NIMS
National Incident Management System

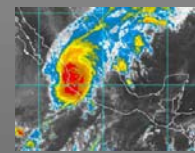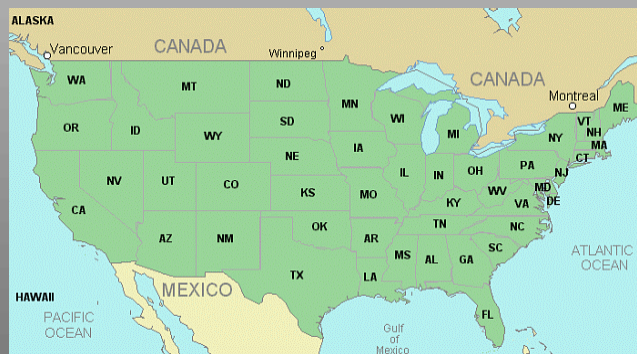# What is NIMS?

- **A comprehensive, national approach to incident management**

- **Applicable at all jurisdictional levels and across disciplines**

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NIMS Compliance

Your jurisdiction _must_ adopt NIMS:

- **ICS by Oct 1, 2004**

- **Other aspects by a later dates**

Why Do We Need NIMS?

Lessons learned have shown the need for:

- A coordinated response.
- Standardization.
- Interoperability.

NIMS Concepts and Principles

NIMS is:

- **<u>Flexible</u>** to enable all responding organizations to work together.

- **<u>Standardized</u>** to improve overall response and interoperability.

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NIMS Standard Structures

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

Preparedness

- **Planning, training, and exercises**
- **Personnel qualification and certification**
- **Equipment acquisition and certification**
- **Publication management**
- **Mutual aid/Emergency Management Assistance Compacts**

Resource Management

Includes standardized:

- **Descriptions**
- **Inventories**
- **Mobilization**
- **Dispatch**
- **Tracking**
- **Recovery**

Communications/Information Management

NIMS identifies requirements for:

- Communications.

- Information management.

- Information sharing.

Supporting Technologies

NIMS provides systems to standardize:

- Voice and data communications.

- Information management.

- Data displays.

Command and Management

NIMS Overview Lesson 2

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Command and Management

- **Command and management under NIMS**
- **Incident Command System overview**

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Lesson Objectives

- **Identify the benefits of using ICS as the model incident management system.**
- **Identify the organizational structure of ICS.**
- **Identify five major management functions.**
- **Describe the purpose of unique position titles in ICS.**
- **Explain the roles and responsibilities of the Command and General staff.**

ICS

- **Proven on-scene, all-hazard concept**
- **Interdisciplinary and organizationally flexible**
- **Appropriate for all types of incidents**

ICS Features

- **Common terminology**
- **Organizational resources**
- **Manageable span of control**
- **Organizational facilities**
- **Use of position titles**
- **Reliance on an Incident Action Plan**
- **Integrated communications**
- **Accountability**

Common Terminology

ICS requires:

- Common terminology.
- "Clear" text.

Organizational Resources
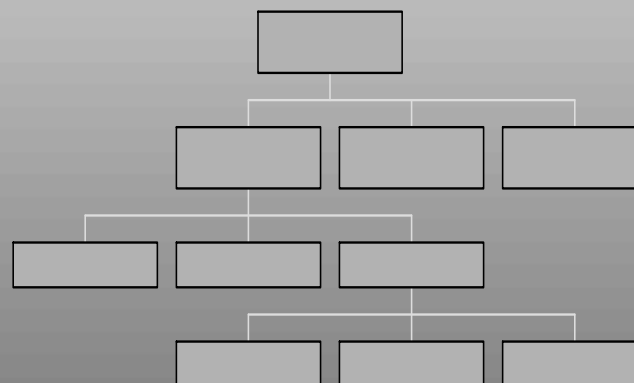
- **Includes:**
  - **Personnel**
  - **Facilities**
  - **Equipment and supplies**
- **Requires "typing" by capability**

