



**Soft Target Engineering
to Neutralize the
Threat Reality**

SENTRY Industry Advisory Board

SOFT TARGET ENGINEERING TO NEUTRALIZE THE THREAT REALITY (SENTRY)

A DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) CENTER OF EXCELLENCE LED BY NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Partnership Benefits

The Industry Advisory Board provides guidance to augment SENTRY research and expedite the transition of solutions. SENTRY provides Industry Partners access to test facilities, datasets, research opportunities, networking events, and speaking opportunities.

About SENTRY

Established at Northeastern University in 2021, SENTRY addresses the many challenges of protecting soft targets and crowded places in our homeland. We strive to ensure the existence of safe, secure public spaces by creating functional and adaptable solutions to detect and mitigate targeted violence.

Participation in Collaborative Research

SENTRY strongly encourages its researchers to partner with Industry with the goal of transitioning research projects into tools that aid stakeholders and practitioners who protect soft targets. Partners can get a glimpse into the cutting-edge research performed by SENTRY and may choose to collaborate with our researchers in the following ways:

- Provide feedback to researchers for a potential collaborative funding opportunity
- Contract a SENTRY researcher as a consultant on industry products that align with the SENTRY mission
- Work with SENTRY subject matter experts to create a customized information session for the Industry Partner that addresses a specific knowledge gap
- Pursue licensing agreements with SENTRY
- Support the transition and commercialization of SENTRY research

Funding Opportunities

SENTRY Industry Partners may submit white papers describing proposed collaborative research projects with SENTRY researchers. The white paper must address DHS priorities that fall under the SENTRY mission of protecting soft targets. SENTRY will perform an initial review of the white paper and if approved, the white paper may be advanced by SENTRY for funding consideration using the following vehicles.

- SENTRY and ALERT Basic Ordering Agreement (BOA)
- DHS Long-Range Broad Agency Announcement (LRBAA)
- Other Government funding vehicles

TEST FACILITIES

SENTRY has several test facilities that are available for use by Industry Partners. Extensive and complex testing can be done using drone, network, sensor, and emergency scenarios at the testing facilities below.

- *Northeastern University Expeditionary Cyber and Unmanned Aerial System Facility*
- *Northeastern University Colosseum for testing network scenarios*
- *Rutgers Living Lab in which specified buildings on the Rutgers campus are used for real-life testing scenarios*
- *Guardian Center LLC located in Georgia and used to recreate catastrophic events for testing*
- *Northeastern University ALERT Video Analytics Lab*

RESEARCH DATA SETS

Partners have access to current datasets created from research conducted under the emeritus Center of Excellence, ALERT, and any future datasets created by SENTRY.

- *CT Dataset*
- *Reconstruction Initiative Dataset*
- *Automated Threat Recognition (ATR) Initiative*
- *ALERT Airport Re-identification Dataset*



**Soft Target Engineering
to Neutralize the
Threat Reality**

Networking

SENTRY hosts in-person and virtual events throughout the year that provide Partners the opportunity to connect and collaborate with DHS representatives, other federal, local and state government representatives and private industry.

Fee Waived Workshops

SENTRY hosts workshops to update Industry Partners on SENTRY research projects, DHS technology priorities and needs, and emerging technology for protecting soft targets. These annual events provide valuable networking opportunities for participants.

- Advanced Development of Security Applications (ADSA) Workshop
- Annual Student Pipeline Industry Roundtable Event (ASPIRE)
- Industry Advisory Board Meeting

Awareness and Informational Events

SENTRY conducts additional special invitation-only events that focus on informing Partners and stakeholders about SENTRY research. Partners are invited to participate in interactive events such as focus groups, presentations, and site visits to soft target venues such as schools, transportation systems, and entertainment venues.

- DHS SENTRY Annual Review and Special Presentations
- Webinars
- Case Study Stakeholder Event Participation
- Site Visits to Soft Target Venues

Speaking Opportunities

Partners are welcome to speak at SENTRY internal and public meetings and workshops to discuss their technology to facilitate collaborative efforts with SENTRY researchers or to introduce new and emerging technology to stakeholders.

- Advanced Development of Security Applications (ADSA) Workshop
- Practitioner Advisory Board Meeting
- SENTRY Collaborators Meeting

Practitioner Advisory Board

The SENTRY Practitioner Advisory Board (PAB) has an impressive membership of subject matter experts and current security leaders in the protection of soft target venues such as: schools, stadiums, passenger-based surface transportation, malls, and houses of worship. The PAB meets monthly and aids in aligning SENTRY work with real-world security needs. They advise on a clearer path to commercialization for both SENTRY researchers and industry. Partners may use these security leaders as sounding boards or, in some cases, Partners may use their venues for testing technology developed or enhanced in collaboration with SENTRY researchers.

Student Researchers

SENTRY Researchers employ highly qualified students with diverse majors and strong interests in security solutions to protect soft targets. SENTRY will facilitate student introductions so that Partners can explore the wealth of research experience and interests of these students for co-op, internship and permanent employment opportunities.

Partner Institutions

A diverse network of students and faculty, who engage with ongoing research, expand knowledge and scope, and contribute to the center's success.

- *Boston University*
- *Florida International University*
- *Mississippi State University*
- *Northeastern University*
- *Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*
- *Rutgers University*
- *University at Buffalo, The State University of New York*
- *University of Florida*
- *University of Notre Dame*
- *University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez*
- *University of Rhode Island*
- *University of Southern California*
- *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*