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Emergency Manager's Weekly Report 5-15-09

(The articles, reports and additional information contained in this edition were collected from 4-24 to 5-15)

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

Edmund Burke



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International News Stories

Gulf of Aden Piracy

How to Defeat Pirates: Success in the Strait
<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1893032,00.html>

Somali PM: Anti-pirate patrols not working
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/africa/04/23/pirates.security.meeting/index.html>

Pirates seize German ship, U.S. Navy reports
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30410669/>

Italian cruise ship thwarts pirate attack
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/africa/04/26/somalia.pirates/index.html>

Russia captures Somalia pirates
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8023951.stm>

Pirates seized after threatening French navy ship
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/africa/05/03/kenya.pirates/index.html>

Navy ship outruns pirates, officials say
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/africa/05/07/somalia.pirates.foiled/index.html>

NATO thwarts hijack off Somalia, seizes dynamite
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090502/ap_on_re_af/piracy

Somali pirates 'get targets from London informers'
http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=CNG.de14ef0f0ea770e907e368d800150622.401&show_article=1

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China has high naval ambitions
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/8011625.stm>

ENISA calls on EU states to rationalize public network protection
<http://www.computerweekly.com/Articles/2009/04/22/235750/enisa-calls-on-eu-states-to-rationalise-public-network.htm>

Testing the terror truck bombs (United Kingdom)
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/8011329.stm

The Fog of Cyberwar
<http://www.newsweek.com/id/194605>

Italy fears mafia quake fund grab
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8008849.stm>

Far-Right Crimes Up Sharply in Germany
<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,620264,00.html>

Russian police readied for unrest
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8012878.stm>

2 men jailed in Britain on terrorism charges
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090429/ap_on_re_eu/eu_britain_bombings_trial;_ylt=Au2Ivg5KN_5BTOEeavfsi3lvieAA

Nargis one year on: Labutta voices (Myanmar)
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/8025026.stm>

UN Emergency Fund Tops \$100 Million
<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/WO0904/S00423.htm>

Terrorists moving from Afghan border to Africa
<http://www.homeland1.com/domestic-international-terrorism/articles/484592-Terrorists-moving-from-Afghan-border-to-Africa>

Iraqi soldier kills 2 US soldiers in northern Iraq
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090502/ap_on_re_mi_ea/ml_iraq

Iran 'leading terrorism sponsor'
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8028064.stm>

Freed Darfur aid workers happy to be back in Khartoum
http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090430/wl_africa_afp/sudanconflictdarfuraidkidnap

Named and shamed: the 16 barred from UK
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/16-banned-from-britain-named-and-shamed-1679127.html>

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Libya Seeks Return of Terminally Ill Man Serving Time for Lockerbie Blast
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/06/AR2009050600710.html?hpid=moreheadlines>

Pakistani police underfunded, overwhelmed
http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2009-05-05-pakistancops_N.htm

Malaysia nabs fugitive linked to 9/11-style plot
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30631932/>

Desperation in Pakistani hospitals, refugee camps
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090509/ap_on_re_as/as_pakistan

Bushfire inquiry stirs fierce debate (Australia)
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/8038363.stm>

Shaky Pakistan seen as target of Al Qaeda plots
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30677684/>

Terrorist traffic via Syria again inching up
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30676872/>

Australian fire chief defends fatal blaze warnings
http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Australian_fire_chief_defends_fatal_blast_warnings_99.html

Pakistan expanding its nuclear capability
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30648446/>

Refugee Crisis Clouds Pakistan's Anti-Taliban War
<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1897467,00.html>

World Red Cross Red Crescent Day 2009 – Our world. Your move.
<http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/8-may-statement-050509>

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Hazard Research and News

Bombings kill nearly 90 in Iraq

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/meast/04/23/iraq.violence/index.html>