Span of Control

- **From 3 to 7 reporting elements per supervisor**
- **5 reporting elements per supervisor is optimum**
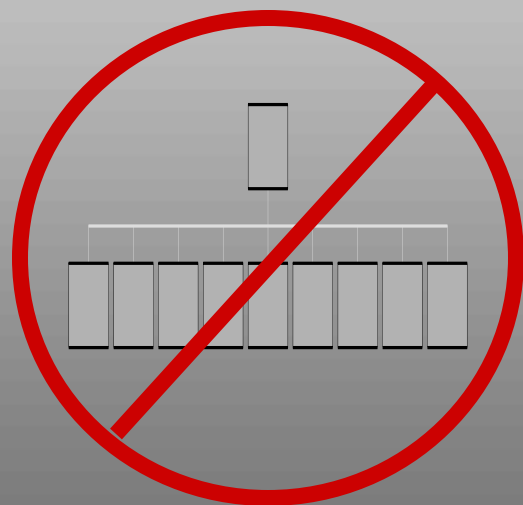
Incident Facilities

- **Established as required by the incident**
- **An ICP is always established**

Incident Command

Organizational Level	Title
• Incident Command	• Incident Commander
• Command Staff	• Officer
• General Staff (Section)	• Chief
• Branch	• Director
• Division/Group	• Supervisor
• Unit	• Leader
• Strike Team/Task Force	• Leader

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Incident Action Plans

- **Communicate incident objectives**
- **Are based on operational periods**
- **Are disseminated throughout the incident organization**

Integrated Communications

- **Hardware systems**
- **Planning for use of all frequencies and resources**
- **Procedures for transferring information internally and externally**

Accountability

- **Orderly chain of command**
- **Check-in for <u>all</u> responders**
- **Assignment of only one supervisor per individual (unity of command)**

Unified Command
Area Command
MultiAgency Coordination
NIMS Overview Lesson 3

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Unified, Area Command & MACS

Command and Management of:

- Multiple concurrent incidents
- Incidents that are nonsite specific, such as biological terrorist incidents
- Incidents that are geographically dispersed
- Incidents that evolve over time

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Lesson Objectives

- **Determine when it is appropriate to institute a Unified or Area Command.**

- **Describe the functions and purpose of Multiagency Coordination Systems.**

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Unified Command

How Does Unified Command Work?

- **Agencies work together to:**
  - **Analyze intelligence.**
  - **Establish objectives and strategies.**

Unified Command does not change other features of ICS.

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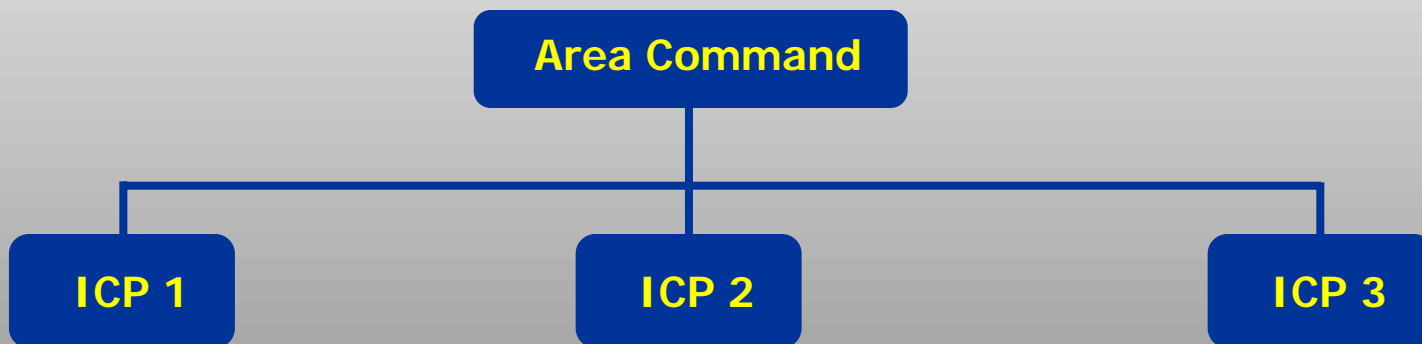
Area Command

What Does Area Command Do?

