

DISASTERCOM



DERA Newsletter

46 Years of Service

March 2008



International Disaster Management Conference Partners Jay and Kathryn Wilson and Catherine Lawhun at DERA booth, Rosen Center, Orlando, FL

DERA Annual Membership Meeting

Dr. Doug Troy from the Miami University of Ohio Resource Data Center and Anne Hutton presented the Community Disaster Information System (CDIS) to the DERA membership. The mission of the Resource Data Center (RDC) at Miami University is to ensure the health and well-being of disaster victims through community based disaster preparedness.

The CDIS project consists of a web site, laptop software, and a methodology to help community-based responders to identify, organize, and locate community resources for disaster response. Once a community has created their local resource database in CDIS, the system provides disaster workers in the field with immediate access to high quality community information during times of disaster.

CDIS has been tested by Red Cross chapters across the U.S. including Orange County (CA), San Diego (CA), Denver (CO), Atlanta (GA), Kansas City (MO), Cincinnati (OH), Dayton (OH), Indiana County (PA), and Arlington (VA). The CDIS project is currently funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health/National Library of Medicine.



Dr. Douglas A. Troy is Professor and Chair of the Computer Science and Systems Analysis Department. He has over 10 years experience in developing software in commercial environments, and has taught computer science courses at Miami University for over 20 years.

During the conference, Dr. Troy and Anne Hutton assisted several state and local human services program managers explore ways that DERA could assist them with CDIS implementation.

Continued on page 3



Howard Pierpont and Jay Wilson, Orlando, FL Feb 2008

New Director: Howard Pierpont

Howard Pierpont, CORM, CBM, CBCP, CRP is the Manager for Business Continuity at MKS Instruments and as such is responsible for coordinating and monitoring all business and information systems recovery activities in the event of an emergency, disaster, or other major disruption to operations. Prior to joining MKS, Pierpont was Manager, Business Continuity Program Office for Engineering at Intel. He traveled to Russia, India, China, and Ireland and trained the business units to create integrated business continuity, crisis management/incident response, and business recovery plans.

Howard spent two years as an internal auditor at Intel with a specialty in data center and disaster recovery. He is recent past president of his local Information Systems Audit and Control Association Chapter.

DisasterCom is the quarterly newsletter of DERA International. News items and articles are always welcome.

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Editor: Catherine Lawhun

Membership in this Nonprofit Association is open to all who share our commitment to effective disaster preparedness and response.

See Back Page for Membership Application

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www.emlrc.org

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www.fairs.org

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Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in
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www.flvoad.org

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National Institute of Amateur Radio (India)
www.niar.org

From Your

Editor's desk

The International Disaster Management Conference this year was great! DERA has been invited to be a program partner with the Emergency Medicine Learning and Resource Center for many years now and each year the conference grows and the contacts that DERA makes allow us greater interaction and service opportunities in the disaster response community.

This year our Region 10 Director Anne Hutton coordinated and presented a wonderful introduction to the CDIS system which she has worked alongside Dr Doug Troy to implement nationwide. DERA can play a strategic role in assisting to bring this system to a greater degree of use in the next few years. Please contact Anne and find out how you can help.

May 16 through the 18th is the Dayton Hamfest in Dayton, Ohio. Our Partner organization, the National Institute for Amateur Radio in India is sending delegates Mr. Suri, Ms. Yamini, VU2YAM and Ram Mohan as well as other members of their governing council to participate. If any of our members are planning to attend, please let us know so we can plan to visit and potentially make introductions. Send an email to dera@disasters.org if you plan to attend.

God Bless,

-Catherine Lawhun



Howard Pierpont is an active presenter on issues surrounding business continuity and continuous operations in business and the environment. He is a Charter Member of the International Consortium for Organizational Resilience www.theicor.org and is working toward expanding daily efforts by trying to reduce the potential effects of disasters.

Rapid Rebuilding

Rebuilding an entire town of 50 buildings in just seven months as was accomplished in Ft Irwin, CA provided a test case for rapid building in disaster response. This type of rapid construction of structurally durable buildings was made possible using an innovative studcast building system engineered to specific site and use requirements.

