



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Biometrics Collection Event at Ft. Pickett Supports DoD Homeland Security Efforts

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 4, 2002 – The Biometrics Fusion Center (BFC), the research arm of the Department of Defense (DoD) Biometrics Management Office, sponsored a DoD Biometrics Test Database biometrics collection event at Ft. Pickett's Army National Guard Maneuver Training Facilities in Blackstone, Va., May 30 – June 2. This activity supports DoD's homeland security efforts through the process of collecting quality biometric data that will be used for the test and evaluation of commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) biometric technologies for use throughout DoD. The samples, being collected from Army National Guard troops on a voluntary basis by STS International, Inc., are part of a major step in advancing security for the military on and off the battlefield, and in increasing DoD's ability to prevent terrorist activities.

"The West Virginia National Guard is pleased to assist the Department of Defense and participate in this initial data collection effort. Biometrics technology will soon become the means by which we protect our sensitive systems and facilities, and members of the West Virginia National Guard are excited about participating in a program that could lead to improvements in our national security," said Maj. Gen. Allen Tackett, Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard."



The Biometrics Management Office (BMO) is currently looking at fingerprint, iris scan, hand geometry, signature verification, and facial and voice recognition technologies for implementation throughout DoD. The office serves as the liaison for DoD Agencies and Services seeking to fulfill biometrics requirements, and as a link for biometrics vendors looking to work with DoD.

More information about the DoD BMO and BFC can be found by visiting www.c3i.osd.mil/bio

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The Department of Defense Biometrics Management Office is the central entity within the DoD responsible for leading, consolidating and coordinating the development, adoption and institutionalization of biometric technologies in CINCs, Services and Agencies, to enhance Joint Service interoperability and warfighter operational effectiveness.

STS International (STS) is a program management and systems engineering firm providing innovative information technology solutions to government agencies and private industry. Within the competitive arena of the IT industry, STS provides a broad range of services to meet virtually any challenge. These services include systems integration, information security solutions, information operations implementation, and program management for both long- and short-term efforts