Volcano 'poses tsunami threat' in Caribbean

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090421/sc_afp/sciencevolcanotsunamicaribbeanguadeloupe_20090421154742;_ylt=AngwkzR.QnLhzUxwVs_bMcvPOrgF

Contrary to recent hypothesis, 'chevrons' are not evidence of megatsunamis

<http://www.physorg.com/news160212894.html>

Tsunami warning from Portsmouth professor (United Kingdom)

<http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/portsmouth/Tsunami-warning-from-Portsmouth-professor.5191931.jp>

Egyptian woman dies of bird flu: MENA

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20090422/sc_nm/us_birdflu_egypt;_ylt=AIVexH18wLCKH2Pef8ea2xqhANEa

Straw house beats the shakes in earthquake test

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20227046.100-straw-house-beats-the-shakes-in-earthquake-test.html>

Goal of eliminating malaria in sight: experts

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20090424/sc_nm/us_malaria;_ylt=AtTS.Jvnky44Ve5bQ5jsL0MhANEa

Could Food Shortages Bring Down Civilization?

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=civilization-food-shortages>

Eight Die in Mine Collapse in Northwest Colombia

<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=332582&CategoryId=12393>

Baghdad car bombings over 4 hours kill 48 (Iraq)

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/meast/04/29/iraq.bombing/index.html>

Ukraine marks Chernobyl's 23rd anniversary

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090426/sc_afp/ukrainechernobylnuclearaccident_20090426074628;_ylt=Aqcnaj8NaGBtzrGLSpCZcbPOrgF

Six climbers killed in Austria Alps avalanche

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30543398/>

"Loner" shoots 13 dead at Azerbaijan college

<http://www.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idUSTRE53T1NF20090430>

Gas explosion in Siberian apartment block kills 8 (Russia)

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2009/05/03/international/i045821D51.DTL&type=science>

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Indian Ocean buoys help predict monsoon: scientists

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090504/sc_afp/usindiaaustraliascienceweathermonsoon_20090504225537;_ylt=AgtiC_DEbKSctbhTAr3MMt7POrgF

41 killed in attack on Turkish wedding party

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/europe/05/04/turkey.wedding.attack/index.html>

AFGHANISTAN: Flood emergency declared

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/ab82f8b08fb9431fdf1273c970aecfd3.htm>

Experts: nearly 1 billion hungry people in world

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090506/ap_on_re_eu/eu_france_world_hunger

Amazon Floods Leave 186,000 Homeless (Brazil)

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1896385,00.html>

Attempted attack on Dutch royal family leaves 5 dead

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/europe/04/30/netherlands.queen.car/index.html>

Ash shows past eruptions 'underestimated'

<http://www.physorg.com/news160836010.html>

UN agency takes deadly storm names off list

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090506/sc_afp/wmostormsweather_20090506160735;_ylt=Am57NjsYQbRQrW_ExIFwV3DP0rgF

Study sheds light on why some plaques turn deadly

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20090505/sc_nm/us_heart_plaque;_ylt=AkFfQMZkwpvx4dQaUVLJIMhANEA

Solar storms ahead: Is Earth prepared?

<http://features.csmonitor.com/innovation/2009/05/05/solar-storms-ahead-is-earth-prepared/>

Philippines typhoon kills 27, new storm approaches: govt

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Philippines_typhoon_kills_27_new_storm_approaches_govt_999.html

Fingerprinting Slow Earthquakes

http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Fingerprinting_Slow_Earthquakes_999.html

Scientists say eruption in Congo imminent

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30628531/>

Global monsoon drives long-term carbon cycles in the ocean

<http://www.physorg.com/news160995438.html>

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Mystery worms turn on northwest China herdsmen

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20090508/sc_nm/us_china_worms;_ylt=AoCkmQYWtk7OQ8gYdClri0YhANEa

Gas blast causes fire in Moscow (Russia)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8042278.stm>

