



Hoosier Responder

NOVEMBER 2009

Volume 5, Issue 10

INDIANA PURSUES STANDARDIZED MESSAGING AND SYNCHRONIZED DISTRIBUTION OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH NEW, ALL-HAZARDS ALERT SYSTEM

The National Weather Service (NWS), in coordination and cooperation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has developed what it describes as “a comprehensive national solution for the centralized collection and efficient distribution of Non-Weather Emergency Messages (NWEMs).”



What it is:
The All-Hazards Emergency Message Collection System (HazCollect) utilizes the preexisting NWS weather alert process and infrastructure to broadcast non-weather related emergency messages. Now the same system that disseminates life-saving weather data can also be used to inform the public about critical or life-threatening, non-weather events. Once established in Indiana, this will be the state’s first emergency alert system capable of warning all Hoosiers simultaneously.

How it works:
When an incident occurs and officials on either the local, state or federal level decide it is necessary to provide those affected with emergency instructions, a web-based message is sent to the Disaster Management Interoperability Service (DMIS) where the message is authenticated and forwarded to the NWS Weather Forecast Office. From there the message is immediately broadcast through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) data stream to Weather Radio All Hazards with appropriate Emergency Alert Service (EAS) codes and tone activations for relay through local media outlets. Simultaneously, the message is sent over NWS Emergency Managers Weather Information Network (EMWIN) system, NOAA Weather Wire Service, and NOAAPORT broadcast system.



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From the Director’s Chair -Executive Director Joe Wainscott

Natural and man-made disasters continue to be an unfortunate reality in Indiana, but IDHS remains committed to preventing, protecting against, responding to and recovering from these events and threats to people, property and the economy.

IDHS has, and will continue to work with federal and local partners to warn, inform and educate Hoosiers through television and radio broadcasts, hotlines, newspapers, press releases and various other traditional avenues of communication. Keeping pace with advancing technology and the changing ways Americans get information and communicate, IDHS has also effectively integrated the use of email, texting and a variety of web-based mediums to

target Indiana residents with life saving information.

The standard communication platform is changing once again as Indiana residents, along with the rest of the United States, are embracing Internet based networks, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter, as their sources for news, entertainment and social networking. With this technological and social advent comes the opportunity for enhanced precision in crisis communications.

Quickly becoming one of our fastest avenues for disseminating breaking news from IDHS is www.twitter.com/IDHS.

On Facebook, search for the group: “Indiana Department of Homeland Security.” I understand that many may not have access to either of these web-based applications at work, but when available, I encourage you to explore the information, pictures, podcasts and other resources supported on these sites.

To receive critical communications about significant scale disasters, emergencies or public safety events, follow www.twitter.com/INPublicSafety.



(Continued on page 2)

UKRAINIAN EMERGENCY MANAGERS VISIT HARRISON COUNTY

On September 17, nine emergency management professionals from the Crimean Peninsula in Ukraine (former Soviet Union) arrived in Harrison County, Indiana to see how American emergency management professionals operate in rural U.S. environments. The visit occurred during a 22 day trip to the U. S., sponsored and organized by the United States Agency for International Development as part of its Community Connections Program. Participants were all professional emergency managers in Ukraine with a wide range of specialties including: mountain and ocean rescue, EMS and wildland firefighting. The Ukrainian visitors spent the majority of their time

touring various local, state and federal offices in Kentucky. The trip to Harrison County was arranged by Matthew Madden, program manager for the World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana which oversees



elements of emergency management, search and rescue, EMS and firefighting. Reas also guided the group through the Harrison County Communications Center and explained the role of the local Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) in dispatching law enforcement, firefighting, EMS and EMA resources from a central location.



the Community Connections Program, and coordinated with Greg Reas, Harrison County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director, and Michael Hunter, Education Coordinator for Harrison County Hospital EMS.

The visit to Harrison County began at the Harrison Emergency Management Agency where Reas worked with two interpreters to discuss how his agency approaches various

Their last destination was the Harrison County Hospital where the group toured the emergency department, radiological area and an ambulance where they seemed particularly interested in electronics capabilities (cardiac monitor/defibrillator, pulse oximeters, radios, telephones and computers). Following lunch provided by the Hospital, the visiting Ukrainians headed back to Louisville to meet with staff from the National Weather Service. ■

FIRE CERTIFICATION BULLETIN

Based on the rules adopted by the Firefighters Board of Personnel Standards and Education, the following changes have been in effect since January 15, 2009.

