



October 2009 Edition

EDXL Showcases Suite of Standards at OASIS Summit

The Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS) hosted the Emergency Interoperability (EI) Summit from September 30-October 1, 2009, in Baltimore, Maryland. Held in conjunction with the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) Training Event, this Summit focused primarily on promoting closer interaction and coordination for emergency response decision makers nationwide—including practitioners, industry representatives, and policy makers. The Summit featured sessions on the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) and the Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL).



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) supported the Summit by showcasing the entire suite of EDXL standards in alignment with the NIEM Information Exchange Package Documentation (IEPD) for the EDXL Distribution Element. The suite includes the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Version 1.1, the Distribution Element (DE), the Hospital Availability Exchange (HAVE), and the Resource Messaging (RM 1.0). These standards provide practitioners with access to new real-time, relevant emergency response capabilities, including the exchange of alerts and warnings, requesting and tracking resources, and sharing situational awareness and other crucial information. Additionally, this demonstration will be featured at the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) Annual Conference, from October 21–November 4, 2009, in Orlando, Florida.

CCI Participates in IACP Conference

From October 2-7, 2009, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) held the 116th Annual IACP Conference and Exposition in Denver, Colorado. This event drew more than 15,000 law enforcement professionals—including practitioners, industry representatives, and policy makers from around the world. The conference provided attendees with solutions to critical law enforcement challenges, and provided a platform for the exchange of best practices and lessons learned. Additionally, the conference provided top-notch education on the most pressing law enforcement topics by featuring more than 150 educational sessions.





During the conference, CCI Director Dr. Boyd addressed attendees while participating in a Homeland Security Committee panel. He highlighted the Command, Control and Interoperability Division’s (CCI) Virtual USA initiative, which creates a cost-effective nationwide capability to significantly improve information sharing and decision making during emergencies and day-to-day operations. Housed in one of the largest exhibit halls for products and services

within the law enforcement community, CCI highlighted its five program areas—Cyber Security; Communication, Interoperability and Compatibility; Knowledge Management Tools; Basic/Futures Research; and Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Investigative Technologies—as well as their work on cutting-edge projects and initiatives within the law enforcement community. The IACP Conference presented a comprehensive view of current law enforcement issues and trends. Additional event information is available at <http://www.theiacpconference.org/>.

MBR Visits Sweden

From October 1-2, 2009, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency and the DHS Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate hosted the first Euro-Atlantic Stakeholders Conference. Held in Stockholm, Sweden, the Conference aimed to advance preparedness and resiliency against threats by effectively communicating research needs, capabilities, innovative technologies, and conceptual frames among academia, industry, and government leaders. CCI Deputy Director Trent DePersia presented CCI’s Virtual USA initiative and the Division’s program areas. The multi-band radio (MBR) was featured and performance capabilities were highlighted during the Conference. The MBR enables emergency responders to communicate with partner agencies, regardless of the radio band on which they operate. For more information about the Conference, please visit <http://www.easc09.se/>.

Save the Dates

- From February 2-4, 2010, the 11th Annual Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness (TCIP) Conference and Expositions will convene in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Focusing on prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery, the Conference will highlight DHS, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the U.S. Department of Defense’s technology and training tools that are available to the emergency response community. The Conference will also provide a forum for emergency responders to discuss best practices and exchange information. With an expected 1,500 attendees, TCIP offers an opportunity for collaboration and constructive discussion about the future of emergency preparedness and response.



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security established the Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) in 2004 to strengthen and integrate interoperability and compatibility efforts in order to improve local, tribal, state, and Federal emergency preparedness and response. Managed by the Science and Technology Directorate's Command, Control and Interoperability Division, OIC is committed to developing technologies and tools—methodologies, templates, models, and educational materials—that effectively meet the critical needs of emergency responders in the field.

The Interoperability Bulletin provides updates about OIC-related initiatives, accomplishments, and opportunities. This Bulletin is distributed to stakeholders monthly.

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