Monterey Bay DoDNet: Joint Vision

ITACS is the Project Manager for **Monterey Bay DoDNet**, a communications infrastructure that will soon provide high-speed, secure links and greater telecommunications capacity between **NPS, DLI, DMDC, FMNOC, NRL** and the **National Weather Service**. This **joint project**, now in test phase, will link all DoD properties on the Monterey Peninsula, resulting in increased operational efficiency and reduced costs of communications. Wave division multiplexing over the optical fiber will support as many as 8 channels; each channel is capable of data transmission at 1 Gigabit per second.

This DoD fiber optic ring infrastructure will support **high-speed voice, video, and data transfer**, and **backup and recovery** operations, as well as provide users access to an alternate high-performance network, at **direct cost savings** compared to current leased line configurations. It will be a boon to research, fostering data sharing between FNMOC and NPS's oceanography and meteorology departments. ITACS is pleased to be part of this cooperative effort.

Internet2 Spring Meeting

Tom Halwachs, CTO of NPS, attended the **Internet2 Spring Meeting**. Presentations highlighted the capabilities of wireless, PKI, integration, videoconferencing, collaboration and the Internet2 Commons concept of cooperative remote collaboration. See http://events.internet2.edu/2004/spring-mm/netcast.cfm for video on demand of the sessions.

Spam Relief

ITACS has purchased a **Barracuda Spam Firewall**—a stand-alone networking device that filters all incoming mail before it ever gets to the e-mail servers. Using a combination of **blacklists**, **keyword scanning** of e-mail, and **checksum technology**, the Barracuda device catches up to 97% of junk mail. The unit supports message **authenticity checking**, **whitelists** and **rate controls** as well, to allow specific incoming mail and stop denial of service attacks. Once the device is

Sasser Worm

ITACS began patching computer systems on **13 April**, as soon as MicroSoft announced a fix for the vulnerability that Sasser exploited. The Navy issued an alert on **15 April**; on **23 April** the DoD issued a Computer Network Defense Task Order, elevating the alert. On **1 May** the Sasser exploit was launched on the Internet, and NPS saw the first virus infections. This virus infected 1.7% of the systems on the NPS network, but had no overall impact on network operation. Home users connecting to NPS and wireless laptop users were the source of most of the infections. Nationwide, over half a million computers were infected, according to estimates by Akamai, a network service provider. It is critical that all users connecting to the NPS network have up-to-date virus protection and all security patches applied. For more information see http://www.softwarepatch.com/ or call the TAC at 656-1046.

Streaming Media

Streaming video delivers real-time, on-demand DVD-quality video and CD-quality audio via the Web. The basic idea behind streaming is that a Web site can provide data to a user fast enough that the application appears to be running locally. ITACS is designing an end-to-end infrastructure designed to support scalable media streaming at NPS. Phase I will support high bit rate streams for use on campus, and a menu of alternative streaming bit rates for DREN and NMCI connections off campus. Initial streams are being tested by selected faculty; phase I services are expected to be available later this year.

VIP Visits

o Vice Chief of Naval Operations **ADM Mike Mullins** and Director of NMCI **ADM Charles L. Munns** hosted an all-flag conference via VTC on NMCI. **Dr. Christine Cermak,** Superintendent **RADM Patrick Dunne,** and Chief of Staff **COL Dave Smarsh** attended.

o **Dr. Cermak, LCDR Todd Pugh**, and **ISSM Terri Brutzman** sat in on an EDS engineering site visit to **FNMOC**.

installed and tested, by the end of June, the amount of unwanted mail at NPS should drop dramatically.

- o **Virgil Schwab**, Monterey County's Director of IT, will be hosted by **Dr. Christine Cermak** on 28 May to tour NPS and the School's IT facilities. PAO's **Barbara Honegger** will provide a tour of Herrmann Hall, and **Eldor Magat** will lead a tour of the NPS IT machine room.