- **Sets overall strategy and priorities**
- **Allocates resources**
- **Ensures proper management**
- **Ensures objectives are met**
- **Ensure strategies are followed**

Area Command

Multiagency Coordination Systems

- **A combination of resources**

- **Integrated into a common framework**

- **Used to coordinate and support incident management activities**

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Multiagency Coordination Systems

- **Support incident management policies and priorities**
- **Facilitate logistics support and resource tracking**
- **Make resource allocation decisions based on incident management priorities**
- **Coordinate incident-related information**
- **Coordinate interagency and intergovernmental issues regarding incident management policies, priorities, and strategies**

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Multiagency Coordination System Elements

- EOC
- Other entities

EOC Organization

EOC Organization

Coordination

Multiagency Coordination Entity

Other Multiagency Coordination Entities

- Resources
- Priorities
- Strategic coordination

- Situation status
- Resource needs

- Resources
- Priorities
- Strategic coordination

Incident Command/ Unified Command 1

Incident Command/ Unified Command 2

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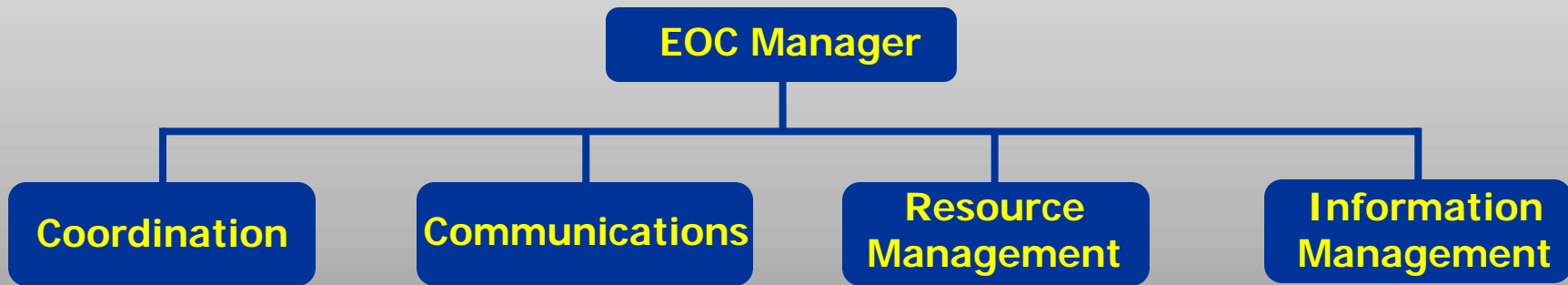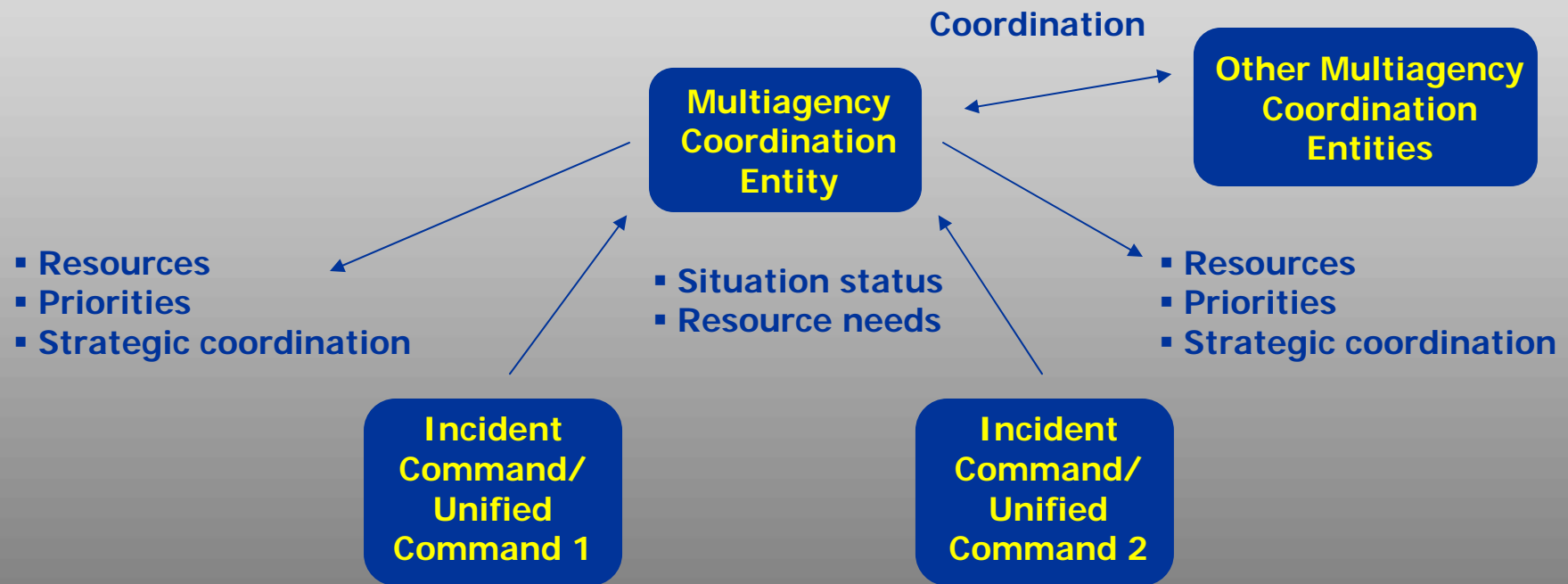
Public Information

