

## Weekly News Notes – Division 8000

### Next Generation Biothreats Working Group:

The first meeting of the Interagency Working Group for Next Generation Biothreats (IAWG-NGBT) was held recently. This working group of federal partners has been created as part of a study funded by DHS S&T and led by Sandia National Laboratories to determine requirements, architectures and analytical approaches for detecting next generation biothreats. These threats include enhanced, advanced and engineered biological pathogens. The results of this study will help define DHS S&T research plans to address next generation biothreats. A key objective of this study is to engage federal partners to address needs more broadly across national biomonitoring systems. This IAWG-NGBT meeting followed a workshop held last month for public health officers and response personnel at the state and local levels designed to understand end-user needs for a next generation biodetection system.

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