



Homeland
Security

NIPP

Newsletter

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION PLAN

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Upcoming NIPP CIKR Events

- > **SEPTEMBER 9 - 11**
National Native American Law Enforcement Association (NNALEA) 17th Annual Training Conference
Tulsa, OK
- > **SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 1**
Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO) 2009 Annual Conference
Hollywood, FL
- > **OCTOBER 26 - 28**
National Emergency Management Association Annual Conference
Columbus, OH

NIPP-Related Activities and Events

First National Dialogue on Homeland Security Is a Success

The first phase of the National Dialogue for the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review ended on August 9, 2009. Over 8,000 people – stakeholders and partners from all 50 U.S. States, the District of Columbia, and 68 other countries – joined in this first ever outreach effort by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR) is a congressionally mandated, top-to-bottom review of homeland security goals and objectives that will guide the department and the Nation for the next four years.

The participation in the dialogue was both broad and deep, with representation from other Federal agencies; State, local, tribal, and territorial governments; law enforcement professionals; first responders; academic institutions; and the business community. DHS will continue its aggressive outreach campaign and would appreciate your help in alerting your network about this opportunity to strengthen the community of people and organizations across the country dedicated to securing the homeland. See the archived results at <http://homelandsecuritydialogue.org/dialogue1>.

The second dialogue begins on August 31st and will continue through September 6th. The second dialogue will be more interactive. Don't miss the opportunity to inform the work of study groups and rate, tag, and post comments.

The six study areas are listed below:

Missions:

- Counterterrorism and Domestic Security Management
- Securing Our Borders
- Smart and Tough Enforcement of Immigration Laws
- Preparing for, Responding to, and Recovering from Disasters

Processes:

- Homeland Security National Risk Assessment
- Homeland Security Planning and Capabilities

The third dialogue, taking place from September 28th through October 4th, will seek your final review of the mission goals, objectives, key strategic outcomes, and final proposed enhancements to the two key processes. Sign up to receive email notifications at www.homelandsecuritydialogue.org. More information about the QHSR is available at <http://www.dhs.gov/qhsr>.

IP Launches Geospatial and Data Experts to the Field

The Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) recently rolled out a new effort to enhance infrastructure protection support and coordination with State and local governments; the initiative is known as Homeland Infrastructure Foundation–Level Data (HIFLD) to the Regions. Led by the Infrastructure Information Collection Division (IICD) in collaboration with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), this pivotal effort assigns geospatial analysts (GAs) and infrastructure data experts, known as information exchange brokers (IEBs), to each of the eight Protective Security Advisor (PSA) areas across the country. The HIFLD to the Regions project is part of the greater multi-agency HIFLD Working Group that was established to build a common baseline of infrastructure data for use across the Federal Homeland Security/Homeland Defense (HLS/HLD) community, to continuously improve the availability and quality of these data, and to develop a common foundation for infrastructure data visualization and analysis. More information on HIFLD can be found at www.hifldwg.org. In collaboration with the PSAs, the HIFLD to the Regions team supports IP's mission to promote information sharing and improve the collection, management, and visualization of critical infrastructure data.



In the few months since deploying, the HIFLD to the Regions team has provided expert support to PSAs across the country during numerous CIKR site assistance visits and National Special Security Events (NSSE), and has facilitated important infrastructure data exchange opportunities with mission partners in Kansas, New York, and a number of other States, urban areas, and localities. Most recently, team members collaborated with the NGA, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Florida emergency management personnel to plan and establish requirements for geospatial production in support of Super Bowl XLIII. The team also served as liaisons between IP and numerous Federal, State, and local partners during development of a recent Major League Baseball All-Star Game map book, IICD's first ever geospatial product developed jointly with NGA.

Communication and outreach are other key elements of the HIFLD to the Regions mission. Team members participate in various briefings and training sessions held at the State and local level to provide a perspective on IP's infrastructure data and geospatial activities and to share or listen to State and local perspectives on the infrastructure protection mission. The value gained from team member participation in these events is new and strengthens relationships between IP and its stakeholders to provide an increased, mutual understanding of the successes and challenges faced by the infrastructure protection community on a day-to-day basis. HIFLD to the Regions team members have recently participated in information-sharing opportunities at the Midwest PSA regional meeting; the Delaware office for the National State Geographic Information Council (NSGIC); and at the Southwest PSA regional meeting, which included partners from Customs and Border Protection. As the HIFLD to the Regions effort matures, it will undoubtedly improve and strengthen the partnerships at all levels of government and with the private sector that are the key to IP's long-term success.

