# Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN)

**Theresa Phillips**

**HSIN Program Manager**

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# Strategic Overview

HSIN Mission:

- HSIN provides a common network platform for gathering, fusing, analyzing and reporting information related to potential terrorist and other threats to the U.S. homeland.  It also serves as the DHS network for operational information sharing and collaboration to maintain situational awareness, as well as monitoring response and recovery efforts resulting from terrorist, natural and human-caused disasters.

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# Strategic Overview

Purpose

- To enable secure access to the Operational DHS information Sharing Enterprise. HSIN *facilitates* institutional awareness and provides for user-collaboration capabilities. Further, it ***provides a platform for*** the development and dissemination of timely, mission relevant, and actionable information.

- HSIN links Stakeholders from Federal, State, and Local levels of government to the owners and operators of critical infrastructure assets to:
  1. *communicate* on suspicious activities, threats, and infrastructure vulnerabilities;
  2. *prepare* for and mitigate expected natural or manmade disasters; and
  3. *collaborate* on restoration and recovery following a serious incident.

- *As a logical solution to a complex objective, this platform will fortify homeland security information sharing capabilities.*

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# HSIN Objectives

1. To provide operational support associated with the National Response Plan (NRP) to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies.

2. To identify mission-operational information sharing processes that may be enhanced by integrating with other mission critical networks within DHS.

3. Engagement with DHS and other domestic security partners in information sharing relationships.

# DHS Core Communities of Interest

**USERS:  Federal, State, Local, Tribal, Territorial, Private**

| Law Enforcement | FedOps **DHS Operational Components** | Emergency Management **First Responders, EOCs, ESFs\*** | Critical Sectors/Key Resources **17 CI/KRs** |
|---|---|---|---|

*HSIN is designed to integrate with multiple platforms (RISSnet, LEO, LINX, etc.)*

*\*Emergency Support Functions as directed by HSPD-5 and the National Response Plan (NRP)*

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# HSIN Platform

- HSIN and the Common Operating Picture (COP) are web-based applications providing authorized users access to a series of Web Pages and functionalities.  The system is hosted within the Ashburn Data Center, a DHS General Support System (GSS)

  - *Microsoft SharePoint 2003 Based Platform*

  - *DHS 128 bit encrypted nationwide information exchange, communications, and IT infrastructure*

  - *28 CFR Part 23 Compliant*

  - *Single Factor Authentication with Strong Password Protection*

  - *An enabler to all aspects of homeland security including DHS strategic goals and the Secretary's key priorities*

  - *HSIN has been certified and accredited.  It complies with DHS 4300A which conforms to the NIST guidance and uses NIST SP800-53 for the compliance guidelines.*

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# HSIN Operational Capabilities

- As a prevention and response mechanism to potential criminal threats, and other critical incidents, the HSIN platform provides increased situational awareness via:

  - DHS Common Operational Picture and situation reporting
  - Real Time collaboration and Instant Messaging
  - A document library with daily and periodic reporting from Federal, State, and Local sources
  - User and "train the trainer" instruction.
  - HSIN Supports the National Response Plan by providing the ability to:

    - Track deployed teams and resource utilization
    - Pass/share geospatial information with street level maps and imagery
    - Post RFIs and FYIs.

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# DHS Common Operational Picture (COP)

- Created as a Post-Katrina After Action Report(1) Requirement, the COP application enables HSIN users to collect, capture, and publish data including graphic imagery. The COP application allows critical decision makers to define and prioritize the information they require for their operational activities, and display that data in manners that best facilitate their mission.



*(1)"Establish a National Operations Center to coordinate the National response, and provide situational awareness and a common operating picture for the entire Federal government."*

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# COP (cont.)



A key value of the COP is the ability to link numerous data streams and critical information in support of an incident.  This information is required by Federal decision makers in support of a Federal Response to the incident. The aggregate information provides situational awareness and a Common Operational Picture for the incident.

*(SWEAT Reports, SPOTREPS, and SITREPS)*

# HSIN and Critical Sectors (CS)

- HSPD-7 identified Sectors and Key Resources critical to the nation's security and economic well-being.
  - *Resulted in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP)*

- Each Critical Infrastructure area (Sector) has ownership of its own site. DHS and Sector roles in the operation of CS Sites are documented in an MOU between DHS and the Sector.

- HSIN also provides Private Sector/Critical Sector partners the ability to report on suspicious activities via a template driven process for submission to the DHS National Information Coordinating Center.

  - *HSIN Platform supports the submission of PCII electronically*
    - *Electricity Sector ⟶ CIPIS ⟶ PCII * ⟶ NICC*

