



Homeland
Security

Fact Sheet

Communications Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center

Purpose: The National Coordinating Center (NCC) includes as one of its functions the Communications Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Communications ISAC). The Communications ISAC mission is to facilitate voluntary collaboration and information sharing among government and industry in support of Executive Order 12472 and the national critical infrastructure protection goals of Presidential Decision Directive 63 (PDD-63); to gather information on vulnerabilities, threats, intrusions, and anomalies from multiple sources and perform analysis with the goal of averting or mitigating impact upon the telecommunications infrastructure.

Background: In response to a recommendation by the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC), the NCC was established in 1984 to facilitate coordination of national security and emergency preparedness (NS/EP) telecommunications restoration and provisioning. Ever since, the NCC has grown as a model of Government-industry collaboration and information sharing. The NCC's long history of trust and cooperation provided a strong foundation for establishing an ISAC function. On January 18, 2000, the National Security Council recognized that the NCC was performing the functions of an ISAC by concurring with the NSTAC recommendation to officially designate the NCC as an ISAC for the communications sector. The Communications ISAC achieved full 24 x 7 operational status in September 2001.

Highlights:

- Telecommunications Infrastructure is the framework of interdependent telecommunication networks and systems, including both physical and software components, by which the telecommunications industry conducts the transmission, emission, or reception of signs, signals, writing, images, and sounds, or intelligence of any nature, by wire, radio, optical, or other electromagnetic systems.
- Communications ISAC Operational Goals:
 - Be an honest and impartial information broker
 - Facilitate voluntary collaboration to support both government and industry information sharing requirements
 - Foster working liaisons with external sources and liaison partners
 - Add value—provide information not available elsewhere, filter appropriately, perform high quality analysis
 - Ensure protection of information and the rights of data owners
- Membership criteria: Companies that provide telecommunications or network services, equipment, or software to the communications and information sector, and select professional

associations/organizations. Industry Representatives (as of 6/9/2010) – Alcatel Lucent, Americom, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials – International, Inc. (APCO International), Artel, Inc., AT&T, Avici Systems, Inc., Boeing, Cincinnati Bell, Cisco Systems, Comcast Cable, COMPTEL, Cox Communications, Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association (CTIA), EDS, Eutelsat America, Global Crossing, Globalstar, Hughes, Inmarsat, Intelsat, Internap, Intrado, Juniper Networks, Level 3 Communications, Lockheed Martin, Motorola, National Association of Broadcasters, Nortel Networks, Northrop Grumman, Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies, PAETEC, Qualcomm, Qwest Communications, Raytheon, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), SAVVIS, Inc., SES World Skies, Satellite Industry Association (SIA), SkyTerra, Sprint-Nextel, T-Mobile, Time Warner Cable, Time Warner Telecom, USA Mobility, USTA, VeriSign, Verizon, Verizon Business, Verizon Wireless

- The on-site 24 x 7 watch and analysis operation consists of senior information assurance analysts closely integrated with the government NCC operations staff and industry representatives from Telecom-ISAC member companies.

Contact Information: Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Manager, NCC.

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