



Homeland Security

NIPP

Newsletter

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION PLAN

ISSUE 38: NOVEMBER 2008

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NIPP-Related Activities and Events

EPA Moves Toward Creating a National Laboratory Response Plan

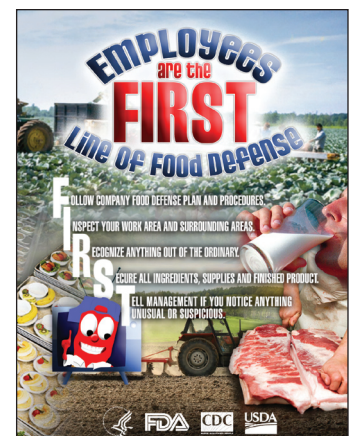
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is creating the Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) in an effort to provide the Water Sector with an integrated nationwide network of laboratories (e.g., State, utility, and EPA Regional laboratories). These laboratories have analytical capabilities and capacity to support monitoring, surveillance, response, and remediation of drinking water supply contamination events involving chemical, biological, and radiochemical contaminants. EPA has developed Regional Laboratory Response Plans (RLRPs) for each of the 10 EPA Regions and Hawaii, which represent mutually agreed-upon approaches for how multiple laboratories may work together during a response to a drinking water contamination incident. These region-specific laboratory response plans were first tested by conducting tabletop exercises across the country. Functional exercises, involving biological and chemical analyses of unknown samples, were then performed for all 10 Regions and Hawaii to evaluate the efficiency of the RLRPs for intra-regional response to a drinking water contamination incident. With the completion of all 11 functional exercises in September 2008, RLRPs will be evaluated in preparation for the creation of one unified National Laboratory Response Plan. Once developed, the National Plan will be tested and evaluated for effectiveness.

FDA Launches Food Defense Awareness Training Kit for Employees in the Food Industry

FIRST tool kit teaches how to reduce the risks of food contamination

In October 2008, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, launched its food defense awareness training kit for first-line food industry employees. The training targets these individuals because they play an important role in helping to keep our Nation's food supply safe, from the farm to the table.

Food industry managers will use the FIRST tool kit as part of ongoing employee training programs in food defense. The tool kit focuses on five key points that industry and businesses can use to



Upcoming NIPP CIKR Events

- > **DECEMBER 1, 2008**
End of public comment period on Draft 2009 NIPP (Go to Regulations.gov and type in NIPP to access the document)
- > **JANUARY 13-14, 2009**
International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions Safety Seminar 2009
Branson, MO

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educate first-line workers about the risks of food contamination. It also provides measures to consider and implement to reduce these risks. Each of the letters in the FIRST acronym describes an action that a first-line employee can take to mitigate the risk of contamination.

- F** FOLLOW company food defense plan and procedures
- I** INSPECT your work area and surrounding areas
- R** RECOGNIZE anything out of the ordinary
- S** SECURE all ingredients, supplies and finished product
- T** TELL management if you notice anything unusual or suspicious

Single copies of the kit are available in English and Spanish. The kit is free to employees and includes one DVD, on-screen instructions, and a training poster. Copies can be ordered online from the Food Defense & Terrorism web site at <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/fooddefense>. A web-ready version of the kit is also available on this site.

Department of Education Provides Practical Information on NIMS for Schools and Institutions of Higher Education

Current Federal preparedness grantees, including the Department of Education's (ED) Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools' (OSDFS) Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) and Emergency Management for Higher Education (EMHE) grantees, are required to support implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Because schools and Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) are integral components of every community, the Education Facilities Subsector urges all schools, districts, and IHEs – regardless of whether they are recipients of Federal preparedness funds – to implement NIMS. ED, in collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), has identified those NIMS implementation activities that address the unique role of educational facilities in a community, their needs, and their functions as response agents along the chain of command during an incident.

In the summer of 2008, OSDFS, in close coordination with DHS, finalized and released NIMS Implementation Activities for Schools and Higher Education Institutions. This set of documents provides the Education Facilities Subsector with specific guidance for implementing NIMS in collaboration with community partners in the education setting. Specifically, the documents outline those actions schools receiving Federal preparedness funds must take in order to: 1) fulfill NIMS compliance requirements; 2) integrate NIMS into the educational setting; and 3) connect schools and campuses to their community partners.

