

SOUTHEAST ADVISORY

To: BENS Southeast Members
Subject: Information Sharing & Analysis in the Face of Terrorist Threat Takes Stage in Georgia

Atlanta, 4/2/09: Nineteen key resource private sector companies and state trade associations met in Atlanta on April 2nd to address the need for information sharing and analysis in the face of terrorist threats. The 35 attendees participated in the first of a series of Homeland Security Roundtable discussions with the Georgia Information Sharing & Analysis Center (Fusion Center), the FBI – Atlanta Division, The Georgia Office of Homeland Security, and the Department of Homeland Security.

Each of these law enforcement and homeland security agencies has in its mission the important role of sharing information with the private sector. However, the most appropriate and effective means of doing so is yet to be found. The BENS Southeast Region members and the Georgia Business Force, a major BENS Southeast program, believe that a *grass roots* approach initiated by the private sector with regular dialog will determine the most productive path.

Participants discussed the more active federal and state initiatives to inform the public and the analysis being performed. Future meetings will focus on what business can do to “help connect the dots” and how information may be accessed by businesses as actionable intelligence.