2003 NASCIO Recognition Awards
Nomination Form

Title of Nomination: CyberSecurity Committee of the Missouri Homeland Security Council

Project/System Manager: Gerry Wethington

Job Title: Chief Information Officer

Agency:

Department: Missouri Office of Information Technology

Address: Truman Building, Room 560

City: Jefferson City

State: Missouri   Zip: 65101

Phone: 573-526-7741

Fax: 573-526-7747

Email: WethiG@mail.oit.state.mo.us

Category for judging: Security and Business Continuity

Person Nominating
(if different than above):   Tim Daniel, Director

Job Title: Missouri Office of Homeland Security

Address: PO Box 809

City: Jefferson City

State: MO   Zip: 65102-0809

Phone: 573-522-3007

Fax: 573-751-7819

Email: DanieT@mail.oa.state.mo.us

Please return nominations to:

2003 NASCIO Awards
167 West Main Street, Suite 600
Lexington, KY 40507
asinclair@amrinc.net

CyberSecurity Committee
Of the
Missouri Homeland Security Council

Executive Summary

On September 26, 2001, Governor Bob Holden created the Missouri Office of Homeland Security. The Missouri Security Council, made up of key state agency directors, acts as a board of directors to make recommendations to the Governor regarding homeland security issues that are significant and interdepartmental in nature. The Council recommends the level of state participation and leadership in issues that must be coordinated statewide or that involve the private sector.

Threats to Missouri include cyber attacks against critical information and automation systems. Missouri is prepared to respond to and recover from disasters regardless of their source. However, state government agencies must work together to be better prepared to detect, deter and prevent cyber attacks, to manage risk and to counter serious dangers in the future. The Governor's strategy involves a process for involving state and private leaders to identify and promote innovative steps to make progress without spending large amounts of money, and to be prepared to effectively spend any money that is received.

The Missouri Homeland Security Council formed committees to focus on crucial issues, one of which is the cyber threat facing essential information systems upon which so many critical state processes depend. Gerry Wethington, Chief Information Officer of Missouri, chairs the CyberSecurity Committee (hereafter, the Committee) made up of information security professionals from eight state agencies and eight private sector partners. The committee identifies information security issues, recommends solutions, and determines actions necessary for implementation. Recommendations are made emphasizing low or no cost solutions with near-term achievability.

The CyberSecurity Committee made eleven initial recommendations to the Homeland Security Council in February and the Council approved them unanimously. As of May, seven of these have been implemented with little or no cost to state agencies. The Committee will present emerging issues to the Council at future quarterly meetings, along with updates on the progress of previous issues.