When Comets Attack: Solving the Mystery of the Biggest Natural Explosion in Modern History

http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/air_space/4316464.html

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International Affairs

China Uses Global Crisis to Assert Its Influence

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/22/AR2009042203823.html?wprss=rss_world/asia

Russia Opens Efforts to Talk With NKorea

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1893311,00.html>

Turkey, Armenia In Broad Accord

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/22/AR2009042203888.html?hpid=moreheadlines>

Secret tally has 87,215 Iraqis dead

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090423/ap_on_re_mi_ea/ml_iraq_death_toll

Israelis 'followed law in Gaza'

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/8012543.stm

Egypt's Escalating War on Hezbollah

<http://www.homeland1.com/homeland-security-news/483855-egypts-escalating-war-on-hezbollah/>

Pakistan - Taliban Nuclear Nightmare

<http://www.nationalterroralert.com/updates/2009/04/23/pakistan-taliban-nuclear-nightmare/>

UN tackles Iraq's disputed areas

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/8013550.stm

Clinton in Lebanon ahead of key election

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30414779/>

Jordan sees new war if US does not act quickly

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090426/ap_on_re_mi_ea/ml_jordan_king_1

Attacks have ripple effect on Iran-Iraq ties

http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2009-04-28-iraqshrine_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip

Gorbachev, Shultz, Nunn, Perry Urge a Nuclear-Free World

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1893066,00.html>

North Korea threatens nuclear tests over U.N. move

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20090429/ts_nm/us_korea_north

Report: Brisk activity at NKorea nuclear test site

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090507/ap_on_re_as/as_koreas_nuclear;_ylt=ArKvKhONkmCE3ig4BclPyJgBxg8F

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Russia blasts the West over two issues

http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-russia-west1-2009may01_0,4509555.story

Russia to Assume Defense Role in Georgia's Rebel Republics

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2009-04-30-voa26.cfm>

Afghan Taliban spokesman: We will win the war

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/asiapcf/05/04/robertson.interview.zabiullah.mujahid/index.html>

Administration Is Keeping Ally at Arm's Length (Afghanistan)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/05/AR2009050504048.html?hpid=topnews>

Red Cross backs reports of Afghan civilian deaths

http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-afghanistan-civilians7-2009may07_0,2898655.story

U.S. denies 147 civilians killed in Afghanistan violence

http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2009-05-08-us-afghanistan-violence_N.htm

Barack Obama hints at tougher line on Israel

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/middle_east/article6229180.ece

Peres won't rule out "other options" against Iran

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N06278337.htm>

Abbas to Form New Gov't — Without Hamas

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1896614,00.html>

UN laments choking of Bethlehem

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/8037467.stm

UN rebukes Israel over Gaza raids

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/8034565.stm

Obama: Tougher treaty to halt nuke weapons needed

<http://www.homeland1.com/disaster-preparedness/articles/486140-Obama-Tougher-treaty-to-halt-nuke-weapons-needed>

Georgian troop rebellion 'over'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8033366.stm>

AU chief rebukes Chad, Sudan on resumption of hostilities in eastern Chad

<http://www.afriquejet.com/news/africa-news/au-chief-rebukes-chad.-sudan-on-resumption-of-hostilities-in-eastern-chad-2009050626986.html>

Aid worker: Shelling kills 378 civilians in 'no-fire' zone (Sri Lanka)

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/asiapcf/05/10/srilanka.tamils.fighting/index.html>

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Iceland's government moves closer to joining EU

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2009/05/10/international/i1111019D66.DTL&type=science>

Iran frees jailed U.S.-born journalist

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20090511/us_nm/us_iran_usa_journalist

Berliners regret near-total destruction of wall

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30693251/>

Taliban storm strategic Afghan city

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/asiapcf/05/12/afghanistan.fighting/index.html>

Alleged Crime Goes Unsolved as U.N. Agencies Argue

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/11/AR2009051103500.html?hpid=topnews>

Sudan leader denies Darfur crimes

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8046516.stm>

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Global Warming/Climate Change News Articles (U.S. and International)

