



The President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee

The President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC) provides industry-based analyses and recommendations to the President and the Executive Branch regarding policy and enhancements to national security and emergency preparedness (NS/EP) telecommunications.

The NSTAC is composed of up to 30 Presidentially-appointed senior executives who represent various elements of the telecommunications industry. The committee advises the President on a wide range of policy and technical issues related to telecommunications, information systems, information assurance, infrastructure protection, and other NS/EP concerns. The NSTAC meets quarterly via conference calls and holds an annual meeting to report its activities while providing recommendations to the President.

BACKGROUND: President Ronald Reagan created the NSTAC by Executive Order (EO) 12382, *President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee*, in September 1982 to advise the President on matters regarding NS/EP telecommunications. Four issues provided impetus for the establishment of the NSTAC: (1) the divestiture of AT&T; (2) increased Government reliance on commercial communications; (3) potential impact of new technologies on NS/EP telecommunications; and (4) growing importance of command, control, and communications to military and disaster response modernization.

NSTAC ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Many NSTAC activities are the genesis for technical reports, recommendations to the President, and NS/EP operational programs. The NSTAC has examined a wide range of issues, including network survivability; network convergence; commercial satellite survivability; cybersecurity and crime; intrusion detection; emergency communications and interoperability; and information system, network, and wireless services security issues. The National Coordinating Center (NCC), an industry-Government coordination center for day-to-day operational support to NS/EP telecommunications, began as an NSTAC recommendation. In January 2000, the NCC was officially recognized as the Communications Sector Information Sharing and Analysis Center. In order to enhance information sharing and collaborative efforts between communications and cybersecurity partners, in October 2009, the NCC was integrated into the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC), a 24-hour, coordinated information sharing and incident response capability designed to protect and secure the Nation's cyber networks and infrastructure. DHS will coordinate national response efforts with Federal, State, and local, Tribal, Territorial governments and private sector partners during a significant cyber or physical communications threat through the NCCIC. Formerly an NSTAC issue, the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) system, is also now an operational program. TSP is the regulatory, administrative, and operational authority that enables priority provisioning and restoration of telecommunications services for Federal, State, and local government users, as well as nongovernmental users. Furthermore, NSTAC activities led to the creation of an industry-based Network Security Information Exchange (NSIE), which meets regularly with a Government NSIE to address the threat posed to the public network when system vulnerabilities are exploited.

NSTAC ACTIVITIES: When the Executive Office of the President (EOP) requests the NSTAC examine an issue, a subcommittee is formed to address it. Over the past year, the NSTAC supported two issue-specific subcommittees, which examined the NS/EP implications of the establishment of a nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) and secure Government communications (SGC). The NSTAC members approved the *NSTAC Report to the President on the National Security and Emergency Preparedness Implications of a Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network* in May 2013, and approved the *NSTAC Report to the President on Secure Government Communications* in August 2013. In October 2013, the NSTAC began scoping an examination of the Industrial Internet, and approved the scoping report in February 2014 before launching a research subcommittee on the Internet of Things in March 2014. The NSTAC's current scoping effort is examining information technology mobilization for a large-scale cyber incident. The scoping report is due in May 2014.

LEADERSHIP: Industry executives hold the positions of NSTAC Chair and Vice Chair. At this time, Ms. Maggie Wilderotter, Chairman and CEO, Frontier Communications Corporation, holds the NSTAC Chair position and Mr. Mark McLaughlin, President and CEO, Palo Alto Networks, holds the NSTAC Vice Chair position. The NSTAC is supported by the Secretary of Homeland Security, who is the Executive Agent for the NSTAC. DHS' Office of Cybersecurity and Communications also works closely with the EOP to coordinate the NSTAC's daily operations.



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MEMBERSHIP:

NSTAC CHAIR

Ms. Maggie Wilderotter
Chairman and CEO
Frontier Communications Corp.

Dr. Joseph E. Fergus
Founder and CEO
Communication Technologies, Inc.

Mr. Glen Post
President and CEO
CenturyLink, Inc.

NSTAC VICE CHAIR

Mr. Mark McLaughlin
President and CEO
Palo Alto Networks

Ms. Larissa L. Herda
Chairman, President, and CEO
tw telecom, inc.

Mr. Angel Ruiz
Head of Region North America
Ericsson

Mr. Steve Bennett
President and CEO
Symantec Corporation

Mr. Dan Hesse
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Mr. Paul Sagan
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Ms. Jamie Dos Santos
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Mr. Marc P. Lefar
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Vonage Holdings Corp.

Mr. William H. Swanson
Chairman and CEO
Raytheon Company

Mr. Thomas J. Lynch
CEO
TE Connectivity, Ltd.

RECENT NSTAC PUBLICATIONS:

*NSTAC Report to the President on Secure Government
Communications, August 2013*

*NSTAC Response to the National Strategy for Secure Online
Transactions, May 2010*

*NSTAC Report to the President on the National Security and
Emergency Preparedness Implications of a Nationwide Public
Safety Broadband Network, May 2013*

*NSTAC Report to the President on Commercial Satellite
Communications Mission Assurance, November 2009*

*NSTAC Letter to the President: In-Progress Review of the
National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration
Center, November 2012*

*NSTAC Report to the President on Identity Management
Strategy, May 2009*

*NSTAC Letter to Mr. Michael Daniel, Special Assistant to the
President and Cybersecurity Coordinator: An Out-of-Band
Communications Network Recommendation, August 2012*

*Cybersecurity Collaboration Report: Strengthening
Government and Private Sector Collaboration Through a
Cyber Incident Detection, Prevention, Mitigation, and
Response Capability, May 2009*

*NSTAC Report to the President on Cloud Computing, May
2012*

*NSTAC Report to the President on Communications
Resiliency, April 2011*

*NSTAC Response to the National Strategy for Secure Online
Transactions
Partial Draft version 0.2, June 2010*