EMR-ISAC
Emergency Management & Response-Information Sharing & Analysis Center

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The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the **Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)**.

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit **www.usfa.dhs.gov/ emr-isac** or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: **(301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.**

The InfoGram

Officer Safety: DEA Warns on Fentanyl

Opiate-related deaths are up in the United States, especially heroin overdoses. Heroin producers are using the opiate painkiller Fentanyl to increase its potency, one possible cause for overdose increases. Fentanyl is up to 50 times more potent than heroin, can be 100 times more potent than morphine, and can be lethal even at low levels.

Fentanyl can easily be absorbed through the skin or inhaled, posing quite a risk to law enforcement officers and other first responders during the course of their duties. In some places, officers are trained to give themselves Narcan in case of exposure. It is important for departments to make sure its officers fully understand the risk.

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) released a Roll Call training video on Fentanyl last week designed to educate law enforcement officers and staff on the dangers. The video discusses the risk and recommends taking confiscated drugs directly to a laboratory instead of doing field testing or taking it back to the department. Two officers who were exposed to Fentanyl during a drug call also relate their experience.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends PPE around Fentanyl. For more information about Fentanyl, contact your local DEA Office.

(Source: DEA)

Event Management and Support One-Stop Shop

There is a big event coming up in your jurisdiction that will attract thousands of people and families. Multiple government agencies and private sector partners will work to make sure the event goes smoothly. First responders will be on site to manage emergency medical needs and handle safety and security issues. If a serious incident happens at this soft target event, you need to be able to handle the information coming in and share it quickly to be sure everyone gets what they need.

You need a platform with web conferencing, the ability to track information, document storage, GIS mapping, instant messaging, and it must all be secure. You need to meet the needs of each component involved, it must be inexpensive, and it would be helpful to have people who could help customize it to meet all these needs.

It's a lot to ask for in one package, but it already exists in the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). It is free, contains all the capabilities listed above (PDF, 610 Kb), and utilizes a team of Mission Advocates who have experience in law enforcement, intelligence, public health, and emergency services to provide on-site support to

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state and local stakeholders.

In fact, many localities have been using HSIN to support their large events for some time. HSIN has assisted with tracking security during an international summit, supporting the hunt for a fugitive, and exercises and training. Albuquerque Fire Department uses HSIN during the many large events in their area, and West Virginia used it when the Boy Scout Jamboree became the third largest "city" in the state. HSIN was the principal planning tool to support the past four Super Bowls and they are already at work on the next two.

For more information on how HSIN can help support your planning for, monitoring during, and response to special events, contact HSIN Outreach at hsin.outreach@hq.dhs.gov. To see more videos on HSIN's past successes, visit the HSIN Videos page or their YouTube channel.

(Source: DHS)

Global Terrorism Database Updated with 2015 Data

The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) updated its Global Terrorism Database (GTD). This is the most comprehensive open-source database and includes information on terrorist attacks that took place around the world since 1970 and now includes data on events that occurred through December 2015.

The GTD includes systematic data on more than 150,000 domestic and international terrorist incidents, and it is the most complete unclassified database on such incidents. This data can be used to track trends and study terrorist violence in order to better plan and respond.

The update also includes improvements to the database as a whole. With this new update the GTD is now fully geo-coded for the first time, allowing users to conduct geo-spatial analysis on five decades of incidents. Additional details about what is new in the latest GTD update can be found in the GTD Codebook (PDF, 420 Kb).

(Source: START)

Modernize Your Fire Department with GIS Tools

On Thursday, July 14th at 12:00 p.m. Eastern, Esri is hosting a webinar "Modernize Your Fire Department with ArcGIS Online." The upcoming free webinar will demonstrate how ArcGIS can assist departments with fire run books, create up-to-date pre-incident plan maps, and identify risk and manage resources. Registration is required.

GIS offers fire departments more than just mapping. It can provide expanded functionality to include tracking of assets, determine staffing requirements, analyze response times, and help create a comprehensive common operating picture. Being able to visualize key details such as lockbox locations, layer information, and even note dangerous construction enables departments to better and more safely do their jobs.

This is the second webinar in the Esri Fire and Emergency Services Webinar Series, focusing on capabilities for emergency management and first responder agencies. The first webinar, "ArcGIS for Emergency Management," is available as a recording. Future webinars include "ArcGIS for Law Enforcement" and "Emergency Call Taking and Dispatch."

(Source: Esri)