

2010 Homeland Security S&T Summit
South Central Region
LIVE INTERACTIVE WEBCAST
2/10/2010 FROM SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORY
Closing:
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DHS S&T

MARY HANSON

So I will launch down to the last item on the program, so we can get out of their hair.

Web ideas, please stay with us if you want to.

In case you are going away, I remind you that everything that has been webcast will also be available as video on demand at the same website that you are watching this webcast on. With the addition of some other elements that we plan to post there also. And we will put that word out when it is available to all the registrants. And I believe the video webcast we will also do that. Okay.

So please stay with us cause I want to get to now, the question on how do we do this smartly. We've heard a lot and talked a lot about wanting to turn data into knowledge. Leo said, to see, understand, and an able action.

We all want to increase efficiency and effectiveness and that is why we have these regional summits. So how do we know if we did that or this is a smart thing to do? How do we know this is a good use of our time and travel?

I am going to bring my boss up here to facilitate this last discussion. We did some of this yesterday. It was useful. We did some during the socials. We do regional summits which are wanted and appreciated. So we really ask you, and I mean all of you, to help us think this through.

In the last five minutes, to give us some good, honest, this is transparent DHL us -- DHS come at should we do this again. If so, what should we change?

This whole summit was sponsored by Randy Zeller, my boss.

RANDY ZELLER

It could not happen without Mary. Mary is a Navy captain in the reserves and a public affairs officer. I know it doesn't show. She's pretty good at working the microphone and a camera.

To the web, audience, we are not going to have a chance to read all your ideas and discuss them. But I invite you to submit suggestions on how to do this better. We will be getting all the information you provide us. Before we secure the webcast, get your ideas in. How do we do it better online?

The online audience grew the crowd from 50 to 60 to 380 up to 400 or so. Or up to 500 at the end.

This is quite an outreach. A lot of our partners could not get here because of weather. Or there may be the one sheriff we are interested in. That sheriff has a job to do. Hopefully, we gave him an opportunity to tune in and understand what we are doing and give us feedback.

To the group here, how do we make this sort of outrage better? We have been selected in the ideas. We are looking for state and local territorial leaders in the region. The FEMA regions. And we do a lot of outreach to the general community at SMT -- S. and T. We try to get a more focused outreach to our senior partners said that they know what we are doing. They know the kinds of questions to ask.

And then we get a sense of the higher levels in the regions what the major issues are. We try to bring together some real talent and, in this case, we've been very lucky. Through Mary's persistence, we got in senior talents. And senior leaders from DHS and the regions to come in and talk to the audience. And share their ideas and solicit opinions.

Open to the group here on what is the next step. How do we go about improving this? And what more would like to see him what we are doing Westmark

My hat is off to marry. Congratulations on getting all this organized. This is no easy undertaking.

We were discussing yesterday was the ability to have, all the science and technology is wonderful, but you can't have a problem if you're not able to implement it to the first responders. And I think, maybe next year, we could get some of the EM's and first responders in the community to give you guys feedback as to what technology is working for them. Some of the -- that may need to be improved on an emergent technologies that you can implement. It's a big circle here. So I think from the boots on the ground serve -- standpoint, we need some of those folks here. And I'll out with everybody that is in this room.

I think they want to hear the feedback on what is working and go from there.

Good idea. Thank you. >> Was again, I want to say thank you as well. It was an awesome conference.

One of the things that I noticed is a lot of the stuff that we have been working on with the first responder working group, is being researched and possibly developed here locally. We had a limited amount of exposure to those people that are working on it. I tried acid were questions today to some of the people that have a lot of knowledge on that. I didn't have time to really get in-depth. Especially on battery power questions, and I loved it. But I wish we had more time to talk to some of these people.

Good point. The national -- have done a wonderful job. Because he came out to Albuquerque, there were two kids we had to make happy. One up in the mountains and one down here. I added a little bit of a challenge. We are respectful of their time as well as the folks attending his time. To make sure that we do not draw this out too long.

So we have compact a lot of information in a very short amount of time. There are other ways to communicate. We are are you talking about the success of lessons learned. We are taking away from web casting, to see if we can't do more of that from our headquarters. And connecting right to the responders in getting their inputs.

A year from now, we ought to be giving a report on how well we are doing to the responders that we assemble, let's say we assemble them here again. Without the following up. And saying that this is the kind of success we had over the past year.

We encourage you to get in touch with us directly on particular topics for follow-up.

And you got lots of context today.

I would like to ask the FEMA regional administrator Tony Russell who has been in his seat for couple of months. Do you have any final thoughts?

From my perspective, it was a great opportunity for me to see some of things that are going on the regions. Some of the partnerships, friendships on it was great. My comment that I wanted to make about the actual summit is, maybe, maybe in the future, we can look at even having working groups.

You come in, take a look at an issue, come together, and then report back out on that. That's a possibility.

I know there is a lot of information being grown as. I enjoyed it. I enjoyed getting the entire spectrum, the entire universe of what's going on with the region in science and technology.

I think that some of the working group levels could also add some value also. Just a thought.

Call that being said, again, from my perspective, it was very good to see what everybody is doing. Sometimes, being in the region, I'll get a chance to see what is being -- what is going on at headquarters. This allowed me to get some more ideas to take that to my staff. For them to leverage more what is going on in essence he to be able to help our partners, our states, that much better. So in that regard, for me, it was very, very beneficial.

Thank you very much. We appreciate that.

Let's not talk about next year just yet.

That's right. Certainly, I think the FEMA director should get the last word. I would add one last thing. We did a lot of, had a lot of

support from the staff. I would like to give a round of applause to those folks. >> All right then. I am sending off -- I'm signing off. This was the Homeland security science and technology summit for the South Central region. Thank you for joining us.

[Event concluded] >>