National Incident Management System

Overview

NASCIO

"Homeland Security and IT - More Than Just Cyber Security"

September 22, 2004

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5

Directed Secretary, DHS to develop and administer:

1. **National Incident Management System** (NIMS)

   - Core set of concepts, principles and terminology for incident command and multiagency coordination.

2. **National Response Plan** (NRP)

   - All-discipline, all-hazards plan.

National Incident Management System NIMS

"…a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, tribal, and local governments to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity…"

NIMS: What It Is / What It's Not

NIMS is…

- Core set of:
  - Doctrine
  - Concepts
  - Principles
  - Terminology
  - Organizational processes
- Applicable to all hazards

NIMS is <u>not</u>…

- An operational incident management plan.
- A resource allocation plan.
- A terrorism / WMD-specific plan.
- Designed to address international events.

Relationship: NIMS and NRP

National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Used for all events

Incident

Local
Response

State
Response or Support

Federal
Response or Support

NIMS aligns command, control, organization structure, terminology, communication protocols, resources and resource-typing for synchronization of response efforts at all echelons of government.

DHS integrates and applies Federal resources both pre and post incident.

Resources, knowledge, and abilities from Federal departments & agencies.

National Response Plan (NRP)

Activated for
incidents of national significance.

Key Concepts / Ongoing Support

- **Flexibility**
  - Applicable regardless of incident cause, size, location, or complexity.

- **Standardization**
  - Key to interoperability
  - Working on Standards initiative with Office of Science and Technology.

- **Ongoing support: NIMS Integration Center**
  - Working with Homeland Security Advisory Council structure to create NIC Advisory Council.

NIMS Components

1. Command and Management

2. Preparedness

3. Resource Management

4. Communications and Information Management

5. Supporting Technologies

6. Ongoing Management and Maintenance

Command and Management

- Incident Command System

- Multiagency Coordination Systems

- Public Information Systems

Command and Management
Incident Command System
Concepts and Principles

- Most incidents are managed locally

- Field command and management functions must comply with standard set of ICS organizations, doctrine, and procedures

- Modular and scalable

- Interactive management components

- Enables diverse organizations to work together
  - Common terminology
  - Common standards
  - Common procedures

- Incident Action Plans (IAP)
  - Overall incident objectives for operational period

- Minimal disruption to existing systems and processes

- User friendly and applicable across spectrum of emergency response and incident management disciplines

Preparedness
Concepts & Principles

- Continuous cycle of
  - Planning
  - Training
  - Equipping
  - Exercising
  - Evaluating
  - Taking action to correct and mitigate
  - Linked to HSPD-8

- Processes for providing guidelines; protocols; standards for planning, training, qualifications and certification; and publication management

- *"National-level preparedness standards related to the NIMS will be maintained and managed through a multijurisdictional, multidiscipline center, using a collaborative process."*

- Mitigation activities are important elements of preparedness

Preparedness
Training and Exercises

- Appropriate training required for organizations and personnel

  - All levels of government

  - Private sector

  - Nongovernmental organizations

- NIMS Integration Center key to training and training standards

Preparedness
Publications Management

- Naming and numbering conventions

- Review and certification of publications

- Publications control

- Identification of sources and suppliers

- Publication distribution

- Efforts managed by NIMS Integration Center

Preparedness
Certification and Mutual Aid

- National equipment standards, guidelines, and protocols and review of certified equipment lists done in coordination with

  - Federal, State, local, tribal, private sector and nongovernmental agencies

  - Standards-making, certifying, and accrediting organizations

- Mutual Aid agreements should include:

  - Procedures for requesting and providing assistance

  - Procedures, authorities, and rules for payment and cost issues

  - Recognition of qualifications and certifications

Credentialing

- **A Nationwide System of Credentialing:**
  - NIMS calls for "a documentation and database system related to qualification, certification, and credentialing of incident management personnel and organizations";
  - Specifies and standardizes the roles and responsibilities of the first responders operating in a disaster;
  - Ensures that personnel responding to an incident have been properly trained and qualified to operate in those positions;
  - Provides uniform certification programs that allow first responders to provide mutual aid nationwide;
  - Ensures the proper identification of first responder personnel; and,
  - Working with existing State or discipline-specific credentialing bodies toward national recognition for multi-jurisdictional response under mutual aid agreements.

