



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

**IMPROVING RELIABILITY & SERVICE LIFE FOCUS GROUP  
MEETING REPORT  
MARCH 27, 2013**

The Washington Homeland Security Roundtable (WHSR) launched the TSA Office of Security Capabilities (OSC) Improving Reliability and Service Life Focus Group (Reliability Group). This Reliability Group is one of seven focus groups created out of the WHSR / OSC Engagement Group.

WHSR hosted the first WHSR / OSC Engagement Group meeting on November 27, 2012. Representatives from OSC and industry participated in the meeting to kick off an on-going exchange of information, ideas and best practices concerning TSA's security capabilities, specifically focusing on the OSC's strategic plan and other areas of strategic importance. Focus group activities may be used by OSC to inform the development of their strategic plan along with other areas of operation.

The Reliability Group held its first meeting on March 27, 2013. It is comprised of representatives from industry, WHSR and TSA. This group will meet monthly through March 2014.

TSA kicked off the meeting with an overview of reliability and service life. It was noted that there is not a common language and reliability varies widely as each firm and agency has its own interpretation to what reliability, as well as service life, mean. Also noted was that while TSA is passing its tenth anniversary, in several cases, its



equipment predates the agency and is legacy Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) equipment. TSA SMEs also raised the impact of the current budget environment on the funding and planning for replacement and improvement needs.

The TSA SMEs also discussed joint partnering efforts underway with the Security Manufacturer's Coalition (SMC) to create strategic plans for the deployment of screening technologies and to advocate for adequate funding levels as well as transparency in funding. As a result, WHSR will reach out to TJ Schulz of SMC to explore future collaboration.

The meeting concluded with the industry participants deciding to brainstorm ideas and initiatives related to reliability and service life. Initial first steps include a data call of Reliability Group participants to provide WHSR staff with ideas and best practices to examine in detail at future meetings.