Over the past 10 years, HSIN has developed new tools and applied best practices to plan for public events that draw widespread attention. From large-scale national events, such as the Presidential Inauguration, to public sports and smaller state and local events, HSIN brings planning expertise, scalable solutions and experience to ensure public safety and security. As a result, many long-standing partnerships have been established and HSIN is trusted year-after-year by public safety officers, law enforcement, first responders, intelligence analysts and operations command centers.

**Planned Events in Action**

HSIN’s role in planning and monitoring applies to many different types of high-visibility events and operations nationally, where intelligence analysts, law enforcement and other public safety officers need to rapidly coordinate their activities. Planned events such as the Presidential Inauguration, the Super Bowl, the Phoenix Open golf tournament and the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit are prime examples of significant crowd-drawing experiences. These events require multi-jurisdictional agency information sharing that demonstrate the variety of capabilities and flexibility that HSIN brings to federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, international and private sector partners.

In the nation’s capital, **HSIN supported the 58th Presidential Inauguration** by enabling secure operational data sharing for analysis, decision-making and overall situational awareness. Large-scale events like this require familiarity and an understanding of the risks due to the number of VIPs in attendance and its national significance. This year was no different and the months of planning paid off—security risks were mitigated and the day’s activities played out without incident.

The Super Bowl is among the highest-profile events held in America and requires coordination among groups operating at different levels of government. The Super Bowl LI was held in Houston and required collaboration between local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. HSIN was used to help maintain public safety and enhance security by supporting suspicious activity reporting, incident monitoring operations and real-time data analysis.

**Since 2011, HSIN has supported the Phoenix Open** as an integral component of event security. With Scottsdale-area public safety officials and other strategic partners, HSIN provided planning and information sharing support to help protect the thousands of spectators and participants. During the 2017 tournament, total attendance exceeded 650,000, including a single-day record-breaking number of 204,906, making it one of the largest sporting events in the world.

**NAIAS in Detroit** attracted more than 800,000 attendees during its 2-week run. To help protect the auto enthusiasts, HSIN teamed with the Detroit Police Department, City of Detroit Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Michigan State Police and Department of Transportation, as well as private sector partners affiliated with the NAIAS. **HSIN was used to help maintain public safety and enhance security** by supporting suspicious activity reporting, incident monitoring operations and real-time data analysis.

Law enforcement, critical infrastructure and cyber-related organizations are on-site at all of these events to maintain safety and security. HSIN provides a secure environment where users know that they are sharing sensitive-but-unclassified information and providing situational awareness to other approved analysts enabling mission-critical collaboration. As this month’s issue of The Advocate demonstrates, HSIN has a proven track record in helping to keep America safe during planned events of all types.
HSIN Provides Key Support During Presidential Inauguration

The swearing in of the nation’s next leader is considered one of the highest profile events in the world. Federal, state and local leaders, as well as citizens traveled to the Washington D.C. area to participate in the inauguration weekend’s activities and be part of the historic occasion. Planning for and ensuring public safety required multiple law enforcement agencies to spend over a year preparing for all potential scenarios and threats. HSIN served as the information sharing backbone that delivered a unified common operating picture and incident monitor for the 58th Presidential Inauguration.

This year, HSIN was used as the primary information sharing platform at the Multi-Agency Communications Center to support execution of security operations throughout the inauguration. HSIN provided information sharing subject matter experts who customized the planning and operational tools to ensure all approved users had the right access and training to meet mission needs. HSIN tools were used for real-time incident monitoring, secure collaboration capabilities and secure data exchange.

The Geospatial Management Office was a key component to HSIN’s geospatial capabilities and the successful support of event security, crisis mitigation and incident management throughout months of mission planning, training and implementation. DHS components that leveraged these capabilities included the United States Coast Guard, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Customs and Border Protection, and the Office of Operations Coordination, as well as other federal partners.

HSIN’s operational geospatial data provided secure information feeds to 15 approved mission critical systems. It also hosted 150 geospatial layers from 20 federal, state, and local partners including:
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Health and Human Services
- Food and Drug Administration
- District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
- District Department of Transportation
- Maryland Emergency Management Agency
- Montgomery County, Maryland
- Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region
- U.S. Northern Command

HSIN was also used to track assets and inform leadership for decision-making by the U.S. Geological Survey and District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department. Using operational data from HSIN, the Amtrak Emergency Operation Center exchanged key geospatial information pertaining to the safe and effective operation of its trains.

HSIN provided solutions that integrated geospatial tools which allowed partners to plan, manage and share real-time information to meet their mission objectives and protect the nation during the 2017 Presidential Inauguration.

Expanding the Operational Impact of HSIN

For Organizations: Case Study: HSIN Improves Situational Awareness during the Kentucky Derby Festival
HSIN provides situational awareness to the organizations involved in the planning and operational phases of an event.

For Community Managers: Best Practices Fact Sheet: Using HSIN to Support Real Time Information Sharing in the Field
Using tools like HSIN Connect expands information that was traditionally only available in the command post or operations centers. Within the trusted HSIN environment, public safety and intelligence partners can share resources and provide support as needed throughout incident response and investigative operations.

"HSIN is helping to bring together local, state and federal partners to share real-time information at an unprecedented level allowing host cities to see, first-hand, the enhanced collaboration HSIN can provide homeland security partners."

