

# Ensuring Resilience to Disasters

Despite ongoing vigilance and efforts to protect this country and its citizens, major accidents and disasters, as well as deliberate attacks, will occur. The challenge is to build the capacity of American society to be resilient in the face of disruptions, disasters, and other crises. Our vision is a Nation that understands the hazards and risks we face; is prepared for disasters; can withstand the disruptions disasters may cause; can sustain social trust, economic, and other functions under adverse conditions; can manage itself effectively during a crisis; can recover quickly and effectively; and can adapt to conditions that have changed as a result of the event.

## Business Preparedness

**Evacuation Planning Guide for Stadiums** was developed to assist stadium owners and operators with preparing an Evacuation Plan and determining when and how to evacuate, conduct shelter-in-place operations, or relocate stadium spectators and participants. The NASCAR Mass Evacuation Planning Guide and Template was modified into an Evacuation Planning Guide for Stadiums by a working group composed of various Federal agencies and members of the Commercial Facilities Sector Coordinating Council. See [http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/ip\\_cikr\\_stadium\\_evac\\_guide.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/ip_cikr_stadium_evac_guide.pdf). For more information, contact the Commercial Facilities Sector-Specific Agency at [CFSteam@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:CFSteam@hq.dhs.gov).

**FEMA Private Sector Division** communicates, cultivates and advocates for collaboration between the private sector and FEMA to support FEMA capabilities and to enhance national preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation of all hazards. Its vision is to establish and maintain a national reputation for effective support to our private sector stakeholders through credible, reliable and meaningful two-way communication. For more information email [FEMA-Private-Sector@dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-Private-Sector@dhs.gov) or visit [www.fema.gov/privatesector](http://www.fema.gov/privatesector).

**Public Transportation Emergency Preparedness Workshop - Connecting Communities Program** brings mass transit and passenger rail agency' security and emergency management officials together with Federal, State, local, and Tribal government representatives and the local law enforcement and first responder community to discuss security prevention and response efforts and ways to work together to prepare and protect their communities. The two-day workshops enable the

participants to apply their knowledge and experiences to a range of security and emergency response scenarios. For more information, see <http://www.connectingcommunities.net> or contact: [MassTransitSecurity@dhs.gov](mailto:MassTransitSecurity@dhs.gov).

**QuakeSmart** is designed to encourage business leaders and owners in areas of the U.S. that are at risk from earthquakes to take actions that will mitigate damage to their businesses, provide greater safety for customers and employees, and speed recovery in the event of an earthquake. The goal of QuakeSmart is to build awareness within the business community of the risk and to educate businesses, particularly small and emerging businesses, on simple things they can do to reduce or mitigate the impact of earthquakes, and support community preparedness. Business leaders and owners interested in finding out how to reduce or mitigate the impact of earthquakes on their business should visit [www.quakesmart.org](http://www.quakesmart.org).

**Ready Business** helps owners and managers of small- and medium-sized businesses prepare their employees, operations and assets in the event of an emergency. For free tools and resources, including how to create a business emergency plan, please visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

**Tornado Safety Initiative** assesses building damages and identifies lessons learned after tornadoes occur; funds research on shelter design and construction standards; develops best practices and technical manuals on safe rooms and community shelters; and produces public education materials on tornado preparedness and response. FEMA produces technical manuals for engineers, architects, building officials, and prospective shelter owners on the design and construction of safe rooms and community shelters. For more information, visit <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/saferoom/index>.

**The Technical Assistance (TA) Program** builds and sustains capabilities through specific services and analytical capacities. TA is offered to a wide variety of organizations and grantees through an extensive menu of services responsive to national priorities. To best accommodate the wide variety of TA needs and deliverables, three levels of TA are provided. Level I/II services can be made available to private sector organizations and includes general information, models, templates, and samples. Level III services, available to private sector organizations that may be DHS grantees, provide onsite support via workshops and interaction between TA providers and recipients. For more information, visit [http://www.fema.gov/about/divisions/pppa\\_ta.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/about/divisions/pppa_ta.shtm) or contact (800) 368-6498 or email [FEMA-TARequest@fema.gov](mailto:FEMA-TARequest@fema.gov).

