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

IMPROVING RELIABILITY & SERVICE LIFE FOCUS GROUP
MEETING REPORT
AUGUST 29, 2013

The Washington Homeland Security Roundtable (WHSR) hosted its third TSA Office of Security Capabilities (OSC) Improving Reliability and Service Life Focus Group (Reliability Group) meeting on August 29, 2013. Participants attending the meeting consisted of representatives from industry, WHSR and TSA.

The meeting kicked off with an introduction of Don Fenhagen of IBM as the group's industry leader. Participants were reminded that the Reliability Group, as with all of the OSC focus groups, is moderated and supported administratively as a program of the Washington Homeland Security Roundtable. Industry participation, support, and contributions are key and the TSA representatives are acting solely as subject matter experts.

Mr. Fenhagen provided a brief recap of the last group meeting and went on to share his view for the group in which the group's work will have direct links to the strategic initiatives articulated in the OSC Strategic Plan. TSA shared that a major area of focus for OSC's Assistant Administrator, is to "right size" the budget. TSA added that in 2010, 30% of OSC's budget was dedicated to maintenance expenditures. The idea of "right sizing" does not focus on reducing the amount of the budget allocated for maintenance but rather identifying best practices to achieve greater efficiencies. TSA

shared that they are focused on leveraging innovative ideas and applying them to what others have used.

TSA indicated that the Reliability Group could provide actionable and new ideas to achieve efficiencies and improve effectiveness. Industry participants brainstormed several ideas. The group also discussed the possibility of including additional SMEs (including SMEs from universities, industry, agencies, etc...) at future meetings to discuss particular issues.

Industry participants also discussed a few topics they would like to address at the group's next meeting including potential overlap between Integrated Sensors Lab (ISL), the Security Technology Integrated Program (STIP) and other major initiatives; as well as how the overarching risk-based security (RBS) initiative informs TSA's decision making process as it relates to maintenance and service life issues.