NIMS Overview Lesson 4

Public Information

- **Principles to support effective Public Information Systems**

- **Public Information Systems required by NIMS**

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Public Information for Domestic Incidents

- **Advises the IC**
- **Establishes and operates within the JIS**
- **Ensures that decisionmakers and the public are informed**

The Joint Information Center

- **Physical location where public information staff collocate**

- **Provides the structure for coordinating and disseminating critical information**
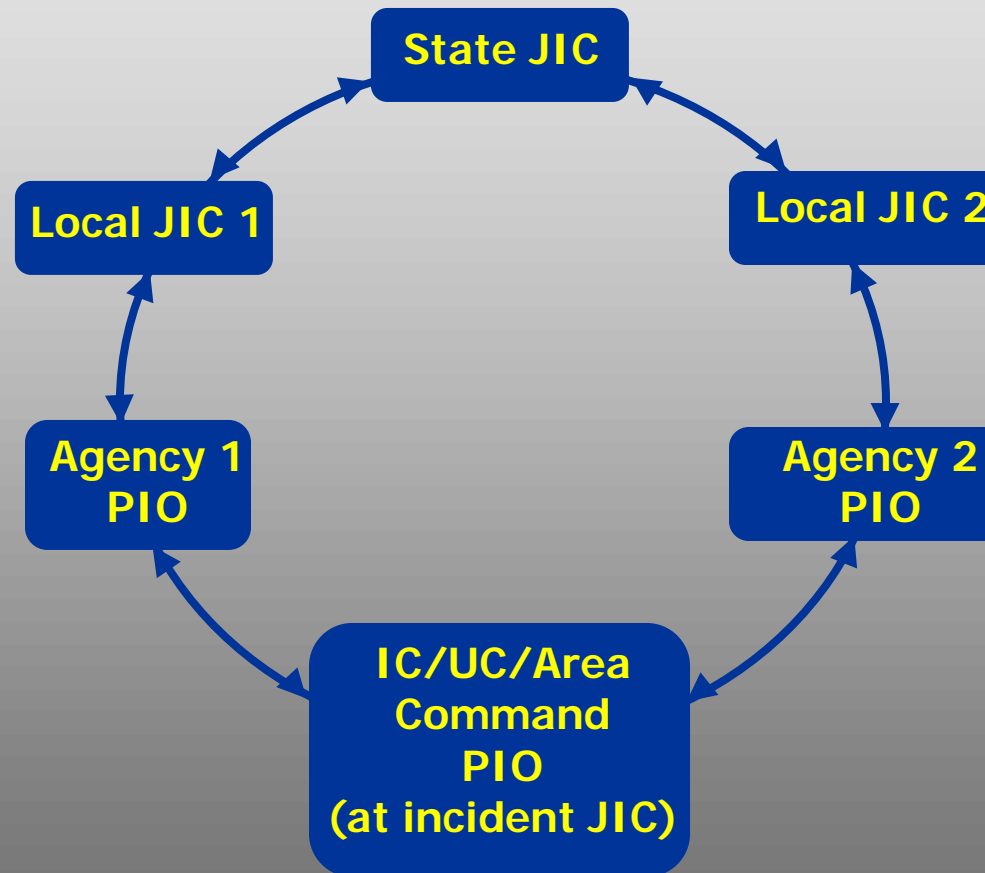
Joint Information Centers

JIC Characteristics

- **Includes representatives of all players in the response**

- **Has procedures and protocols for communicating and coordinating with other JICs**

