



NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

Overview



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What Is NIMS?

- NIMS is a comprehensive, national approach to incident management
- NIMS provides the template for incident management, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity
- NIMS is applicable at all jurisdictional levels and across functional disciplines



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NIMS At A Glance

What NIMS is:

A comprehensive, nationwide, systematic approach to Incident Management

A set of preparedness concepts and principles for all hazards

Essential principles for a common operating picture and interoperability of communications and information management

Standardized resource management procedures

Scalable, so it may be used for all incidents

A dynamic system that promotes ongoing management and maintenance

What NIMS is NOT:

A response plan

Only the Incident Command System or an organization chart

A communications plan

Only applicable to certain emergency management incident response personnel

Only used during large-scale incidents

A static system



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Benefits of NIMS

- Standardized approach to incident management that is scalable and flexible
- Enhanced cooperation and interoperability among responders
- Comprehensive all-hazards preparedness
- Efficient resource coordination among jurisdictions or organizations
- Reflects best practices and lessons learned



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NIMS Components

To integrate the practice of emergency management and incident response throughout the country, NIMS focuses on five key areas, or components:

- I. Preparedness
- II. Communications and Information Management
- III. Resource Management
- IV. Command and Management
- V. Ongoing Management and Maintenance



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Preparedness

- NIMS preparedness focuses on the following elements:
 - Planning
 - Procedures and Protocols
 - Training and Exercises
 - Personnel Qualifications and Certification
 - Equipment Certification
- Enhanced through partnerships at all levels of government, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations



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I. Preparedness

Preparedness Cycle:
Illustrates the essential
activities for responding to an
incident



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II. Communications and Information Management

- NIMS promotes the use of flexible communications and information systems
- Built on the concepts of:
 - Common Operating Picture
 - Interoperability
 - Reliability, Scalability, and Portability
 - Resiliency and Redundancy



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III. Resource Management

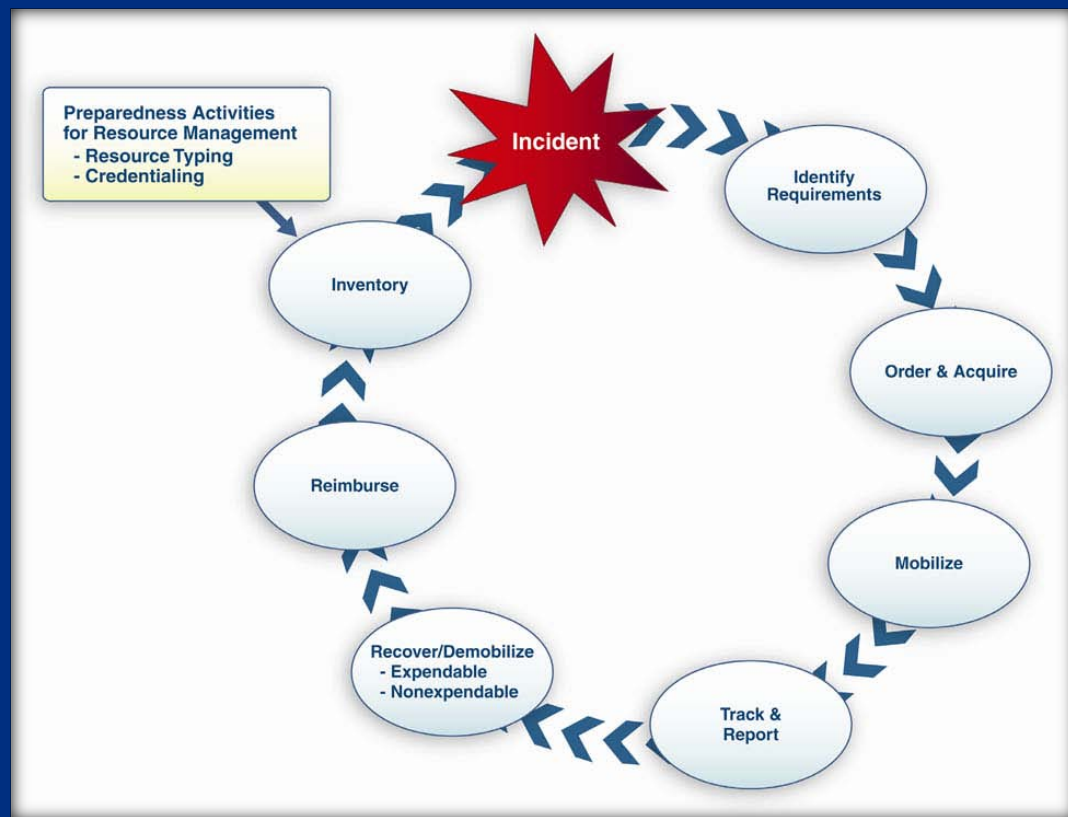
- NIMS describes standardized resource management practices such as typing, inventorying, organizing, and tracking
- Allows for effective sharing and integration of critical resources across jurisdictions
- Activating, Dispatching, and Deactivating those systems prior to, during, and after an incident



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III. Resource Management

Resource Management during an incident is a finite process with a distinct beginning and ending specific to the needs of the particular incident.



