US Strategies for Biometrics

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National Science & Technology Council

- Established by Executive Order 12881
  - (a) The principal functions of the Council are, to the extent permitted by law:
    - 1. to coordinate the science and technology policy-making process;
    - 2. to ensure science and technology policy decisions and programs are consistent with the President's stated goals;
    - 3. to help integrate the President's science and technology policy agenda across the Federal Government;
    - 4. to ensure science and technology are considered in development and implementation of Federal policies and programs; and
    - 5. to further international cooperation in science and technology.
  - (b) All executive department and agencies, whether or not represented on the Council, shall coordinate science and technology policy through the council and shall share information on research and development budget requests with the council.
  - (c) The Council shall develop for submission to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget recommendations on research and development budgets that reflect national goals. In addition, the Council shall provide advice to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget concerning the agencies' research and development budget submissions.

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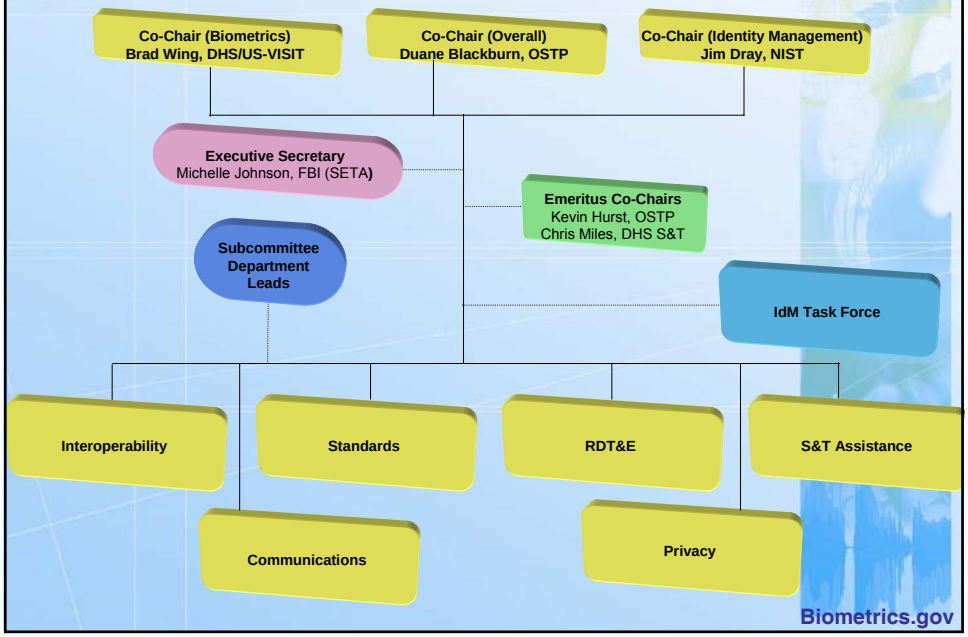
NSTC Subcommittee on Biometrics & IdM

Phase I – Forming	Phase 2 - Storming	Phase 3 - Norming
2002-2003	2003-2006	2006-Present
Goals:	**Goals:**	**Goals:**
• Share lessons learned from operational systems • Grow USG biometrics expertise • Build relationships	• Advance technology, privacy & communications • Grow USG biometrics expertise • Build relationships	• USG-wide biometric system of systems • Community able to meet other government and private sector needs • Expansion to IdM
Deliverables	**Deliverables**	**Deliverables**
• List of topics for potential collaboration • Initiate joint RDT&E efforts	• Joint RDT&E topics • Foundational documents • Privacy paper & websites • *The National Biometrics Challenge*	• System of Systems framework • USG-wide plans for standards, RDT&E, privacy & communications • Enhanced operational capabilities

NSTC Subcommittee on Biometrics & IdM



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NSTC Policy for Enabling the Development, Adoption and Use of Biometric Standards

http://biometrics.gov/standards/

- Approved -- September 8, 2007
- The goal of this Policy is to establish a framework to reach interagency consensus on biometric standards adoption for the Federal government.
- Federal agency adoption of these recommended standards, and associated conformity assessment programs, will:
  - enable necessary next generation Federal biometric systems,
  - facilitate biometric system interoperability, and
  - enhance the effectiveness of biometrics products and processes.
- Policy utilizes a *Registry of USG Recommended Biometric Standards* to maintain an up-to-date listing of recommended standards.

