



INTELLIGENCE AND  
NATIONAL SECURITY  
ALLIANCE

For Immediate Release

Tuesday November 3, 2009 (Arlington, VA)

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## **Frances Townsend: “Public-Private Partnership Will Strengthen Nation’s Cyber Security”**

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009 the Intelligence and National Security Alliance (INSA) released its highly anticipated white paper: [“Addressing Cyber Security Through Public - Private Partnership: An Analysis of Existing Models”](#). This paper is a follow-up to INSA’s March 2009 paper, [“Critical Issues for Cyber Assurance Policy Reform”](#) that was written in support of the White House 60 Day Cyber Security Study. According to INSA’s most recent paper, “An effective public-private partnership for cyber security would provide the abilities to detect threats and dangerous or anomalous behaviors, to create more secure network environments through better, standardized security programs and protocols and to respond with warnings or technical fixes as needed.”

Frances Fragos Townsend, Chairwoman of INSA’s Board of Directors, said “Although 80% of the internet is privately owned, it is essential to government functions and our nation’s security. A partnership between government and industry will better enable the nation to protect itself and its citizens from foreign and domestic cyber attacks. Throughout our nation’s history, public-private partnerships such as the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) and the NERC (North American Electric Reliability Corporation) have served the public interest better than government and industry acting individually. This approach can and should be emulated in cyber security.”

Ellen McCarthy, INSA’s President, said “INSA believes that a practical solution to the ever-growing threat of cyber security can be best achieved by bringing together all of the stakeholders. This paper showcases the alignment of needs and interests from industry, government and the public at large. INSA urges the Congress and Executive Branch agencies to address cyber security and offers this paper as a contribution to their efforts to enact practical reform.”

Highlights of [\*\*“Addressing Cyber Security Through Public - Private Partnership: An Analysis of Existing Models”\*\*](#) include:

- Analysis of several historical models for public-private partnership and how their structures and principles could be applied to cyber security.
- An outline of the ways in which cyber security is a unique challenge, different from those issues previously addressed through partnership(s).

- Discussion of the necessary attributes and capabilities for an effective cyber security apparatus.
- Outline of a concept model and necessary components for the construction of this new partnership.
- Actionable recommendations for the Congress, industry groups and the Executive Branch.

**About INSA's Cyber Task Force:** INSA's Cyber Task Force is composed of senior government and industry professionals with extensive policy experience in cyber security. This group represents various viewpoints, including former high ranking government personnel from the armed services and intelligence and security agencies. The Cyber Task Force invited current government officials, outside policy and technical experts and privacy and civil liberties advocates to review the paper in advance of publication. All Cyber Task Force members participated as individual volunteers and the views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of all of the members, writers or reviewers, nor those of their respective companies or organizations.

**About INSA:** INSA is the premier not-for-profit private sector professional organization providing a structure and interactive forum for thought leadership, the sharing of ideas, and networking within the intelligence and national security communities. INSA has over 100 corporate members, as well as several hundred individual members, who are industry leaders within the government, private sector, and academia. To learn more about INSA visit [www.insonline.org](http://www.insonline.org) or call (703) 224-4672.