Resource Management Processes

- Identifying and typing resources
  - Completed 120 typed resources
- Certifying and credentialing personnel
- Inventorying resources
- Identifying resource requirements

- Ordering and acquiring resources
- Tracking and reporting resources
- Mobilizing resources
- Recovering resources
- Reimbursing

Homeland Security

Communications & Information Management Concepts & Principles

- Common operating picture accessible across jurisdictions and functional agencies
  - Allows incident managers at all levels to make effective, consistent decisions expeditiously
  - Ensures consistency at all levels of incident management

- Common communications and data standards to assure accessibility and interoperability
  - SAFECOM
  - DHS/DOJ FY-2003 Demonstration Projects
  - Disaster Management eGov Initiative

Supporting Technologies
Concepts & Principles

- Interoperability and compatibility

- Technology support

- Technology standards

- Broad-based requirements

- Strategic planning for research and development

Ongoing Management & Maintenance
NIMS Integration Center Responsibilities

- National program for NIMS education and awareness

- General training requirements and national-level training standards and course curricula

- National standards, guidelines, and protocols for qualification and certification of emergency responder and incident management personnel

- Standards for performance, compatibility, and interoperability of incident management equipment

- National standards for resource typing

- Materials and standardized templates to support NIMS implementation and continuous refinement

- All users and stakeholders participate in NIMS Integration Center activities

NIMS Implementation

- FY 2005 Implementation Guidance
  - Letter to Governors
  - Letters to Federal Departments and Agencies
  - Memo to DHS Directorates and offices

- To the maximum extent possible, States, territories, tribes, and local entities are encouraged to achieve full NIMS implementation and institutionalization across the entire response system during FY 2005

- In order for NIMS to be implemented successfully across the nation, it is critical that States provide support and leadership to tribal and local entities to ensure full NIMS implementation

Minimum FY 2005 NIMS Implementation Requirements

- State and territory level efforts to implement the NIMS must include the following:

  - Incorporating NIMS concepts, such as the ICS, into existing training programs and exercises;

  - Using Federal preparedness funding to support NIMS implementation at State and local levels;

  - Incorporating NIMS concepts into Emergency Operations Plans;

  - Promoting and establishing intrastate mutual aid agreements and compacts;

  - Coordinating and providing technical assistance to local entities regarding NIMS; and

  - Institutionalizing the use of the Incident Command System (ICS)

Minimum FY 2005 NIMS Compliance Requirements

- At the State, territorial, tribal, and local levels, jurisdictions should support NIMS implementation by:
    - Completing the NIMS Awareness Course: "National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction" IS 700;
    - Formally recognizing the NIMS and adopting the NIMS principles and policies;
    - Establish a NIMS baseline by determining which NIMS requirements you already meet;
    - Establishing a timeframe and developing a strategy for full NIMS implementation
    - Institutionalizing the use of the Incident Command System (ICS)

NIMS FY 2006 and FY 2007 Requirements

- FY 2006

  - Applicants will be required to certify as part of their FY 2006 grant applications that they have met the FY 2005 NIMS requirements

- FY 2007

  - Full NIMS compliance will be a condition for Federal preparedness assistance

- Additional information about NIMS compliance and resources for achieving compliance will be forthcoming from the NIC

Support of NIMS Implementation

- Creation of NIC Advisory Committee under the Homeland Security Advisory Council

- NIC is developing tools to support NIMS implementation:
  - NIMS Capability Assessment Support Tool (NIMCAST)
  - NIMS Awareness Training
  - Executive Order Template
  - Sample Language for Grants Guidance
  - Series of "How To" Guides

Leveraging Support

- Coordination within and outside the Department is key

- Leverage existing initiatives and resources

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NIMS Awareness Training

http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is700.asp