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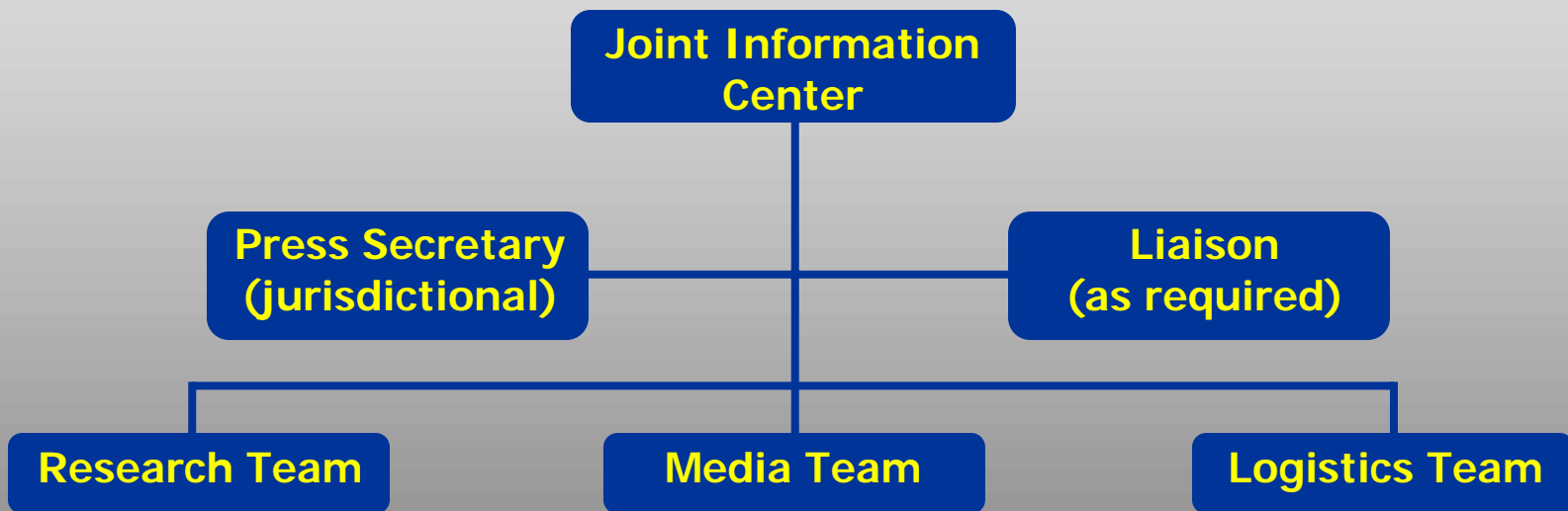
JICs

Preparedness

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What Is Preparedness?

- **Actions to establish and sustain prescribed levels of capability**
- **Ensures mission integration and interoperability**

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Responsibilities of Preparedness Organizations

- **Establishing/coordinating plans and protocols**

- **Integrating/coordinating activities**

- **Establishing guidelines and protocols to promote interoperability**

- **Adopting guidelines for resource management**

- **Establishing response priorities**

- **Establishing/maintaining multiagency coordination mechanisms**

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Preparedness Planning

- **Plans describe how resources will be used.**
- **Plans describe mechanisms for:**
  - **Setting priorities.**
  - **Integrating entities/functions.**
  - **Establishing relationships.**
  - **Ensuring that systems support all incident management activities.**

Types of Plans

- **Emergency Operations Plans**
- **Procedures**
- **Preparedness Plans**
- **Corrective Action and Mitigation Plans**
- **Recovery Plans**

Training and Exercises

The **NIMS Integration Center** will:

- **Facilitate development and dissemination of national standards, guidelines, and protocols.**
- **Facilitate use of modeling/simulation.**
- **Define general training requirements and approved courses.**
- **Review/approve discipline-specific training requirements.**

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Personnel Qualifications and Certification

Development of standards, including:

- **Training**
- **Experience**
- **Credentialing**
- **Currency requirements**
- **Physical and medical fitness**

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Equipment Certifications

- **Facilitate development of national equipment standards, guidelines, and protocols**
- **Review and approve equipment meeting national standards**

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Mutual Aid and EMACs

Jurisdictions at all levels are encouraged to enter into agreements with:

- Other jurisdictions.
- Private-sector and NGOs.
- Private organizations.

Publication Management

- **The development of naming and numbering conventions**
- **Review and certification of publications**
- **Methods for publications control**
- **Identification of sources and suppliers for publications and related services**
- **Management of publication distribution**

Resource Management
NIMS Overview Lesson 6

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Lesson Overview

Resource management includes coordination and oversight of:

- Tools.

- Processes.

- Systems.

NIMS affects the way resources are managed.

What Is Resource Management?