**The Voluntary Private Sector Preparedness Accreditation and Certification Program (PS-Prep)** enhances nationwide resilience in an all-hazards environment by encouraging private sector preparedness. The program will provide a mechanism by which a private sector entity—a company, facility, not-for-profit corporation, hospital, stadium, university, etc.—can certify that it conforms to one or more preparedness standards adopted by DHS. Participation in the PS-Prep Program is completely voluntary. No private sector entity will be required by DHS to comply with any standard adopted under the program, though DHS encourages all private sector entities to seriously consider seeking certification on one or more standards that will be adopted by DHS. For details about PS Prep see [www.fema.gov/privatesector/preparedness](http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/preparedness).

## Emergency Communications

**National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP)** sets goals and identifies key national priorities to enhance

governance, planning, technology, training, exercises, and disaster communications capabilities. The NECP establishes specific national priorities to help State and local jurisdictions improve communications interoperability by adopting a series of goals and milestones that measure interoperability achievements over a period of years beginning in 2008, and ending in 2013. In order to successfully implement the NECP, increased collaboration between the public and private sector will be needed. As a result, the plan establishes specific initiatives and milestones to increase such collaboration. For more information, see [http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/national\\_emergency\\_communications\\_plan.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/national_emergency_communications_plan.pdf) or contact the Office of Emergency Communications, [oc@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:oc@hq.dhs.gov).

**National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG)** is a technical reference for radio technicians responsible for radios that will be used in disaster response applications, and for emergency communications. The NIFOG includes rules and regulations for use of nationwide and other interoperability channels, frequencies and channel names, and other reference material, formatted as a pocket-sized guide for radio technicians. The NIFOG can be accessed online at [http://www.dhs.gov/files/publications/gc\\_129769988799\\_7.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/files/publications/gc_129769988799_7.shtm). For more information, contact the Office of Emergency Communications, [oc@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:oc@hq.dhs.gov).

**National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC) Recommendations** address national security and emergency preparedness issues from a private sector perspective and reflect over a quarter-century of private sector advice to the President and the Nation. Issues include network convergence, network security, emergency communications operations, resiliency and emergency communications interoperability. NSTAC recommendations can be found at [http://www.ncs.gov/nstac/nstac\\_publications.html](http://www.ncs.gov/nstac/nstac_publications.html). For more information, contact [nstac1@dhs.gov](mailto:nstac1@dhs.gov).

**Commercial Mobile Alert Service (CMAS)** is a component of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System. It is an alert system that will have the capability to deliver relevant, timely, effective, and targeted alert messages to the public through cell phones, blackberries, pagers, and

other mobile devices. This national capability will ensure more people receive Presidential, Imminent Threat, and AMBER alerts. For more information, see <http://www.cmasforum.com/> or contact [cmasforum@sra.com](mailto:cmasforum@sra.com).

**Communications Sector Specific Plan (COMM SSP)** involves the National Communications System in partnership with government and private sector communications members to ensure the Nation's communications networks and systems are secure, resilient and rapidly restored after an incident. The COMM SSP utilizes government and industry partnerships to protect the communications infrastructure; adopts approaches to identify risks, coordinate with other critical infrastructure sectors and customers on dependencies and solutions for mitigating risk, and works with DHS to integrate plan outcomes into national critical infrastructure/key resources (CI/KR) products. Communications SSP is available at <http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/nipp-ssp-communications.pdf>. For more information, contact [comms\\_sector@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:comms_sector@hq.dhs.gov).

**Emergency Communications Guidance Documents and Methodologies** are stakeholder-driven guidance documents and methodologies to support emergency responders across the Nation as they plan for and implement emergency communications initiatives. These resources identify and promote best practices for improving statewide governance, developing standard operating procedures, managing technology, supporting training and exercises, and encouraging use of interoperable communications. Each is available publicly and is updated as needed. Examples include Establishing Governance to Achieve Statewide Communications Interoperability, and the Formal Agreement and Standard Operating Procedure Template Suite. For more information, contact the Office of Emergency Communications at [oc@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:oc@hq.dhs.gov) or visit [http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/gc\\_1189774174005.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/gc_1189774174005.shtm).

**Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL)** messaging standards help emergency responders exchange critical data, including alerts, hospital capacity, and availability of

response personnel and equipment. The National Incident Management System Supporting Technology Evaluation Program (NIMS STEP) evaluates the adherence of products to the EDXL suite of standards. NIMS STEP provides industry with an independent third party evaluation of products, devices, systems, and data management tools – including off-the-shelf hardware and software – that support emergency managers and responders in decision making prior to, and during, emergency operations. Evaluation activities are designed to help expand technology solutions, and provide the emergency management/response community with a comprehensive process to assist in the purchasing of incident management products. For more information on the EDXL standards, see <http://www.oasis-open.org> and for more information on the NIMS STEP see, <http://www.nimsstep.org>.

**Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS)** provides authorized emergency response personnel with the resources to make emergency phone calls by priority queuing through the Nation's public communications networks. By calling the GETS access number and using an assigned PIN, Federal, State, local and Tribal leaders, first responders, and private sector emergency response personnel receive priority queuing – allowing emergency calls to be placed ahead of routine phone traffic. The GETS website provides information on eligibility, technical assistance and administrative assistance for registering, maintaining and using GETS. For more information, see <http://gets.ncs.gov>, or contact [gets@dhs.gov](mailto:gets@dhs.gov).

**INFOGRAMs** The Emergency Management & Response-Information Sharing & Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC) was established to provide information services that support the infrastructure protection and resilience activities of all Emergency Services Sector (ESS) departments, agencies, and organizations (public and private) nation-wide. InfoGrams contain four short articles issued weekly about Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) and Critical Infrastructure Resiliency (CIR) trends and developments. To acquire a no-cost subscription to EMR-ISAC information, send an e-mail request to [emr-isac@dhs.gov](mailto:emr-isac@dhs.gov); to inquire about the practice of CIP or CIR within an ESS organization, call 301-447-1325.

**Multi-Band Radio (MBR) Technology** offers the emergency response community an opportunity to improve interoperability across agencies, disciplines, and jurisdictions by providing the capability to communicate on all public safety radio bands. The S&T Office for Interoperability and Compatibility's (OIC) MBR technology project is evaluating this new technology through a series of test demonstrations and pilot evaluations to ensure that equipment meets the user requirements identified by the emergency response community. Upon completion, data and user feedback collected during the test and evaluation phases will be published in a procurement guide that will assist emergency response agencies in identifying equipment functionality offered by various manufacturers that meets their mission requirements. For more information, see <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/currentprojects/mbr/MultiBandRadio.htm> and contact [sandtfrg@dhs.gov](mailto:sandtfrg@dhs.gov) to obtain more information on the public safety user requirements that help inform these pilots.

**National Communications System (NCS) Fiscal Year Report** provides government agencies, private sector entities and the general public a synopsis on the accomplishments of the NCS during each fiscal year. The report covers the NCS role in emergency response operations, highlights the accomplishments of the Office of the Manager branches, and publishes updates on national security and emergency preparedness communications efforts from the 24 Federal Departments and Agencies that comprise the NCS. NCS Fiscal Year reports can be found at <http://www.ncs.gov/library.html>. For more information, contact [ncsweb1@dhs.gov](mailto:ncsweb1@dhs.gov).

**SAFECOM Guidance for Federal Grant Programs** outlines recommended allowable costs and applications requirements for Federal grant programs that provide funding for interoperable emergency communications. The guidance is intended to ensure that Federal grant funding for interoperable communications aligns with national goals and objectives and ensures alignment of State, local, and Tribal investment of Federal grant funding to statewide and national goals and objectives. See <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/library/grant>

[/1638\\_fy2011.htm](#). For more information, contact the Office of Emergency Communications at [oecc@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:oecc@hq.dhs.gov).

**SAFECOM Program** provides communications research, development, testing, and evaluation, guidance, tools, and templates on interoperable communications-related issues to local, Tribal, State, and Federal emergency response agencies. The SAFECOM website provides members of the emergency response community and other constituents with information and resources to help them meet their communications and interoperability needs. The site offers comprehensive information on topics relevant to emergency response communications and features best practices that have evolved from real-world situations. For more information, see <http://www.safecomprogram.gov>, or contact [SAFECOM@dhs.gov](mailto:SAFECOM@dhs.gov).

**Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) Program** is a Federal Communications Commission program managed by the National Communications System that registers communications circuits for eligible Federal, State, local, Tribal and private sector entities. By registering these key circuits, eligible agencies will receive priority restoration in the event of a national disaster or emergency. The TSP website provides information on eligibility, technical assistance and administrative assistance for registering circuits for TSP. For more information, see <http://tsp.ncs.gov>, contact [tsp@dhs.gov](mailto:tsp@dhs.gov).

**Video Quality in Public Safety (VQIPS) Working Group** was formed to focus on the major policy, technology, and practical uses and challenges of public safety video systems. Comprised of emergency responders, academics, Federal partners, and vendors, the Working Group developed an end-user guide to help practitioners articulate their needs to vendors when they look to purchase or upgrade video systems. For more information, see <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/currentprojects/videoquality/videoquality.htm> and [http://www.pscr.gov/projects/video\\_quality/video\\_about.php](http://www.pscr.gov/projects/video_quality/video_about.php). Contact [VQIPS\\_Working\\_Group@sra.com](mailto:VQIPS_Working_Group@sra.com).

**Virtual USA (vUSA)**, integrates technologies, methodologies, and capabilities for sharing and

collaborating using public, multi-jurisdictional, and private sector information for the purpose of protecting lives, property, and the environment. It improves situational awareness, enhances decision-making, and facilitates a common operating view that enables users to enhance their existing systems while maintaining control of their own data. vUSA is improving emergency response by ensuring that practitioners at all levels have immediate access to the information they need to make decisions, when they need it. As part of vUSA, S&T developed a prototype that enables authorized users to share and obtain relevant actionable information in real-time. The vUSA prototype is currently being used by states in the Southeast and Pacific Northwest regions to improve both statewide information-sharing capabilities and regional information sharing capabilities. More information can be found at [www.firstresponder.gov](http://www.firstresponder.gov).

**Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Project** researches IP-enabled communication technologies and evaluates promising solutions. This project enables the emergency response community to confidently deploy and use IP technologies and integrate video, cellular, and satellite communications. In FY 2009, the project initiated testing and evaluation of IP solutions and completed the first VoIP profile as prioritized by the emergency response community. Ultimately, the project will complete the development of a set of standards based on the needs of emergency responders. For more information, see <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/SAFECOM/currentprojects/voip/> and <http://www.pscr.gov/projects/broadband/voip/voip.php>, contact [VoIP\\_Working\\_Group@sra.com](mailto:VoIP_Working_Group@sra.com).

**Wireless Priority Service (WPS)** is the sister program to GETS and provides authorized emergency response personnel with the resources to make emergency wireless phone calls by priority queuing through the Nation's public communications networks. Authorized WPS users – using authorized WPS wireless carriers – are granted priority service during national emergencies. Federal, State, local and Tribal leaders, first responders, and private sector emergency response personnel are eligible. The WPS website provides information on eligibility, technical assistance and administrative assistance for registering,

maintaining and using WPS. See <http://wps.ncs.gov>, contact [wps@dhs.gov](mailto:wps@dhs.gov).

## Disaster Response

**Area Committees and Area Contingency Plans (ACPs)** improve coordination between Federal, State and local authorities and industry, and to strengthen on-scene response to the discharge of oil and hazardous materials. All U.S. critical ports have Area Committees and Area Contingency Plans. See the AMSC, Area Committee and HSC postings at [www.homeport.uscg.mil](http://www.homeport.uscg.mil). Each USCG Sector Commander has a port homepage on the USCG Homeport website; interested prospective partners should check their respective port page on Homeport for contact information. Many HSCs also have their own state- or locally-sponsored websites, maintained separately from USCG Homeport.

**DisasterAssistance.gov** is a secure, web portal that consolidates disaster assistance information. If you need assistance following a presidentially-declared disaster that has been designated for individual assistance, you can now go to [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) to register online. Local resource information to help keep citizens safe during an emergency is also available. Currently, 17 U.S. government agencies, which sponsor almost 60 forms of assistance, contribute to the portal. For website technical assistance, contact (800) 745-0243.

