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## GLOBAL DISASTER-RESPONSE INITIATIVE LAUNCHED DURING SATELLITE 2006

### GVF and International Association of Emergency Managers Unveil Agreement on Coordination of Emergency Managers and Satellite Industry and to Promote Training, and Certifications

6 February 2006

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Building on the collaboration of emergency managers with the satellite industry during periods of disaster response and recovery, GVF and the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) have reached a ground-breaking agreement to coordinate on major events programs, training, and certifications.

“There are important synergies between emergency managers and the satellite industry,” said Beth Armstrong, Executive Director of IAEM. “But many of them are yet to be fully realized. This agreement will enable satellite communications companies to become more successful in addressing disaster-recovery requirements, whether they are here in the U.S. or in other nations of the world.”

“GVF has been extremely impressed with IAEM’s leadership in the emergency management sector,” said David Hartshorn, Secretary General of GVF. “Our Members’ efforts to participate in this market will be significantly strengthened through this initiative.” Mr. Hartshorn added that IAEM and GVF will be collaborating on event opportunities, certification and training, beginning with **IAEM’s Annual Conference and Emergency Management and Homeland Security EXPO Exhibition (EMEX)** in Orlando, Florida on 12-15 Nov. 2006.

The GVF/IAEM Agreement provides for the following satellite-related opportunities at the Conference and at EMEX on behalf of the GVF member companies:

- Discounted booth space at the **EMEX Exhibition**, where approximately 1,000 emergency-management professionals will participate in educational sessions and networking opportunities, and visit with vendors supplying the emergency management and homeland security industries.
- A complete day of **pre-conference sessions** on communications for emergency managers, homeland security officials, first response coordinators, private industry security, safety and risk managers, and contingency planners, and

- A live satellite video feed during the **conference**, with related sponsorship opportunities.

In addition, the Agreement provides an opportunity for GVF members participating at the exhibition to host a **satellite industry reception** the evening before the exhibition opens. Exhibitors will have pre-event comprehensive publicity by being listed on Virtual EMEX, an online resource where IAEM's 2,600 emergency-manager members can identify appropriate satellite solutions.

The majority of the EMEX attendees play a key role in selecting, purchasing and using emergency equipment, supplies, products and services. They include disaster planning and preparedness managers, response coordinators, emergency communications managers, private industry contingency planners and contract services providers.

The presence of GVF at this year's event highlights the on-going business relationship of the satellite industry and disaster management community. This GVF initiative is consistent with the organization's long-term commitment to support the disaster management community.

The GVF contact for this event is John Feneley, the GVF's Canada Correspondent. For those in the satellite industry seeking further information about this event please contact John at his telephone (514) 684 7026 or email address [jfeneley@allstream.net](mailto:jfeneley@allstream.net)

### **About IAEM**

IAEM is a non-profit organization representing 2,700+ emergency management and homeland security professionals for 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. The IAEM ([www.iaem.com](http://www.iaem.com)) is dedicated to promoting the goals of saving lives and protecting property during emergencies and disasters.

### **About GVF**

GVF is the international non-profit association of the satellite communications sector. It brings together organisations engaged in the delivery of broadband and narrowband satellite services to consumers, and commercial and government enterprises worldwide. The broad-based membership represents every major world region and every sector of the satellite industry. GVF supports its members' interests by providing promotional opportunities in vertical markets, such as disaster/emergency management/recovery, oil and gas, military, mobile and other sectors. The GVF provides extensive educational support through its VSAT Installation and Maintenance Training Program. Visit us on the Web at [www.gvf.org](http://www.gvf.org)