



National Infrastructure Institute

## Center for Infrastructure Expertise

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The National Infrastructure Institute's (NI<sup>2</sup>) Center for Infrastructure Expertise (Center) today released CARVER<sup>2</sup>, a state-of-the-art tool to help state and local homeland security officials better identify and protect potential terrorist targets.

"The Center for Infrastructure Expertise is dedicated to giving communities practical tools to help them keep their citizens safe from new terrorist threats. CARVER<sup>2</sup> is an easy-to-use computer tool that will allow local homeland security officials to identify potential terrorist targets," said Donald P. Bliss, director of the Center for Infrastructure Expertise. "With CARVER<sup>2</sup>, local homeland security officials can develop priorities and strategies for protecting their roads, bridges, buildings and other critical infrastructure."

CARVER<sup>2</sup> provides a method of comparing and ranking critical infrastructure and key assets across all sectors -- for example, water systems vs. transportation vs. energy. CARVER<sup>2</sup> is an automated tool that provides a mathematical ranking for each potential target, and is the first step in a complete target vulnerability assessment. Several report functions are included to facilitate decision-making.

"Federal and state officials told us they needed an affordable, efficient tool to evaluate -- and prioritize for increased protection -- potential vulnerabilities in their communities. With limited resources, homeland security officials have to make important choices. CARVER<sup>2</sup> gives them practical, expert, and individualized help in making those assessments," said Ron Peimer, an Assistant Director at the Center and project manager for CARVER<sup>2</sup>. Peimer, a former U.S. Secret Service agent, wanted to keep the focus on developing a non-technical system that would be versatile, use readily available information, and assist government officials in prioritizing homeland security resources.

CARVER<sup>2</sup> is a PC-based system that is available for stand-alone computer use. The NI<sup>2</sup> Center for Infrastructure Expertise is providing the CARVER<sup>2</sup> tool to federal, state, and local government officials free of charge.

Government agencies wishing to receive a copy of the CARVER<sup>2</sup> CD should contact the Center by email at [CARVER2@NI2.org](mailto:CARVER2@NI2.org) or by telephone at (603) 766-3390.

*The NI<sup>2</sup> Center for Infrastructure Expertise is a not-for-profit applied research organization dedicated to improving the management and protection of the built infrastructure in the United States. The Center is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology.*