



## Jim Hallo

Over the last several years, MITRE Security has changed its primary focus from the physical security of MITRE buildings and the control of classified information to information security and the personal security of MITRE employees. MITRE Matters recently sat down with Jim Hallo, director of corporate security, to discuss these new challenges.

**MM: MITRE Security's corporate mission seems to have changed quite a bit in recent years, with more emphasis now placed on information security and on the personal security of MITRE employees, both at MITRE facilities and around the world. Could you tell us more about that?**

*Hallo: We have indeed come a long way from the days when the focus was on the physical security of the facilities and controlling classified information. While we still perform these functions, information security has certainly become more of a focus, particularly since email and the Internet are so important to the way MITRE does business. Of course, this means protecting MITRE's computer systems, both classified and unclassified. It also means protecting other unclassified materials. MITRE now has foreign sponsors and foreign nationals working on-site at MITRE facilities. We are dealing with these issues, as well. In addition, Corporate Security is involved in MITRE's Year 2000 readiness efforts, we're participating in an entirely new security effort with the Threat Condition, or THREATCON, Warning System, and we've stepped up our services for MITRE travelers. Through all these efforts we are becoming a valued part of MITRE's work plan.*

**MM: How is Security involved in helping MITRE to prepare for the year 2000?**

*Hallo: Our role is business continuity and disaster preparedness programs, as well as focusing on the Y2K preparedness of our own processes. Regarding business continuity, we want to be prepared for all eventualities. That is why we are developing and running scenarios dealing with Y2K failures or disruptions on systems that may affect the operations of the corporation. For instance, what is the effect on the company if MITRE loses electricity or municipal water for extended periods of time? We are working with internal and external Y2K experts to assess the likely impact of Y2K on municipal services. Developing such scenarios and executing planning and preparedness exercises for contingencies will ensure that the actual impact on the corporation — and subsequently on our sponsors — is reduced.*

**MM: What part does the THREATCON Warning System play with regard to the security of MITRE employees?**

*Hallo: Participation in the THREATCON Warning System is part of the way MITRE provides security to Air Force personnel collocated on the Bedford*

*campus. The levels of THREATCON warnings, which call for escalating and specific security levels, also help us in providing security for MITRE personnel. The warning levels of the system — Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta — call for different security precautions and actions to be taken in response to a possible terrorist or other threat. For example, in THREATCON Bravo, a 25-meter no parking ban is enacted around all buildings. This protects MITRE employees and assets from possible car bombs. The system provides good preventive measures for a wide variety of threats, including inclement weather and other natural disasters. That's why we are also looking into an adaptation of the THREATCON Warning System for our Washington facilities.*

*In Bedford, participating in THREATCON is also part of how we supported the Electronic Systems Center (ESC) as they prepared for their Operational Readiness Inspection, or ORI, that took place June 13-25, 1999. In preparation for the ORI, ESC ran Local Readiness Exercises, or LREs. THREATCON is part of the LREs because it helps ESC and MITRE gauge our mutual abilities to respond to emergency situations. While the goal of MITRE's participation was to do everything we could to*

*help ESC prepare for a successful ORI, it also provided us with an opportunity to assess the effectiveness of our own safety and security procedures and systems. And, of course, this directly affects the security of MITRE employees.*

**MM: When is the next LRE?**

*Hallo: The LREs were created to prepare for the ORI, that was held in mid-June. Now that the ORI has been completed, ESC plans to conduct smaller, more focused exercises each quarter. The preparedness exercises will address a specific threat or event, such as a Y2K-related power outage or a cyber attack. Interested employees can find out more about the LRE, ORI, or the THREATCON Warning System on the Security homepage on the MITRE Information Infrastructure (MII) at [http://info.mitre.org/infrastructure/security/corp\\_secure/](http://info.mitre.org/infrastructure/security/corp_secure/).*

**MM: What new services do you offer for MITRE travelers?**

*Hallo: We've recently been expanding the scope of services we provide to MITRE travelers. By visiting the Security homepage on the MII, MITRE travelers can find travel advisories, including a link to the State Department's Travel Advisory Web page. There's also a link for worldwide THREATCON awareness and how it affects travel to military installations and related sites, as well as information on the risks of driving in foreign countries. A big part of what we do now in travel briefings is expanding the topics we cover, which now includes how a traveler can protect him- or herself*

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## MITRE innovators discuss future of miniaturization

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begun to demonstrate experimentally that electronic wires, switches, and digital circuits can be made out of individual molecules. Conductive molecules are natural nanometer-scale structures that can be made uniformly and cheaply in incomprehensibly large numbers and could be assembled to form circuitry at unheard-of densities. A new research and development program at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is working toward fabrication in the next two to five years of prototype memories and processors that are made from individual molecules. The rapid development of such "molecular electronics" opens the possibility that it will exceed the expectations of the SIA Roadmap and will break Moore's

Law early in the 21st century. The vast shrinkage in the size of electronic devices will make possible whole new classes of pervasive, ultra-miniaturized information systems and applications.

According to Ellenbogen, in the 21st century computing will become a property of matter, like color, which is built into everyday objects.

The presentation is available to employees through the MTP page on the MITRE Information Infrastructure at [http://info.mitre.org/mtp/events/carroll\\_ellenb\\_video.html](http://info.mitre.org/mtp/events/carroll_ellenb_video.html).

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from scams. These scams normally target foreign travelers, which is why MITRE employees need to be aware of them. Recently, a MITRE traveler reported a scam to us wherein the scam artist punctured the tire of the traveler's rental car. When the traveler pulled over to fix the flat, the scam artist and an accomplice pulled over to help. Under the guise of being good Samaritans, one helped change the tire while the accomplice stole the traveler's wallet and other personal effects. That is the type of situation MITRE travelers need to be aware of, in

addition to looking out for their own personal safety.

### MM: How is Security helping MITRE employees protect themselves from these types of situations?

Hallo: Employee safety is particularly important given the current situation in the world today. Also, with the Center for Advanced Aviation System Development's (CAASD) recent expansion overseas, MITRE employees are traveling more than ever. MITRE Security is therefore focusing more attention on the issues involved

with employee travel. Many Department of Defense contracts now require defensive foreign travel briefings, as well. This is part of the reason why MITRE Security invested in a new subscription service for travelers in which safety and situation reports can be run regarding a particular country or area before that person leaves on his or her trip. These reports can include crime reports for a particular region, what streets to avoid in a specified city, whether or not to use cabs in a city or country, how to recognize cabs in a foreign country, and so forth. Also, since this is a flat-fee subscription service paid once each year for unlimited access,

we're making it available to MITRE employees and their families for personal or vacation trips. We'll soon have more information available on this service on our new Travel Advisory page on the MII, which we'll be rolling out in the next few months. For right now, employees should contact Security at Bedford extension 2351 or Washington extension 6462 and we will run a report for them. This should be done no more than two weeks prior to the trip, so the information can be the most up-to-date. That will help us ensure the safety and security of the MITRE traveler.

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