- Applicants are only allowed to take the same test three times within a six month period.
- It is mandatory for applicants to take the practical exam prior to taking the written exam.
- The student must meet all prerequisites to take any written exam. Example: To take Fire Officer I exam you must be certified in Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics, and Instructor I.
- Only complete application packets for certification will be processed by the Certifications Section. Incomplete application packets will be returned to the sender. ■

Alert System (Continued from page 1)

Message standardization:

A key component of HazCollect is the system's compliance with the Common Alerting Protocols (CAP) developed by the not-for-profit consortium, Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS). CAP is a federally adopted series of 18 pre-scripted, non-weather related emergency messages. The HazCollect system requires the local, state or federal officials who trigger the alert, to select one of the pre-

scripted messages for dissemination. DMIS verifies the CAP before forwarding the message for broadcasting. By utilizing these protocols, the HazCollect system helps control the accuracy and solidarity of information communicated to the public.

Get involved:

There are no direct costs associated with participation in HazCollect and all Indiana emergency management agencies are encouraged to participate. IDHS is currently completing necessary training through FEMA and NWS and expects to be fully integrated by sometime next year. For more information about HazCollect and to find out how you can participate, visit www.weather.gov/os/hazcollect or contact IDHS, Robert O. Stanley at 317.232.6878, rstanley@dhs.in.gov. ■



Director's Article (Continued from page 1)

This multi-agency account represents a cooperative effort among Indiana state agencies to provide potentially life-saving information from one, consistent and timely source. "Tweets" from INPublicSafety will be reserved for emergency or critical information only.



Facebook and Twitter offer a unique new way for IDHS to continue quickly and accurately communicating critical information with Indiana citizens. I encourage you to explore these new possibilities with us and consider ways you can utilize these resources in your own agency.

If you have any questions or comments about using these new mediums, please contact Emily Norcross 317.234.7211, Enorcross@dhs.in.gov. ■

INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS



By James B. Hawkins, Division of Fire and Building Safety

Since 1928, the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI) has brought unbiased focus to interpreting the National Electrical Code and teaching safe installation and use of electricity. IAEI was originally composed of only electrical inspectors, but over the years has expanded its membership to include any person or organization in the electrical industry who wishes to focus on safety and education. Over the years IAEI has gained the reputation of fairness and code compliance, and has become the keystone of the electrical industry. IAEI plays a cohesive role among testing agencies, standards organizations, manufacturers, distributors, contractors and inspectors.

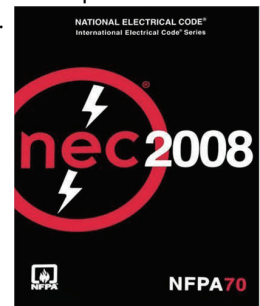
The current goals of the IAEI are:

- To formulate standards for the safe installation and use of electrical materials, devices and appliances.
- To promote uniform understanding and application of the National Electrical Code (which Indiana adopts as our Indiana Electrical Code).
- To promote uniform administrative ordinances and inspection methods.
- To represent electrical inspectors in the electrical industry, nationally and internationally.
- To collect and disseminate information relative to the safe use of electricity.
- To promote cooperation among inspectors, city, county and state inspection departments, national and international counterparts, the electrical industry and the public.

Corporate offices of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors are in Richardson, Texas.

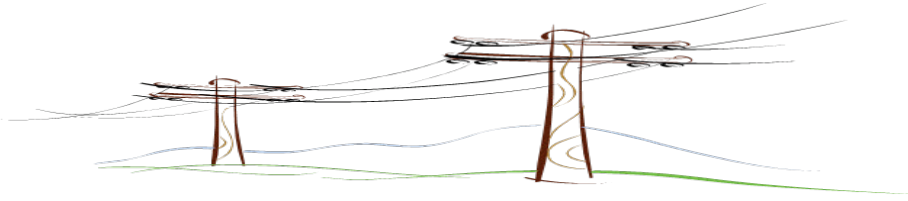
They can be contacted at www.iaei.org.