The studcast process is fast in both manufacture and construction. The manufacturing process utilizing the latest Building Information Modeling software (BIM) can be transported quickly as well. At Fort Irwin a four man team was able to erect a wall in only seven minutes. A five man crew erected one 2000 sq. ft two-story building in a single day. Moreover, relatively unskilled local labor can be quickly trained for production and erection and with effective supervision, construction crews need little or no construction experience. In the aftermath of a disaster, a portable factory could provide buildings as well as "back to work" jobs for some of the population. For emergency response, off the shelf building kits can be manufactured and stockpiled ready to ship and erect. Kits for barracks, dining facilities, classrooms, hospitals, offices and other facilities can consist of walls partitions, floors, ceilings and roofs. Wiring, plumbing, doors and windows can also be factory installed in the walls. Contact George Rogers, CEO of RQ Construction 760-631-7707



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DERA Annual Membership Meeting



Workshop at DERA Annual Meeting Left to Right: Dennis O'Quinn, Melbourne, FL, Catherine Lawhun, Inglis, FL, Sarone Kennedy, the Bahamas, Kathryn Dunlevy-Wilson, Berthoud, CO, Anne Hutton, Los Angeles, CA and Howard Pierpont, Greely, CO.

(Continued from page 1)

Doug and Anne discussed how DERA members are needed (and encouraged) to help with this project. DERA and the RDC could form a partnership to further develop and deploy the Community Disaster Information System. Their vision is to work with the DERA membership to develop a strategy to expand CDIS into additional communities, continue to refine the system, and further develop the methodology for data collection and maintenance. Anne Hutton is the DERA point of contact for the CDIS project. If you are interested in participating in this project or want to learn more about it, please contact Anne Hutton at anne.hutton@disasters.org.

You can learn more about CDIS by visiting www.rdciami.org. You can log into CDIS as a guest at www.rdcmainm.org/cdis (click on the guest login).



Howard Pierpont, Sarone Kennedy and Jay Wilson

Certified Emergency Manager® Application Now Available for Free

February 21, 2008 (Falls Church, Va.)

The International Association of Emergency Manager (IAEM) Board of Directors voted to eliminate the enrollment fee that used to be required before making the application available for the Certified Emergency Manager® (CEM®) program. This move allows anyone to download the CEM® application booklet electronically without first paying an enrollment fee.

Originally, the program was set up to require payment in two steps. Participants paid an enrollment fee prior to receiving the application booklet. Then, the enrolled participant paid an application fee when submitting their application booklet for review.

IAEM's new certification program procedure will allow interested emergency managers to see the application in order to self-assess and determine their qualifications without first paying a fee. This provides a more streamlined and transparent application process. IAEM believes this will encourage more emergency managers decide to begin the certification process.

The IAEM Board determined that there will be no fee increase under the new procedures: \$325 for IAEM members and \$450 for non-members. However, the fee will now be collected only when the application is submitted.

CEM® application forms may be downloaded for free at http://iaem.networkats.com/members_online/members/app_fee.asp.

For more information on the CEM®, visit <http://www.iaem.com/certification/generalinfo/intro.htm>.

IAEM created the Certified Emergency Manager® Program to raise and maintain professional standards. It is an internationally recognized program that certifies achievements within the emergency management profession. CEM® certification is a peer review process administered through the International Association of Emergency Managers. The CEM® Program is served

by a CEM® Commission that is composed of emergency management professionals, including representatives from allied fields, education, the military and private industry. Development of the CEM® Program was supported by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), and a host of allied organizations.



New Member Roster

Dr. Leon Watson
Pearl City, HI

Aida L. Gerena, JD, RN, BSN
Arecibo, PR

Donald A. Jeffrey
Monrovia, CA

Reid C. Renicker
Wylie, TX

Jodi VanHorn
Waynesburg, PA

Welcome to DERA!