Chris Dishman
Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Director, South Central Region, DHS

HSIN in Action

To learn more ways HSIN has been used in planned events, check out these additional resources:
- HSIN: Coordinating Concurrent Events
- Simplifying Regional Coordination for the World Police and Fire Games
- Unprecedented Collaboration at the Detroit Auto Show
Now Available:
Accessing HSIN for the First Time Quick Reference Guide

A new Quick Reference Guide (QRG) is available to help users who are accessing HSIN for the first time. The Registration QRG provides step-by-step directions that walk you through a 2-part registration process. Part I, Invitation to Join, takes you through the simple steps of creating your HSIN account after you have received your nomination email. Part II, HSIN Account Registration, shows you how to build your HSIN user profile.

National SitRoom Recognized for Greatest Impact to the Information Sharing Environment

The National Situational Awareness Room (SitRoom) received recognition as the Best of HSIN Winner in the category of Greatest Impact to the Information Sharing Environment. This real-time information and intelligence sharing platform provides a virtual venue for seamless collaboration that’s operational 24/7 and is essential for on-the-spot risk mitigation.

The SitRoom provides a standardized reporting virtual venue during significant events. The SitRoom was first used extensively by the National Network of Fusion Centers and the Terrorist Screening Center during the response to the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013. Since then, the SitRoom has been used during every major incident across the country. The following are a few examples from 2016:

- Faced with a rapidly evolving situation where danger to police officers was escalating, the SitRoom room was used to share secure, accurate and timely information with public safety organizations and law enforcement representatives across the United States in conjunction with the July attack on police officers in Dallas, as well as in subsequent attacks against police officers in Missouri, Georgia, Michigan, and Louisiana.
- To quickly mitigate risks associated with potential “copycat” attackers after the July shooting of multiple Baton Rouge police officers and an East Baton Rouge Parish sheriff’s deputy, the Louisiana State Analytical and Fusion Exchange (LA–SAFE) used HSIN to enhance its incident tracking and information sharing capabilities among federal, state, and local partners.
- To facilitate a regionally coordinated response to New York and New Jersey bombing events in September,

HSIN Helps Ensure Safety and Security at Puerto Rico’s Gubernatorial Inauguration

January was a busy month for HSIN and inaugurations. On January 2, Puerto Rico held its Gubernatorial Inauguration, which was attended by approximately 1,500 guests and included officials from all three branches of government. Having successfully worked with the platform in the past, public safety officials within the commonwealth turned to HSIN to help ensure the safety and security of the guests and the public leading up to and during the inauguration. Federal, state and local partners used a HSIN Connect room to share information and maintain real-time situational awareness. Previously, Puerto Rico’s fusion center, the National Security State Information Center, used HSIN during popular the Fiestas de la Calle San Sebastián, also known as San Se, where hundreds of thousands of locals and visitors descend on Old San Juan for a Mardi Gras-type atmosphere. Throughout the 4-day festival, fusion center analysts and first responders in the field used HSIN to provide real-time, secure collaboration between the disparate agencies helping to secure the event.
HSIN Elevates “The Play” at Super Bowl LI

This month’s Super Bowl LI was not the first time that Houston used HSIN to ensure public safety within the city. Federal, state, local and private sector partners have a long history of successfully using HSIN within Houston and in the state of Texas. In a particularly noteworthy instance, the Houston Police Department used HSIN in March 2016 to facilitate communications aimed at disrupting a large-scale human trafficking operation. HSIN also has a long-standing relationship with the Texas Department of Public Safety, which on a daily basis connects everyone associated with protecting critical infrastructure within the state. Each sector can share best practices and relevant information quickly across user groups.

To learn more about how HSIN can support public and private sector coordination in your city, contact HSIN.Outreach@hq.dhs.gov.

HSIN Integral to Ensuring Safety at Super Bowl LI

This year marked HSIN’s fifth year providing information sharing support and tools for the Super Bowl. As the New England Patriots and Atlanta Falcons battled it out for this year’s National championship in Houston, Texas, HSIN was working with the Houston Police Department and the Houston Regional Intelligence Service Center to provide real-time communications, collaborate and share information with partners from DHS, the FBI and other agencies during the event.

Specifically, HSIN Connect rooms were set up and maintained to coordinate the sharing of real-time information between the federal, state, local, homeland security and public safety personnel directly supporting the event, and Mission Advocates were on site to provide hands-on support.

Not only did HSIN provide support for the game coverage, but also during many special events throughout Harris County that led up to game day, including Super Bowl Live, Tailgate LI Party, NFL Honors, Super Bowl Grand Opening, NFL-sanctioned and non-sanctioned events, and numerous concerts. This ongoing work enabled first responders to protect thousands of spectators and participants while they enjoyed one of the largest and most watched public events in the country.

For more information, contact the HSIN Outreach Team at HSIN.Outreach@hq.dhs.gov or visit our website at www.dhs.gov/hsin.

Training Survey

The HSIN Training Program continues to improve its training offerings and services through computer-based training courses in HSIN. Learn and live training sessions with Mission Advocates. One way the HSIN Training Program plans to improve its training offerings and services is by collecting feedback from HSIN users. The HSIN Training Feedback Survey will be used to improve existing training and develop new training. By completing the survey, your feedback will directly impact how the HSIN Training Program moves forward. Please take 5 minutes to complete the survey. Your feedback is greatly appreciated!

Watch Now: Overcoming Communication Barriers at Super Bowl XLIX using HSIN

During his interview with HSIN about Communication and Super Bowl XLIX, Tony Frangipane, Southwest Regional Director for DHS Arizona Counterterrorism Information Center, shares the importance of having a streamlined mechanism for providing accurate and timely information to first responders. HSIN provides a way to get the information to those who need it the most.

Watch other HSIN videos on the DHS website or on HSIN Central.