



**WHSR / TSA SENIOR INDUSTRY FORUM SERIES:  
OFFICE OF SECURITY CAPABILITIES ENGAGEMENT GROUP**

**INNOVATION FOCUS GROUP  
MEETING REPORT  
November 20, 2013**

The Washington Homeland Security Roundtable (WHSR) hosted the fifth TSA Office of Security Capabilities (OSC) Innovation Focus Group meeting on November 20, 2013. Participants attending the meeting consisted of representatives from industry, WHSR, and TSA.

The meeting began with an introduction of a new TSA representative for the Innovation Focus Group. As part of that introduction, TSA shared that they are looking at innovation not only as creative ideation, but as an opportunity to drive cultural change on internal and external engagement. TSA's goal is to drive engagement and agility in order to enhance innovation and to expedite information sharing. TSA shared that innovation is about culture and engagement, out of which good ideas, thoughts, policies, and objectives will come.

The industry co-chair then reviewed two key objectives for the focus group over the next several months:

1. Develop an innovation framework that will catalyze collaboration between TSA and industry by:
  - i. Enhancing TSA and industry engagement
  - ii. Enhancing industry ability to deliver high value innovations to TSA



- iii. Positioning TSA to efficiently collect, assess, and act on relevant industry innovations
2. Provide one concrete case study highlighting types of engagement that have catalyzed innovation

The group reviewed an Innovation Framework created by the industry chair for the meeting and brainstormed concepts, ideas and actions for:

3. Improving engagement between TSA and industry
4. Enhancing TSA's ability to frame queries and requirements to industry
5. Enhancing industry's ability to respond flexibly, efficiently, and with innovative solutions to TSA requests and requirements.

The group also brainstormed technology platforms that might enable engagement and briefly discussed potential success stories where other government agencies have applied innovative practices in similar situations. Industry suggested that blogs and WebEx tools could be effective ways for TSA to communicate their plans and goals and provide updates. TSA wants to help partners build a contextual understanding so that industry can be more precise and agile.

The next meeting of the Innovation Focus group will be on December 11, 2013 and will focus on two key objectives:

- Identification of possible barriers to effective industry/TSA engagement.
- Development of recommendations to remove barriers to engagement