The Indiana Chapter of the IAEI is a member of the Western Chapter of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors and can be contacted at www.indiana.iaei.org.



The Indiana Association conducts an annual business meeting in Lafayette, Indiana each year. This year's dates are February 18-20, 2010. Anyone interested in the electrical industry is welcome to attend. Nationally known experts will conduct classes and discussions on the National and Indiana Electrical Codes.

For more information, contact Jim Hawkins: 317.234.7211, jhawkins@dhs.in.gov.



EMS Spotlight – Osolo

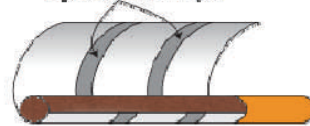
The EMS for Children award recognizes the efforts of EMS personnel in response to, and in support of, emergencies involving children. The award was presented to Geoffrey Crist, Osolo EMS, Elkhart County, at the 2009 Indiana Emergency Response Conference in Indianapolis. Crist is a paramedic known to maintain calm concentration and the ability to perform the necessary skills when responding to pediatric runs. He not only maintains Pediatric Education for Pre-hospital Providers (PEPP) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certifications, but is also an autism course train-the-trainer. His experiences with his own child with autism give him great insight which he shares with others in EMS to ensure a proper response to pediatric patients in crisis. ■



MANUFACTURERS COMPLY WITH INDIANA FIRE SAFE CIGARETTE ACT

The Indiana Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 28 or "Fire Safe Cigarette Act," became effective July 1, 2009. Under the law, cigarette manufacturers must have a Fire Safe Cigarette (FSC) certification approved by the Indiana State Fire Marshal (OSFM) before they can sell cigarettes in Indiana.

"Speed Bumps"



The Indiana State Fire Marshal charges cigarette manufacturers an \$800 fee for every brand family (Camel, Winston, Virginia Slims, etc.) to be sold in Indiana. Manufacturers are required to reapply every three years. The funds support application processing, cigarette testing, enforcement, oversight and general administration of the Indiana State Fire Marshal's FSC program.

To date, 122 unique cigarette brand families have been approved under FSC legislation



for sale in Indiana. The FSC laws do not apply to roll-your-own (RYO) cigarettes, chewing tobacco or cigar products.

It is too soon to evaluate the effectiveness of the FSC legislation in preventing cigarette related fires, but as retailers exhaust their inventories of traditional cigarettes, and fire-safe cigarettes become increasingly commonplace in Indiana retail and wholesale outlets, the Indiana Fire Marshal's office and Indiana FSC program administrators will continue closely monitoring the statistics.

For more information about fire-safe cigarettes or the Indiana FSC program, visit www.firesafecigarettes.org or www.in.gov/dhs/firesafesmokes.htm. ■

IDHS SEEKS ACCREDITATION THROUGH NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

From Nov. 30 to Dec. 4 IDHS will be undergoing an on-site assessment as part of its efforts to achieve accreditation through the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA).

NEMA, a not-for-profit, Lexington based organization, created the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) in 1997 as a way to establish standards for emergency management professionals. EMAP is a voluntary review

process for state and local emergency management programs. According to NEMA, accreditation is a means of demonstrating, through self-assessment, documentation and peer review, that a program meets national standards for emergency management programs.

The purpose of this upcoming visit is to see how well IDHS has progressed since the 2004 baseline assessment. Emergency management professionals from around the country will evaluate IDHS based on 63 standards within 16 program elements. To satisfactorily complete the assessment, IDHS must demonstrate compliance with each and every of the 63 standards. ■



FIREFIGHTER TRAINING SYSTEM HELPS PREPARE THOUSANDS

In the last fiscal year, the Indiana Firefighter Training System trained over 7,100 firefighters. Four hundred and sixteen fire departments from 55 counties sent firefighters to training sponsored and funded by the district firefighter training system. The cost to deliver training through the district fire training council in 2008/2009 is \$139.32 per student. Fort Wayne, Indianapolis and Mishawaka Fire Departments are the top 3 users of the system. Training classes are conducted in Firefighter I and II,

Mandatory, Haz-Mat Awareness and Operations as well as live burn and haz-mat technical skill training. ■



H. S. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLASS LEARNS ABOUT IDHS

Fifteen students from Triton Central High School's Emergency Management/Homeland Security class toured the agency on October 5 and met with division directors and other key personnel to learn more about what IDHS does. Instructor Steve Elder and his son accompanied the group. Brad Thatcher guided the visitors through informative sessions exploring the roles and functions of the state Emergency Operations Center, Planning Division, Field Services Division and others. Lillian Hardy

brought a K-9 from the Search and Rescue center and also met with students to answer questions and discuss her role at IDHS.

