

Government and Industry A Force for Collaboration at the Energy Roadmap Update Workshop

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Energy sector leaders in the public and private sectors have once again come together to identify high-priority collaborative actions that will further secure control systems in the electric, oil, and natural gas sectors. More than 80 asset owners and operators, researchers, technology developers, security specialists, equipment vendors, and government stakeholders joined forces at a workshop to help update the [Roadmap to Secure Control Systems in the Energy Sector](#) on Sept. 2-3 in La Jolla, CA. Hosted by the Energy Sector Control Systems Working Group, the workshop was supported by the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE).

Deputy Assistant Secretary for R&D Hank Kenchington set the stage for the workshop with opening remarks about Roadmap efforts since 2006. Several speakers—including Mark Carpenter, vice president and CIO of Oncor; Paul De Martini, vice president of advanced technology at Southern California Edison; and Steve Berberich, CFO/CIO at the California Independent System Operator Corporation—sparked dialogue from the audience on the challenges ahead for the energy sector. Expert panelists representing asset owners, vendors, and industry organizations engaged participants in discussions on key accomplishments, persistent and emerging security concerns, and game-changing issues in control systems security. The discussions illustrated the sector's significant progress, but also where there is more work to be done in several key areas.

With these challenges in mind, participants broke into smaller groups to identify priority activities in four of those areas: vulnerability disclosure; technology gaps and advancements; innovative partnerships; and measuring progress. Participants left having developed a number of high-level action plans—including immediate next-steps, timeframes, and potential leads—aimed at producing real solutions that industry can apply in the near future.

By coming together to address these concerns, industry and government renewed and reinvigorated their commitment to achieving a common vision for control systems security. Workshop results will provide the basis for the updated Roadmap, scheduled for a January 2010 release. By updating the Roadmap, the energy sector can ensure public-private partnership actions stay relevant and provide needed impact.

A comprehensive outreach strategy will accompany the Roadmap to sustain the momentum generated by the workshop and encourage further participation in Roadmap activities. Find out more about the Roadmap Update effort, hosted by the Energy Sector Control Systems Working Group, and learn how you can get involved in the public-private partnership, at <http://www.controlsystmsroadmap.net/09workshop.aspx>.