



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

**SYSTEMS ENGINEERING FOCUS GROUP  
MEETING REPORT  
December 16, 2013**

The Washington Homeland Security Roundtable (WHSR) hosted the sixth TSA Office of Security Capabilities (OSC) Systems Engineering Focus Group meeting on December 16, 2013. Participants attending the meeting consisted of representatives from industry, WHSR, and TSA.

The meeting focused on reviewing the Transportation Security Capability Analysis Process (TSCAP) and providing input.

Representatives from E3 Federal presented an overview of the TSCAP program. They began by explaining that the TSCAP isn't about just getting better requirements, but that better requirements need to lead to better capability for the Transportation Security Officer (TSO). The result can be a new device, or a new procedure. The information that the TSCAP gathers will be used for identifying threats in a structured way, highlighting any potential capability gaps, and developing various alternative solutions to those gaps. Since the process gathers information from as many areas as possible to foster fully informed decision making, stakeholders from all areas should be involved: industry, the testing community, policy makers, and more. A broader range of input is necessary for high level and far reaching challenges, however, a benefit of the TSCAP is that it is flexible enough to be scaled down for program level decisions as well.



A good part of the discussion also focused on how to implement solutions and decisions created as a result of the TSCAP. The group agreed to recommend the establishment of a configuration control board or TSCAP governance body of some sort to maintain the integrity of the process. Additionally, the point was made that, like any organization, TSA is a system of systems and threats are always changing and dynamic. This means whatever framework is put in place must be dynamic and never static. For example, each engineering review should be a trigger in the process to keep capabilities up to date. Another key piece is engaging with industry on mitigation analysis and strategies, which could potentially result in prototypes or experimentation.

The group concluded by agreeing to focus in the next meeting on specific areas in the TSCAP that could benefit from industry input. The next meeting of the Systems Engineering Focus Group will be on March 5, 2014.