

Washington Hospital Center Application Brief

Defentect installed a radiation detection pilot for Washington Hospital Center with Defentect's partner Convergint Technologies in November 2008. Defentect's solution monitors for the ingress of radiologically contaminated patients as well as the illicit egress of on-premise radiological materials used to treat patients

Committed to advanced emergency preparedness, Washington Hospital Center is home to large nuclear medicine and cancer treatment facilities. As a medical community frontrunner, the Hospital Center is preparing for the unthinkable, but very real possibility of a radiological event in the nation's capital. Washington Hospital Center is readying for the risk of both radioactively contaminated patients and enhancing protection of patient treatment resources. The hospital has experience with victims of terrorist acts, including treating the patients critically burned in the Pentagon attack and screening hundreds of people who feared anthrax exposure.

"We're extending our preparedness to anticipate a high risk radiological situation," said Susan K. Eckert, Director of the Institute for Innovations in Nursing Readiness, Washington Hospital Center. "We decided to trial the Defentect system for its messaging and isotope discrimination features. The solutions can be fine-tuned to avoid innocent-positive alarms caused by low-level radiation emitted from medical treatments or naturally occurring radiation — inherent in hospital settings, and inform the right personnel immediately in the event of real problems."

Unique to the pilot is Defentect's DM3TM intelligent threat awareness software which manages, monitors and communicates messages from radiological sensors to an incident command center as well as to PDAs, cellphones or pagers. Also unique are Defentect's Gammatect $Plus^{TM}$ sensors which, set in 'patient mode,' discriminate for medically treated individuals, thereby avoiding innocent alarms. Sensors are installed at the main entrance and emergency room portals.

When threat-level gamma rays from dirty bomb components are detected by its sensors, the software notifies designated responders. DM3[™] helps security personnel respond more effectively to radiation alerts by integrating radiological status information with IP video surveillance and access control systems. Upon alarm, Defentect DM3[™] sends information to responders' mobile devices, video surveillance and other systems critical to implementing standard procedures such as those specified under NRC orders. DM3[™] proprietary software is sensor agnostic and can be tied to a variety of threat sensors, including chemical, biological, nuclear and explosives.

Convergint Technologies, a services-based systems integrator headquartered in Schaumburg, Ill., is Defentect's partner in the installation. http://www.convergint.com/ Washington Hospital Center is the largest private medical center in the nation's capital and a leader in the use of technology to help deal with human emergencies. www.whcenter.org Defentect, a business unit of Splinternet Holdings, Inc., is an intelligent threat awareness firm that develops and markets CBRNE sensor management, monitoring and messaging software and IP radiation detection systems for physical and homeland security. Defentect is headquartered in Norwalk, CT. (OTC BB: SLNH.OB) www.splinter.net



News >> Washington

D.C. Hospital Installs Radiation Detectors Sensors To Help In 'Dirty Bomb' Crisis

By Mimi Hall, USA TODAY p.19A November 5, 2008

WASHINGTON — The largest private hospital in the nation's capital on Tuesday began installing sophisticated new radiation detectors in an effort to better prepare for a terrorist attack with a radiological "dirty bomb."

The sensors, which will be placed out of public view at the 926-bed Washington Hospital Center, will immediately let doctors, nurses and other hospital staff know if someone contaminated with dangerous radiation enters the emergency room or other areas of the hospital.

The goal is to prevent victims of an attack from compounding the disaster by contaminating the hospitals and emergency workers who are there to treat them.

"If they're contaminated and you don't know it, you've got another enormous problem," says Susan Eckert, who is in charge of nurse preparedness at the hospital, which treated Pentagon victims of the 9/11 attacks. It also treated anthrax victims a month later.

The sensors, which can differentiate between dangerous radiation and the radiation used in cancer treatments, will be tested for several months to see how well they work. They are designed not to trigger an alarm if patients — such as those treated for cancer — walk past.

Other tests of radiation-detection equipment have been done at hospitals in Washington and in New York City, both of which are considered top terrorist targets. But none have used sensors that can identify radioactive isotopes. The system can also send text messages to cellphones of hospital employees, notifying them of an alarm.

The sensors also would go off if someone tried to take radioactive waste or material used for cancer treatments out of the hospital.

The Homeland Security and Energy departments this fall began a program to secure the machines that house radioactive material in hospitals to try to prevent someone from stealing it to make a bomb. Although a "dirty bomb" would not kill many people, it would cause sickness by spreading radiation.

"This is an important potential threat ... and there are two different problems for a hospital: what comes in and what goes out," says former envoy to Iraq Paul Bremer, chairman of Splinternet Holdings, the Norwalk, Conn.-based company makes the sensors being tested.

