National Incident Management System (NIMS) Overview

Incident Management Systems Integration Division, National Preparedness Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency

- National Incident Management System (NIMS)
  - A consistent nationwide approach for all levels of government to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for and respond to domestic incidents
  - Core set of concepts, principles and terminology for incident command and multi-agency coordination
  - Requires all Federal Departments and Agencies to adopt the NIMS
  - Requires State and local NIMS compliance as a condition for Federal preparedness funds
NIMS Background

- Provides national standard for incident management
- Based on the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS) Incident Command System (ICS)
- Originally published in March 2004
- Revised and published in December 2008
NIMS: What it is and What its not

NIMS Is...

- Comprehensive, nationwide, systematic approach to incident management
- Set of preparedness concepts and principles for all hazards
- Essential principles for a common operating picture and interoperability of communications and information management
- Standardized resource management procedures for coordination among different jurisdictions/organizations
- Scalable and applicable for all incidents

NIMS Is Not...

- A response plan
- A communication plan
- Something that is used only during large incidents
- Only applicable to certain emergency responders
- Only the Incident Command System or an organizational chart
- A static system
NIMS Components

- Preparedness
- Communications and Information Management
- Resource Management
- Command and Management
  - Incident Command System
  - Multi-agency Coordination Systems
  - Public Information Systems
- Ongoing Management and Maintenance
NIMS Components--Preparedness

Preparedness is achieved and maintained through a continuous cycle
NIMS Components - Communications and Information Management

- Common operating picture
- Common communications and data standards to assure accessibility and interoperability
NIMS Components - Resource Management

- Establishing systems for describing, inventorying, requesting, and tracking resources
- Activating those systems prior to, during, and after an incident
- Dispatching resources prior to, during, and after an incident
- Deactivating or recalling resources during or after incidents
NIMS Resource Management

164 Job titles with knowledge, skills, and abilities

56 ICS Positions – Core Competencies

120 Typed Resources

NIMS Guide 0001 on Resource Typing

NIMS Guide 0002 on Credentialing
NIMS Components-Command & Management

- Incident Command System
- Multiagency Coordination Systems
- Public Information Systems
Incident Command System (ICS)

- ICS is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management concept
- ICS allows its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure to match the complexities and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries
- NIMS requires the use of ICS for all domestic responses
Multiagency Coordination: A System Not a Facility

- On-Scene Command
- Emergency Ops Centers/Dispatch
- Resource Coordination Centers
- Coordination Groups/Department Operations Centers
Public Information

- Consists of the processes, procedures, and systems to communicate timely, accurate, and accessible information on the incidents cause, size, and current situation to the public, responders, and additional stakeholders (both directly and indirectly affected).

- Integrates three major systems/components:
  - Public Information Officers (PIOs)
  - Joint Information System (JIS)
  - Joint Information Center (JIC)
NIMS Components—Ongoing Management and Maintenance

- National Integration Center
  - Concepts & Principles
  - NIMS Revision Process
  - NIC Responsibilities
- Supporting Technologies
  - Concepts and Principles
  - Supporting Incident Management with Science & Technology
NIMS Training

- **IS-700, IS-800, IS-100, IS-200**
  - Base line training for all personnel with a direct role in emergency preparedness, incident management, or response

- **ICS-300 Intermediate**
  - All Federal, State, territorial, tribal, local, private sector and non-governmental personnel at the middle management level, and command and general staff level of emergency management operations

- **ICS-400 Advanced**
  - All Federal, State, territorial, tribal, local, private sector and non-governmental personnel at the command and general staff level of emergency management operations

- **Additional NIMS Training**
  - Training available for all audiences in the following areas: NIMS Multi-agency Coordination Systems, Public Information Systems, Communications and Information Management, Resource Management, Resource Typing, Mutual Aid, and NIMS Preparedness

- **ICS-Position Specific Training**
  - Training opportunities for ICS Command and General Staff positions: Incident Commander, Safety Office, Liaison Officer, Public Information Officer, Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Admin Section Chief
Summary

- Incidents typically begin and end locally and are managed on a daily basis at the lowest possible geographical, organizational, and jurisdictional level.

- Successful incident management operations may depend on the involvement of multiple jurisdictions, levels of government, functional agencies, and/or emergency responder disciplines.

- Such incidents require effective and efficient coordination across this broad spectrum of organizations and activities.

- NIMS enhances interoperability through use of a systematic approach to integrating the best existing processes and methods into a unified national framework for incident management.

- NIMS does this through a core set of concepts, principles, procedures, organizational processes, terminology, and standards requirements applicable to a broad community of NIMS users.
Incident Management Systems Integration Division
National Integration Center

- NIMS Resource Center: www.fema.gov/nims
- Contacts: fema-nims@dhs.gov
Questions?