

*This NIMS Standards Update provides current information on standards development efforts relating to the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Standards noted in this publication may generally support NIMS implementation by providing criteria for measuring preparedness and incident management requirements. They may also provide technical specifications for resources and communications and information management systems. Each edition highlights a standards activity, and its relationship to NIMS and benefit to the field.*

*The National Preparedness Directorate (NPD) of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for designating standards appropriate for NIMS users in partnership with recognized standards development organizations (SDOs). Through the work of the Incident Management Systems Integration (IMSI) Division, the NPD monitors the development of standards in partnership with DHS' Science and Technology Directorate, other Federal departments and agencies, and State and local governments.*

*Information provided in these periodicals is intended for use or reference by the public safety community. The identification of SDO information and activities in these updates is not intended to represent a specific endorsement, promotion or recommendation by FEMA.*

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## **Preparedness**

### ***Proposed Update to NFPA 1600 to be Available for Public Comment***

The proposed 2010 edition of the **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1600: Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs** will be available on the NFPA web site on December 28. The public is invited to comment on this draft and comment forms are available on the NFPA web site. The 2007 edition of this standard is on the NIMS Recommended Standards List (RSL).

For more information or to comment on this standard, visit:  
<http://www.npfa.org>.



## **Communications and Information Management**

### ***OASIS Approves Two New Emergency Data eXchange Language (EDXL) Standards***

On November 2, the **Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS)** approved EDXL standards for **Resource Messaging (EDXL-RM)** and **Hospital Availability Exchange (EDXL-HAVE)**. EDXL-RM describes standard messages that support the exchange of resource information among emergency and other information systems. This format may be used over any data transmission system that sends and receives information about available equipment, supplies, people and teams, among other resources. EDXL-HAVE allows for the communication of hospital services and resources during incident operations. These include bed capacity and availability, emergency department status, available service coverage, and the status of a hospital's facility and operations.

To view these standards, visit: <http://www.oasis-open.org>.

### ***APCO and NENA Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Standard Receives ANSI Approval***

On November 3, the **American National Standards Institute (ANSI)** approved the **Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International** and **National Emergency Number Association (NENA)** standard **APCO/NENA ANS 1.102.1-200x: Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP)-Service Capability Criteria Rating Scale**. The standard includes an assessment tool to objectively evaluate PSAP capabilities against models representing the best level of preparedness, survivability and sustainability amidst a wide range of natural and manmade events.



# NIMS Standards Quarterly Brief

National Preparedness Directorate

Update on Standards Development Activities

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## *Spotlight on Emergency Management Standard by EMAP*

*The inaugural Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) standard, the Emergency Management Standard by EMAP, was accredited as an ANSI standard in June 2008. This standard provides guidance on elements that should be included in a comprehensive emergency management program, including NIMS compliance elements. The comprehensive structure of the standard also provides a consistent framework for compliance achievement towards other federal response and recovery requirements including pandemic influenza and strategic stockpile preparedness. EMAP standards are applicable to state, county, municipal, territorial and tribal programs across the country.*

*EMAP standards are organized in 16 program areas and address multi-disciplinary coordination, continuity of operations and government planning, primary and alternate operating facilities, and interoperability. EMAP standards call for a system that includes concepts such as: modular organization, unified command, multi-agency coordination, span of control, common terminology, incident action planning processes, comprehensive resource management and integrated communications.*

*For additional information and to download a copy of the standard, visit:  
<http://www.emaponline.org>*

## Resource Management

### *ASTM Emergency Medical Services Systems Organization and Operation Standard*

The 2008 edition of **ASTM F1339 - 92(2008): Standard Guide for Organization and Operation of Emergency Medical Services Systems** is now available on the ASTM website. This guide suggests methods for organizing and operating state, regional and local emergency medical service (EMS) systems. It is designed to assist state, regional or local organizations in assessing, planning, documenting, and implementing their specific EMS operations. This guide may be applied to any EMS system, regardless of size and location.

### Previous Edition

See the September 2008 NIMS Standards Quarterly Brief for news on the following:

- **ASIS International's** development of Business Continuity Management and General Security Risk Assessment standards.
- **ASTM WK20535: Standard Guide for Responder Family Support Services**, an effort to establish a standard approach for providing care and services to first responder families during an emergency or disaster.
- **Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International ANS 1.103.1-2008: Wireless 9-1-1 Deployment and Management Effective Practices Guide**, a standard outlining effective practices for deploying and managing wireless 9-1-1.
- **ASTM E2601: Standard Practice for Radiological Emergency Response**, a standard which addresses decision making considerations for radiological response.
- A spotlight article on **ASTM International's Standard Guide for Resource Management in Emergency Management and Homeland Security**. Balloting for this standard was recently completed.