Public safety organizations with student interns about to or currently pursuing college degrees are encouraged to apply to the IDHS Secure Indiana Scholarship Program. Applications are due by November 26. For more information visit www.in.gov/dhs/foundationsscholarship.htm. ■

EMA Spotlight- Clark County



Leslie 'Les' Kavanaugh
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Leslie 'Les' Kavanaugh has been the Clark County Emergency Management Agency director for the last four years. Previously, he spent 27 years with the Jeffersonville fire department where he gained experience as a firefighter, certified arson investigator, fire code inspector, haz-mat instructor and fire ground tactics instructor. Before retiring as Fire Marshal, Kavanaugh achieved the rank of major.

As Clark County EMA Director, Kavanaugh has worked closely with the Indiana Fire and Building Trades Commission, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and faith based groups. He has built a diverse support staff including many individuals with first responder backgrounds, communication experience and property assessment/insurance-claim backgrounds. Since September 2008, Clark County EMA operated at their highest level during three weather related events requiring disaster declarations. Kavanaugh also oversaw the refurbishing of the mobile command unit where he is pictured with several members of his staff.

Clark County EMA, comprised of professionals from the fire, police, EMS and school safety specialist disciplines, as well as personnel from shelter support agencies and Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), is dedicated to serving all the citizens of Clark County, in every jurisdiction and municipality by supporting local first responders. ■



CUSEC AND IDHS INSTALL GEOCACHE IN NEW HARMONY

In October, IDHS and the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), participated in the installation of a geocache in New Harmony, Indiana. This is CUSEC's eighth geocache. After an installation in Alabama, each CUSEC member state will have a geocache. These caches contain earthquake safety brochures and takeaways for each visitor.

"This project demonstrates CUSEC's exemplary ability to keep pace with the rapidly evolving technological frontier we operate in," said IDHS Executive Director Joe Wainscott.



"Communication forums seem to be constantly changing and expanding, and this is an innovative way to promote earthquake preparedness and awareness."

Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. The basic idea is to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, outdoors and then share your experiences online.

Established in 1983 with funding support from the Federal

Emergency Management Agency, CUSEC's primary objective is to provide dynamic support to multi-state response and recovery, planning, resource acquisition, public education and awareness, promotion, mitigation and research associated with earthquake preparedness in the Central United States.

CUSEC member states are those most vulnerable to the effects of earthquakes in the region and include Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee. Indiana CUSEC members, led by IDHS, include the Indiana Geological Survey and the Indiana Department of Transportation. ■

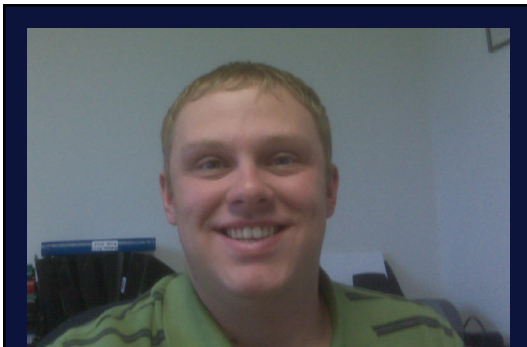
EMA Spotlight- Fulton County



Austin Bragg began serving as Fulton County EMA director in early August of this year. He has 4 years experience as a volunteer firefighter with the Rochester Fire Department, 2 years as an EMT and a background in manufacturing management and sales.

Bragg says his initial focus as new EMA director has been on updating county plans, as well as searching for grant opportunities for the county. The agency is also working hard to revitalize the volunteer base in Fulton County and improve CERT involvement.