**Donations and Volunteers Information** FEMA offers information on the best way to volunteer and donate during disaster response and recovery. For more information, see [www.fema.gov/donations](http://www.fema.gov/donations).

**The Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program (EFSP)** was created in 1983 to supplement the work of local social service organizations, both non-profit and governmental, within the U.S. and its territories, to help people in need of emergency economic assistance. Funding is open to all organizations helping hungry and homeless people. This collaborative effort between the non-profit and public sectors has provided over \$3.6 billion in Federal funds during its 28-year history. For more information, visit <http://efsp.unitedway.org>.

**Lessons Learned and Information Sharing (LLIS.gov)**, is the national online network of lessons learned, best practices, and innovative ideas for the emergency response and homeland security communities. This information and collaboration resource helps emergency response providers and homeland security officials prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other emergencies. To register for LLIS, visit [www.llis.gov](http://www.llis.gov), or contact the program via e-mail [feedback@llis.dhs.gov](mailto:feedback@llis.dhs.gov), or call (866) 276-7001.

**National Incident Management System (NIMS)** provides a systematic, proactive approach to guide departments and agencies at all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work seamlessly to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property and harm to the environment. For more information, see [www.fema.gov/nims](http://www.fema.gov/nims). Questions regarding NIMS should be directed to [FEMA-NIMS@dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-NIMS@dhs.gov) or (202) 646-3850.

**National Response Framework (NRF)** is a guide to how the Nation conducts all-hazards response. It is built upon scalable, flexible, and adaptable coordinating structures to align key roles and responsibilities across the Nation, linking all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector. It is intended to capture specific authorities and best practices for managing small- or large-scale incidents, terrorist attacks or catastrophic natural disasters. For more information, visit <http://www.fema.gov/nrf>.

## Disaster Response Laws & Regulations

**American National Standards Institute – Homeland Security Standards Database (ANSI-HSSD)** provides a single, comprehensive source for standards that relate to homeland security. To meet this goal, ANSI partnered with DHS, standards developing organizations, and other stakeholders to identify and classify those standards that are pertinent to the area of homeland security. This effort deals with the area of first responders and was organized

in cooperation with the Responder Knowledge Base and uses the Standardized Equipment List (SEL) from the Interagency Board as the basis for the classification structure. For more information see [www.hsd.us/](http://www.hsd.us/) or contact Karen Hughes, Director, Homeland Security Standards, ANSI ([khughes@ansi.org](mailto:khughes@ansi.org)).

**American National Standards Institute – Homeland Security Standards Panel (ANSI-HSSP)** identifies existing consensus standards, or, if none exist, assists DHS and sectors requesting assistance to accelerate development and adoption of consensus standards critical to homeland security. The ANSI-HSSP promotes a positive, cooperative partnership between the public and private sectors in order to meet the needs of the Nation in this critical area. Participation in the ANSI-HSSP is open to representatives of industry, government, professional societies, trade associations, standards developers, and consortia groups directly involved in U.S. Homeland Security standardization. For additional information visit [www.ansi.org/hssp](http://www.ansi.org/hssp) or contact Karen Hughes, Director, Homeland Security Standards, ANSI ([khughes@ansi.org](mailto:khughes@ansi.org)).

**FEMA Regulatory Materials** These regulations are typically open for public comment before they go into effect. The public can access the regulations that are currently in effect electronically, by selecting Title 44 from the drop down menu at <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=%2Findex.tpl>. The public can submit and view comments submitted by other individuals at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). For more information on Federal agency rulemaking, visit [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov) or to contact FEMA regulatory officials e-mail [FEMA-RULES@dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-RULES@dhs.gov).

## Emergency Responder Resources

**Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP)** offers several programs that are designed for those with emergency response and healthcare responsibilities, or who meet the criteria specified in the website mentioned below. CDP offers courses in chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive incident response, toxic agent training, and healthcare response for mass casualty incidents, Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program courses, field force operations, and the National Incident

Management System (NIMS). CDP offers interdisciplinary training that includes the opportunity to train in the Nation's only toxic agent training facility dedicated to the civilian response community, the Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, and Radiological Training Facility (COBRATF). The CDP's healthcare courses include exercises in a hospital dedicated solely to preparedness and response training, the Noble Training Facility (NTF). Training provided by the CDP for state, local, and tribal agencies is free of charge; round-trip air and ground transportation, lodging, and meals are provided at no cost to responders or their agency. Federal, private sector, and international agencies are encouraged to attend on a space available basis but they must pay a tuition fee for the courses in addition to transportation, meals and lodging fees. For more information, see <http://cdp.dhs.gov/index.html> or call (866) 213-9553.

