapp says that planning had been going on for more than a year before the August 23 announcement.

OTHER STORIES

UPS rolls out CBP system

UPS says it has become one of the first transportation carriers to deploy the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) developed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). ACE is part of CBP's modernization program and automates the flow of information about packages approaching U.S. border points by truck.

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ACT FAST
Space is limited

incident as an Incident of National Significance. Katrina represents the first time this designation has been put into effect.

The National Response Plan gives the DHS primary responsibility for coordinating federal response and recovery efforts. Besides working with other agencies, the DHS responds to major incidents primarily through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

It makes sense to put the DHS in charge of emergency response at a time like this. The agency is the only one with the budgetary clout to conduct large-scale live training disaster response exercises such as the TOPOFF 3 drill conducted in April. As the feature on security training in our upcoming September-October issue describes, there isn't anything that compares to live exercises when it comes to training.

Live training brings the complexity and unpredictability of real-life incidents that no tabletop, paper-based simulation possibly can. The TOPOFF 3 exercise enabled security planners to gather so much data on how things work — or don't work — that the lessons are still being digested.

Katrina has provided a far stronger dose of reality than anyone could ever want, but I'm sure that once things are under control, there will be lessons to be learned.

Andrew Brooks
Editor

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On the lookout!

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UPS worked with CBP to pilot the ACE program in Blaine, Washington, the first land port to transition to the new system. Part of the ACE rollout involved the introduction of an electronic manifest system for trucks at the Blaine border crossing last December. The e-manifests save a great deal of time compared to the previous paper-based system. The company also tied its own information systems more closely to ACE, which it says will shorten customs clearance times in addition to providing greater security.

SAIC completes container trial

SAIC and the Hong Kong Container Terminal Operators Association (CTOA) have completed a six-month test of container security technology at two terminals in Hong Kong. Over the life of the trial, about 600,000 containers passed through the Integrated Container Inspection Systems (ICIS).

SAIC and the terminal operators invested their own money in the trial, which was intended to show how large amounts of cargo could be effectively scanned without slowing down the flow of trade. SAIC says that the kind of data gathered by ICIS could be used to supplement the advance cargo-manifest data provided under the 24-hour rule that governs cargo approaching U.S. ports. But at press time the company had not heard from U.S. security agencies about whether this was feasible.

Axis secures Alaska ferries

The Alaska Department of Transportation has installed around 100 AXIS 241S video servers from Axis Communications at the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) ferry terminals. The servers digitize analog input from surveillance cameras, enabling security staff and law enforcement agencies to monitor the ferry terminals, surrounding waters and passenger traffic via the Internet when the terminals are closed.

Nine of the largest ferry terminals in southern Alaska are involved. The AMHS operates year-round and has been running since 1963. The system carries around 400,000 passengers and 100,000 vehicles a year among communities in Alaska, Canada and the lower 48 U.S. states.

SAIL II pilot launched

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration and U.S. Coast Guard will soon begin testing explosives detection systems (EDS) as part of a pilot program for the second phase of the Secure Automated Inspection Lanes (SAIL) project. The pilot will run for a month and involve scanning passengers as they board at Golden Gate Ferry terminals, first in Larkspur, California and then in San Francisco.



UPS is working with CBP to deploy the Automated Commercial Environment at all 11 of its land port operations



Footage of Alaskan ferry terminals is managed from a central location with software from CamCentral Systems Inc.

a commission basis out of London, Dubai and/or Hong Kong. Interested parties should contact our Managing Editor Roma Ihnatowycz at: roma@pub-intl.com, tel: 905 629 0007 ext. 32.

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The goal is to test how new EDS technologies can be applied efficiently on high-volume commuter ferry routes. Document scanners will be used in addition to the EDS technology. Before passengers board, staff will hand each a card that explains the program and can capture explosive material. The card will then be scanned, and if it returns a positive the passenger will be given secondary screening. The card will then be destroyed in the presence of the passenger.

