Workshop Announcement
Urban Search and Rescue Performance Measures for Intelligent Systems

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Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) is one of the most challenging and dangerous activities that responders have to undertake.   The environment is chaotic, hazardous and dynamic, and the rescue operations are time-critical.   Intelligent systems can assist human responders in various ways, including decision support and planning of resource deployments, the use of robotic platforms to augment the exploration of collapsed buildings to locate victims, assess structural integrity, and detect hazards, and smart sensor networks to provide early warning on events and monitor the situation.   Modeling and simulation tools can also enhance preparedness by providing opportunities to evaluate different approaches and strategies.   The performance of all of these technologies must be measured and evaluated in order to determine the most effective and efficient solutions as well as to ensure that systems meet the operational requirements when deployed.

This workshop's goals are:
- dissemination of research in urban search and rescue intelligent systems of various types
- establishment of operational environment characteristics to guide development of technologies and of performance measures
- promoting dialogue between technology developers and responders

Workshop Organizers
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Participants
Presentations by representatives from various stakeholders are encouraged, including the following groups:
- Emergency responders (federal, state, local)
- Researchers developing technologies for urban search and rescue robots and overall infrastructure for response
- Simulation developers
- Robot vendors
- Sensor and other payload vendors
- Program managers responsible for development or procurement of relevant technologies

Web Site
http://www.2006sharingsolutions.com/workshopD.shtml

International Joint Topical: 9th Emergency Preparedness and Response/11th Robotics and Remote Systems for Hazardous Environments