Education Conference Provides A Forum to Promote Awareness of NIPP Information Sharing and Partnerships

The U.S. Department of Education's (ED) Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDFS) hosted its 2009 National Conference August 3-5 at National Harbor in Prince George's County, MD. Entitled, "The Power of Change: Healthy Students, Safe Schools, and Engaged Communities," the conference provided States, schools, and communities with information on programs and activities that promote the health and well-being of students in elementary schools, secondary schools, and higher education institutions.

The goals of the 2009 OSDFS National Conference were to:

- Enable participants to build upon skills and receive training from practitioners in the fields of emergency management; health, mental health, and physical education; alcohol, drug, and violence prevention; civic and character education; and other areas related to school- and community-based prevention;
 - Highlight information from research and evaluation studies that will support State and local officials in assessing needs, establishing priorities, and selecting the most effective programs and strategies;
 - Examine new trends, approaches, and strategies that may offer new approaches to both old and emerging problems and challenges; and
 - Showcase resources and tools developed by fellow practitioners and leaders in their respective fields.
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Because the safety and well-being of students, faculty, and staff are of the utmost importance for schools, several of the conference workshops addressed school safety and emergency management topics including behavioral threat assessment, continuity of operations, and H1N1 influenza preparedness and response. For example, the US Secret Service and ED hosted a “School Threat Assessment” institute, which provided guidance and tools for identifying, assessing, and managing students who may pose a threat of targeted violence. The guidance and tools were produced out of the “Safe School Initiative,” a collaborative study of 37 school shootings and other school-based attacks that took place between 1974 and 2000. “Columbine: 10 Years After” was a plenary session that examined the research and lessons learned after Columbine and their ramifications on current school emergency management and violence prevention efforts. Other plenary sessions featured Federal officials including Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education; Gil Kerlikowske, Director, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Tom Perrelli, Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice.

Because OSDFS programs and the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) both support all-hazards planning, the conference provided an opportunity for the NIPP Program Management Office (PMO) to exhibit the NIPP Booth and promote awareness of the NIPP and critical infrastructure and key resource (CIKR) protection, topics that complemented the information attendees received in their workshops. Key aspects of the NIPP of particular interest to attendees were the information-sharing approach and sector partnership model. NIPP PMO staff discussed the value of these elements and shared the NIPP in Action publication, “Leveraging Partnerships and Information Sharing: One School District’s Response to the California Wildfires,” which illustrates the importance of multi-level partnerships for both schools and the community.

Important News for the Sectors

Regional Exercise Tests Information Sharing in the Transportation Systems Sector

In conjunction with the just completed Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Level Exercise 2009 (NLE 09), Federal and private sector partners conducted a joint regional exercise to evaluate the effectiveness of information sharing between public and private sector partners while trying to prevent a terrorist attack on a motor coach (commercial bus). Exercise participants included private sector owners and operators representing six different bus companies spread across 25 locations in seven States, and representatives from Federal departments and agencies.

The regional exercise examined the ability of bus company employees to recognize suspicious individuals conducting surveillance and photography of bus locations, particularly those employees who had undergone counter-terrorism awareness training funded in part by the Transportation Security Administration’s (TSA) Inter-City Bus Security Grant Program. The suspicious activities identified by bus employees during the exercise were called into the First Observer 24/7 call center and Information Sharing and Analysis Center (www.firstobserver.com), a program funded by TSA’s Trucking Security Grant Program. Upon being alerted by First Observer personnel, authorities issued a BOLO (be on the look out) to bus drivers to assist in locating suspicious vehicles, all of which were subsequently found.

The exercise scenarios included bus hijackings in New Jersey and Iowa, with the bus in New Jersey being recovered by police after being stopped by a GPS-powered engine cut-off switch. The Iowa bus was used to demonstrate to first responders the use of onboard Internet-based cameras to enhance their situational awareness. The counter-terrorism awareness training, GPS device, onboard cameras, First Observer call center, and the regional exercise were all a result of funds provided by TSA grant programs focused on surface transportation security; all proved to be very successful during this exercise.

Through a partnering effort with DHS’ Office of Infrastructure Protection, the regional exercise was designed and managed by the Community Anti-terrorism Training Institute (CAT Eyes). This partnership provided exercise participants with a framework to run their regional exercises in conjunction with the larger NLE 09 effort. By coordinating regional action with the national scenario, participants were able to assess and gain a realistic understanding of each bus operator’s ability to conduct and sustain increased security operations tied to the raising or lowering of the Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) level.

CAT Eyes, which supports several of the bus companies participating in the exercise, served as the exercise controllers and evaluators for this regional event. The results of this exercise were combined with current training and security objectives to bring all members of the group under one common operating picture, supporting the establishment of best practices for security and continuity of operations across an industry segment.