It is our sincere aim to help you achieve your professional and personal goal

**2009 Annual Meeting
February 19-22
The Rosen Centre
Orlando, Florida**

**Plan now to attend DERA's
2009 Annual Membership
Meeting, held in conjunction
with the 30th Annual
International Disaster
Management Conference.**

**Please reserve these dates and
plan to join us for an
outstanding conference.**

EIIP Forum
Joint Commission
Emergency Management
Standards Revisited
Healthcare Facility
Accreditation Requirements
for 2008

The EIIP is pleased to host a 'live chat' presentation and interactive Q&A session March 26, 2008, beginning at 12:00 Noon Eastern time (*please convert to your local time*). Our topic will be revisions to the Joint Commission's Emergency Management Standards for Critical Access Hospitals, Hospitals, and Long Term Care facilities that went into effect January 1, 2008. The revisions reflect an "all-hazards," scalable approach, and stress the importance of planning and testing response plans for emergencies during conditions when the local community cannot support the health care organization.



Our guest will be **James L. Paturas**, System Manager for the Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster

Response, (YNH-CEPDR). Mr. Paturas has thirty years of experience in hospitals and health care, and has served on the NFPA Technical Committee on Disaster Management. He currently serves on FEMA's National Advisory Council in the category of Standards Setting. The Yale New Haven Center is also assisting Joint Commission Resources with its 4th Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference, April 8-9, 2008.

Please make plans to join us, and as always, feel free to extend this invitation to your colleagues, especially those involved with health care in your community.

For the complete transcript see www.emforum.org

Increased Hurricane
Losses Due To More
People, Wealth Along
Coastlines, Not Stronger
Storms

ScienceDaily (Mar. 1, 2008) — A team of scientists have found that the economic damages from hurricanes have increased in the U.S. over time due to greater population, infrastructure, and wealth on the U.S. coastlines, and not to any spike in the number or intensity of hurricanes.

"We found that although some decades were quieter and less damaging in the U.S. and others had more land-falling hurricanes and more damage, the economic costs of land-falling hurricanes have steadily increased over time," said Chris Landsea, one of the researchers as well as the science and operations officer at NOAA's National Hurricane Center in Miami. "There is nothing in the U.S. hurricane damage record that indicates global warming has caused a significant increase in destruction along our coasts."

In a newly published paper in Natural Hazards Review, the researchers also found that economic hurricane damage in the U.S. has been doubling every 10 to 15 years. If more people continue to move to the hurricane-prone coastline, future economic hurricane losses may be far greater than previously thought.

"Unless action is taken to address the growing concentration of people and property in coastal hurricane areas, the damage will increase by a great deal as more people and infrastructure inhabit these coastal locations," said Landsea.

The Natural Hazards Review paper, "Normalized Hurricane Damage in the United States: 1900-2005," was written by Roger A. Pielke Jr. (University of Colorado), Joel Gratz (ICAT Managers, Inc.), Chris Landsea, Douglas Collins (Tillinghast-Towers Perrin), Mark A. Saunders (University College London), and Rade Musulin (Aon Re Australia).

The team used two different approaches, which gave similar results, to estimate the economic damages of historical hurricanes if they were to strike today, building upon the work published originally by Landsea and Pielke in 1998, and by Collins and Lowe in 2001. Both methods used changes in inflation and wealth at the national level. The first method utilized population increases at the county coastal level, while the second used changes in housing units at the county coastal level.

The results illustrate the effects of the tremendous pace of growth in vulnerable hurricane areas. If the 1926 Great Miami

Hurricane were to hit today, the study estimated it would cause the largest losses at \$140 billion to \$157 billion, with Hurricane Katrina second on the list at \$81 billion.

The team concludes that potential damage from storms – currently about \$10 billion yearly – is growing at a rate that may place severe burdens on exposed communities, and that avoiding huge losses will require a change in the rate of population growth in coastal areas, major improvements in construction standards, or other mitigation actions.

Adapted from materials provided by [National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration](http://www.noaa.gov).

Live News Cameras

Andrew Finlayson,
Vice President and News Director of
Fox News Chicago recently wrote to us:

You and your colleagues might want to know about a website we set up called LiveNewsCameras.com.

We have quite a few of the major station groups involved...to do something no one has done before...give the public live news cameras from around the US (and soon around the world). We already have over one hundred active streams. We have been live over many events that would be of interest to your team.

