



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

### **SYSTEMS ENGINEERING FOCUS GROUP MARCH 18, 2013**

The Washington Homeland Security Roundtable (WHSR) launched the TSA Office of Security Capabilities (OSC) Systems Engineering Focus Group (Systems Group). This Systems 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 Systems Group held its first meeting on March 18, 2013. It consists of representatives from industry, WHSR and TSA. This group will meet monthly over through March 2014.

The TSA staff shared their thoughts on the current Common Elements Architecture (CEA) and the goal of further integration of systems as TSA continues its Risk Based Security (RBS) policy initiatives. The team also generally discussed the objectives of the Transportation Security Capabilities Analysis Process (TSCAP). In addition to TSCAP, the group also explained several other initiatives that are currently underway



or about to get underway at TSA, including the OSC Strategic Plan, passenger and baggage screening roadmaps, DHS's S&T Research and Development Strategic Plan and Program Plans, among others. The discussion centered on the criticalness to ensure each of these initiatives were not created as standalone products, but integrated with one another. Several participants highlighted that the previously vertical integration at TSA is shifting to a horizontally integrated organization, based largely upon the RBS policy initiatives.

The meeting concluded with the industry participants deciding to prepare an analysis of systems models and provide best practices for horizontal integration. The analysis will be submitted to OSC. Initial first steps include a data call of Systems Group participants to provide various systems models ranging from traditional models to more agile and compressed systems models.