Climate change will 'cause global war'

<http://www.newsoftheworld.co.uk/news/270773/Climate-change-will-cause-global-war.html>

'Climate change' forces Eskimos to abandon village

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/science/04/24/climate.change.eskimos/index.html>

Obama launches push for green revolution

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090423/pl_afp/usclimateenvironmentobama_20090423014556;_ylt=Aj9IYVo0RmSuy_POUCG29ADPOrgF

Gore: Emission Cuts Would Restore America

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/04/24/tech/main4966090.shtml>

Fire influences global warming more than previously thought

<http://www.physorg.com/news159715079.html>

New momentum for global climate pact despite 'gaps'

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090424/wl_afp/g8climatewarming_20090424223839

Rising seas threaten renowned French coast

<http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/franceclimateenvironmenttourism>

US wants to move on climate change

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090429/ap_on_re_us/un_un_ozone_treaty;_ylt=Ag3RMjfOPBNoTvLsd84hSSFvieAA

Climate catastrophe: What's the worst-case scenario?

http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/environment/2009-04-29-climate-worst-case-scenario_N.htm

Climate Change A Serious Threat To SE Asia

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/04/27/tech/main4971271.shtml>

Climate change 'cultural genocide' for Aborigines

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090504/sc_afp/australiaenvironmentnativeclimatewarmin_g_20090504131344;_ylt=AjUN6Aekj2B.PnaDrRwZKLrPOrgF

US to push plan to swap for fuel efficient cars

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090505/ts_alt_afp/usclimateenergyauto_20090505180559;_ylt=AvjvU3kd1BxYUESP9aOZ2grPOrgF

Climate change may not spur wildfires

http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/environment/2009-05-06-climate-change-wildfires_N.htm

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Disaster looms with rising sea levels: islands

http://green.yahoo.com/news/afp/20090512/wl_asia_afp/environmentoceansclimateindonesia.html

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Alternate Energy Research and Development News

U.S. May Raise Cap on Grants for High-Tech Power Grid

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/23/AR2009042302577.html?hpid=moreheadlines>

HOW SMART CAN THE GRID GET?

<http://cosmiclog.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2009/04/22/1903394.aspx>

Merkel lays foundation for 'hybrid' power plant (Germany)

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090421/sc_afp/germanyenergyclimatewarmingtechnology_20090421181648;_ylt=ArPT48XHN0HGIPbXfsngwQLPOrgF

Could your trashcan solve the energy crisis?

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20227051.500-could-your-trashcan-solve-the-energy-crisis.html>

Ocean power surges forward

<http://features.csmonitor.com/environment/2009/04/24/ocean-power-surges-forward/>

Homeowners, small businesses install turbines to cut long-term energy costs

<http://www.physorg.com/news159867426.html>

Military embraces green energy

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-army-green26-2009apr26.0.158694.story>

BLM to get \$300 million for stimulus projects

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2009/05/02/national/a153846D01.DTL&type=science>

Solar-panel plant and headquarters could bring 3,600 jobs to Orange County (Florida)

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/business/orl-bk-solar-plant-orlando-042809.0.7206883.story>

Russia Plans to Power Arctic Oil Drilling With Floating Nuclear Plants

<http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/80beats/2009/05/04/russia-plans-to-power-arctic-oil-drilling-with-floating-nuclear-plants/>

Ethanol test for Obama on climate change, science

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090503/ap_on_go_ca_st_pe/us_ethanol_climate

Hydrogen Fuel Made Using Green Energy

<http://dsc.discovery.com/news/2009/05/06/hydrogen-electrolyzer.html>

Scientists unveil chocolate-fueled race car

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090505/ap_on_re_eu/eu_britain_chocolate_racer;_ylt=Ap_m3RcsXSXikO9vHDTiCxAtvieAA

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Hydrogen Car Goes Down Like the Hindenburg: DoE Kills the Program

<http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/80beats/2009/05/08/hydrogen-car-goes-down-like-the-hindenburg-doe-kills-the-program/>

Forget Biofuel. Is Bioelectricity the Next Big Thing?