We are the place to turn to if you want to see live breaking coverage of emergency responders all across the country. If the helicopter or crews roll at one of our member stations, chances are they are going to stream it...and we give the first look.

If any of your members are going to stream a live news event, we would like to know about such events to see if we want to cover it.

News is changing. This website works from the following formula:

"news+video+as it happens+the internet=livenewscameras.com"

We already know of some emergency responders who are using this website to monitor what is going on and how others respond.

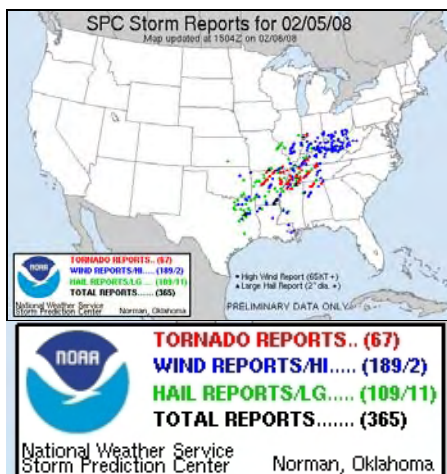
Let me know if I can answer any questions.

Andrew Finlayson
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Super Tuesday Tornadoes

By Tomas Bracero

The tornado outbreak on February 6th, 2008 was one of the deadliest tornado outbreaks in the United States in over 20 years. As many as 50 tornadoes struck on this day causing and estimated millions of dollars of damage. 17 buildings were destroyed on the campus of Union University. The death toll from severe weather and tornadoes kills close to 100 people across Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky and Alabama. This massive outbreak of severe weather has earned the nickname "Super Tuesday" Tornado Outbreak. The damage was extensive enough to prompting President Bush to make a public announcement on the tragedy and offer the affected states help from FEMA.



This outbreak of tornadoes is attributed to a weather pattern reversal in the jet stream. Falling pressure east of the Rocky's and the massive arctic high retreating to the east brought a strong southern wind bringing temperatures into the lower 70s, breaking temperature records which stood more the 100 years. The moisture in the atmosphere became 250 percent above normal. As atmospheric turbulence increased, storm cells began to form and thus causing one of the most devastating tornado outbreaks in the US in over 50 years.

http://www.tnema.org/PDF%20Files/febto_madositrep16.pdf

<http://www.tornadoproject.com/alltorns/alltorns.htm>

<http://www.ky3.com/news/local/13562137.html>

SALVATION ARMY CONTINUES RELIEF EFFORT IN RESPONSE TO SUPER TUESDAY TORNADO OUTBREAK

Salvation Army emergency disaster services (EDS) teams continue to bring comfort and hope to first responders and residents in states across the south that were slammed by the deadliest barrage of tornadoes since 1985. Within moments The Salvation Army was providing aid following the storms that killed at least 57 people and left hundreds more homeless.

In Alabama, The Salvation Army is providing meals and hydration in Lawrence and Jackson counties. The Salvation Army served over 500 meals on Wednesday from a fixed feeding site in Lawrence County and three emergency disaster services vehicles (canteens) that continue to bring comfort to residents and responders sorting through the debris. In Jackson County The Salvation Army served 250 meals yesterday from a canteen stationed at the Town Hall in Pisgah. Salvation Army social workers also are providing assistance at the community center in Rosalie.

Salvation Army volunteers and personnel have established a fixed feeding site in Oxford, Miss., located at the Lafayette County Central Fire Station. Yesterday, The Salvation Army offered residents social service assistance at the North Oxford Baptist Church.

As residents in Arkansas deal with the devastation the storms left behind The Salvation Army is providing for their physical, emotional and spiritual needs. Salvation Army canteens have been deployed to Van Buren, Pope, Baxter and Sharp counties.

According to emergency officials the largest number of fatalities occurred in Tennessee where 32 people were killed. The Salvation Army is responding in impacted areas across the state including Madison, Macon and Shelby counties. In less than two days The Salvation Army served over 200 meals in Shelby County alone. EDS teams also are stationed at the command post by Union University Campus where 26 students had to be rescued after being trapped in the rubble of dormitories destroyed by a tornado.

