



Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
New Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20502

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2006

Contact: Ben Fallon
(202) 456-6098
bfallon@ostp.eop.gov

**The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Subcommittee on Biometrics,
Announces Launch of www.biometrics.gov and Release of *National Biometrics
Challenge Report***

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Today, at the Biometric Consortium Conference 2006, the Executive Office of the President's National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Subcommittee on Biometrics, announced the launch of www.biometrics.gov.

Biometrics.gov hosts a suite of introductory documents on various aspects of biometrics technology, including the just-released report, *The National Biometrics Challenge*. *The National Biometrics Challenge* acknowledges the successful work of the biometrics community in delivering security solutions since 9/11, and identifies key research and development challenges faced in delivering more robust identity management tools, and identity governance principles.

Biometrics.gov is a crucial communications tool to help meet *The National Biometrics Challenge*. Biometrics.gov will function as the U.S. Government's central location for reference material on biometric technologies and federal biometric programs. Along with its sister websites, Biometrics.gov puts the latest information on biometrics into the hands of public and private users.

Biometrics.gov sister websites, Biometrics Catalog (www.biometricscatalog.com) and Biometric Consortium (www.biometrics.com), will continue to provide repositories of public biometrics information, bulletin board for discussions and information about the annual Biometric Consortium Conference.

Biometrics.gov provides federal, state and local officials—as well as researchers, media and other interested individuals—with information on biometric technologies to partner in decision-making about the nation's biometric investments, and guide their adoption and debate regarding the societal implications of biometric systems. *The National Biometrics Challenge* and Biometrics.gov will enable a robust, vibrant, biometrics community that is able to meet new challenges and provide systems and services for years to come.

The NSTC, a cabinet level council, is the principal means by which the federal government coordinates science, and technology policies across the Federal Government. An important objective of the NSTC is the establishment of clear national goals for Federal science and technology investments in areas ranging from information technologies and health research to improving transportation systems and strengthening fundamental research. This council prepares research and development strategies that are coordinated across Federal agencies to form an investment package that is aimed at accomplishing national goals.

###