



## OPPORTUNITIES

Events current at time of publication. Have a virtual resource or event to share? Email us!

- September 16-October 7 – [3rd Annual National Cybersecurity Summit](#)
- October 1-31 – [National Cybersecurity Awareness Month](#)
- October 6-7 – [2020 Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference](#)
- October 7-8 – [Joint Civil and DOD CBRN Symposium and Technology Showcase](#)
- November 16-18 – [International Association of Emergency Managers 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference](#)

## CONTACT

- Want to know more? Visit us at [pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtec](http://pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtec).
- Contact the NWRTC with questions and comments at [nwrtec@pnnl.gov](mailto:nwrtec@pnnl.gov).

## AROUND THE REGION IN HOMELAND SECURITY

The Northwest Regional Technology Center (NWRTC) is a virtual resource center, operated by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), to support regional preparedness, resilience, response, and recovery. The center enables homeland security solutions for emergency responder communities and federal, state, and local stakeholders in the Northwest.

## CYBERSECURITY SUMMIT GOES VIRTUAL

With [National Cybersecurity Awareness Month](#) upcoming in October, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) announced its 3rd Annual National Cybersecurity Summit—with a twist. In place of the traditional one-day in-person event, the summit will bring together stakeholders from across the country for a four-week virtual series fostering meaningful conversations and collaboration on cybersecurity.



The summit will be held via webinars every Wednesday at 2:00 PM EDT from September 16 to October 7. Each seminar will have a theme focused on CISA's mission to "Defend Today, Secure Tomorrow," with presentations from targeted leaders across government, academia, and industry:

- September 16, Key Cyber Insights
- September 23, Leading the Digital Transformation
- September 30, Diversity in Cybersecurity
- October 7, Defending our Democracy

The summit is intended to be an inclusive event and will be particularly valuable for senior leaders, chief information security officers, general counsels, and policy experts at public and private sector organizations who have shown a commitment to advancing cybersecurity and risk management discussions.

Register and learn more at [CISA.gov/cybersummit2020](https://CISA.gov/cybersummit2020).



## **PNNL TECH NAMED GEEKWIRE INNOVATION OF THE YEAR**

A technology that can quickly detect explosive vapors, deadly chemicals and illicit drugs with unparalleled accuracy has been named the 2020 Innovation of the Year by GeekWire.

The vapor detection technology, known as VaporID, [was developed](#) by researchers at PNNL. It and other winners of [GeekWire's annual awards](#) for the Northwest's top companies and technologies were announced at a virtual ceremony on July 23. PNNL was the only winner from Eastern Washington.

"There were several worthwhile nominees, so this is a great honor," said PNNL chemist and co-inventor Robert Ewing, who accepted the award on behalf of PNNL. "The award means a great deal to those of us who worked on the technology as it has such potential to improve public safety."

VaporID accurately detects and identifies the vapors of even very low-volatility explosives in real time, in extremely small amounts, at ambient temperature, and without sample pre-concentration. Rather than searching for particle residue using a typical method like surface swipes or using pulses of air to dislodge particles for analysis, the system "sniffs" directly for explosives vapors, much like bomb-sniffing canines do.

In the not-too-distant future, contact and canine-assist methods could be complemented or replaced by the VaporID technology in mailrooms, at airports and other venues where public safety is imperative.

This is the second major award for VaporID. It received an [R&D 100 Award](#) in 2019.

## **ARE YOU READY?**

[National Preparedness Month](#) is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster planning now and throughout the year.

The 2020 theme is "Disasters Don't Wait.

Make Your Plan Today" and features four focus areas:

- Week 1 [Make A Plan](#)
- Week 2 [Build A Kit](#)
- Week 3 [Prepare for Disasters](#)
- Week 4 [Teach Youth About Preparedness](#)

Learn more at [ready.gov/september](https://ready.gov/september).



## **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

In a constantly changing public safety environment, from advancements in technology to changes in our society, how is the landscape shifting around threats to soft targets? Once public events resume, will our approach to soft targets change? What new technologies are out there? This fall, we will be surveying our responder partners and we would like to hear from you! If you have ideas to share or would like to be included in our outreach, please contact [nwrtc@pnnl.gov](mailto:nwrtc@pnnl.gov). We will share the outcomes of these discussions and future opportunities for engagement in this newsletter and on our website, [pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc](https://pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc).

For more information, contact Director Ann Lesperance ([ann.lesperance@pnnl.gov](mailto:ann.lesperance@pnnl.gov) | (206) 528-3223), or Deputy Directors Ryan Eddy ([ryan.eddy@pnnl.gov](mailto:ryan.eddy@pnnl.gov) | (509) 372-6622) and Rob Jasper ([robert.jasper@pnnl.gov](mailto:robert.jasper@pnnl.gov) | (509) 371-6430), or visit [pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc](https://pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc).

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