Tornadoes left death and destruction in their wake across Kentucky as well. In

Muhlenberg County The Salvation Army has served 550 meals from canteens roving neighborhoods in Powderly and Greenville. Additional disaster relief efforts are taking place in Monroe, Hardin, Harrison and Christian counties.

The United Kingdom's RedR Program

By Dick Templeton

The RedR program in England has found a niche in the disaster arena by offering training programs and recruiting services for humanitarian professionals. They also provide a technical support service to help aid workers solve problems they may be experiencing in the field. RedR does not offer any direct services to those affected directly by disaster; that is, it doesn't, for example, provide housing or utilities in a stricken area but does provide a mechanism for training personnel who provide those services.

Among the courses offered, at the student's cost, are Personal Security in Emergencies, Managing People in Emergencies, Managing Projects in Emergencies, and So You Think You Want to be a Relief Worker? The courses are offered in Britain and in specific disaster areas; in Sri Lanka, for example, after the 2004 tsunami.

Amongst the agency's other services is their quarterly journal, Safety and Security Review. This brief covers personal safety and security issues in disaster locations and provides a forum for sharing knowledge and expertise in the global aid sector. A recent issue included an article entitled 'Perceptions of Insecurity Among Aid Workers.'

Another service that RedR provides is a recruitment service they say is used by over 200 humanitarian agencies around the world. They offer humanitarian agencies a pool of approximately 1600 members who are available for emergency deployment and are proficient in areas of engineering, health, logistics, and senior management. Potential members of the register are selected and interviewed by peers and professionals. Minimum requirements for membership are two years' professional experience and previous field exposure. In addition to technical skills and experience, they look for personal attributes such as humanitarian motivation and the ability to work in team and cross-cultural environments.

RedR doesn't just work in disaster areas but also provides assistance to aid workers in areas of conflict. They are in the Darfur region of the Sudan, for instance, and have a base in east Africa to provide services to that volatile region.

To drum up support for the organization, RedR sponsors, and can help others to sponsor, local and regional events such as bike races, Wear Red for RedR Day, and Challenge Days, where teams of challengers raise funds and take part in a number of activities simulating those necessary in real disaster response situations, using authentic disaster response equipment.

In brief, the UK's RedR is a worldwide organization, based in Great Britain, that, rather than providing direct support to those suffering from disasters or protracted violent conflicts, provides support to the relief workers who are providing the direct services. RedR has found a valuable niche in the world of humanitarian aid, helping those who help others.

Nevada Levee Failure

By Rob Benedict

In early January California and Nevada were hammered by a massive winter storm over a three-day period. Although storms in this area are not all that unusual the intensity and timing of this particular storm, immediately following other powerful storms, lead to massive damages on the communities in its path.

The winter storm dumped up to 10 inches of rainfall in California mountain communities in the east while Nevada received nearly six feet (two meters) of snow according to the National Weather Service figures. It was reported on January 7th that 11 deaths were blamed on the winter storm and nine people were missing in snow-covered mountains.

In addition to many weather related injuries and some deaths, an earthen irrigation canal levee located the town of Fernley, Nevada failed as a result of the added stress of due to increased precipitation caused by successive storms and melting snow. Fernley, Nevada is a small town of approximately 20,000 people located 30 miles east of Reno, Nevada. According to Fernley Mayor Todd Cutler the water escaped through a 50-foot breach in the levee, affecting 300 to 400 homes in about one square mile.

Following the levee failure Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials reached the area to participate in the damage assessment to determine whether a request for a presidential emergency declaration was justified. Governor Jim Gibbons declared a state emergency and following a FEMA review of the affected area on January 8, 2008 President Bush declared an official federal disaster area.

The declaration of a federal disaster opened the door for federal funding in various forms. According to FEMA, the assistance will cover the following three areas; individual assistance, public assistance, and hazard mitigation assistance. Specifically, these funds are focused to return the area to normalcy by assisting the general public, repairing and replacing of disaster-damaged public facilities, and creating programs to reduce long-term risk to life and property from natural hazards of this type and others.

