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## Media Release

### **SCADA-IMPACT™ Allows Compliance with NERC Reliability and CFATS Risk-Based Standards**

- Authentication of individuals with PIV, TWIC, NG CAC as well as current credentials
- Authorization of privileged access into computer and physical facilities with forensic-quality logging and auditing capabilities

**Boulder, CO – January 28, 2009** – Building upon the CRITSEC® converged IT/network and physical systems security platform, Secure Network Systems, LLC (SNS) is announcing the new SCADA-IMPACT™ solution for critical infrastructure facilities. By controlling access based upon verified identity, the solution can significantly mitigate more than 50% of the vulnerabilities enumerated in the NERC reliability standards as well as the CFATS performance criteria. SCADA-IMPACT™ can also yield business benefits by streamlining provisioning and ensuring accountability of personnel across dispersed campus facilities as well as between multi-site organizations.

Supervisory Control and Data Access (SCADA) systems are employed by many critical infrastructure facilities that supply electrical, oil and gas power as well as water and chemical utilities. The challenge in securing these systems spans many issues, including allowing monitoring of computer-controlled processes while prohibiting unauthorized changing of parameters, ensuring that time-sensitive processes requiring high-availability are not interrupted, and prohibiting interference with the operation of safety systems. With the advent of these industrial control systems being interconnected to business systems and the Internet, traditional vulnerabilities as well as new threats have emerged.

The SNS SCADA-IMPACT™ system enforces policy and ensures governance goals are achieved by only allowing computer access to operators and administrators with appropriate privilege levels. Combined with limiting physical access to controlled areas of the plant or campus, a high degree of control, enhanced situational awareness, and rapid response to incidents can be enabled. Utilizing existing key cards or smart card-based credentials, the identity of the individual as well as their privileges can be defined and consistently controlled, even allowing for escalation of authentication factors given changing threat levels. The solution works well for daily operations yet also allows emergency response and mutual aid agreements to be deployed during incidents where outages or uncontrolled releases threaten lives and property.

“SNS tailored the SCADA-IMPACT™ solution while performing many EPA-governed drinking water facility assessments and participating in power grid anti-terrorism exercises”, said Melani Hernoud, CEO of SNS. “We collaborated with industry owners, plant operators and thought leaders including Sandia National Laboratories and NIST to not only gain a practical understanding but bring a workable, fresh approach that leveraged technology, best practices, and staff training.”

SNS solutions were field-proven during the Hurricane Katrina evacuation response. The offerings are US GSA approved for FIPS-201, and SNS is also certified by the US GSA to provide complete-end-to-end services which support all aspects of the identity proofing and issuance process. Complete turnkey systems or selected components may be deployed, and SNS welcomes VAR and OEM partners.

#### **About Secure Network Systems**

Secure Network Systems is an emerging leader in the converged IT/network and physical security market with a strong background in solving difficult problems and delivering world-class solutions. SNS has distinguished itself through delivery of innovative results that encompass people, processes, and technologies, improving the overall security posture. SNS employees are dedicated to providing products and services that help protect and defend the American way of life.

CRITSEC® is a registered trademark of Secure Network Systems, LLC. SCADA-IMPACT™ is a trademark of Secure Network Systems LLC. CRITSEC® and SCADA-IMPACT™ are Patent Pending.