EXIS | exercise information system

The Exercise Information System (EXIS) is a data management system that provides end-to-end exercise support, from the initial planning meeting, through exercise design, implementation, evaluation, and reporting. Working in a secure online environment, EXIS users can easily:

- **Customize exercise design** – develop objectives, scenarios, Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) items, contingency injects, evaluation metrics, and other data sets

- **Conduct robust analyses** – sort evaluation data by exercise objectives, transportation modes, scenario types, or functional areas

- **Create analytical reports** – identify and sort lessons learned, corrective actions, and best practices from your own past exercises or from other jurisdictions

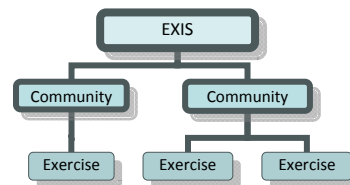- **Collaborate and share information** – build relationships with partners

Shared Libraries

By tagging exercise objectives, scenarios, and findings, EXIS automatically populates the database with lessons learned from past exercises conducted in similar environments. Users can not only call up their own past experiences, but identify lessons learned by other organizations in the industry.

By linking "exercise communities," users can also tackle cross-jurisdictional issues, such as interoperability. No more onerous searches through mountains of evaluation data. Users are able to focus on the underlying issues of transportation security and preparedness, and avoid repeating costly mistakes.

Collaborative Communities

EXIS organizes exercises through the use of communities. Users may define their own communities, or request to join an existing community. Communities allow users to view and share exercise information among other members within the community. EXIS also allows users to create communities within communities. This provides the ability to limit information distribution, if needed.

Exercise Planning and Design

EXIS helps users design an exercise through the use of a "wizard". The wizard walks the user through a step-by-step process allowing them to build a profile for their exercise. EXIS provides users with suggested Scenarios and Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) items based on the area of focus and objectives selected by the user. Users also have the ability to create custom MSEL items or modify a Generic
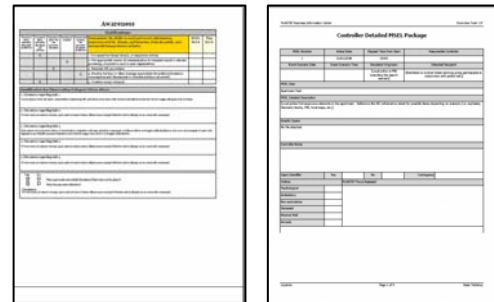
Scenario. Exercises Administrators may suggest modified scenarios and custom MSEL items for the MSEL and Scenario libraries.

At the completion of the wizard, EXIS generates a collaborative workspace for exercise team members to work within. Lessons learned, best management practices, and corrective actions are pre-populated into the workspace based on the scenario and objectives of the exercise determined during its creation.

The exercise workspace enables sharing and collaboration

Through the use of Microsoft Reporting Services, users can generate various custom reports that assist in exercise analysis. Reports include Exercise Evaluation Guides, Controller Detailed MSEL Package, MSEL Summary Report, After-Action Report, and many others. Rollup reports and filters are available at the program-level as well, and provide useful metrics.

Technologies Utilized

Microsoft SharePoint Portal Server – The basis of the EXIS system. SharePoint enables users to create community and exercise workspaces for collaborative exercise design.

Microsoft SQL Server - Functions as the database engine supporting EXIS.

Captaris Workflow Server 5.2 - Provides direct access to workflow and the ability to build, deploy and trigger workflow from within SharePoint.

Microsoft InfoPath – EXIS users can use this Microsoft Office product to fill out best management practices, lessons learned, and corrective actions offline, and then upload them to their exercise when they return to the system.

Microsoft Reporting Services – Provides reporting capabilities of EXIS data from SharePoint.