

Homeland wireless encryption passes tests

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A pair of recent field tests indicated that secure wireless data communications for emergency responders is commercially available.

Independent research organization SRI International announced Monday that joint U.S.-Canadian tests of two commercial solutions worked out well as Secure Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (S/MIME) for messaging and for handheld wireless devices.

Douglas Maughan, program manager of the Cyber Security R&D Center at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, said, "This exercise proves that commercially available, secure mobile communications are available to government agencies.

"At both the handheld and infrastructure levels, DHS has invested in technology solutions, applied them at the front lines of emergency response, and demonstrated that they work," Maughan added.

The products tested came from Voltage Security, CyberTrust and Research in Motion. Additional tests involving products from Entrust Entelligence will take place early next year, SRI said.

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