

Biometric Consortium 2006 Conference

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Topic: Taking Today's Biometrics to Meet Tomorrow's Needs - Meeting the Challenge Together

Abstract: Government and industry have a common challenge in today's global society to provide more robust identity management tools and to deploy those tools intelligently to meet national and international needs. Collaboration among the biometrics community—government, industry and academia—on these common challenges is essential. To identify and partially address these issues, the National Science & Technology Council (NSTC) chartered a Subcommittee on Biometrics with the following objectives:

- Develop and implement multi-agency investment strategies that advance biometrics sciences to meet public and private needs;
- Coordinate biometrics-related activities that are of interagency importance;
- Facilitate the inclusion of privacy-protecting principles in biometrics system design;
- Ensure a consistent message about biometrics and government initiatives when agencies interact with Congress, the press and the public;
- Strengthen international and public sector partnerships to foster the advancement of biometrics technologies.

During this session, and throughout this conference, we will discuss the activities of the subcommittee and present a new challenge, The National Biometrics Challenge, that if fulfilled will produce a robust, vibrant, biometrics community that is able to provide systems and services for years to come.

Biography: Duane Blackburn is the FBI's Agency Representative to the National Science & Technology Council at the Office of Science & Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President, where he works on S&T policy issues for numerous homeland and national security-related technologies.

Prior to joining the FBI, Mr. Blackburn worked at the DoD and NIJ, where he managed RDT&E programs in biometrics, data analysis, interdiction technologies, drug detection and screening, tagging and tracking, communications and GIS systems. He is most known for his work with biometric technologies, specifically for establishing the Face Recognition Vendor Tests and the Biometrics Catalog. His current activities in this field focus on coordinating biometric activities across the government, policy development and advising senior officials.

Mr. Blackburn holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Virginia Tech, and was a finalist for a 2002 Service to America Medal.