**Emergency Services Sector Online Training Catalog** describes public and private resources and programs that are applicable to first responders. To obtain access to the online catalog contact the Emergency Services Sector Specific Agency at [ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov).

**Emergency Services Sector (ESS) Video** This is a three-minute video providing an overview of the ESS Sector. The video is appropriate for conferences and events to grow awareness and participation in sector activities. For more information, or to request materials contact the Emergency Services Sector-Specific Agency at [ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov).

**Emergency Services Personal Readiness Guide for Responders and Their Families** is a tri-fold handout providing a description of the Ready Campaign, the Emergency Services Sector-Specific Agency, a list of website resources and instructions on family preparedness that include suggestions on developing an emergency kit and family emergency plan. For more information, or to request materials contact the Emergency Services Sector-Specific Agency at [ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov).

**First Responder Communities of Practice** is an online network of vetted, active, and retired first responders, emergency response professionals and Federal, State, local, or Tribal Homeland Security officials sponsored by

the DHS S&T's First Responder Technologies (R-Tech) program. Registered members of this professional network share information, ideas, and best practices, enabling them to more efficiently and effectively prepare for all hazards. See [www.firstresponder.gov](http://www.firstresponder.gov) or <https://communities.firstresponder.gov>.

**FirstResponder.gov** is a portal that enables Federal, State, local, and Tribal first responders to easily access and leverage Federal web services, information on resources, products, standards, testing and evaluation, and best practices, in a collaborative environment. The portal provides first responders with information to develop or deploy technologies that would enhance homeland security. For more information, see [www.firstresponder.gov](http://www.firstresponder.gov).

**First Responders 'Go Kit' Training Video** is a video designed to demonstrate what first responders should have in their personal and family emergency kit. For more information please contact the Emergency Services SSA at [ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov).

**Integrated Pilot Comprehensive Exercise (IPCE)** is an FBI led activity, developed in coordination with DHS and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to enhance the capabilities of responders to integrate with onsite security personnel in response to a security incident at a nuclear power plant. The initiative is a no-fault training opportunity which culminates in both tabletop and full-scale exercises at a nuclear power plant. For more information, contact [NuclearSSA@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:NuclearSSA@hq.dhs.gov)

**Responder Knowledge Base (RKB)** serves as a resource to the State, local and Tribal homeland security responder community by providing information on commercial equipment and technology to assist them with purchasing and equipment decisions. The services include online, integrated sources of equipment-related information such as available FEMA grants, the FEMA Authorized Equipment List (AEL), equipment specifications, related certifications and applicable standards, test reports, the InterAgency Board (IAB) Standardized Equipment List (SEL), and other information. For more information visit: <http://www.rkb.us>.

**R-Tech Bulletin** is a publication on technologies of interest to first responders who have received funding, in part, from the Federal Government. Interested individuals can subscribe to the bulletin by RSS feed or can download the bulletin at <http://www.firstresponder.gov/Pages/Newsletter.aspx>.

**Ready Responder Program for the Emergency Services Sector Webinar** is a one-hour web-based seminar will focus on First Responder preparedness and best practices and how the Ready Responder program contributes to a safer, more secure and more resilient America. The webinar is available on the Homeland Security Information Sharing – Critical Sectors (HSIN-CS) Emergency Services Sector portal. For access and more information, contact the Emergency Services Sector at [ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov).

**Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness (TCIP) Conference and Exposition** highlights DOJ, DHS, and DoD technologies; Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation investments; and training tools for the emergency responder community. It provides a forum for emergency responders to discuss best practices and exchange information and offers a unique opportunity for emergency responders; business and industry; academia; and local, Tribal, State, and Federal stakeholders to network, exchange ideas, and address common critical incident technology, preparedness, response and recovery needs, protocols, and solutions. For more information, see <http://www.tcipexpo.com>.

