



Emergency Management and Response Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)

INFOGRAM 25-10

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NOTE: This INFOGRAM will be distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures. For further information, contact the Emergency Management and Response- Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC) at (301) 447-1325 or by e-mail at emr-isac@dhs.gov.

DHSI Secure Portal Continuation

Emergency Services Sector (ESS) personnel who have been vetted to receive [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) For Official Use Only (FOUO) Notices have seen the announcement at the DHS-Interactive (DHSI) login page stating “DHSI will be decommissioning soon.” Please disregard this notification. The EMR-ISAC confirmed that the “Closing Down” alert does not currently apply to ESS personnel validated to receive the CIP (FOUO) Notices.

ESS leaders who have been accessing the EMR-ISAC CIP (FOUO) Notices via DHSI will be able to continue doing so until the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) is ready for use by the ESS. After HSIN has been tested and activated in the near future, sector personnel will be automatically transitioned from DHSI to a HSIN secure portal for the purpose of accessing the sensitive (FOUO) information disseminated by the EMR-ISAC.

To prepare for the transition from DHSI to HSIN, during the past five months the EMR-ISAC contacted most current FOUO subscribers and asked each individual to provide seven pieces of information to ensure their continued validation to receive the FOUO documents. If you receive the FOUO notices and have not been contacted or have not already provided the requested information, please update your contact information to ease the revalidation process and eventual transition from one system to the other. Therefore, FOUO recipients who have not already done so since 1 February should submit the following by e-mail to emr-isac@dhs.gov: (1) full name, (2) official work e-mail address, (3) work organization name, (4) work phone number, (5) official postal mailing address, (6) official duty position/title, and (7) indicate if you occupy a leadership or supervisory position. *This information will NOT be shared.*

To eliminate any concerns or confusion, the EMR-ISAC will provide additional information in advance of the transition from DHSI to HSIN. However, if you have questions about the requested information or this eventual improvement in service, please contact this Center at emr-isac@dhs.gov or at 301-447-1325.

New Standards for Private Sector Preparedness

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a [Press Release](#) last week in which Secretary Janet Napolitano announced the adoption of the final standards for the Voluntary Private Sector Preparedness Accreditation and Certification Program (PS-Prep). DHS sources informed the [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) that this action is a major milestone in the DHS implementation of a program recommended by the 9/11 Commission to improve private sector preparedness for disasters and emergencies.

"Private organizations across the country—from businesses to universities to non-profit organizations—have a vital role to play in bolstering our disaster preparedness and response capabilities," said Secretary Napolitano. "These new standards will provide our private sector partners with the tools they need to enhance the readiness and resiliency of our nation."

PS-Prep is a partnership between DHS and the private sector that enables private entities to receive emergency preparedness certification from a DHS accreditation system created in coordination with the private sector. Under an agreement with DHS, the [American National Standards Institute](#) (ANSI) National Accreditation Board (ANAB) will be the accreditation body responsible for carrying out independent accreditations and overseeing the certification process.

The EMR-ISAC noted the [ANAB](#) will allow private sector organizations—including those of the Emergency Services Sector—to demonstrate through formal certification and other means their compliance with voluntary preparedness and business continuity standards. The three standards designated by DHS provide businesses with a flexible range of options from which to choose to enable them to become more resilient.

Suspicious Packages

The [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) continues to see national media reporting of suspicious packages and letters being received nearly daily throughout the United States. Frequently, packages containing unidentified substances have been found at [federal buildings](#), [municipal buildings](#), [courthouses](#), [subways](#), [schools](#), etc. In almost all instances, the contents of the packages causing disruptions and delays have tested negative for hazardous substances and are determined to be safe or non-threatening.

Since 9/11, federal government agencies have published information (e.g., [FBI web site](#)) regarding the possible dangers of suspicious packages. The following is an EMR-ISAC abbreviated summary of the more salient cautions:

- Notify appropriate law enforcement authorities immediately upon discovery.
- Request the assistance of the nearest hazardous materials response team.
- Contact the local public health department.
- Alert the U.S. Postal Inspection Service if the package was delivered via U.S. mail.
- Avoid touching, moving, or opening any suspicious packages.
- Treat the site as a crime scene, preserve the evidence, and maintain a chain of custody.
- Perform basic field safety screening of any substances leaking from the package.
- Identify and list those who may have been exposed to the suspicious leaking package.

More helpful information about suspicious packages can be seen at the [DHS Response Checklist](#) (PDF, 512.4 KB) and at the DHS [Suspicious Package Indicators](#) (PDF, 831.1 KB).

Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders

Several months ago, the [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) received information regarding the free availability of the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) [Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders](#) (WISER) application, which is designed to assist first responders in hazardous material incidents. The WISER system concept works as a stand-alone application or connected mode. It provides a wide range of knowledge on hazardous substances, including chemical identification support, physical characteristics, human health information, and containment and suppression guidance.

Earlier this month, the EMR-ISAC learned the NLM announced the release of the WISER for iPhone/iPod touch. Similar to other iPhone applications, WISER is also compatible with Apple's iPad. Interested emergency personnel can acquire a free download of WISER for the iPhone/iPod touch from the [iTunes App Store](#).

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REPORTING NOTICE

The National Infrastructure Coordinating Center (NICC) within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Infrastructure Protection is the central point for notifications regarding infrastructure threats, disruptions, intrusions, and suspicious activities. Emergency Services Sector personnel are requested to report any incidents or attacks involving their infrastructures using at least the first and second points of contact seen below:

- 1) NICC - Voice: 202-282-9201, Fax: 703-487-3570, E-Mail: nicc@dhs.gov
- 2) Your local FBI office - Web: www.fbi.gov/contact/fo/fo.htm
- 3) EMR-ISAC - Voice: 301-447-1325, E-Mail: emr-isac@dhs.gov, fax: 301-447- 1034,
Web: www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac, Mail: E-108, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727