



## **MSA Technology Helps Protect NCAA Men's Basketball Championship in Support of FBI Recommendation**

Apr 03,2006

PITTSBURGH, April 3 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- MSA (NYSE: MSA) announced today that it is supporting and enhancing homeland security initiatives at today's NCAA Men's Basketball National Championship Game in Indianapolis, Ind., by providing local, state and federal officials there with area-wide monitoring systems designed to detect airborne hazards, including chemical weapons. The MSA system being deployed in Indianapolis is known as the SAFESITE Multi-Threat Detection System.

The SAFESITE System, which operates within a wireless network, is designed to detect and communicate the presence of up to six potential threats and hazards, including chemical warfare agents (CWA), gamma radiation, toxic industrial chemicals, volatile organic compounds, combustible gases and oxygen deficiency and enrichment. The system consists of two main components; the SAFEMTX Multi-Threat Detector and the SAFECOM Command Center. Depending on the situation, the system can be installed permanently (wired or wireless) for continuous monitoring, or deployed as a portable system.

In an advisory issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on March 10, the FBI said it is unaware of any credible plans by terrorist groups to target specific events but noted that attacks at sporting events have been attempted in the past. In its advisory, the FBI recommended that sports leagues and stadium operators review and coordinate security practices and emergency response procedures "to address the potential threat."

"We have seen a marked increase in the use of detection technologies capable of monitoring for weapons of mass destruction at 'soft targets;' including stadiums, parade routes, shopping malls and hospitals," said Kevin McKeigue, MSA Product Group Manager for Detection Systems. "As the safety equipment needs of the homeland security market shift from that of protection to detection, systems like SAFESITE will help provide early warning to threats against human life and safety while ensuring local and state emergency response capabilities meet Department of Homeland Security guidelines and expectations for dealing with a terrorist attack," Mr. McKeigue added.

Established in 1914, MSA is a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of sophisticated safety products that protect people's health and safety. Sophisticated safety products typically integrate any combination of electronics, mechanical systems and advanced materials to protect users against hazardous or life-threatening situations. The company's comprehensive line of products is used by workers around the world in the fire service, homeland security, construction and other industries, as well as the military. Principal products include self-contained breathing apparatus, gas masks, gas detection instruments, head protection, respirators and thermal imaging cameras. The company also provides a broad range of consumer and contractor safety products through retail channels. These products are marketed and sold under the MSA Safety Works brand. MSA has annual sales of more than \$900 million, manufacturing operations throughout the United States and Europe, and more than 30 international locations. Additional information is available on the company's Web site at [www.msanet.com](http://www.msanet.com).

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CONTACT: Mark Deasy of MSA, +1-412-967-3357