**Who's Who in Emergency Services Sector** describes the roles and responsibilities of DHS Components with relation to the Emergency Services Sector. Contact the Emergency Services Sector-Specific Agency [ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:ESSTeam@hq.dhs.gov).

## Personal and Community Preparedness

**Are You Ready? An In-depth Guide to Citizen Preparedness** provides a step-by-step approach to disaster preparedness by walking the reader through how to get informed about local emergency plans, how to identify hazards that affect their local area, and how to develop and maintain an emergency communications plan and disaster supplies kits. Other topics include what to do

before, during, and after each hazard type, including natural hazards, hazardous materials incidents, household chemical emergencies, nuclear power plants, and terrorism. For more information see [www.fema.gov/areyouready](http://www.fema.gov/areyouready) or call (800) 480-2520 to order materials. Questions regarding the Citizen Corps program can be directed to [citizencorps@dhs.gov](mailto:citizencorps@dhs.gov).

**Citizen Corps E-mail Alerts** provide weekly Community Preparedness news and events from various departments of the Federal Government and our national Citizen Corps partners and affiliates. For more information, visit [www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov) or sign up for the alert at [citizencorps@dhs.gov](mailto:citizencorps@dhs.gov).

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** helps train citizens to better prepare for and respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to survivors, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community. For more information visit [www.citizencorps.gov/cert](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert) or contact [cert@dhs.gov](mailto:cert@dhs.gov).

**DisabilityPreparedness.gov** is the Disability Resource Center of the Interagency Coordinating Council on Emergency Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities (ICC). Maintained by the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, this site is the main repository for information related to the activities of the ICC, including bimonthly updates regarding Federal programs and services relevant to individuals with disabilities and emergency preparedness. The site also contains information to assist individuals with disabilities in personal preparedness planning; provides emergency managers, first responders, and other disaster service providers with resources relevant to working with individuals who have disabilities; and offers tips regarding how individuals with disabilities can get involved in preparedness activities within their communities. This resource can be accessed at [www.disabilitypreparedness.gov](http://www.disabilitypreparedness.gov). For more information, contact [Disability.preparedness@dhs.gov](mailto:Disability.preparedness@dhs.gov), (202) 357-8483.

**National Flood Insurance Program** focuses on Flood Insurance, Floodplain Management and Flood Hazard Mapping. Nearly 20,000 communities across the U.S. and its territories participate in the NFIP by adopting and enforcing floodplain management ordinances to reduce future flood damage. In exchange, the NFIP makes Federally-backed flood insurance available to homeowners, renters, and business owners in these communities. For more information, see [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov); flood insurance agents, please visit [www.agents.floodsmart.gov](http://www.agents.floodsmart.gov) or e-mail [asktheexpert@riskmapcds.com](mailto:asktheexpert@riskmapcds.com).

**Ready.gov** is the preparedness resource for your family. Launched in February 2003, Ready is a national public service advertising (PSA) campaign designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural and man-made disasters. Ready and its Spanish language version Listo ask individuals to do three key things: (1) get an emergency supply kit, (2) make a family emergency plan, and (3) be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses. For more information, see [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

**Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grant Programs** present a critical opportunity to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards while simultaneously reducing reliance on Federal disaster funds. HMA programs are subject to the availability of appropriation funding or funding based on disaster recovery expenditures, as well as any directive or restriction made with respect to such funds. HMA programs include Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, Flood Mitigation Assistance program, Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) program and Severe Repetitive Loss program. For more information, see [www.fema.gov/government/grant/hma/index.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/hma/index.shtm).

**U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) Fire Prevention and Safety Campaigns** deliver fire prevention and safety education to reduce the loss of life from fire-related hazards, particularly among the very young and older adults. The campaigns encourage Americans to practice fire safety and to protect themselves and their families from the dangers of fire. In addition, they provide

dedicated support to public fire educators and the media to facilitate community outreach to targeted audiences. For more information, visit <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/campaigns/> or call (301) 447-1000.