The specific cause of the break is still unknown although burrowing rodents played a role in a smaller previous collapse at a different spot in December 1996 and could likely be the culprit this time as well. Although this breach pales in comparison to the Katrina levee failure it still is an indication of a larger problem with levees and dikes throughout the United States.

According to the Army Corps of Engineers levees in 80 cities in the U.S. have one or more deficient conditions and many areas are at risk until levees are improved. In summation a Professor of engineering at University of Maryland, Gerald E. Galloway, who specializes in levee engineering voiced the fears of many when he stated that "The recent failure of a levee in a Nevada irrigation canal points out growing infrastructure problems" throughout the nation.

FEMA Requests Applicants for the National Advisory Council

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is requesting individuals who are interested in serving on the National Advisory Council (NAC) to apply for appointment. Current Council members, whose (one) 1 year terms end in June, 2008, are also encouraged to apply. All future appointments will be for three-year terms.

The NAC was established to ensure effective and ongoing coordination of Federal preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation for natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters. The NAC assists FEMA in carrying out its missions by providing advice and recommendations in the development and revision of the national preparedness goal, the national preparedness system, the National Integration Management System, the National Response Framework, and other related plans and strategies.

The Council consists of thirty three members, all of whom are experts and leaders in their respective fields. The following discipline areas for the one (1) year expiring terms will be open for applications and nominations: emergency management, emergency response, health scientist, standards setting, infrastructure protection, communications, disabilities, local government official (non-elected), and tribal elected official.

Individuals seeking to be considered for an appointment on the Council should submit a resume or CV detailing their experience in the arena of emergency management and related fields, along with letters of recommendation. Resumes must be received on or before 5:00 pm EST on Friday, March 14, 2008, and sent to Alyson Price via one of the following outlets:

Mail: Alyson Price
Designated Federal Officer
FEMA, National Advisory Council
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472
Email: alyson.price@dhs.gov
Fax: (202) 646-3347

Some select members will be appointed as Special Government Employees (SGE) focused on the following discipline areas: health scientist, infrastructure protection and communications. Interested applicants are required to complete a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 450) which can be found on the Office of Government Ethics website, www.oge.gov.

The development of the National Advisory Council was set into motion by the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 and held its first inaugural meeting October 22-23, 2007.

Command & Control Initiative Implementation

The Peterson Installation Control Center (PICC) is the high speed, low drag, answer the 21st Space Wing came up with when Air Force Space Command leadership told all of their subordinate bases to consolidate virtual command and control for emergency management functions. AFSPC wanted all subordinate units to have this capability up and running by the end of 2007.

"The Peterson Installation Control Center combines existing emergency management functions under one umbrella organization," Lt. Colonel Marc Peterson, PICC Director said. "This helps execute life-saving response rapidly and more effectively."

Previously when an emergency call came in, three separate agencies in three different locations were notified through a number of calls and procedures. Now, one call to one place notifies everyone at the same time.

Two of the tools the Airmen in the PICC use are the Air Force Incident Management System and the National Incident Management System. These systems were designed to handle any incident regardless of cause, size or complexity. They can handle natural disasters like earthquakes or hurricanes, or man-made accidents like hazardous material spills and acts of terrorism.

"The AFIMS system helps make sure that all of the agencies involved, including our civil counterparts, responding to a major incident can communicate using the same language," said Jackie Richardson, Commander's Senior Staff Manager. "Everyone involved uses the same terminology and compatible equipment so we're complementing each other in an incident instead of fighting to make things work."

AFIMS is different from the national system in that it was specifically designed with Air Force needs in mind.

"The system is designed to keep our command and control requirements intact and allow us to accomplish our critical mission operations while responding to the incident," Mr Richardson said.

In addition to making sure Peterson emergency responders can work with local agencies AFIMS is also a great asset to Airmen.

"It's a great system because it provides consistency from base to base," Colonel Peterson said. "It doesn't matter whether an Airman is at their home station or deployed, at war or at peace, through AFIMS the basic framework of emergency response remains the same."

