



HOMELAND SECURITY & DEFENSE BUSINESS COUNCIL

HOMELAND SECURITY & DEFENSE BUSINESS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES FORMER OFFICIALS TO JOIN BOARD OF ADVISORS

Also Announces Release of New Website

Date: May 8, 2006

Washington, D.C. -- Today the Homeland Security & Defense Business Council (the Council) announced the addition of three new members to its Advisory Council and the launch of the Council's redesigned website. The Council is a non-partisan, not-for-profit activities-based organization comprised of leading companies focused on helping the Department of Homeland Security achieve its mission.

Since the formation of the Council in 2003, Executive Director Michael Meldon believes the Council's mission of engaging the private sector with U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Congressional leaders has brought together the homeland security community on behalf of the nation's interests. "We are a unique organization in Washington. Our members have strived to be collaborative by proactively engaging policymakers to align the greater homeland security community with the private sector," stated Meldon. "By adding these new advisors and the release of our new site, I feel we are continuing our mission and improving the partnership with homeland security officials that benefit the nation's safety and security," Meldon emphasized.

The Council added three new former Department officials to its Advisory Council: Scott Weber, former Senior Counselor to Secretary Michael Chertoff, Andy Maner, former Chief Financial Officer of the Department, and Greg Rothwell, former Chief Procurement Officer of the Department. "They will bring their considerable expertise and knowledge to bear in advising the Council on the best ways to help the Department achieve its mission of protecting our nation," Meldon confirmed. "It is a testimony to the role industry plays in supporting the nation's priorities for Homeland Security that Greg, Scott, and Andy have joined as Advisors to the Council," said Greg Pellegrino, the Council's Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Global Managing Director of Deloitte's Public Sector Industry. "Their experiences and insights into areas where government and industry can work together will continue to align priorities and maximize the value of our combined resources."

"We are pleased to be part of this unique organization and believe the Council's mission is inherently necessary to improving the public-private partnership which will ensure the best results for protecting our nation," commented Weber, now a partner at Patton Boggs, LLP. "Michael Meldon has brought Department, Congressional and industry leaders together with one mission: to help the government secure our homeland," Rothwell added.

The Council has also launched its new website which is a unique convergence of homeland security issues and one-stop shop for homeland security related news and events. "We hope Government and industry leaders, inside and beyond the beltway, will use the website as a trusted source for homeland security information while keeping apprised of Council initiatives," Meldon confirmed. The website will be a clearinghouse for those aspects of homeland security news that until today could only be found through multiple sources," Meldon suggested. The website can be found at www.homelandcouncil.org.

About the Council: Established in June 2003, the Council engages the Department through activities that promote information sharing and issue engagement at the senior levels between the public and private sectors. These activities include executive briefings, luncheons, studies, conferences, white papers, and other events. Council representatives provide perspectives on opportunities and challenges confronting the Department. In turn, the Department engages the Council in a free-flowing dialogue on its priorities and expectations from the industry.

Member companies dedicate a senior executive as a company focal point, provide domain expertise in Department functional areas, and serve as key suppliers to the Department.

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