



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

INFOGRAM 45-10

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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.*

Focus on Preparedness

(Source: FEMA)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced it has submitted its final report and recommendations to Congress regarding the National Preparedness System. [Perspective on Preparedness: Taking Stock Since 9/11](#) (PDF, 1.4 MB) offers an analysis of what preparedness has meant in the United States, both historically and since 9/11, and includes an in-depth analysis of post-9/11 preparedness-related activities.

The [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) reviewed this document and ascertained it contains 25 specific recommendations for creating a better defined, better integrated, more effective preparedness system. The federal, state, local, and tribal task force responsible for its development encourages all member of the preparedness community to review the report and to discuss ways to implement the recommendations with their constituents, partners, and leadership.

Electric Vehicle Safety

(Source: FireRescue 1)

The [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) learned that the [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA) is developing an Electric Vehicle Safety Training Program to provide firefighters and other first responders with information they need to most effectively deal with emergency situations involving electric vehicles. Working with auto manufacturers, including Chevrolet and others, the training will give first responders the information and resources to effectively prepare and safely respond.

The NFPA Electric Vehicle Safety Training will begin in early 2011, and will discuss several electric vehicle safety matters as exemplified by the following topics seen in [FireRescue 1 online](#):

- High strength steel is used in certain locations of most electric vehicle models. Identifying the location of this steel is important when it comes to knowing the right tools to use when responding to an incident.
- Proper procedures for the identification of appropriate cut points for electrical shut-off will be important in the event of extrication.
- Like many hybrid models recently introduced, electric vehicles emit very little sound and it is important to ensure that vehicles are properly turned off prior to engagement.
- There will be new challenges presented by vehicle charging stations and other infrastructure associated with electric vehicles.
- Just like with any new technology, training is important. Firefighters and first responders have always met and challenges coming their way. The introduction of electric vehicles is simply the latest one.

Guide to Homeland Security

(Sources: Homeland Security Today and the National Governors Association)

According to an article in [Homeland Security Today](#), the [National Governors Association](#) (NGA) released a handbook this week to guide newly elected state governors through establishing and managing state homeland security operations. [A Governor's Guide to Homeland Security](#) (PDF, 1.6 MB) provides a resource for governors taking office, as well as veteran governors and their staff, as they determine how to organize and operate homeland security, emergency management, and public safety systems in their respective states.

The [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) noted that the document serves as a guide to governors and state officials as they begin to examine their state's homeland security operations and structures. Each chapter of the guide offers a discussion of salient issues and includes "key points" through the lenses of preparedness, prevention, response, and recovery.

"Within those disciplines, the guide explores the coordination of state homeland security and emergency management agencies, the establishment of the authority of a governor's homeland security advisor, the operation of emergency response plans, the organization of state fusion centers, and the use of public safety communications."

Fire Safety Aspects of Green Construction

(Source: National Association of State Fire Marshals)

The [National Association of State Fire Marshals](#) (NASFM) recently released a fire and building safety guide to green construction. [Bridging the Gap: Fire Safety and Green Buildings](#) identifies some of the key areas where rapidly growing green building construction issues coincide with building and fire safety needs.

The [Emergency Management and Response—Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (EMR-ISAC) observed that this guide will give both the fire service and the green construction community a reference point for developing buildings and sites, which are environmentally sound and meet fire safety needs. The document is meant as an introductory guide for fire chiefs and firefighters, building and fire code enforcement officials, architects, and anyone involved in building design, plan reviews, and construction.

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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