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IV. Command and Management

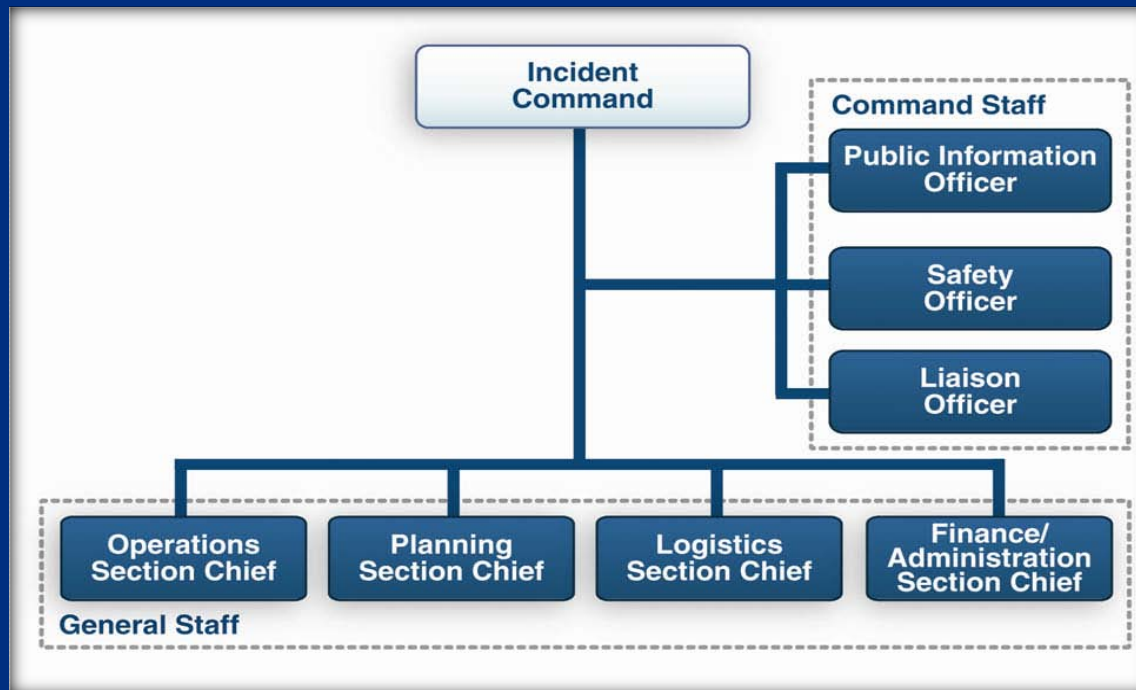
- NIMS enables effective and efficient incident management and coordination by providing a flexible, standardized incident management structure
- This structure integrates three key organizational constructs:
 - Incident Command System
 - Multi-Agency Coordination System
 - Public Information



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IV. Command and Management

Incident Command System: Command and General Staffs



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IV. Command and Management

Multi-Agency Coordination System

- Is a process that allows all levels of government to work together more effectively
- Occurs across different disciplines
- Can occur on a regular basis whenever personnel from different agencies interact



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IV. Command and Management

Public Information

- Consists of processes, procedures, and systems for communicating timely, accurate, and accessible information related to an incident
- Public information functions must be coordinated and integrated across jurisdictions and across functional agencies



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IV. Ongoing Management and Maintenance

- The FEMA National Integration Center (NIC) provides strategic direction, oversight, and coordination of NIMS
 - NIC coordinates ongoing maintenance and continuous refinement of NIMS concepts and principles
- Committed to science and technology. Research and development results in continual improvement and refinement of NIMS



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NIMS Audience

NIMS is applicable to all incidents and all levels of stakeholders who assume a role in emergency management, including:

- All Levels of Government
 - Elected and appointed officials
- Private Sector Organizations
- Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources Owners and Operators
- Nongovernmental Organizations



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NIMS Training Program

- Supersedes *Five-Year NIMS Training Plan*
- Current State of NIMS Training
 - Existing training efforts
- NIMS Curriculum: Goals, Objectives, and Action Items
- Simplified categories for level of training:
 - *Five-Year NIMS Training Plan*: Awareness, Advanced, or Practicum
 - *NIMS Training Program*: Baseline and Advanced
- Training recommendations based upon Incident Complexity:
Type 1-5



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Roles and Responsibilities

Federal Departments and Agencies

- HSPD-5 requires all Federal departments and agencies to adopt NIMS
- To be used in individual incident management programs and activities

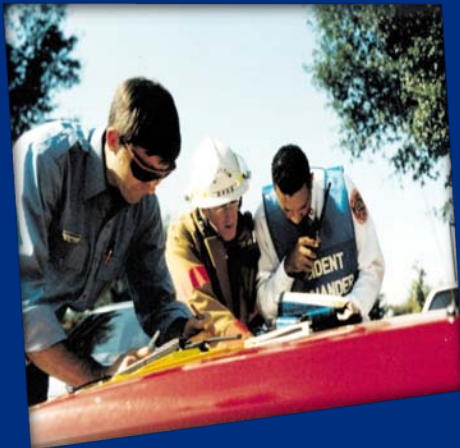


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Roles and Responsibilities

State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local Governments

- HSPD-5 requires adoption of NIMS by States, tribal, and local organizations as a condition for Federal preparedness awards
- NIMS is based on the concept that local jurisdictions retain command, control, and authority over response activities



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Roles and Responsibilities

Private Sector and Nongovernmental Organizations

- All entities involved in response operations are strongly encouraged to have their response personnel receive NIMS training



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NIMS Resource Center

The NIMS Resource Center (www.fema.gov/nims) provides online resources to implement and maintain NIMS concepts and principles.



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National Integration Center

The National Integration Center (NIC) provides NIMS-related:

- Administration
- Standards and Credentialing
- Training and Exercise Support
- Publication Management

Contact Information:

Phone: 202-646-3850

Email: FEMA-NIMS@fema.dhs.gov

NIMS Resource Center: www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system.gov



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