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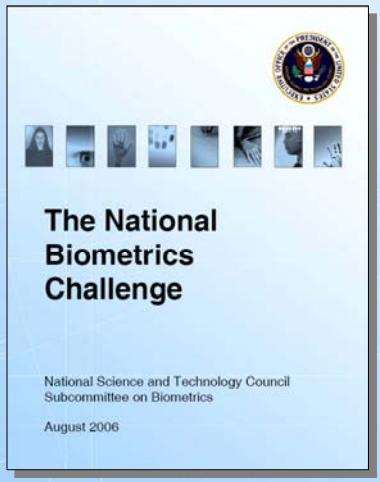
The National Biometrics Challenge



- Released in August 2006
- Identifies common challenges to providing robust identity tools and deploying those tools to meet real-world needs
- Provides an analysis of:
  - Unique attributes of biometrics
  - Market forces and societal issues
  - Advances required for next-generation capabilities
  - Communications and Privacy
  - Government's Role in Biometrics

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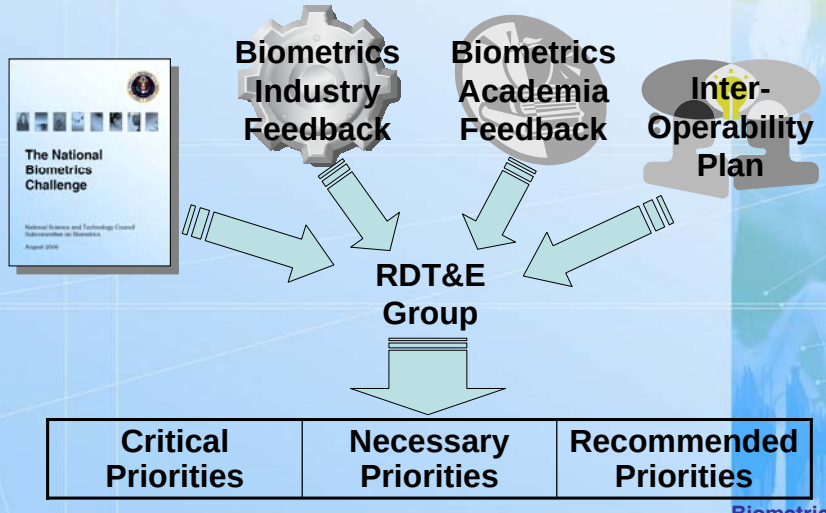
Meeting Technology Needs



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Privacy

- Protecting privacy and civil liberties is a fundamental tenant of a successful biometric system
  - However, "privacy" means different things to different people/cultures
  - US government has done much more than it typically gets credit for
- Usage of "Privacy Impact Assessment" approach has been very beneficial
- Useful references:
  - Privacy and Biometrics – Building a Conceptual Foundation
  - Privacy Technology Implementation Guide

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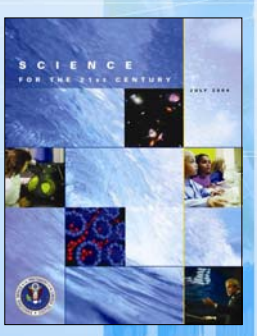
Communications

"Promoting a scientifically educated and aware public is necessary if we are to make the appropriate decisions about the nation's R&D investments, guide the adoption and debate the societal implications of new science and technologies, and reap the maximum benefits from our investments. The quality of these efforts underpins the entire US scientific enterprise."

Science for the 21st Century
Executive Office of the President of the United States



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IdM - Current Situation

- Digital identity is the foundation of trust in an electronic world
- Many large scale eID systems emerging, but:
  - No common base of identity management models
  - Silos: Little interoperability between systems
  - Difficult to apply consistent design practices, privacy controls, etc.
  - No basis for standards strategy
- Critical need for a consolidated high level Federal identity management vision

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