For further information on NLE 09, please visit http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1248450105741.shtm.

Further information on TSA Highway Motor Carrier grant programs can be found at <http://www.tsa.gov/highway>.

New Training Course Available on Water Sector Interdependencies

The Water Environment Federation (WEF), in cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency, is announcing a series of training sessions on Water Sector interdependencies. As one of the 18 critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) sectors under the National Infrastructure Protection Plan, the Water Sector provides services essential to public health protection and industrial and commercial operations.

The primary objective of the training is to increase awareness among Water Sector utility owner/operators of their interdependencies with other CIKR sectors. A secondary objective is to increase the awareness in other sectors of their interdependencies with the Water Sector. As a result of this training, Water Sector utilities should be better equipped to build and sustain local and regional partnerships across CIKR sectors. These partnerships will align closely with the National Response Framework and with other Federal, State, and local guidelines to promote a comprehensive, consistent response to all hazards and to reduce impacts and recovery times.

The primary target audience for the course includes executives, managers, and operators of Water Sector utilities of all sizes, urban and rural, publicly or privately owned. In addition, representatives from all other CIKR sectors are invited to take the training because of the universal interdependence with the Water Sector. In particular, executives and managers from the following sectors may benefit from the course: Agriculture and Food; Chemical; Communications; Dams; Emergency Services; Energy; Healthcare and Public Health; Information Technology; and Transportation Systems.

Registration for the training will open in September 2009 via the WEF website at www.wef.org. The first training course will be offered in January 2010. For more information, please contact James K. Sullivan at jsullivan@wef.org or 703-684-2436.

More than 150 Requests Received for the Infrastructure Data Taxonomy

To prevent confusion between government and private sector partners on how critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) are described, the Office of Infrastructure Protection's (IP) Infrastructure Information Collection Division (IICD) created and manages an Infrastructure Data Taxonomy (IDT). The example in the text box details how a healthcare facility would be categorized using the IDT.



Created in 2005, the IDT has grown as a useful tool for CIKR categorization. Currently in its third version, the IDT has been disseminated to 150 mission partners throughout the private sector, academia, and State and local arenas. It has been posted to the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-

Level Data (HIFLD), Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) Online and Argonne National Labs (ANL)-hosted Web sites. The IDT is being implemented in all IP tools and is currently aligned with all Homeland Security Information Program (HSIP) data.

To view the IDT, users must submit a request via the following Web site, <http://lens.iac.anl.gov/taxonomy>. Web-based feedback from users on IDT functionality will support future improvements.

By using a common terminology and method for categorizing information, the IDT allows critical infrastructure data to be more easily shared and understood among its users. The IDT is a valuable framework for the homeland security community that establishes standards and common data fields for data management across the entire critical infrastructure domain.

EXAMPLE: HOW A HEALTHCARE FACILITY WOULD BE CATEGORIZED USING THE INFRASTRUCTURE DATA TAXONOMY

- **Sector:** The healthcare facility is identified as part of the **Healthcare and Public Health Sector**.
- **Sub-Sector:** Within the **Healthcare and Public Health Sector**, the healthcare facility is designated as part of the **Direct Patient Healthcare sub-sector**.
- **Segment:** The healthcare facility is then identified as part of the **Hospitals segment**, detailing the type of healthcare facility.
- **Sub-Segment:** Next, the healthcare facility is categorized within the **General Medical and Surgical Hospitals sub-segment** to recognize its capabilities.
- **Asset Type:** Finally, the healthcare facility is categorized as part of the **Private and Private Non-Profit General Medical and Surgical Hospital sub-segment**, recognizing ownership.

> Resources Available for NIPP Partners

The free on-line NIPP training course is available at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>.

The NIPP trade show booth is also available for sector use. Please contact NIPP@dhs.gov for information on NIPP PMO participation and/or exhibition at an upcoming sector event or to schedule one of the growing cadre of trained speakers who can be deployed to sector events to speak on CIKR issues.

> Implementation Success Stories

The NIPP PMO continues to seek NIPP and/or SSP implementation success stories from the sectors to be shared with other CIKR partners. Please submit any suggestions or brief write-ups to the NIPP PMO at NIPP@dhs.gov.

> NIPP Newsletter

The NIPP Newsletter is a product of the NIPP PMO and NIPP partners are welcome to submit input. If you have any questions about the Newsletter or would like to submit information for inclusion in upcoming issues, please contact the NIPP PMO at NIPP@dhs.gov. Recipients of this newsletter are encouraged to disseminate it further to their CIKR partners.

