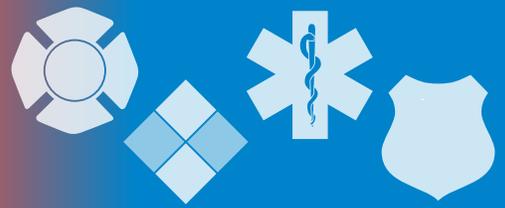


The InfoGram



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2017 NIMS Refresh Released

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released the updated version of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) this week. NIMS applies to all incidents regardless of cause, size, location or complexity and is intended to be used by the whole community, not just first responders or government entities.

FEMA reviewed over 3,000 public comments when updating NIMS guidance. The refreshed version:

- Retains key concepts from the 2004 and 2008 versions.
- Reflects and incorporates policy updates.
- Clarifies processes and terminology for qualifying, certifying and credentialing incident personnel.
- Clarifies that NIMS is more than just the Incident Command System (ICS), and that it applies to all incident personnel.
- Explains the relationship among the ICS, Emergency Operations Centers (EOC), and senior leaders/policy groups.
- Describes functions and terminology for staff in EOCs.

FEMA is hosting several 60-minute webinars now through the end of November to discuss the updates to NIMS and answer questions. Visit [FEMA's NIMS website](#) for more information on the refreshed NIMS, training, resources and for details on the webinars.

(Source: [FEMA](#))

Engaging homeowners in wildfire risk mitigation: what works?

Many communities and organizations work tirelessly on outreach programs in an effort to teach homeowners in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) steps they can take to reduce the risk to life and property, but are they using the best, most effective methods?

There is little research available to answer that question, but one project suggests that a citizen network approach may have benefits not seen by other outreach programs. This approach has several benefits others do not:

- Encourages face-to-face contact - people are more likely to listen to other people than take the time to read the same message. This approach makes the message more personal.
- Uses community members as messengers - wildfire risk reduction strategies delivered by a familiar and trusted local council member, firefighter, or member of a community group hold more weight.

For fire departments and community leaders struggling to find a way to address WUI homeowner risk, this research suggests both the fire professionals and homeowners feel face-to-face talks are most effective in encouraging wildfire risk

Highlights

2017 NIMS Refresh Released

Engaging homeowners in wildfire risk mitigation: what works?

Business Email Compromise (BEC) scams

FAA webinar series on UAS and public safety



U.S. Fire Administration

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mitigation practices. Other approaches reported by the research group, who were all fire professionals in western states, were related to government regulation, incentive programs or insurance company pressure.

The [U.S. Fire Administration](#) (USFA) summarizes the research; see the [Center for Science and Technology Policy Research at the University of Colorado](#) (PDF, 549 KB) for the full research article.

(Source: [USFA](#))

Business Email Compromise (BEC) scams

Although not as widely profiled as ransomware attacks in recent years, the Business Email Compromise (BEC) scam represents a more significant financial threat to departments and agencies than other recent types of attack.

Since October 2013, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has identified victims from 131 countries and a global monetary exposure of over \$5 billion as a result of BEC fraud. Symantec reports BEC scams have increased more than 2400% over the past three years.

If you are concerned about BEC attacks against your department or agency and you want to know more about this potentially financially devastating cybersecurity threat, you won't want to miss the upcoming [BEC workshops](#). Cyber security experts from the MS-ISAC, the FBI, Symantec, and several other watchdog organizations will explain the BEC scam, why you should be concerned and how your department or agency can protect against becoming the next victim.

These half-day, free events will take place across the United States from October through November 2017. Please see the website to [register for upcoming workshops](#) and for more details on workshop topics.

(Source: [NH-ISAC](#))

FAA webinar series on UAS and public safety

The [Federal Aviation Administration](#) (FAA) is running a series of free monthly webinars for public safety entities on unmanned aircraft systems (UAS, or "drones") now through at least April 2018. These webinars are for any agency considering starting a UAS program as well as those looking for more information on enforcing UAS regulations.

The FAA is holding the webinars on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. Eastern. The presentations will focus on UAS topics of interest to public safety agencies and include hot topics, operational and enforcement considerations, and a question-and-answer period. [Interested attendees need to register](#) ahead of time as space is ample, but limited.

(Source: [FAA](#))

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DHS and the FBI encourage recipients of this document to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to the local [FBI office](#) and also the [State or Major Urban Area Fusion Center](#).

For information specifically affecting the private sector critical infrastructure contact the **National Infrastructure Coordinating Center** by phone at **202-282-9201**, or by email at **nicc@dhs.gov**.

The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC). For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

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