"Not only did the PICC combine with emergency responders but we also took the initiative and co-located the emergency operations center and the commander's senior staff within the PICC," said Mr. Richardson. "Now the wing commander has one fully integrated and capable C2 node to direct his wing assets to include the many tenant units residing at Peterson."

The EOC consists of the EOC Director, usually a colonel, and 15 Emergency Support Functions.

All these resources combine to provide real-time situation awareness to the wing commander. For example, in a coordinated effort with our civilian emergency counterparts, the PICC uses the Automatic Vehicle Locator. The locator is a GPS system installed in all fire vehicles and ambulances. The AVL allows the commander to view the movement of all these emergency vehicles in near real-time.

"This is a helpful tool to track both military and civilian resources on and off base," Colonel Peterson said. "We can see where emergency response vehicles are at any given time."

This information is available to both the PICC and the Colorado Springs Emergency Operations Centers. For example, if there is an emergency on Peterson requiring transportation to a local hospital, controllers now have near real-time awareness of the ambulance location as it enters the base and proceeds to the scene.

GEOBASE is another tool used extensively by the PICC. GEOBASE is a mapping tool providing a true picture of the required cordon around an incident thereby assisting security forces with establishing entry control points, safe routes to and from the incident, as well as controlling traffic flow in and around the scene.

"The PICC also uses a newly developed E-Collaboration tool, another AFSPC first, built by IBM and approved by DISA. This tool has many more capabilities than we previously saw," said Mr. Richardson. "E-Collaboration provides VTC capabilities both on the classified and unclassified side. It also provides instant

chat and instant messaging between our unit control centers and the commanders. Now any GSU commander can provide real-time situation awareness to the wing commander using Voice Over Internet Protocol and web cam video. Geographic separation is no longer an issue with E-Collab."

"We will continue to provide our wing commander's vision of unsurpassed installation support and protection through an integrated and cohesive emergency response capability," said Colonel Peterson. "The key to success is a coordinated effort throughout the wing. Fortunately, we have the most professional personnel available to continue paving the way for Air Force Incident Management ... we will never falter and we will not fail."

CALENDAR

RISK ANALYSIS 2008
Computer Simulation Risk Analysis
and Hazard Mitigation
5 - 7 May, 2008
Cephalonia, Greece
www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2008/

2008 National Flood Conference
May 7-10, 2008
Chicago, IL
www.fema.gov/business/nfip/natl_fldconf.shtm

World Environmental & Water
Resources Congress 2008
May 12-16, 2008
Honolulu, Hawaii
<http://content.asce.org/conferences/ewri2008/>

The 18th Annual Nevada State
GIS Conference
May 19-21, 2008
Las Vegas, Nevada
<http://www.ngis.org/portal/>

Public Risk Management Association
(PRIMA)
2008 Annual Conference
Anaheim, California
June 1-4, 2008

<http://www.primacentral.org/>

11th Annual Emergency
Management Higher Education
Conference
Emmitsburg, Maryland
June 2-5, 2008

www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/edu/

Membership Invitation



Established in 1962

MISSION

Preparedness - Response - Education

DERA is a Nonprofit Disaster Service and Professional Organization.

Our members work together as an active, world-wide network of disaster preparedness specialists, response and recovery teams, trainers, consultants, technical experts, researchers and project managers.

We help disaster victims by improving planning, communications and logistics, reducing risks and mitigating hazards, conducting community preparedness programs, and by sponsoring emergency response missions.

We sponsor a school awards program that encourages students to study the effects of disasters and to conduct projects that reduce local hazards and improve community preparedness, safety and environmental protection.

As a prominent international professional association, our membership is composed of key leaders in the field of emergency management from around the world, including key government officials, volunteers, consultants, business managers, researchers, educators, students and wide range of charitable groups.

Our quarterly newsletter, DisasterCom, brings current information about developments in emergency management and reports on the activities of our global membership.

We sponsor research projects and the publication of emergency management guides, case studies, technical assessments, and preparedness materials.

If you share our vision of commitment and service, we would welcome you as a member.

Please complete the application that follows or contact us for further information.

**DERA
P.O. Box 797
Longmont, CO 80502**

Also, please visit us at www.disasters.org

