Working Group #3: Emergency Alert System

Co-Chairs:
Clay Freinwald, Clay Freinwald Technical Services
Larry Walke, National Association of Broadcasters

Working Group Objectives

This Working Group has been tasked with developing recommendations for the CSRIC's consideration regarding actions the FCC should take to improve the Emergency Alert System.

▶ **State EAS Plans**. Recommend steps to improve the process for developing and submitting state EAS plans to the Commission. Consider the formation and role of State Emergency Communications Councils (SECCs), and processes for optimizing the EAS while minimizing burdens on EAS stakeholders.
  ◦ Final Report: Submitted March 2014.

▶ **Nationwide EAS Test/Operational Issues**. Address other EAS-related issues as assigned to CSRIC by the FCC.
  ◦ Final Report: Submitted June 2014.

▶ **EAS Security**. Recommend actions to improve and promote the security of the EAS.
  ◦ Initial Report on EAS Cybersecurity Best Practices: Submitted June 2014.
  ◦ Final Report: December 2014.

Participants: 42 Members (as of September 24, 2014)

Adrienne Abbott	Nevada EAS Chair
John Archer	SiriusXM
John Benedict	CenturyLink
Ron Boyer	Boyer Broadband
Ted Buehner	National Weather Service
Roswell Clark	Cox Media Group
Kimberly Culp	Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority
Edward Czarnecki	Monroe Electronics
David Donovan	NY State Association of Broadcasters
Chris Fine	Goldman Sachs
Les Garrenton	LIN Media
Mike Gerber	NOAA
Suzanne Goucher	Maine Association of Broadcasters
Neil Graves	SNR Systems (formerly FEMA IPAWS)
Craig Hoden	NOAA
Chris Homer	Public Broadcasting Service
Steve Johnson	Johnson Telecom
Alfred Kenyon	FEMA IPAWS
Wayne Luplow	LGE/Zenith
Bruce McFarlane	Fairfax County
Dan Mettler	Clear Channel Media + Entertainment

Participants (cont'd)

- David Munson — FCC Liaison
- Brian Oliger — Hubbard Radio/WTOP
- Darryl Parker — TFT, Inc.
- Rich Parker — Vermont Public Radio
- Jerry Parkins — Comcast Cable
- Efraim Petel — AtHoc, Inc.
- Richard Perlotto — Shadowserver Foundation
- Joey Peters — MyStateUSA, Inc.
- Peter Poulos — Citi
- Harold Price — Sage Alerting Systems
- Richard Rudman — Broadcast Warning Working Group
- Francisco Sanchez, Jr. — Harris County (TX) Office of Homeland Security
- Tim Schott — NOAA
- Andy Scott — NCTA
- Bill Schully — DirecTV
- Gary Smith — KTAR Phoenix, Arizona SECC
- Matthew Straeb — Global Security Systems/ALERT FM
- Gary Timm — SRA International
- Leonardo Velazquez — AT&T U-Verse
- Michael Watson — Gray Television Group
- Kelly Williams — NAB
- Reed Wilson — Belo Corp.

Working Group #3:
EAS Security Subcommittee

Co-Chairs:

Neil Graves, Director, Business Development, SNR Systems
Richard Perlotto, Director, The Shadowserver Foundation

WG3: EAS
Cybersecurity Initial Report

o Submitted to CSRIC in June 2014

o Addressed needs for information assurance and security controls throughout EAS system.

o Best Practices for EAS cybersecurity hygiene.

   o EAS Participant Networks and Operations

   o EAS Alert Originators

   o EAS Device Manufacturers

WG3: EAS
Cybersecurity Initial Report

Conclusions

- o EAS community should adopt Best Practices to secure EAS in its current state.

- o Incorporate EAS into IT security program, or create a program if necessary.

- o Report is a starting point.

- o Consistent review and renewal of the Best Practices is needed to reflect ongoing evolution of threats and vulnerabilities.

WG3: EAS Security
Next Steps

o   Cyber risk mitigation methods should be continually updated.

o   Determine a cyber risk management program that addresses all areas of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework.

o   WG3 EAS Security Subcommittee tasked with providing recommendations for application of the NIST Framework to EAS ecosystem.

WG3: EAS Security
Next Steps

o NIST Framework provides mechanisms for organizations to:
  o Characterize their current cybersecurity posture;
  o Identify their target state for cybersecurity;
  o Prioritize opportunities for improvement that are continuous and repeatable;
  o Assess progress toward the target state; and
  o Communicate among stakeholders about cybersecurity risk: C-level to frontline technicians.

WG3: EAS Security
Next Steps

o **CSRIC Working Group #4 is tasked with developing cyber risk management best practices for communications providers.**

   ◦ WG4 goals include conforming the NIST Framework to the communications sector.

o **WG3 will coordinate with WG4 to avoid product overlap.**

   ◦ WG3 will focus on cyber risk management in the context of EAS, and defer to WG4 regarding cyber risk management in other areas of EAS Participants' operations.

Working Group 3:
Emergency Alert System

Final Report re: EAS Cyber Risk Management due December 2014