NFPA 1600: Setting Standards

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NFPA 1600...

- **What is this thing?**

  – *Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs*

- **Written for both the public and private sectors**

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NFPA 1600...

- **The History of NFPA 1600**
  - **Committee "Chartered" in 1991.**
  - **1st document issued as a Recommended Practice in 1995.**
  - **Re-written and issued as a Standard in April 2000.**

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- **The Standards-Making Process**
  - **Peer-Based**
  - **Voluntary**
  - **Overseen by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)**

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- **How an Idea Becomes an NFPA Document…**
  - **Person or organization identifies a need.**
  - **Need is presented to the NFPA Standards Council. If approved;**
  - **Technical Committee is organized.**
  - **Recommendation for new document is published in professional journals.**
  - **Committee meets to review proposals, develop its own proposals, and prepare report.**

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- Committee votes on proposals. If approved;
- Report on Proposal published for public review and comment.
- Committee meets to act on each public comment received.
- Committee votes on actions taken on public comments. If approved;
- Report on Comments published for public review.
- NFPA membership votes on Committee report or adopts document.

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- **How is the NFPA 1600 Committee Organized?**
  - *Users*- those using the document
  - *Enforcers*- those that enforce standards
  - *Special Experts*- those who have special expertise in the scope of the document
  - *Insurance*-representatives of insurance companies or inspection agencies.
- **Committee must have roughly equal numbers of each classification.**

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- **Types of NFPA Documents-**
  - **Recommended Practice (you <u>should</u>)**
  - **Standard (you <u>must</u> or <u>shall</u>)**

- **NFPA 1600 is currently a standard**
- **Endorsed by IAEM, NEMA, and FEMA**
- **Currently in line with CAR**

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- **Who does NFPA 1600 Apply to?**
  - **Any public or private entity that is required to develop emergency response plans by agency/company policy, legislation, regulation, or code.**

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- **Does My Company, Jurisdiction or Agency have to Adopt NFPA 1600?**
  - **No. Adoption of any NFPA Standard is voluntary. *However…***
  - **NFPA Standards are generally accepted as industry standards. In the unlikely event that your program ends up in court, it may be compared to it.**

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- **Scope**
  - **Establishes a common set of criteria for disaster management, emergency management, and business continuity programs.**

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- ## Purpose
  - Provide criteria to assess current programs or to develop, implement, and maintain a program to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and emergencies.

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- **What is a disaster?**

- **How does this relate to emergency planning and/or business continuity planning?**

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FEMA News Photo

ROGER CONANT

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- **Disaster can be a relative term**
- **Usually involves:**
  - **severe damage, injury, or loss of life**
  - **beyond the normal response resources of the entity**
  - **overwhelms local resources**
  - **has a long-term impact**

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- **What is Required Under NFPA 1600?**
  - **Program Management**
    - **Policy**
    - **Program Coordinator**
    - **Program Committee**
    - **Program Assessment**

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- **Program Elements:**

  - **Comply with existing laws and authorities**
  - **Hazard identification and risk assessment**
  - **Hazard mitigation strategy**
  - **Resource management process**
  - **Written Planning**
  - **Direction, Control, and Coordination**

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- **Program Elements:**

  - **Communications and Warning**

  - **Operations and Procedures**

  - **Logistics and Facilities**

  - **Training**

  - **Exercises, Evaluations, and Corrective Actions**

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- **Program Elements:**

  - **Crisis Communications, Public Education, and Info**
  - **Finance and Administration**

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- **Implications for Government EM Programs**

  - **NEMA has adopted NFPA 1600 as the basis of their Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP)**
  - **Promoting continuous program improvement**

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- **Future Development**
  - **Next revision starts in 2003**
  - **Task group on future alternative issues**
  - **Task group on business continuity**
  - **Currently surveying stakeholders**

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- **How can you help?**
  - **Fill out the survey, available at NASTTPO website**
  - **Submit public comments**
  - **Communicate with committee members**

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