Next - Generation Incident Command System
(NICS)
Helpful Info

NICS Homepage: http://nics.LL.mit.edu

Wildfire Today Article: http://wildfreetoday.com/2014/02/10/new-communication-tool-enhances-incident-management/

YouTube Video: http://youtu.be/mADTLY0t_eM

SARApp: https://public.nics.ll.mit.edu/nicshelp/ ➞ Documents

※※ 3rd Annual NICS Users’ Group Meeting - 2-3 April 2014
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Bob Toups: cdfbob@gmail.com (951) 453-6513
Dave Schloss DSchloss@san-marcos.net (760) 594-2604
Marc Hafner Marc.Hafner@fire.ca.gov (619) 988-7234
NICS

- Situational awareness and commander collaboration starting at the incident level and instantly available to all other authorized decision makers in the NICS community.

- NICS = tools, technologies, & CONOPS

- Information sharing tightly controlled.

- Directly impacts decision making at all levels of C².

- An ICS/NIMS - based tool set; rooted in ICS/NIMS structure, processes, and procedures.

- “Compressing the decision cycle from 12 hours to 12 minutes.”
NICS is a Collaborative Project

Sponsor
Homeland Security
Science and Technology

Developer
MIT Lincoln Laboratory
Federally Funded Research & Development Center
Funded 2007-2010

Coordinator of Operational Participants
California Emergency Response Community
Tribal
Military
State
Local Govt
Federal
County
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Funded 2010-2013 *

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* Also County of San Diego; San Diego Gas & Electric; USCG
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Substantial In Kind Contribution
1st Use of NICS: Riverside Flooding 21-23 Dec 2010

Chief Hawkins briefs Board of Supervisors using NICS live

Chief Toups online with NICS
1,950 registered users
270 registered organizations

Federal - Tribal - Military - State - County
Local Government - non-govern org (NGO)
Commercial - Other.....

Fire-Rescue Law Enforcement
Emergency Management Utilities.......
1,950 registered users
270 registered organizations

Users:
1,550 - California
400 - Other (mostly MA National Guard & State Fire Service)
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State of Victoria, Australia
Challenges of ICS 1.0

Residual Implementation Artifacts from the 1970s
Artifacts of ICS 1.0

Based on paper & pencil
Artifacts of ICS 1.0

Dependent on voice-over-radio
Artifacts of ICS 1.0

Relies on face-to-face meetings for coordination & collaboration
8 NICS Key Design Principles
1. Adherence to ICS/NIMS

- Rooted in ICS structure, policies, and procedures
- Focused at the incident command level
2. Seamless Scalability

- 1,000s users
- 100s of organizations
- Dozens of incidents

….. simultaneously
3. Network to the “edge”

- Connect the most remote responders
- Resilient network operating conditions
4. Technology Neutral -- Web-Based

Any device, any operating system, any browser

Mac
PC
Work
Station

Tablet
Smart
phone

Windows
OSX
iOS
Linux
Android

IE *
Chrome
Firefox
Safari

* Except Internet Explorer 8 or earlier
5. “App Store” development approach

Anyone can contribute: commercial, academia, govt, station or precinct, private citizen.....
6. All-Hazard / All-Risk
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<td>Chemical Spills</td>
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<td>Airplane Wrecks</td>
<td>Train Wrecks</td>
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7. Technology for the TIRED – DIRTY - HUNGRY

Dirt simple to learn
Dirt simple to use

NOT intended to do everything
If you can do this.....

...we can teach you NICS in 60 minutes or less
8. **No cost to emergency responders**

- Not owned by a vendor
- An open source, community project
Questions?

"Relax, I've Got It!"