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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## Evolving Cyber Security and Connections with Safety – NCG International System Safety Conference Presentation

**Portland, Maine, August 12, 2011**— Northcross Group (NCG) President, Christopher Bender, addressed the 29th International System Safety (ISSC) Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada August 8<sup>th</sup> – August 12<sup>th</sup> on Cyber Security and its role in overall system safety.

NCG's presentation called "Applying System Safety Program Lessons to the Evolving Cyber Security Landscape" discussed system safety and cyber security breaches ranging from human error to directed efforts targeting specific infrastructure. The presentation was based on a paper by the same name published as part of the conference proceedings.

This year's conference included tracks regarding human factors engineering, unmanned systems, safety in public transportation, legal aspects of safety, and similar. Mr. Bender's presentation concentrated on cyber security as an area of safety that needs the same thoughtful and disciplined attention as other system safety areas. It emphasized that cyber security programs must deal with a broad spectrum of vulnerabilities from the traditional information technology security realm, to physical security, existing or lacking policies and procedures, and the often overlooked corporate culture.

"Nearly every aspect of our lives is increasingly dependent on our cyber infrastructure. This dependence is not limited to business networks, utilities production, or medical records availability - but extends to how we buy a cup of coffee, share information with friends and family, or figure out how to get to our next meeting,"- Christopher Bender says. "Traditional information security efforts fall short against the developing cyber landscape. System safety methods can be leveraged by organizations to bolster cyber security efforts to meet current needs and be positioned for future changes and challenges."

To learn more about the organizer of this conference, The System Safety Society, a non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting the Safety Professional in the application of Systems Engineering and Systems Management to the process of hazard, safety and risk analysis, please visit <a href="http://www.system-safety.org/">http://www.system-safety.org/</a>

Northcross Group is a management and technology consulting services firm. Incorporated in 2006, NCG is headquartered in Portland, Maine. NCG delivers highly complex initiatives bridging between technology and business to maximize ROI, ensure security, and compliance in environments facing big opportunities or challenges.

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