

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMITTEE

STANDARDS COMPENDIUM

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

NFPA 1600, Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs <http://www.nfpa.org/aboutthecodes/AboutTheCodes.asp?DocNum=1600>

This standard, first available in 1995, is developed by a broad-based technical committee and published by the National Fire Protection Association. The Standard describes common program elements, techniques, and processes for emergency management and business continuity programs. NFPA 1600 was endorsed in the 9/11 Commission's report following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 and has been adopted by DHS under the category of Incident Management System Standards along with 26 other NFPA standards. The 2007 edition was approved as an American National Standard on December 20, 2006. The latest edition was released in February 2010.

Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP)

<http://www.emaponline.org/>

EMAP is an independent non-profit organization that sponsors a standards-based voluntary assessment and peer review accreditation process for government programs responsible for coordinating emergency management activities. Accreditation is based on compliance with collaboratively developed national standards, the Emergency Management Standard by EMAP, which is available for free download at:

http://www.emaponline.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=118&Itemid=110

HOMELAND SECURITY

ANSI Homeland Security Standards Panel

http://www.ansi.org/standards_activities/standards_boards_panels/hssp/overview.aspx?menuid=3

An ANSI initiative related to homeland security has been in place since February 2003. Per its charter the ANSI-HSSP has as its scope "to catalog, promote, accelerate and coordinate the timely development of consensus standards within the national and international voluntary standards systems intended to meet identified homeland security needs, and communicate the existence of such standards appropriately to governmental units and the private sector. " The

ANSI panel works closely with the DHS Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate's Test & Evaluation and Standards Division and maintains a standards database.

Homeland Security Standards Database

<http://www.hssd.us/>

This database provides one-stop access to standards critical to the jobs of first responders, code officials, and others charged with homeland security responsibilities.

DHS Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate

Test & Evaluation and Standards Division

http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/gc_1242938621885.shtm

The mission of the Office of Standards is to develop and coordinate the adoption of national standards and appropriate evaluation methods to meet homeland security mission needs. Specific objectives include:

- Leading the development and adoption of national standards for countermeasures against threats that pose the greatest challenge for homeland security—specifically, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive countermeasures;
- Encouraging investments and competition in homeland security technologies by fostering standardization of performance metrics and quality measures for first responder technologies; and,
- Assisting with the coordination, development and adoption of interoperability standards for integrated homeland security communications and sensor networks.

PRIVATE SECTOR PREPAREDNESS

Voluntary Private Sector Preparedness Accreditation and Certification Program (PS-Prep)

<http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/preparedness/index.htm>

This program is a partnership between DHS and the private sector to design a system to accredit private entities such as businesses, non-profits, and universities in emergency preparedness. Private sector preparedness was a key recommendation from the 9/11 Commission and was reiterated in Public Law 108-458 in 2004, and most recently in Title IX of Public Law 110-53.

The proposed PS-Prep standards address operational resilience, business continuity, and disaster/emergency management and were developed by NFPA, the British Standards Institution and the ASIS International. DHS also intends to establish a classification system that recognizes the unique characteristics and needs of small businesses.

DISASTER RECOVERY CASE MANAGEMENT

The Disaster Recovery Case Management (DRCM) consensus-based standards were developed after the catastrophic events of September 11th, 2001 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Direct service providers that deploy case managers locally and regionally in disaster circumstances of all kinds asked the Council on Accreditation (COA) to consider incorporating disaster recovery practice into recently published basic case management standards. The National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster immediately joined in to recognize the need for a common language.

The Council on Accreditation (COA) partners with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards.

The service standards for disaster recovery case management are available for free download at: http://www.coastandards.org/standards.php?navView=private§ion_id=114

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

The Joint Commission

<http://www.jointcommission.org>

Based on a five-year national survey among hospitals to identify activities that indicate how they may best survive a disaster, the Joint Commission revised their Emergency Management requirements in January 2008 to include nine standards that address six critical areas. These include communication, resources and assets, safety and security, staff responsibilities, utilities management, and patient clinical and support activities. These standards also include eighty-five Elements of Performance that must be met. In 2009, the Emergency Management Standards were removed from the Environment of Care and included in an entirely new Emergency Management chapter.