As part of its outreach efforts, OSDFS disseminated NIMS Implementation Activities for Schools and Higher Education Institutions and support documents (e.g., checklist, FAQs, and resources) through its REMS and EMHE grantee listservs and created an interactive activity-by-activity Web page for public use via the REMS Technical Assistance Center Web site, <http://rems.ed.gov>. OSDFS continues its efforts toward the Education Facilities Subsector's vision that all schools and institutions of higher education work in collaboration with their community partners to maintain, enhance, and create comprehensive, risk-based, all-hazards emergency management plans that support the implementation of NIMS. The tools provided not only facilitate school and higher education implementation of NIMS, but also help support the subsector's vision that collaborative efforts are key to emergency management.

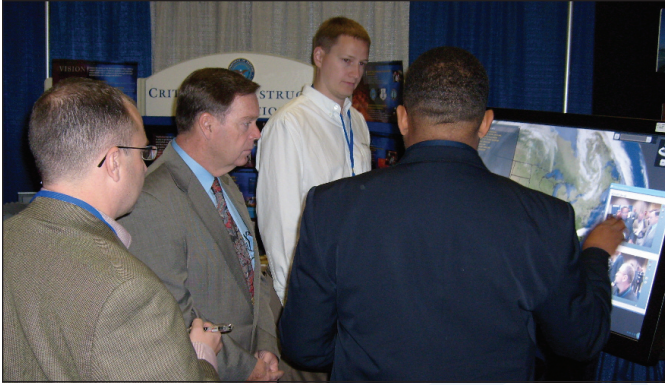
For more information contact:

yvonne.bartoli@ed.gov (202) 245-7859
amy.banks@ed.gov (202) 245-7862 or
madeline.sullivan@ed.gov (202) 245-9683

DoD, DHS and DOJ Co-sponsor a Critical Incident Preparedness Conference for First Responders

The 10th Annual Conference & Exposition on Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness was held October 29-31, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. This event provided the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, and Justice the opportunity to highlight the technology and training tools currently available and being developed for the emergency responder community.

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Assistant Secretary of Defense Paul McHale (second from left) observes the capabilities of the Knowledge Display and Aggregation System

The conference also provided an opportunity to elicit responder technology requirements for improving State, local, and tribal responses to emergency situations. With over 1,500 attendees and 200 exhibits and demonstrations, the conference and exposition offered a unique opportunity for emergency responders, business and industry, academia, and State, local, tribal, and Federal stakeholders to network, exchange ideas, and address common critical incident technology and preparedness needs, protocols, and solutions.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs (OASD(HDASA)) was DoD's sponsoring agency, highlighting the Defense Critical Infrastructure Protection (DCIP) program and the department's "Section 1401" technology transfer program. The Assistant

Secretary of Defense, Mr. Paul McHale, also provided one of the keynote addresses of the conference, speaking on DoD's role in supporting first responders in the homeland defense mission space. Named after the relevant section of the Defense Authorization Act of 2003, the "Section 1401" program has six principal functions:

1. Identify technology items and equipment that have the potential to enhance public safety and improve homeland security;
2. Evaluate whether such technology items and equipment would be useful to first responders;
3. Facilitate the timely transfer;
4. Identify and eliminate redundant and unnecessary research efforts;
5. Expedite the advancement of high-priority DoD projects; and
6. Communicate with first responders and facilitate awareness of available technology items and equipment to support responses to crises.

Mr. Antwane Johnson, Director of Critical Infrastructure Protection in OASD(HDASA), presented and demonstrated DoD Tools for Protecting the Defense Industrial Base during one of the conference's breakout sessions. Mr. Johnson's briefing explained DCIP, national and DoD policies relating to CIP, and the organizational framework under which the program is carried out. Mr. Johnson demonstrated one of the tools by which DoD provides visibility of some threats to critical national assets. Known as the Knowledge Display and Aggregation System (KDAS), the tool incorporates a touch-screen visualization tool developed by Idaho National Laboratory that accumulates data from a variety of electronic and online sources in support of DoD's critical infrastructure and emergency management mission. KDAS not only identifies key infrastructure, including the availability and location of police stations, defense industrial base, hospitals, and power stations, but also integrates risk assessment data for detailed asset inventories, creating a real-time decision support tool.

The touch-assisted tool, "Touch Table" has modeling capabilities to create a framework for infrastructure interdependency modeling and analysis. Asset data from both proprietary and public domain databases are integrated and displayed, to fully model any potential or real national emergency. The resulting capabilities provide users with a methodology to assess the impact of natural disasters and terrorist events on the viability of key assets. The graphical interface combined with the overlay of actual asset data gives emergency planners and first responders a tool to understand the progression of recovery actions necessary for a variety of events.

