

COOP CONNECTION

EMI SIG Continuity of Operations Subcommittee Newsletter



Leadership, Staff, Facilities, and Communications

EMI SIG Annual Meeting 2015

The 2015 EMI SIG Annual Meeting will be held at the [National Conservation Training Center \(NCTC\)](#) in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, July 6-10, 2015.

This year's Meeting will have a new look and feel; the changes in format that you will see on the agenda are being driven by a number of initiatives to improve the state of Emergency Management across the entire DOE Complex. For additional information, please click [here](#).

Last fall, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB or the Board—an independent organization within the Executive Branch) issued Recommendation 2014-1, Emergency Preparedness and Response, which identified the need to take actions to improve the emergency preparedness and response capability at the Department of Energy's (DOE) defense nuclear facilities. DOE acknowledged the findings and has completed an Implementation Plan as required by federal law.

The Department intends to carry out the Implementation Plan for DNFSB Recommendation 2014-1, Emergency Preparedness and Response through a collaborative process involving all Departmental stakeholders in the development of solutions, including laboratory personnel, site contractors, Field Elements, Program Secretarial Offices, and HQ staff offices. The 2015 EMI SIG Meeting is dedicated to beginning this process. Please take the opportunity to review the Implementation Plan, which is posted on the [EMI SIG Annual Meeting SharePoint Site](#), in order to pave the way for good discussions during the EMI SIG.



WE'RE CONNECTED:

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NOAA Warns of Powerful Storms

Even though its predictions call for a below-normal Atlantic hurricane season with six to 11 named storms this year, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) says strong and devastating storms remain a possibility. "A below-normal season doesn't mean we're off the hook.

As we've seen before, below-normal seasons can still produce catastrophic impacts to communities," said NOAA Administrator Kathryn Sullivan, Ph.D., referring to the 1992 season in which only seven named storms formed, yet the first was Andrew — a Category 5 Major Hurricane that devastated South Florida.

Being prepared helps build stronger, safer and more resilient communities. Practicing what to do in an emergency in advance of the event could make a difference in the ability to take immediate and informed action, which, in turn, enables a quicker recovery. More information about preparing for hurricanes can be found at www.ready.gov/hurricanes.



New Guidance Available on Surviving in Improvised Explosive Device or Active Shooter Incidents

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in coordination with the Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, Justice and Transportation, has released "[First Responder Guidance for Improving Survivability in Improvised Explosive Device and/or Active Shooter Incidents.](#)"

This first responder guidance provides evidence-based response strategies based on best practices and lessons learned from civilian and military IED and/or active shooter incidents. The recommendations presented — early, aggressive hemorrhage control; personal protective equipment (which includes ballistic vests, helmets and eyewear); and greater first responder interoperability and incident management — will help to save lives by mitigating first responder risk and improving the emergent and immediate medical management of casualties encountered during IED and/or active shooter incidents.

2015 National Preparedness Report Released

FEMA and its partners released the [2015 National Preparedness Report \(NPR\)](#). The NPR is an annual status report summarizing the nation's progress toward reaching the 2011 National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. The 2015 NPR places particular emphasis on highlighting preparedness progress in implementing the [National Planning Frameworks](#), which describe how the whole community works together to achieve the Goal.

The report was developed to meet the requirements of [Presidential Policy Directive 8/PPD-8: National Preparedness](#). PPD-8 is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation. The NPR also addresses several reporting requirements from the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (PKEMRA), including components of the Federal Preparedness Report and State Preparedness Report (SPR).

The NPR presents a national perspective, highlighting the contributions to preparedness made by the whole community—namely, federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, the private and nonprofit sectors, faith-based organizations, communities, and individuals. The report integrates data from the annual [Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment \(THIRA\)](#) process and State Preparedness Reports (SPR) from the 56 states and territories. The NPR also highlights tribal preparedness progress and includes a case study of the first tribal implementation of the [National Disaster Recovery Framework](#). FEMA also conducted research to identify any recent independent evaluations, surveys, and other data related to the core capabilities.

COOP Mentors

If you want to become a COOP mentor and receive certification, check out FEMA's Emergency Management Institute [Continuity Excellence Series](#). To sign up or to view a complete listing of courses, visit FEMA's [EMI Courses & Schedules](#) site.

Upcoming Conferences

[2015 EMI SIG Annual Meeting](#)

National Conservation Training Center
Shepherdstown, West Virginia
July 6-10, 2015

[2015 IAEM Annual Conference](#)

Registration is now open
63rd IAEM-USA Annual Conference & EMEX
Clark County, Nevada
Nov. 13-18, 2015

Training Opportunities

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) will conduct virtual tabletop exercise (VTTX) programs between June and September 2015 on a variety of subjects:

July 7-9: Long-Term Power Outage

July 28-30: Psychology of Disaster

August 25-27: Building Collapse Focused

September 1-3: Public Health Infectious Disease
(written and hosted by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

A complete listing of all the 2015 VTTX dates and scenarios can be found [here](#). To apply for a VTTX event, submit an email request to participate in the exercise to Doug Kahn at douglas.kahn@fema.dhs.gov or call 301-447-7645. The deadline for applying to participate in a VTTX is four weeks prior to the start date.

Did You Know?

COOP Alternate Facility Identification /Certification

Per National Continuity Policy Implementation Plan (August 2007) and Federal Continuity Directive 1 (October 2012), all executive branch departments and agencies are directed to identify and submit information regarding their alternate facilities to a centralized, GSA maintained database. Per DOE Order 150.1A The Office of Management submits this form (SF-336) to fulfill the department and agency requirements for this directive.

COOP Subcommittee Conference Calls

COOP Subcommittee conference calls typically occur on the second Thursday of each month from 3-4 p.m., Eastern.

The schedule for the next four calls is below.

- No call in July due to EMI SIG Annual Meeting
- August 13, 2015
- September 10, 2015
- October 8, 2015

Agendas are sent prior to each call. If you have questions about the COOP Subcommittee conference calls, please contact Becky Bullard at Becky.Bullard@orau.org or (865) 576-9623.

Want to Contribute to COOP Connection?

If you'd like to contribute continuity stories, calendar items, or any other news related to COOP, please send them to Becky Bullard at Becky.Bullard@orau.org or to Jeff Morrison at morrisjl@nv.doe.gov.

The deadline for submissions for the October issue is September 4, 2015.