Four tasks:

- **Establishing systems**
- **Activating the systems**
- **Dispatching resources**
- **Deactivating resources**

Resource Management Concepts

- **Standardize identification, allocation, and tracking**

- **Classify by kind and type**

- **Implement credentialing system**

- **Incorporate resources from private sector and NGOs**

Resource Management Principles

1. Advance planning
2. Resource identification and ordering
3. Resource categorization
4. Use of agreements
5. Effective management

Communications, Information Management and Supporting Technology

NIMS Overview Lesson 7

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Lesson Overview

- **Advantages of common communication and information management standards**
- **How NIMS will influence technology/technological systems**

Communications and Information Management

Principles:

- Common operating picture
- Accessible across jurisdictions and agencies
- Common communications and data standards

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Supporting Technologies

Principles:

1. **Interoperability and compatibilities**
2. **Technology support**
3. **Technology standards**
4. **Broad-based requirements**
5. **Strategic planning and R & D**

Communications and Information

Facilitate a common operating picture for:

- Incident management
- Information management
- Interoperability standards

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Course Summary

NIMS Overview Lesson 8

NIMS Intent

- **Broad applicability**
- **Improve coordination and cooperation among all response organizations**

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NIMS Concepts and Principles

- **Flexible framework that:**
  - **Facilitates working together . . .**
  - **At any type of incident . . .**
  - **Regardless of size, location, or complexity**
- **Flexible structures**
- **Requirements for processes, procedures, and systems**

NIMS Components

- **Command and management**
- **Preparedness**
- **Resource management**
- **Communications and information management**
- **Supporting technologies**
- **Ongoing management and maintenance**

Command and Management

- **Incident Command System (ICS)**
- **Multiagency Coordination Systems**

ICS Features

- **Common terminology**
- **Organizational resources**
- **Manageable span of control**
- **Organizational facilities**
- **Use of position titles**
- **Reliance on an Incident Action Plan**
- **Integrated communications**
- **Accountability**

Unified Command

- More than one responding agency within a jurisdiction
- Incidents cross jurisdictions

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Area Command

- **Multiple incidents within a jurisdiction**
- **Large incidents that cross jurisdictions**

Multiagency Coordination Systems

- **Support incident management**
- **Facilitate logistic support and resource tracking**
- **Allocate resources**
- **Coordinate information**
- **Coordinate issue resolution**

Multiagency Coordination Systems

- EOC
- Multiagency Coordination Entities

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Public Information

- **Provides information to:**
  - **Command**
  - **The Public**
- **Ensures information provided is:**
  - **Accurate**
  - **Timely**
  - **Coordinated**

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Preparedness

- **Actions involved to establish/maintain prescribed capability**
- **NIMS focuses on guidelines, protocols, and standards**

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Types of Plans

- **EOP**
- **Procedures**
- **Preparedness Plans**
- **Corrective Action and Mitigation**
- **Recovery**

Training and Exercises

- **Facilitate national standards, guidelines, and protection**
- **Facilitate use of modeling/simulation**
- **Define general training requirements**
- **Review/approve discipline specific requirements/courses**

Personnel Qualifications

- **Preparedness based on standards for qualification/certification**
- **Includes minimum:**
  - **Knowledge**
  - **Skills**
  - **Experience**

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Equipment Certification

- **Ensure performance to standards and interoperability**

- **Facilitate development of national standards and protocols**

- **Review and approve equipment meeting standards**

Resource Management

- **Establish systems for:**
  - **Describing**
  - **Inventorying**
  - **Requesting**
  - **Tracking**
- **Activating systems**
- **Dispatching resources**
- **Deactivating/recalling resources**

Managing Resources

- **Identifying and typing resources**
- **Certifying and credentialing personnel**
- **Inventorying resources**
- **Identifying resource requirements**
- **Ordering and acquiring resources**
- **Tracking and reporting resources**
- **Mobilizing resources**
- **Recovering resources**
- **Reimbursement**

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NIMS Focus on Supporting Technology

1. Interoperability and compatibility
2. Technology support
3. Technology standards
4. Broad-based requirements
5. Strategic planning and R&D

Managing Communications and Information

- **Incident management communications**
- **Information management**
- **Interoperability standards**

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Post Test

- **Do NOT write in the test booklet**
- **Fill in the Test Answer Sheet completely**
- **Answer the 25 questions to the best of your ability**
- **You must attain a passing grade of 75% to receive a certificate**

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