Used in the Global Situational Awareness Facility (GSAF) in the Pentagon, KDAS provides senior DoD leaders and action officers with a common operational picture promoting situational awareness for real-time emergencies and a platform for conducting modeling and simulation exercises. Modeling functions include analysis of impacts on critical civilian and military infrastructure assets, such as electrical distribution and mass transit and any cascading effects those disruptions may have on other assets. Simulated evacuations of congested metropolitan areas can also be accomplished using real world or simulated impediments to traffic flow.

SARA Summit Highlights Collaboration with the Chemical Sector

In an effort to provide public safety relevance to infrastructure partners in Westmoreland County, PA, the County's Department of Public Safety hosted a Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Summit for facilities required to report under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). This first-ever Summit featured Incident Command System (ICS) instructors relating real-world experiences from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and nuclear industry incidents. Officials from the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Westmoreland County Department of Public Safety (WCDPS) discussed the need for collaboration with the Chemical Sector to understand their interactive role during an emergency at a chemical facility.



Chemical Safety Board initiatives were elaborated through excellent safety videos provided by the Board. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration presented an awareness program on the impact of weather on process safety and discussed the National Weather Service StormReady support program and the importance of having severe weather action plans to enhance a facility's continuity of operations. A presentation on the new public-private partnership program, the Business Emergency Communication Network (BECON), illustrated the need for the business community to receive disaster-related information to assist in their planning, response, or recovery from manmade and natural disasters. A review of incidents that occurred in the County involving hazardous material releases showed the interface between public safety and individual facilities. The vulnerability and risk assessment capabilities of the State Police were addressed, explaining the methods and deployment of their assets and what to expect with their involvement. Finally, the WCDPS Public Information Officer (PIO) discussed the importance of maintaining effective media relations to help with all aspects of mitigating an incident and maintaining a positive image in the community. The Summit was attended by nearly 70 partners involved in the Chemical Sector. The post-Summit surveys strongly supported holding a Summit next year and provided ideas for future SARA Summit programs. The event also captured new member applications for LEPC appointments.

Important News for the Sectors

HITRAC Kicks Off Threat Elicitation Element of the SHIRA Process

On October 7, 2008, the Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center (HITRAC) held its annual kick-off meeting for the Threat Elicitation element of the Strategic Homeland Infrastructure Risk Assessment (SHIRA) process at the National Counterterrorism Center Liberty Crossing facility. Led by the HITRAC Risk Integration and Analysis Branch (RIAB), the meeting provided Sector-Specific Agency (SSA) threat representatives and other Intelligence Community (IC) members with an in-depth look at the process, the expectations for the data call, and how the information is used in the 2009 SHIRA.

The objective of the Threat Elicitation process is to ensure coordination between IC partners and other stakeholders in evaluating SHIRA threat rankings. Each IC partner is asked to review and provide feedback on threat rankings created by HITRAC intelligence analysts. Specifically, they are evaluating capability, intent, and confidence of threat actors and attack scenarios. Following completion of this task, a second meeting will be held to review and finalize the work. The final threat input will be combined with vulnerability and consequence input from the SSAs and their partners to create an overall risk profile for each sector, as well as the National Infrastructure Risk Profile.

TRIPwire Community Gateway Provides Tailored Information Sharing for the Sectors

TRIPwire, the Technical Resource for Incident Prevention, is DHS' online collaboration and information-sharing network on improvised explosive device (IED) threats for law enforcement and first responders. The TRIPwire Community Gateway (TWCG) is a new TRIPwire web portal designed specifically for the Nation's critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) owners, operators, and private security personnel. TWCG provides expert threat analyses, reports, and relevant planning documents to help key private sector partners anticipate, identify, and prevent IED incidents.

Developed by the Protective Security Coordination Division's Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP), TWCG will share IED-related information tailored to each of the 18 CIKR sectors, in accordance with the National Infrastructure Protection Plan. Sector partners benefit from increased communication, improved awareness of emerging threats, and access to resources and guidance on specific IED preventive and protective measures for their facilities and requirements. The portal is undergoing beta testing through December 2008, and a rollout for full sector use is planned for January 2009. For more information about the TRIPwire Community Gateway, please contact the Office for Bombing Prevention at obp@dhs.gov.

New Council to Coordinate Regional Infrastructure Protection Activities



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and regional organizations from across the country are joining forces to put in place the final link in the public-private partnership structure needed to implement the Nation's critical infrastructure protection mission.

"Up to now the emphasis in critical infrastructure protection has been on vertical centers of excellence," said Robert B. Stephan, DHS Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection. He addressed representatives of a diverse group of regional organizations gathered for the initial organizational meeting of the new Regional Consortium Coordinating Council (RCCC) on October 6-7, 2008.

