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PROBLEM SOLVING AND PREPARING FOR THE UNKNOWN

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What was the deciding factor to join NEMA as a corporate member?

During my time with Cyber Security Industry Alliance, I learned that education and awareness are key factors in being better prepared for the future. In many ways, what NEMA is doing is similar to the Alliance in that NEMA helps educate people and provides a platform to emergency managers to communicate their needs and share insights.

We are proud to be a part of that process, in a small way to assist in educating NEMA's membership and making ourselves and our experts available to the membership. We are also motivated by thinking of new ideas to achieve initiatives and capabilities to protect infrastructure and to support emergency managers and their organizations.

As a founding member of the nonprofit organization, Cyber Security Industry Alliance, how do you envision cyber security 10 years from now? And what are some steps we need to take today to reach the possible?

Unfortunately, one of the greatest lessons I've learned is that we can never get too comfortable, because that day we do is the day they win. These bad actors – both foreign and domestic – are looking for opportunities to attack every part of our country's infrastructure, as well as infiltrate our government agencies at every level. We must never let our guard down to this constant state of threat. Essentially, there is someone trying to exploit us every minute of every day, and these attacks are often barely recognizable. Tests are constantly being run to challenge our resources and search for exploitable weaknesses in our systems. We must always remain vigilant and stay one step ahead of these bad actors.

Life Science Logistics portfolio provides the ability to customize to the need; but what is your favorite aspect of logistics and why?

I like the challenge of problem solving and being able to support one of our partners by making something available to them that is critically needed. Being prepared for any situation and having both the systems and the people in place to support our partners in need during an emergency is extremely rewarding. Being ready for the unknown and still being able to deliver is hugely satisfying.

On your speaking global tours, what was the best location ventured to and why?

Israel is a really fascinating place because on the one hand it is such an old place with so much history. It is literally the cradle of civilization, and the collection of that many cultures and beliefs all located in one small epicenter, in some ways, is almost unfathomable. And yet on the other hand, Israel is very much a new place. It is ahead of its time and on the cutting edge of technology across multiple sectors and industries. It is a place that is both constantly examining its past and also constantly forward-looking at the same time, which I find intriguing.

Serving on the advisory board for former President George W. Bush at the George W. Bush Presidential Library, what was your most rewarding experience?

I have a great deal of admiration for George W. Bush and his commitment to this country. I especially respect his devotion to the men and women who have served in the military, and it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve on the Advisory Board of the Library. What I think is so inspirational about the library isn't that it functions to serve as an archive of important documents and records from his time in office, but rather that it also serves as a think tank. George Bush is someone who truly cares about people and about better understanding human nature and humanity as a whole. His drive to find shared threads of understanding among people is notable, as is the Library's desire to maintain those values and that continued search for common ground among people.

What is your family's favorite thing to do in Dallas (TX)?

Dallas is such a great city with such a strong community base, and we are huge sports fans in our city. So, a lot of our favorite things to do revolve around spending time with our friends and family while also cheering on our teams!

Every fisher has a story; what is your best fish-catching story?

I think all fisherman have a story about "the big one" or "the one that got away." But for me, my favorite memory of fishing was being a kid and the excitement I felt about just spending the day with my Dad on the water. I remember the first time he took me fishing. I was about eight or nine years old, and I was so excited that I couldn't sleep the night before. I think I got up around two o'clock in the morning, made about 20 sandwiches for us to eat later that day, and just waited anxiously for the clock to hit 4 a.m. and for him to wake up. And I get just as excited now to take my own kids fishing. I think it's a great family bonding experience, but it also provides the opportunity for teachable moments. Both learning about patience as a kid and then teaching the importance of patience as an adult – while sitting in a boat and waiting for a bite on our line – are just really important memories for me.

We will not waver; we will not tire; we will not falter, and we will not fail. Peace and Freedom will prevail.

-George W. Bush



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