

# IEEE ISI 2008 Keynote Talk (I)

## Countering Terrorism

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### *Abstract*

Al-Qa`ida's embrace of new information technologies and systems has transformed it from a relatively insignificant group of terrorists into a robust global movement. In his talk, Dr. Jarret Brachman will identify the latest ways that al-Qa`ida and its supporters look to leverage technology for recruitment, fundraising, radicalization and operational coordination.

Drawing on actual counterterrorism investigations, Brachman will highlight specific examples of how al-Qa`ida harnessed information technology. He will also identify potential insertion points for the ISI community to, working in concert with law enforcement, intelligence and security professionals, frustrate, collapse and even co-opt al-Qa`ida's global E-infrastructure.

**Biography:** Dr. Jarret Brachman is a specialist on terrorism, Islamist movements and counterterrorism policy. He currently serves as the Director of Research in the Combating Terrorism Center at the United States Military Academy and is also an Adjunct Professor at New York University's Center for Global Affairs. Jarret conducts research on al-Qa`ida strategy, militant Salafi thought and Jihadi use of new media technologies and is the co-author of "Stealing Al-Qa`ida's Playbook," which was recently quoted by Ayman al-Zawahiri in an official al-Qa`ida propaganda video. He has testified before the U.S. Congress, the British House of Lords and routinely advises senior government officials on counterterrorism strategy. Jarret's work has been profiled on 60 Minutes, CNN, A&E and a variety of international media outlets including al-Jazeera and Sharq al-Awsat. He served as a Fellow with the Central Intelligence Agency's Counterterrorist Center before coming to West Point. His new book, "Global Jihadism: Theory and Practice," is forthcoming with Routledge press. Jarret lives in New York with his wife and two children.