"Other sector and government coordinating councils have made tremendous progress building connections throughout the 18 critical infrastructure sectors from individual sites all the way up to the national level. The last big piece of this complex partnership structure was to form

a framework for integrating infrastructure protection across sectors and across jurisdictional lines. The RCCC fills that need."

Brian Tishuk, interim chair of the RCCC, explained that regional organizations vary widely. "A 'region' can be anything from a few city blocks to a nine- or ten-state area," he said. "We are seeking active and committed regional partnerships whose members understand the value of working together to protect against natural and terrorist threats."

More than 45 individuals representing nearly 20 different organizations participated in the initial meeting. The purpose of the session was to introduce potential members to the RCCC purpose, structure, and basis for membership; review council formation efforts and products; share insights and lessons learned on key issues for regional consortia; and examine consortia opportunities and next steps for council development.

This new council will bring together existing regional organizations in a unified effort aimed at:

- Promoting and fostering protection and resiliency efforts;
- Developing a national policy framework for regional infrastructure protection, prevention, deterrence, response, recovery, and longer term restoration;
- Providing the foundation for regional cross-sector collaboration;
- Fostering the development of risk-based protection and mitigation measures to enable measurable progress toward robust security and disaster resilience; and
- Enhancing the education and awareness of critical infrastructure interdependencies.

Participants in the organizational meeting included representatives of the Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection; the All Hazards Consortium; Business Executives for National Security (BENS); ChicagoFIRST; the Colorado Emergency Prepared-

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ness Partnership (CEPP); the Community and Regional Resilience Initiative (CARRI); the Great Lakes CI Coalition; the Montana Infrastructure Protection Alliance; the Pacific NW Economic Region (PNWER); the Safeguard Iowa Partnership; the SouthEast Emergency Response Network (SEERN); the U.S. Chamber of Commerce National Security Task Force; and the Utah Division of Homeland Security Private Sector Homeland Security Coordinating Council. The meeting was hosted by The CELL (The Center for Empowered Living and Learning www.thecell.org), a nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing terrorism.

“If everyone represented by the founding members of the RCCC and other consortia could become plugged in, we could be adding 100,000 to 200,000 people to our information-sharing network and incident management capabilities,” Stephan said. “That’s a lot more dedicated people ready to stay in the fight and help in our efforts to build a safer, more secure, and more resilient America.”

Infrastructure Risk Analysis Partnership Program (IRAPP)

The Infrastructure Risk Analysis Partnership Program (IRAPP) is a new initiative led by the Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center (HITRAC) Risk Integration and Analysis Branch (RIAB). The Program is aimed at building infrastructure risk analysis and prioritization capabilities among State and local partners, and has a current pilot underway to conduct a collaborative risk assessment with the New York State Office of Homeland Security.

Similar to other CIKR risk analysis initiatives within RIAB, the strength of the IRAPP derives from the opportunity it presents for DHS analysts to work alongside public and private sector partners toward the common goal of CIKR protection. In addition, the IRAPP will integrate data/methodologies from the Tier 1/Tier 2 program, the Strategic Homeland Infrastructure Risk Assessment (SHIRA), and Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI). The data collected from State and local partners by IRAPP will be reintegrated into future risk assessments at the Federal level, adding insight and granularity to those processes as well.

Moving forward, the IRAPP will focus on pilot UASI areas to develop CIKR prioritization and risk analysis approaches that will eventually be implemented more broadly at the State and regional levels. These programs will provide the foundation for State and local integrated risk assessments and the subsequent funding needed to achieve their CIKR protection goals.

> Resources Available for NIPP Partners

The free on-line NIPP training course is available at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp> (enter course number IS-860). The NIPP trade show booth is also available for sector use. Please contact NIPP@dhs.gov for information on NIPP PMO participation and/or exhibition at an upcoming sector event or to schedule one of the growing cadre of trained speakers who can be deployed to sector events to speak on CIKR issues.

> Implementation Success Stories

The NIPP PMO continues to seek NIPP and/or SSP implementation success stories from the sectors to be shared with other CIKR partners. Please submit any suggestions or brief write-ups to the NIPP PMO at NIPP@dhs.gov.

> NIPP Newsletter

The NIPP Newsletter is a product of the NIPP PMO and NIPP partners are welcome to submit input. If you have any questions about the Newsletter or would like to submit information for inclusion in upcoming issues, please contact the NIPP PMO at NIPP@dhs.gov. Recipients of this newsletter are encouraged to disseminate it further to their CIKR partners.