



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 in-person meetings 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 resilience and 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 a 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. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will coordinate national response efforts with Federal, State, local, Tribal, and Territorial governments and private sector partners during a significant cyber or physical communications threat through the NCCIC. The NSTAC also recommended the establishment of the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) system, which is the regulatory, administrative, and operational authority that enables priority provisioning and restoration of telecommunications services. 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. Most recently, the NSTAC's recommendations on securing Federal Government communications and the adoption of a cyber risk management posture has been propagated throughout the Government, earning recognition in DHS' 2014 Joint National Priorities for Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience.

NSTAC ACTIVITIES: When the Executive Office of the President (EOP) requests the NSTAC examine an issue, a subcommittee is formed to address it. Currently, the NSTAC is supporting a subcommittee examining Government and industry's application of big data analytics to advance NS/EP.

LEADERSHIP: The NSTAC Chair and Vice Chair are appointed by the President from among current NSTAC members. In November 2014, Mr. Mark McLaughlin, Chairman, President, and CEO, Palo Alto Networks, was promoted from NSTAC Vice Chair to serve as the new NSTAC Chair. Ms. Renée James, President, Intel Corporation, was appointed to serve as the NSTAC Vice Chair. The NSTAC is supported by the Secretary of Homeland Security, who is the Executive Agent for the NSTAC. DHS' Office of Cybersecurity and Communications and the NSTAC's Designated Federal Officer also work closely with the EOP to coordinate the NSTAC's daily operations.



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MEMBERSHIP:

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Chairman, President, and CEO
Palo Alto Networks

Ms. Lisa A. Hook
President and CEO
Neustar, Inc.

Ms. Kay Sears
President
Intelsat General Corp.

NSTAC VICE CHAIR

Ms. Renée James
President
Intel Corporation

Mr. Kevin Kennedy
President and CEO
Avaya, Inc.

Mr. Gary Smith
President and CEO
Ciena Corp.

Mr. William Brown
Chairman, President, and CEO
Harris Corp.

Mr. Marc P. Lefar
Former CEO
Vonage Holdings Corp.

Mr. John T. Stankey
President--Home Solutions and Chief
Strategy Officer
AT&T, Inc.

Mr. Scott Charney
Corporate Vice President for
Trustworthy Computing
Microsoft Corp.

Mr. Thomas J. Lynch
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Vice President of Software Technology
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Dr. Joseph E. Fergus
Founder, President, and CEO
Communication Technologies, Inc.

Mr. Paul Sagan
Executive Vice Chairman
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RECENT NSTAC PUBLICATIONS:

NSTAC Report to the President on the Internet of Things,
November 2014

*NSTAC Report to the President on Information and
Communications Technology Mobilization*, November
2014

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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