Separately, Smiths Detection announced that it has been selected to provide two of its Ionscan 400B desktop trace EDS units and one document scanner for the pilot.

Maritime security vital for Iraq

The maritime director of a global risk management company says that Iraq's maritime security is critical if the country is to have any hope of recovery. David Fairnie of HART Security, which has provided security services in Iraq since early 2003, says that piracy and maritime insurgency are becoming a concern despite Iraq government efforts to maintain the country's maritime infrastructure and operations.

"Oil exports currently provide Iraq with the lifeblood of its reconstruction efforts, without which the country's ability to build and regenerate will be greatly hampered," Fairnie said. "Until either a dedicated waterborne protection force is in place, or a system is developed that would allow vessels to radically minimize time at anchor, the risks may well prove too high and ship owners and operators will choose to go elsewhere."

Savi completes container trial

Savi technology has completed a trans-Pacific trial of its container security system in collaboration with EJ Brooks and Mitsui. The trial evaluated 50 of Savi's latest ST-676 ISO Container Security Tags and 15 EJ Brooks e-seals. The technology will be commercially released in November.

The tags automatically communicated with an RFID reader network as they were shipped by truck from a distribution point in California to the Port of Los Angeles, by ship to the Port of Hong Kong, and then again by truck to their end-point, where testers deliberately broke into six of the containers. All six intrusions were detected and reported.

Savi's Australian subsidiary has also announced a US\$10.1-million contract with the Australian Defence Force (ADF) to provide a consignment management system backed by RFID technology.

Shaq promotes port security

Former Los Angeles Laker basketball star Shaquille O'Neal has a new role, starring in public service announcements to promote the Los Angeles Port Police as a career choice. The LAPP is one of the few police forces in the U.S. that is dedicated exclusively to port protection, keeping a watch on commercial operations, docks and marinas, recreational, residential and neighboring areas.



Shaquille O'Neal has served as an LAPP reserve officer for the last three years

Pirated ship recaptured

Malaysian commandos recently recaptured a Malaysian-owned ship that had been seized by pirates in November, 2002. Four patrol vessels with 45 marine police on board pursued the ship for 17 hours through the Malacca Strait before capturing the vessel and the 20 Chinese nationals on board.

The recapture was aided by the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC), based in Kuala Lumpur. The PRC had been tracking the ship for some time as it transited the waters of India, Bangladesh and Myanmar. At the time of its capture it was bound from India to Vietnam with a cargo of soybeans.

Philippine port insecure

The container port of Cebu in the Philippines is woefully insecure despite the establishment of a secure zone, according to a report in *The Freeman*, a Cebu newspaper. The article cites the regularity with which smuggled luxury cars are seized as evidence that container security is unheard of at the port.

The article suggests that the main problem is the lack of container security plans and systems. A recent fire near the port's security zone caused massive damage to stored cargo. It turned out to have been set by an arsonist, prompting port and shipping stakeholders to wonder what kind of damage a terrorist could have caused.

SHORTS

- The Czech Republic is in the process of reviewing a government-sponsored bill to add digital photos and fingerprints to the country's passports
 - John W. Lavers, a veteran of Canadian maritime security initiatives, has been appointed to the advisory board of cargo security systems specialist Bulldog Technologies Inc.
 - L-3 Communications has appointed Thomas M. Ripp as president of its Security and Detection Systems subsidiary
 - Lumidigm Inc. has received funding to bring its patented LightPrint fingerprint recognition technology to market
 - A Japanese airline pilot has been arrested for stealing Boeing 747 flight operation manuals and flight crew uniforms and trying to sell them on the Internet
 - QRSciences has appointed Norman Shanks, a former security manager for Heathrow Airport and head of security for BAA, to its board of directors
 - The government of India has passed a proposal to shoot down a hijacked passenger aircraft if it seems likely that it will be used as a missile
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