

## **2004 Critical Infrastructure Response Initiative (CIRI) & The Infrastructure Security Partnership (TISP) Highlights**

### A. CIRI

- In response to the tragic events of September 11th, ASCE implemented a multifaceted response plan, the Critical Infrastructure Response Initiative (CIRI). Through ASCE, the civil engineering profession has taken a leading role in addressing infrastructure vulnerability and is developing both short- and long-term strategies to mitigate the impact of future disasters on our critical civil infrastructure.
- The objectives of CIRI include: assessing infrastructure vulnerability; prioritizing infrastructure renovation based on the results of vulnerability assessments; determining research and development directions that will help to protect critical elements of infrastructure; develop retrofit designs to mitigate disaster damage; formulate new design procedures, including codes and standards; and improve disaster preparedness and response procedures.
- In July 2004, the ASCE Board of Direction approved the report of the Task Committee on Critical Infrastructure (TCCI), including formation of a standing Board level Committee on Critical Infrastructure (CCI) to begin in January 2005. CCI will provide vision, guidance, and direction on all activities related to homeland security and multi-hazard protection of critical infrastructure, including planning, preparedness, and response. In addition to ensuring that the Society maintains its proactive leadership role in these key national issues, CCI will also provide guidance to build coalitions that undertake activities in critical infrastructure, and will assist in identifying sources of and securing necessary resources related to critical infrastructure.
- ASCE/EWRI created the Water Infrastructure Security Enhancements (WISE) Standards Committee to develop guidelines and standards for integrating risk reduction measures into the design, operation, and maintenance of water systems. ASCE, with its partners AWWA and WEF, is currently managing a three phase grant from EPA to develop security guidance documents, standards, and related training materials for water and wastewater infrastructure.
- ASCE has developed a joint continuing education course, "Security Risk Assessment Procedures: Countering Terrorism and Other Threats" with Sandia National Laboratory and is exploring additional areas of potential partnership. In addition, ASCE created a series of web seminars focusing on infrastructure security topics. Future topics will be developed throughout the coming year, in conjunction with The Infrastructure Security Partnership (TISP).

## B. TISP

- Immediately after 9/11, the US Army Corps of Engineers spearheaded the formation of The Infrastructure Security Partnership (TISP), to collaborate on issues related to the security of the nation's built environment. TISP is designed to act as a national asset facilitating dialogue on domestic infrastructure security, by leveraging members' collective technical expertise and research & development capabilities. As an active founding member and in recognition of ASCE's leadership capabilities, ASCE is serving as a paid Secretariat for TISP. Marla Dalton, P.E., ASCE Director of Critical Infrastructure, has been selected to serve as TISP Executive Director.
- On behalf of TISP, ASCE has been working to create a liaison with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regarding the assessment of infrastructure vulnerability and the design and construction of mitigation measures.
- In addition to ASCE, the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the Construction Industry Institute (CII), the Federal Facilities Council (FFC), the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are all TISP Steering Committee members.
- Current TISP membership includes over 180 organizations and agencies, representing over 1.75 million individuals and firms. In an effort to remain financially sustainable, TISP restructured its membership categories to include Contributing Members and Corporate Sponsors. TISP currently has ~20 Contributing Members and 2 Corporate Sponsors.
- ASCE developed and manages the TISP website devoted to critical infrastructure security issues ([www.tisp.org](http://www.tisp.org)). The site receives an average of 21,000 hits per day.
- ASCE launched the monthly TISP e-Newsletter and currently serves as editor. Current distribution list of TISP e-News includes approximately 7,500 individuals with an expressed interest in infrastructure security.
- ASCE continues to serve on the program committee for annual TISP Congress on Infrastructure Security for the Built Environment (ISBE). The 2003 Congress was held in conjunction with AGC's Midyear Meeting/Legislative & Governmental Relations Conference in September 2003 in Washington, DC. Approximately 400 attendees participated in the 30 sessions held over two days. The planning for ISBE 2004, scheduled for November 7-10, 2004 in St. Louis, MO and sponsored by SAME, is

well underway. The program includes two and a half days of sessions and is expected to attract 700 attendees.

- ASCE is working with other TISP member organizations (including USACE, NSPE, NCSBCS, SAME, AGC, ACEC, and AIA) to develop I-SPAN (Infrastructure Security Professional Advisory Network). I-SPAN, a state and local government partnership program to foster collaboration on infrastructure security issues and to leverage the collective technical expertise of the entire design and construction community, includes guidelines and best practices for local disaster prevention, mitigation, protection, and response initiatives. TISP is planning a national I-SPAN conference in the Spring of 2005 that will: identify the needs of state and local governments to address disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery; identify needs of the private sector and academic institutions in providing support/services to state and local governments; identify obstacles; and offer information on how government officials and the private sector can build such partnership networks in their communities.
- TISP launched a Breakfast Speaker Series, available exclusively to TISP Contributing Members and Corporate Sponsors. The TISP Breakfast Speaker Series provides networking opportunities with leading public and private sector experts discussing the latest developments related to critical infrastructure security and protection. TISP's Inaugural Breakfast Speaker Series event held on August 12, 2004 was deemed a huge success by all in attendance. The sold out event featured Robert B. Stephan, Special Assistant to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Mr. Stephan briefed the group on the new National Response Plan. The next event is scheduled for October 14, 2004 and will feature Robert Liscouski, Assistant Secretary of Infrastructure Analysis in the Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security, as the featured speaker.
- TISP joined the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the America Prepared Campaign, and the American Red Cross, in forming a coalition of more than 50 national organizations that launched National Preparedness Month in September, 2004.
- TISP has been participating in the Building Protection Interagency Working Group meetings as an observer. The Workgroup was established to share important information on building protection issues among the relevant federal agencies and other interested parties, regarding both protection from and mitigation of acts of terrorism and restoration of buildings to productive use following acts of terrorism. The Workgroup also provides advice to federal agencies and develops guidance documents, as appropriate, on building protection and restoration issues.
- TISP has been called upon to participate in a variety of high level activities related to infrastructure protection. TISP leaders participated in both the National Defense Transportation Association's CEO Roundtable and Security Best Practices Committee activities held at the Pentagon.

- TISP participated in a panel at The Critical Infrastructure Protection Briefing at the National Press Club on August 24, 2004. The program included three panels of top business and government leaders addressing issues concerning the protection of America's critical infrastructure. Edward Hecker, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, represented TISP and briefed the audience on TISP's vision, mission, and upcoming programs and events.