

NEWS

Immediate Release

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RESPONSES TO BOSTON'S PLANNED SIMULATED HIGHJACKING AND TERRORIST RESPONSE DRILL TO BE REVIEWED AT 2005 HOMELAND SECURITY SUMMIT

DRILL INVOLVES CIVIL & MILITARY AIRCRAFT & MORE THAN 50 AGENCIES

**Results Presented at The McGraw-Hill Companies' 2005 Homeland Security Summit
and Exhibition on May 24-25 in Washington, DC**

NEW YORK, NY – Anti-terrorism officials plan a series of drills to test Boston's readiness to an attack that features the simulated hijacking of a United Airlines flight from Europe forced to land at Logan International Airport. The results of these drills, involving some 50 local, state, and federal agencies – including the Department of Homeland Security and NORAD – will be released at the McGraw-Hill Homeland Security Summit & Exposition, May 24-25, 2005 at the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

The drills, to be conducted on May 7, 2005 and dubbed Operation Atlas, are intended to find and close gaps in city, state, and federal emergency responses. The exercises will also assist in fostering cooperation among agencies that will need to work closely together in the event of an attack. A conference session dedicated to discussing the report will be moderated by former NTSB Board Member John Goglia. Panelists include Carlo A. Boccia, Director of Homeland Security for the city of Boston; Robert Donahue, Fire Chief at Boston's Logan Airport; and Dr. Manoj S. Patankar, Professor at St. Louis University.

The McGraw-Hill Homeland Security Summit & Exposition aims to raise awareness of the need to be ready to respond to a terrorist attack. The event emphasizes the need for continued cooperation between the public and private sectors, addressing how they need to work together to prepare for this threat. The conference features discussion tracks on Transportation/Border Security and Systems Integration/C4I, and infrastructure protection issues.

Conference attendees will be able to network with top security experts at government agencies including homeland security, defense, transportation, aviation and infrastructure who will discuss, develop, debate and create security plans that work. In addition to the 35 companies that will display the latest homeland security products, services and technologies, the 2005 conference will focus on policy, innovation, new technologies and best practices in countering threats worldwide. Delivering keynote addresses will be Charles McQueary, Under Secretary for Science and Technology for the Department of Homeland Security and Asa Hutchinson, Under Secretary for Border & Transportation Security for the Department of Homeland Security.

Additional information and online registration is available at <http://www.aviationweek.com/conferences> , or by calling (800) 240-7645.

Complementary registration is available to credentialed members of the news media.

In the hijacking exercise, the first involving the live intercept of a commercial airplane, terrorists attack a United Airlines flight from a European city, carrying role-playing passengers. The UAL 767 will take off for an American city. Actors portraying hijackers commandeer the plane over the Atlantic, triggering responses from air traffic controllers, the Air National Guard, and the Northeast air-defense system.

Fighter jets will be dispatched to intercept the plane, forcing it to land at Logan. Various agencies will be summoned to handle hostage negotiations, injured passengers and other emergency situations, including bomb threats.

"We test all our capabilities, not only public safety agencies, but also our response agencies, like hospitals, public health, emergency medical, and evacuations," said Carlo Boccia, director of Boston's Office of Homeland Security. "All those types of venues will be tested."

The Summit & Expo brings together the range and depth of The McGraw-Hill Companies' information and media assets to produce solutions for the country and for attendees. The Summit draws upon the expertise of many units of the The McGraw-Hill Companies, including *BusinessWeek*, *Aviation Week*, McGraw-Hill Construction, Platts, and Standard & Poor's. In addition to the Homeland Security Summit & Exposition, the corporation also offers *Homeland Security & Defense* newsletter, *Homeland Security* magazine edition, and a dedicated website of integrated editorial content at www.mcgraw-hillhomelandsecurity.com.

About The McGraw-Hill Companies

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Media Contacts: Rob Kulat
Kulat Communications
(732) 219-5816
KuComm@Hotmail.com

Gregory Roth
The McGraw-Hill Companies
Information and Media Services
(212) 512-3644
gregory_roth@mcgraw-hill.com