



## News Release



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BIOMETRICS 2001 CONFERENCE DRAWS A LARGE TURNOUT**

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 22, 2001 - More than 200 attendees participated in the first-ever Biometrics 2001 Conference, featuring the Department of Defense (DoD) Biometrics Management Office (BMO) and hosted by the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA), today at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. The conference theme was "Ensuring rapid, secure, and authorized access to the Department of Defense."

The Biometrics 2001 Conference provided a forum for the BMO to highlight its work and educate industry professionals and government personnel on the future role of biometrics throughout the federal government and military department. Conference participants heard from senior level experts within the government and military about a variety of biometrics technologies and their application.

"I am pleased with the turnout for today's event," said Phillip Loranger, Director of DoD Biometrics. "Biometrics is no longer a technology of the future. It's a technology of the here and now. It is imperative that our nation find a viable method to protect our country's important information systems from unauthorized intruders. I believe biometrics is the solution."

Conference attendees heard from Army Lieutenant General Peter M. Cuvillo, Director of Information Systems for C4, U.S. Army CIO, and DoD Biometrics Executive Agent, about the Army's vision of the battlefield of the future. "The goal of the Army is information superiority," said Lieutenant General Cuvillo. "The way we're going to achieve this goal is by implementing enabling technologies, such as biometrics, to secure the military's information systems. The Army is looking at biometrics to provide a securer foundation in pursuit of this ongoing effort."

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In addition, Commissioner Sandy Bates, General Services Administration/FTS, and Jack Applebaum, an engineer with the Diplomatic Security/Countermeasure Programs as the U.S. State Department, led a panel discussion, "Session One: Current Technology - Trends and Directions." This session addressed the current technologies, initiatives, and requirements within the various government agencies. Jeffrey Dunn, Chief of Identification and Authentication Research at the National Security Agency moderated "Session Two: Operational Support Perspective," which discussed the special requirements and performance standards of the services' acquisition, C4, and logistics arenas. Air Force Brigadier General Charles Croom, Vice Director, C4 Systems Directorate, Joint Staff moderated "Session Three: Biometrics and Application to Information Technology." This session focused on how the innovative use of biometrics can be used in achieving Joint Vision 2020 (JV2020), Information Superiority.

In "Session Four: The Futurist's Perspective," Mr. Dunn spoke on the impact of biometrics on the information technology field and how it will be applied in the future. The conference concluded with "Session Five: The Navy's Perspective." Navy Vice Admiral Richard Mayo, Director of Space, Information Warfare,



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Command & Control, OPNAV N6, provided the Navy's perspective on biometric applications in securing the DoD, military, and intelligence community's systems.

"Today's attendees benefited greatly from the breadth and depth of knowledge of the various expert conference presenters," said Loranger. "For those who were able to attend this event, they definitely are in the information know as far of the U.S. government's current plans for implementing this technology."

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The mission of the Department of Defense Biometrics Management Office, established by Public Law 106-206 in July 2000, is to ensure the availability of biometric technologies within the DoD. The BMO, acting on behalf of the Secretary of the Army, operates as the executive agent to lead, consolidate, and coordinate all biometrics information assurance programs of the DoD in support of Network Centric Warfare. In so doing, the BMO executes a full spectrum of biometrics systems and technologies that are focused in providing Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines a technological edge in all environments by providing proven, reliable, and effective biometrics access systems in support of garrison and combat operations.

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