

Press Release

FOR RELEASE: 1 p.m., June 17, 2010

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NERC Adds Chief Security Officer to its Management Team

WASHINGTON, DC, June 16, 2010 -- NERC President and CEO Gerry Cauley is pleased to announce the addition of Mark Weatherford as Vice President and Chief Security Officer to the NERC executive team. Weatherford recently was named CSO of the Year by SC Magazine.

“Mark’s achievements and his collaborative leadership style make him the right person at this critical time for NERC” Cauley said. “Cybersecurity issues continue to be one of NERC’s top priorities and Mark’s knowledge and expertise will be vital as we continue to address critical infrastructure standards.”

Weatherford served as the director and chief information security officer in the State of California’s Office of Information Security, a position he was appointed to by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. In this role, he had authority over California’s cyber security activities and established the state’s first official IT security plan and strategy. Previously, Weatherford served as the chief information security officer for the State of Colorado, where he worked with the State Legislature to pass laws establishing the state’s first security program.

Weatherford began his career as a Naval Cryptologic Officer, where he led the Navy’s Computer Network Defense operations and the Naval Computer Incident Response Team. Weatherford has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Arizona and a master’s degree from the Naval Postgraduate School. He holds the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and Certified Information Security Manager (CISM) certifications and was awarded Information Security magazine’s prestigious “Security 7 Award” for 2008.

Weatherford joins the NERC team mid-July and will direct the critical infrastructure protection and cyber security program, and serve as the single point of contact for the industry and government stakeholders seeking to communicate with NERC on cyber and infrastructure security matters.

“Ensuring our critical infrastructures remain protected from the growing cyber-threat is a substantial challenge for North America,” said Weatherford. “I look forward to working with both government and the electric power industry in staying ahead of the problem.”

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) is an international regulatory authority for the reliability of the bulk power system in North America. NERC develops and enforces reliability standards; assesses adequacy annually via a 10-year forecast and winter and summer forecasts; monitors the bulk power system; and educates, trains, and certifies industry personnel. NERC is a self-regulatory organization, subject to oversight by the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and governmental authorities in Canada. Learn more at www.nerc.com.

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