## Preparedness Education

**Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Economic Analysis Model and Expanded Framework** is a state of the art methodology for performing economic consequence analysis. See <http://create.usc.edu/research/MeasuringEconomicResilienceToTerrorism.pdf>.

**DHS Center of Excellence: National Center for the Study of Preparedness and Catastrophic Event Response** is improving the Nation's preparedness and ability to respond to disasters through scientific research focused on medical and public health preparedness strategies, response capabilities, and surge capacity. Resources include the Electronic Mass Casualty Assessment and Planning Scenarios, the Triage Tool for Accurate Disposition of Patients in Disaster Response, the Urban Evacuation Model, and the Global Scale Agent Model. For more information, see <http://www.pacercenter.org/> or contact [universityprograms@dhs.gov](mailto:universityprograms@dhs.gov).

**Emergency Planning Exercises** are a series of Tabletop Exercise presentations to advance organizational continuity, preparedness and resiliency. Each exercise is conducted with a realistic disaster scenario and facilitated discussion of how to plan, protect, respond and recover. To learn more or to download the exercises visit <http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/exercises.shtm>.

**FEMA Emergency Management Institute Independent Study Program** offers self-paced courses designed for those with emergency management responsibilities, as well as for the general public. The FEMA Independent Study Program offers courses that support the nine mission areas identified by the National Preparedness Goal: Incident Management, Operational Planning, Disaster Logistics, Emergency Communications, Service to Disaster Victims, Continuity Programs, Public Disaster Communications, Integrated Preparedness and Hazard

Mitigation. For more information on EMI training courses, please visit <http://training.fema.gov/IS/> or contact us (301) 447-1200.

**FEMA Emergency Management Institute Programs** offers several programs that are designed for those with emergency management responsibilities or meet the criteria specified at the website cited below. The training is free of charge, but individuals from the private sector or contractors to State, local or Tribal governments must pay their own transportation and lodging fees. EMI has an integrated training approach and encourages individuals from the private sector to participate in its courses. EMI programs include, but are not limited to, the Master Trainer Program, Master Exercise Practitioner Program, Professional Development Series, Applied Practices Series and the FEMA Higher Education Program. For more information, see <http://www.training.fema.gov/Programs/> or call (301) 447-1286.

**FEMA Learning Resource Center (LRC)** provides current information and resources on fire, emergency management and other all-hazards subjects. With its collection of more than 180,000 books, reports,

periodicals, and audiovisual materials, the LRC houses the most extensive collection of fire service literature in the U.S. The LRC collection of books and research reports may also be accessed by requesting interlibrary loan through a local library. For more information see <http://www.lrc.fema.gov> or [ornetclrc@dhs.gov](mailto:ornetclrc@dhs.gov) (800) 638-1821.

**FEMA Library** is a searchable, web-based collection of all publicly accessible FEMA information resources, including thousands of CDs, DVDs, audio tapes, disability resources, posters, displays, brochures, guidance, policy papers, program regulations, guidelines, and forms. Users can search the collection by subject, audience category (including categories specific to private sector audiences), hazard type, and other categories. For more information, visit <http://www.fema.gov/library/> or call (800) 480-2520.

**National Training and Education Division (NTED)** courses are delivered in a variety of formats including web-based, resident, and non-resident. For more information, visit [www.firstrespondertraining.gov](http://www.firstrespondertraining.gov) or contact [askCSID@dhs.gov](mailto:askCSID@dhs.gov) (800) 368-6498.

**Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program (REP) Program** helps to secure the health and safety of citizens living around commercial nuclear power plants. REP is responsible for review and final approval of all neighborhood radiological emergency plans. The REP program is a leader in areas of policy guidance, planning, training, public education and preparedness for nuclear power plants. For over three decades, local and state responders have relied on REP's leadership to review and recommend changes to preparedness plans, monitor rigorous training regimens and support effective performance in the unlikely event of a radiological emergency. For more information, visit <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/nuclear/index.shtm>.

**U.S. Fire Administration Publications** encourage Americans including private sector constituents to practice fire safety and protect themselves and their families from the dangers of fire. Order online at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/applications/publications/> or contact the U.S Fire Administration via e-mail, [usfa-publications@dhs.gov](mailto:usfa-publications@dhs.gov) or phone, (800) 561-3356.