



Contact: Karen Thompson
IAEM Awards Program Liaison
703-499-0441; Thompson@iaem.com

IAEM Headquarters
201 Park Washington Court
Falls Church, VA
22046-4527 USA
Ph. 703-538-1795
www.IAEM.com
www.EMEX.org

NEWS RELEASE

IAEM-Oceania Announces the Winners of the 2014 IAEM-Oceania Awards

July 11, 2014 (Falls Church, Va.) – The Oceania Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is pleased to present the following awards in the 2014 IAEM-Oceania Council Awards Competition. One of the IAEM-Oceania winners, Wellington Region Emergency Management Office, went on to win the IAEM-Global Technology & Innovation Award, Division 2.

- The **2014 IAEM-Oceania Partners in Preparedness Award** was given to the partnership between **Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO), Wellington, New Zealand**, and the private sector (**Grab&Go Emergency Kit and The Tank Guy's 200L Emergency Rainwater Tank**) to create practical and affordable preparedness solutions that have been incredibly well adopted across the region.

The **Partners in Preparedness Award** recognizes programs or processes that demonstrate innovative, multi-participant involvement between local governments/governmental entities and private sector businesses, non-governmental organizations/non-profits, or individuals which have resulted in effective and efficient incident management, emergency management or homeland security processes.

- The **2014 IAEM-Oceania Public Awareness Award, Division 1** winner is **Canterbury Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, Christchurch, New Zealand**, for its community resilience project.

The **Public Awareness Awards** recognize outstanding public awareness programs or public education products related to emergency management, homeland security, and/or disaster preparedness.

- The **2014 IAEM-Oceania Technology & Innovation Award, Division 2** winner is **Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO), Wellington, New Zealand**, for its use of social media as an engagement tool to help build strong communities, promote disaster preparedness through clever marketing, and communicate official emergency management information during and after an event. The agency's innovative approach to building an audience before an event has helped to redefine the meaning of Social Media Emergency Management (SMEM) and has created the largest following on Facebook for an emergency management office in the world per capita. With nearly 39,000 followers, WREMO regularly engages with more than 8% of the Wellington region and has developed an SMEM guide that any organization can adopt. ***This winning entry went on to receive the IAEM-Global Technology & Innovation Award, Division 2.***

The **IAEM-Global Technology & Innovation Awards** recognize the development of technology and innovation to improve emergency management operations, public education, or the emergency management/homeland security field.

Learn more about the IAEM Council and Global Awards Competitions at www.iaem.com/Awards, where information about all IAEM awards is posted.

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), which has more than 6,700 members in 58 countries, is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting the goals of saving lives and protecting property during emergencies and disasters. 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. Visit www.iaem.com for details.

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