Beyond its accreditation standards, the Joint Commission has addressed emergency management issues in a 2003 white paper entitled *Health Care at the Crossroads: Strategies for Creating and Sustaining Community-Wide Emergency Preparedness Systems*:

http://www.jointcommission.org/PublicPolicy/Emergency_Preparedness.htm

In December 2005, the Joint Commission and its affiliate Joint Commission Resources published *Surge Hospitals: Providing Safe Care in Emergencies* based on lessons from hospitals affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita:

http://www.jointcommission.org/PublicPolicy/surge_hospitals.htm

Finally, the Joint Commission published the free, web-based guide entitled Standing Together: An Emergency Management Planning Guide for America's Communities:
http://www.jointcommission.org/PublicPolicy/ep_guide.htm

Institute of Medicine of the National Academies

<http://www.iom.edu/>

Standards of Health Care for Disaster Situations

IOM provides guidance for state and local health agencies and health care facilities regarding the standards of care to be applied in disaster situations. Catastrophic disaster events or public health emergencies can make routine standards of care impossible to sustain due to overwhelming numbers of patients and shortages in equipment, medicine, and staff.

The standards are available for free download at:

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12749.

INTERNATIONAL

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

<http://www.iso.org/iso/home.htm>

ISO is the world's largest developer and publisher of International Standards. A network of the national standards institutes of 158 countries, a Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland coordinates the system. As a non-governmental organization, ISO forms a bridge between the public and private sectors and enables a consensus to be reached on solutions that meet both the requirements of business and the broader needs of society.

The following international standards currently under development may be of interest to the IAEM community:

- ISO/TC 22398 Societal security – Guidelines for exercises and testing
- ISO/TC 22301 Societal security – Preparedness and continuity management systems requirements
- ISO/TC 22399 Societal security – Guidelines for incident preparedness and operational continuity management
- ISO/TC 22300 Societal security – Fundamentals and vocabulary
- ISO/TC 22311 Societal security – Video surveillance format for interoperability
- ISO/TC 22320 Societal security – Principles for command and control, coordination and cooperation in resolving incidents
- ISO/TC 22322 Societal security – Inter/Intro organizational warning procedures

For additional information, please contact IAEM S&P Committee Co-Chair Dean Larson at drlarson@jorsm.com. Dean serves as Chair of the U.S. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to ISO Societal Security Technical Committee 223.

The Sphere Project, Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response
<http://www.sphereproject.org>

The Sphere Project was launched in 1997 by a group of humanitarian NGOs and the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement. Sphere believes that “all possible steps should be taken to alleviate human suffering arising out of calamity and conflict” and “that those affected by disaster have a right to life with dignity and therefore a right to assistance.” Sphere is an ongoing collaboration dedicated to quality and accountability. The project has developed several tools, including a Handbook available for free download.

DATA STANDARDS

Commitment to Open Standards (OPEN)

OPEN provides non-proprietary Application Programmer Interface (API) specifications, documentation and support at no cost to the emergency responder community, and vendors supporting that community through the Department of Homeland Security.

Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Systems (OASIS)
<http://www.oasis-open.org/home/index.php>

OASIS is a not-for-profit consortium that “drives the development, convergence, and adoption of open standards for the global information society.” OPEN supports, in particular, the implementation of Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) standards developed by the OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee.

These currently include:

- Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Version 1.1
- EDXL Distribution Element (EDXL-DE)
- EDXL Hospital Availability Exchange (EDXL-HAVE)
- EDXL Resource Messaging (RM)

Implementation of OASIS standards planned for the future includes Situation Reporting (SITREP).

National Information Exchange Model (NIEM)

<http://www.niem.gov/>

NIEM is a partnership of the U.S. Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security. It is designed to develop, disseminate and support enterprise-wide information exchange standards and processes to enable jurisdictions to effectively share critical information in emergency situations, as well as support the day-to-day operations.

The NIEM exchange development methodology results in a common semantic understanding among participating organizations and data formatted in a semantically consistent manner. NIEM standardizes content (actual data exchange standards), provide tools, and managed processes.

COMMUNICATIONS

Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/>

The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) is the next-generation infrastructure of alert and warning networks expanding upon the traditional audio-only radio and television Emergency Alert System (EAS). The system will “provide federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local alert and warning authorities integrated services and capabilities enabling them to alert and warn their respective communities, via multiple communications pathways for all hazards impacting public safety and well-being.”

Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) - International

<http://www.apcointl.com/new/commcenter911/APCOstandards.php>

As an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited Standards Development Organization (SDO), APCO International is dedicated to ensuring public safety communications has a role in the development of standards that affect our industry. APCO’s standards development activities have a broad scope, ranging from the actual development of standards to the representation of public safety communications in other standards development areas. All APCO International standards are available to download for free by visiting www.apcostandards.org