



FEMA

NIMS *Alert*

December 18, 2008
National Preparedness
Directorate
202-646-3850

NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) 2008 - RELEASE

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a systematic, proactive approach to guide departments and agencies at all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work seamlessly to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property and harm to the environment. NIMS works hand-in-hand with the National Response Framework (NRF) to ensure coordinated support during national level incidents. NIMS provides the template for the management of incidents while the NRF provides the structure and mechanisms for national level policy for incident management.

Originally published on March 1, 2004, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security initiated the revision of the document in 2007-2008 to reflect contributions from stakeholders and lessons learned during recent incidents. Released on December 18, 2008, this document represents a collaborative intergovernmental partnership with significant input from the incident management functional disciplines, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector.

The NIMS 2008 Rollout package includes the following five documents:

1. NIMS Document;
2. Press Release;
3. *What's New in the NIMS Document*;
4. Fact Sheet; and
5. Frequently Asked Questions.

Each of these NIMS documents and related information can be found on the new NIMS Resource Center website: www.fema.gov/nims

Note: Though not required, DHS/FEMA strongly encourages personnel to take the revised IS-700 course, which reflects all concepts and principles contained in the new NIMS. For online NIMS training, visit www.training.fema.gov.

###