



News Release

**For Immediate Release
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National Biometric Security Project Dedicates New Test, Research & Data Center in West Virginia

Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WVA) Says U.S. Must Remain a Leader in Biometrics

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. Friday, December 3, 2004 – The National Biometric Security Project (NBSP) today celebrated the official opening of its new biometrics Test, Research & Data Center (TRDC) in Morgantown, W.Va.

Senator Jay Rockefeller joined scientists, business leaders, government officials and representatives of West Virginia University in acknowledging the importance of biometrics in the protection of the civil infrastructure. “As we develop our own proprietary applications to protect our borders and our critical infrastructure, we must also prepare to deal with the technological capabilities that other countries will acquire....this underscores how important it is for America to not only become a leader in the development of biometric technologies, but to always remain a leader,” said Rockefeller.

According to John E Siedlarz, Chairman and CEO of NBSP, “The TRDC is an independent operation for the objective test and evaluation of biometric products, including an assessment of their ability to meet industry standards and to qualify for infrastructure security applications. Such highly focused biometric testing, training, research, and engineering programs in identity management are entirely focused on the protection of our people and the civil infrastructure of our society.”

The NBSP TRDC facility consists of 8,000 square feet of space and includes four separate laboratories: The Biometric Data Laboratory; a Product Testing Lab; a Government Special Projects Lab and the Homeland Security Projects Lab. The TRDC researches and tests biometric technologies and products; and collects, stores and maintains data related to all aspects of biometric development, sources, applications, and performance.

The TRDC is equipped with the appropriate tools for testing biometric systems and products, and evaluating the test results under protocols that are fair, reasonable, and predictable. The formal testing program is scheduled to begin in March 2005.

About NBSP

NBSP is a not-for-profit research, test, and analysis organization focused entirely on the application of biometrics to improve the security of the U.S. civil infrastructure. NBSP services are available to government agencies at the federal, state, and local level and private sector agencies responsible for maintaining key components of the national infrastructure. The organization can also support non-U.S. nations and organizations involved in the international anti-terrorist coalition when sanctioned by the U.S. government.

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Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WVA) tells attendees at the grand opening of the National Biometric Security Project Test, Research and Data Center in Morgantown, West Virginia that the U.S. must become - and remain – a leader in biometrics.