National Association of State Chief Information Officers

Nomination for 2003 Recognition Awards for Outstanding Achievement
in the Field of Information Technology

1.   <u>**Nomination Form**</u>

Title of Nomination: **Security and Notification Project**

Project/System Manager: Kevin Iwerson

Title: Senior IT Security Analyst

Agency: Division of Information Technology and Communication Services

Department   **Idaho Department of Administration**

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Category of Judging: **Security and Business Continuity**

Person Nominating: Don Fournier

Title: IT Policy Analyst

Agency: Information Technology Resource Management Council

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2.   Executive Summary

As the State of Idaho implements digital government, the exchange of information electronically requires that the Department of Administration (DOA) put proper safeguards in place to assure secured access to applications and confidentiality of information transmitted over its current communications infrastructure and Wide Area Network (WAN), Internet/Intranet services.

The success of the State's e-government services is also dependent upon the reliability of the Department's information technology infrastructure. In order to keep pace with evolving technologies and Internet growth, the DOA is moving toward offering enterprise-level services, where its current network infrastructure is improved to minimize downtime, maximize security, and employ adequate disaster recovery capability.

With the successful implementation of the Department's *"Security Information and Notification Process",* enterprise level solutions are being provided to Idaho state government agencies. This process makes possible the rapid dissemination and *assured notification* of security alerts to agency IT staffs – whether it is through the department's (Website), via an automatic notification (List Serve), or through the issuance of a targeted on-line (Newsletter) which provides additional security related information in a publication form.

Prior to the development of this project, the current infrastructure had numerous points of failure and was not adequately supporting the growing dependency of citizens and state agencies. As a result, the project evolved through a series of discussions as to how best provide security information to Idaho state government agencies.

The idea was that if the Department could proactively inform agencies of security risks, issues, and attacks they would have the time to protect against them, which would be a cost savings to the State avoiding lost productivity, dollars, time spent rebuilding, and the human resources required to recover from such attacks. In addition, if any of the information provided in the newsletter assisted an agency in better security practice, there would be the same savings as previously indicated.

The DOA's goal is to model information technology best practices within Idaho state government, and to foster greater coordination and cooperation among the agencies of the state. An approach as evidenced by the development of the *"Security Information and Notification Process"* increases Idaho state government's productivity and efficiency while reducing overall information technology costs.