His recently appointed Deputy Director, Carol Wilson, has extensive experience in disaster response which Bragg affirms will be a tremendous asset to the Fulton County EMA. ■



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FIRE DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT: PUTNAM



fire station with three pumpers, one aerial platform, one brush truck, one rescue truck, two support vehicles, a Hazardous Material Operations Trailer, Mass Decontamination Trailer, and a fire safety house. The department provides an eight county regional response team for hazardous materials decontamination

The Greencastle Fire Department services the entire city of Greencastle. Supporting the approximate population of 12,000, the city is a community of 36 square miles, located approximately 40 miles Southwest of Indianapolis.

The Greencastle Fire Department originally started as a volunteer fire department in 1849 with one horse drawn steam engine. At one point, the fire department went to a paid department with a few paid firemen, but after a short period of time went back to a volunteer department. It was only after a big uptown fire that the City saw the need to have a permanent, paid department. The fire department employed only four firefighters until the early 1950's.

Today, the Greencastle Fire Department is comprised of 35 members trained in various skills including firefighting, rescue and hazardous materials response. The Greencastle Fire Department has one

through the Hazardous Materials Task Force # 7 Team, headquartered in Terre Haute. In addition to the station, the department also operates the District 7 Regional Training Site in Putnam County.

The Greencastle Fire Department has mutual aid agreements with 12 different agencies, businesses and industries outside Greencastle city limits.

Chief Bill Newgent has been Fire Chief of the Greencastle Fire Department since he was appointed in 2000, and has been serving the department for 18 years. In addition to his duties as chief, he also serves as Chairperson of the Indiana District 7 Training Council; board member and past president of the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association. In 2005, Chief Newgent was appointed by the Governor to the Indiana Public Safety Commission (IPSC). He was named Sagamore of the Wabash 2008 and 2009 Indiana Fire Chiefs Combination Fire Chief of the Year. ■

SAY THANKS TO HOOSIER FIRST RESPONDERS

The next time you renew your vehicle's plate, ask for a "Secure Indiana" license plate.

The revenue from "Secure Indiana" license plate sales funds the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation. One of the first of its kind in the nation, the Foundation offers financial support for critical public safety needs across Indiana. Local public safety organizations in your community are eligible to apply for projects such as equipping emergency responders with personal protective equipment, acquiring equipment for use by emergency responders and training for emergency responders.

The fee to receive a "Secure Indiana" license plate is only \$40, in addition to your normal

vehicle registration and excise fees. Of the \$40 fee, the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicle retains \$15 for administrative costs with the remaining \$25 going directly to the Foundation. (Note: If you request a low-end number from 1 to 100 or a specific number there is an additional one-time \$30 "pull" fee.)

By paying a small fee and purchasing a "Secure Indiana" license plate, you can make a big impact by assisting Indiana's first responders who help protect your loved ones, your neighbors and you. Declare your dedication to a "Secure Indiana" today!



For more information on the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation, contact:

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
302 West Washington St. Room E208
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph. 317.232.3980
Fax 317.233.5006

CODE CORNER: IC 16-31-3-1

Certification Requirements for the Provision of Emergency Medical Services

- (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a person other than:
- (1) a licensed physician;
 - (2) a registered nurse or an individual acting under the supervision of a licensed physician; or
 - (3) a person providing health care in a hospital or an ambulatory outpatient surgical center licensed under IC 16-21;
- may not furnish, operate, conduct, maintain, advertise, or otherwise be engaged in providing emergency medical services, except for the use of an automated external defibrillator, as a part of the regular course of doing business, either paid or voluntary, unless that person holds a valid certificate issued by the commission.
- (b) A:
- (1) licensed physician;
 - (2) registered nurse or an individual acting under the supervision of a licensed physician; or
 - (3) person providing health care in a hospital or an ambulatory outpatient surgical center licensed under IC 16-21;
- who operates a business of transporting emergency patients by ambulance or using a nontransporting emergency medical services vehicle must hold a valid certificate issued by the commission under this article.



As added by P.L.2-1993, SEC.14. Amended by P.L.186-1995, SEC.8; P.L.74-2006, SEC.3.

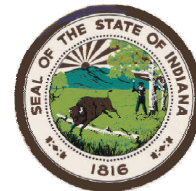


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Leadership for a safe and secure Indiana



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