FEMA

Fact Sheet

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NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
INCIDENT RESOURCE INVENTORY SYSTEM (NIMS-IRIS)

The National Integration Center (NIC) Incident Management Systems Division (IMSD) is supporting the development of a database management tool for Federal, State, local and tribal officials, which will be available at no cost. The software will allow emergency responders to enter typed resources and select specific resources for mutual aid purposes based upon mission requirements, capability of resources, and response time.

The *National Incident Management System - Incident Resource Inventory System (NIMS-IRIS)* tool has been rolled out to the emergency response community in phases. Version 1.0 Beta, June 15, 2007, provided the basic database management tool to enter a community's 120 typed resources[1] into a common database. An update to the Beta release (Version 1.1) was posted on August 3, 2007 to address improvements to data aggregation, which allows users to share data between jurisdictions.

NIMS IRIS 2.0 is now available and features further enhancements to data aggregation; incorporates input confirmation for user defined resources; includes functionality for accessing a locked account; and general usability improvements. Future builds will provide additional functionality which may include resource requesting, mobilization, and Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking.

NIMS-IRIS will:
- Assist communities in inventorying and typing resources in accordance with NIMS protocols and provide quick access to resources to support emergency response operations.
- Ensure that a "no-cost" database tool is available to support response operations.
- Improve the Nation's capability to identify, mobilize, and dispatch a typed resource.

Key Features of NIMS-IRIS:
- A simple resource management solution for all agencies, jurisdictions, and users
- Easy-to-use and intuitive user interface
- Forms-based construct – mirrored after the Incident Command System (ICS)
- Scalable screen (for use on computer or PDA) for browse, select, and input
- Tracks:
  - Equipment
  - Communications
  - Contracts
  - Facilities
  - Responders
  - Services
  - Supplies
  - Teams
- Requires no licensure fees
- Uses the interoperable Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) data messaging construct

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[1] Document: FEMA National Mutual Aid and Resource Management Initiative Resource Definitions, September 2004 (http://www.fema.gov/pdf/nims/resource_typing_qadoc.pdf)

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- Compatible, not competitive, with existing agency systems and existing and future commercial applications
    - o Is easily converted to proprietary systems if necessary
    - o Compatible with Oracle, MS SQL, and MS Access
    - o Uses annotated and modularized code

Benefits of this Initiative:
- Allows emergency responders to inventory, categorize type, locate, request, and track all internal and external resources from a single integrated system, which will help facilitate the response of requested resources during an incident.
- Provides a local database that is scalable to higher jurisdiction levels for the identification of all typed resources.
- Can be upgraded as additional typed resources are added, keeping pace with the rapid evolution of the NIMS and the National Response Framework.

Support:
- NIMS-IRIS – is available for download at: http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/rm/iris.shtm.

- Feedback and technical support requests for assistance can be made to IRIS@NIMSSC.net. NIMS-IRIS is also available in hardcopy CD by emailing a request to the same address.

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