

## News Release

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### IAEM 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference & EMEX Exhibit to be Best Ever

(Falls Church, VA – October 25) The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is making final preparations for a superior conference program, exhibit and a “sell-out crowd” for its annual event, being held November 12-16, 2005 at the Phoenix Civic Plaza Convention Center in Phoenix, AZ.

Last-minute program additions include:

- **Hurricanes Katrina and “Pam” – Some Early Lessons** by *Madhu Beriwal, President & CEO, Innovative Emergency Management, Inc. (IEM), Baton Rouge, LA.*
- **The Kashmir Earthquake – Situation Report** by *Gunnar J. Kuepper, Chief of Operations, Emergency & Disaster Management Inc., Los Angeles, CA.*
- **U.S. Department of Defense and Hurricane Katrina** by *COL Richard A. Chavez, Office of the Secretary Defense, Washington, DC.*
- **Austin Response to Katrina** by *Ken Neafcy, Logistics Section Chief, City of Austin Office of Emergency Management.*
- **Private Industry Self-Sufficiency: Profile of a Successful Private Sector Emergency Management Program** by *Bill Mitzel, MS, ARM, ALCM, Risk Control Specialist, Unigard Insurance Group, Bellevue, WA.*
- **Katrina/Rita: A Double Whammy!** by *Sandy Davis, Operations Manager, Caddo-Bossier Parish (LA) Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.*
- **EMAC 2004 After-Action Report: Hurricane Response** by *Grant C. Peterson, Vice President, Titan Corporation, Chewelah, WA.*

A final program including complete session descriptions is available at [www.iaem.com](http://www.iaem.com).

The event brings together members of the largest professional organization for emergency managers and homeland security officials. All significant suppliers of products and services for this profession are on display at EMEX 2005, the exhibit portion of IAEM’s Annual Conference. As of October 25, IAEM has registered the most ever conference attendees.

“We expect upwards of 1,000 participants total,” indicates IAEM Executive Director Beth Armstrong. “I attribute this year’s anticipated success to a combination of excellent program content, marketing and generous support from media partners and publications, including *Homeland Protection Professional* magazine, the *Journal of Emergency Management*, the *Disaster Recovery Directory*, the *Disaster Resource Guide* and others.

The EMEX 2005 exhibit sold out its floor-plan in early October, and has added additional space. It opens with a reception Monday evening November 14, and closes after the Tuesday, November 15 reception. EMEX 2005 policies are guided by input from an Advisory Board

made up of vendors who are committed to making the event as worthwhile as possible for all participants.

Sponsorships are provided from:

- **EMD Pharmaceuticals** has provided a platinum sponsorship and a coffee break Tuesday afternoon, November 15. The risk of acute cyanide poisoning related to smoke inhalation in structural fires or as a potential chemical terrorism weapon is under appreciated by most emergency response and emergency medicine professionals. EMD Pharmaceuticals, the affiliate of Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, is developing a cyanide antidote in the United States. For more information on the use of cyanide antidotes in response to industrial accidents, smoke inhalation or potential terrorist activities, please see [www.emdpharmaceuticals.com](http://www.emdpharmaceuticals.com).
- **Microsoft Corporation** is hosting a coffee break Wednesday morning, November 16 and a platinum sponsorship. As a technology leader, Microsoft is embracing the homeland security challenge with innovative software products, solutions, and technology; we understand the big picture and have a clear vision for how to deliver reliable real-world solutions for homeland security. To learn more about Microsoft-based solutions for public safety visit [www.microsoft.com/homeland](http://www.microsoft.com/homeland)
- **RAMSAFE Technologies and Unisys Corporation** have jointly provided a platinum sponsorship in conjunction with provision of the EMEX Exhibit Opening on Monday, November 14. RAMSAFE produces enterprise-level software which offers emergency managers, first responders, and health officials software tools for all phases of incidents: pre-planning, operations, and recovery. In that regard, Unisys has deployed RAMSAFE emergency planning and management software to assist in Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. In addition to the software's unique recovery capabilities, RAMSAFE is being used to automate the FEMA reimbursement process as well as providing an organized database / repository for the large amounts of back-up materials necessary to assist in potential future audits by FEMA and other agencies.
- Other sponsors include **Federal Signal Corporation** (University Park, IL), **Homeland Protection Professional** (Western Springs, IL), **IEM, Inc.** (Baton Rouge, LA), **Motorola** (Schaumburg, IL), **Upper Iowa University** (West Des Moines, IA), **Community Alert Network** (Schenectady, NY), **SpectraRep, ATI, Hormann America**, and **Warning Systems Inc.**

IAEM is a non-profit organization representing 3,000+ emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, private sector, non-governmental organizations and others involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of disasters including acts of terrorism. IAEM provides access to the largest network of emergency management experts who can provide advice and assistance; the Certified Emergency Manager® program; annual scholarships; a comprehensive monthly newsletter; and more. For more details on the IAEM 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference & EMEX Exhibit, see [www.iaem.com](http://www.iaem.com).