*\*Protected Critical Infrastructure Information*

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# HSIN Operational Integration
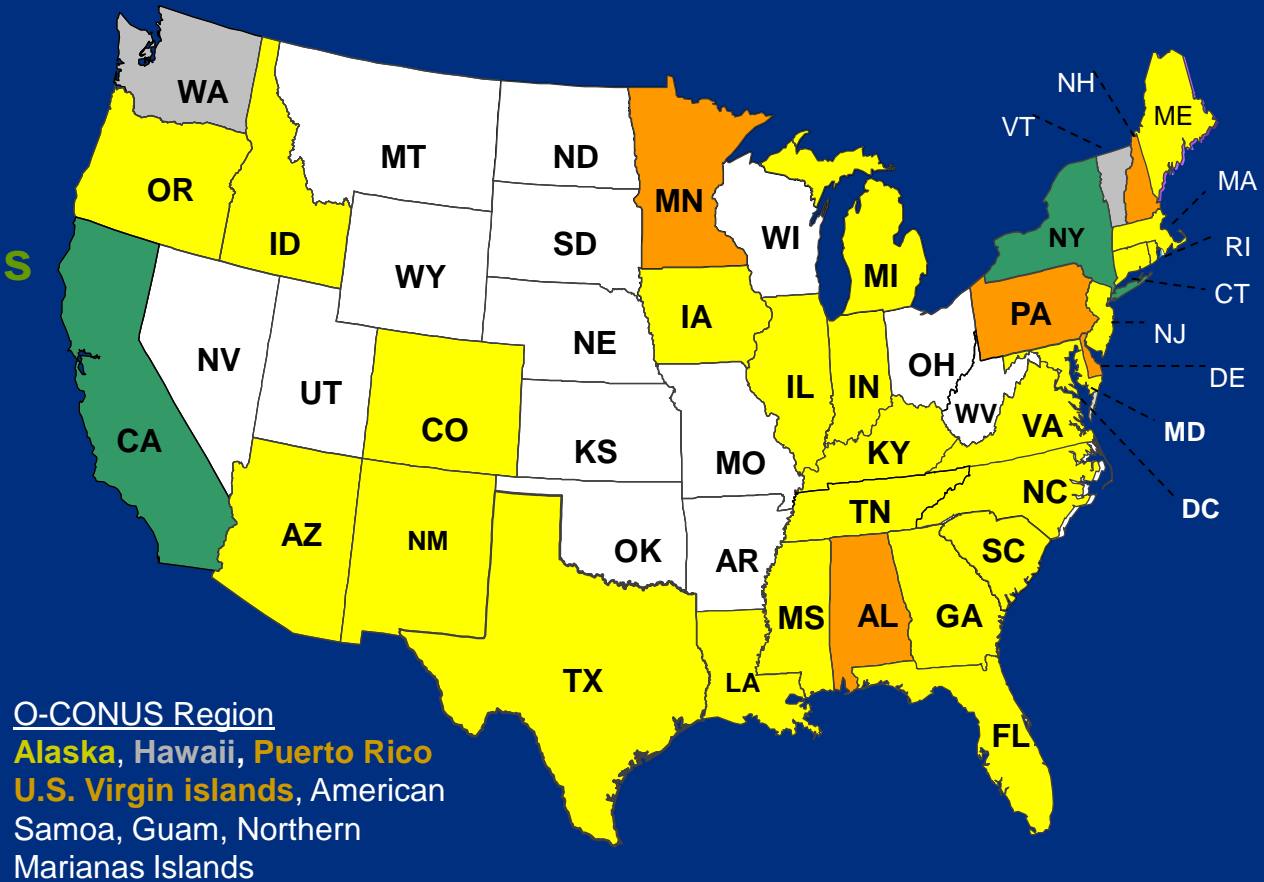
*Partners who rely on HSIN*

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency **(FEMA)** has integrated the tool in all emergency management coordination and has conducted extensive training across the nation.

- The United States Coast Guard **(USCG)** has begun to use HSIN as its primary coordination tool for exercises and missions that require large-scale and real-time collaboration.

- Customs and Border Protection **(CBP)** has constructed collaboration space for each of its 27 sectors to enhance seamless information flow and situational awareness.

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# HSIN Engagement and Coordination

## State/Regional Coordination

- **State Level Sites**
- **National Level Sites**
- **Interoperability Basis**
- **Inactive**
- To Be Engaged



O-CONUS Region
Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico
U.S. Virgin islands, American
Samoa, Guam, Northern
Marianas Islands

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# Integrated Common Analytical Viewer (iCAV)



*Integrated with COP*

# The HSIN Program of Today

## Enhanced Program Management and Engagement Strategy

- **Bridging the gap between:**

  - Prior technology-focused deployment, and

  - The identification of operational requirements.

- **Shifting program focus to:**

  - Mission-based relationships,

  - Fostering operational information sharing community development, and

  - Producing system applications that meet user operational needs.

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# HSIN Strategic Mission

**Current Mission Focus:**

- Developing linkage among common mission interests.
    - Linkage across multi-jurisdictional boundaries
    - Disparate entities with common mission interests

- Links define information sharing relationships.
    - Constitute Communities of Interest (COI)
        - *Law Enforcement (LE)*
        - *Emergency Management (EM)*
        - *Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources (CS)*
        - *Federal Operations (FedOPS)*
        - *Congress*
        - *International*

- Operational Mission Direction, COI Membership Guidelines and requirements validation from internal component representatives and external Advisory Councils via the
    - HSIN Mission Coordination Committee (HMCC)
    - HSIN Advisory Council (HSINAC)
      :

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# HSIN Mission Coordination Committee (HMCC)

- The HMCC exists to ensure that HSIN use and functionality map to DHS operational mission activity.

- The HMCC shall serve as the Department's *consolidated internal component* entity for examining and making operational recommendations directly to the HSIN user community.

- The HMCC will be critically involved in making recommendations regarding HSIN, and in validating the integrated operational and functional mission requirements for HSIN.

# HSIN Advisory Council (HSINAC)

- The HSINAC will provide *organizationally independent* advice and recommendations to DHS leadership, on the requirements of end users regarding HSIN.

- HSINAC members will be appointed as Special Government Employees and shall be outstanding within their specialty field.

- The HSINAC will ensure DHS leadership is informed of the needs and requirements of the HSIN users and communities of interest.

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# HSIN Strategic Mission Evolution

**Desired End State:**

- Robust Communities of Interest that collaborate with the HMCC and HSINAC to produce operational requirements relevant to the entire community of mission-focused users.



- A viable HSIN Joint Program Office (JPO) that meets those mission-critical COI requirements, manages a stakeholder defined environment and carries on with the HSIN Expansion Initiative.

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