<http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/80beats/2009/05/08/forget-biofuel-is-bioelectricity-the-next-big-thing/>

5 Feasible Renewable Energy Sources

<http://www.physorg.com/news161024861.html>

Biomass as a source of raw materials

<http://www.physorg.com/news161343267.html>

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Reports

Orange County, CA Fire Authority 2008 Freeway Complex Fire After-Action Report
<http://www.ocfamedia.org/uploads/PDF/fcfaar.pdf>

Performance Audit of the Chester County, PA Department of Emergency Services
http://dsf.chesco.org/controller/lib/controller/2008_DES_mgmtltr.pdf

HOMEGROWN TERRORISTS IN THE U.S. AND U.K.: AN EMPIRICAL EXAMINATION OF THE RADICALIZATION PROCESS
http://www.defenddemocracy.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=11785395&Itemid=354

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Compendium of Disaster Assistance Programs
http://www.dhs.gov/xoig/assets/mgmtrpts/OIG_09-49_Apr09.pdf

Disaster Accountability Project, Report on Southern Louisiana Emergency Preparedness
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U.S. House of Representatives, Secrecy in the Response to Bayer's Fatal Chemical Plant Explosion Hearing
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<http://waiting-for-the-next-disaster.blogspot.com/>

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<http://www.riversideca.gov/fire/cert-video.htm>

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<http://www.bepress.com/jhsem/vol6/iss1/8/?sending=10583>

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A Framework for Analyzing the Total Economic Impacts of Terrorist Attacks and Natural Disasters

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New Numbering and E911 Requirements for VRS and IP Relay Video in American Sign Language (ASL)

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Preparedness Global Partners: A Global Clearinghouse for Emergency Management and Business Continuity

<http://www.preparednessglobalpartners.com/>

All-Hazards Consortium Website

<http://www.ahcusa.org/>

Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Website (Redesigned)

http://www.pema.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pema_home/4463

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<http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/index.shtm>

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Church Disaster Mental Health Project Website

<http://www.churchdisasterhelp.org/index.html>

LRC Pathfinders - Guides to the literature

<http://www.lrc.fema.gov/pathfinders.html>

Terminations, Reductions, and Savings, Budget of the U.S. Government Fiscal Year 2010

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2010/assets/trs.pdf>

Accessible Information Exchange: Meeting on a Level Playing Field

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Santa Barbara Wildfire (Photo Gallery)

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White House, Internal Review Concerning April 27, 2009 Air Force One Flight Memo

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2012 the Movie Website

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City of Seattle, WA Pandemic Influenza Incident Plan

http://www.seattle.gov/emergency/library/Seattle_Pandemic_Annex.pdf

China's Catastrophic Earthquake (Photo Gallery)

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/30604613/displaymode/1247/>

FEMA Requests IAEM-USA Member Comments on Draft Preparedness Guide on Incorporating Household Pets and Service Animals Considerations into Emergency Operation Plans

<http://www.iaem.com/committees/GovernmentAffairs/GovtAffairs.htm#FEMACPG302>

U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security FY 2010 Budget Provided to Congress

<http://www.iaem.com/committees/GovernmentAffairs/GovtAffairs.htm#DHSbudget12May2009>

FEMA Temporary Housing Program Ending For Families of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

http://www.fema.gov/media/fact_sheets/temp_housing_kat_ending.shtm

NBC, Trauma (TV Show)

Like an adrenaline shot to the heart, *Trauma* is an intense, action-packed look at one of the most dangerous medical professions in the world: first responder paramedics. When emergencies occur, the trauma team from San Francisco General is first on the scene, traveling by land, by sea or by air to reach their victims in time. From the heights of the Transamerica Pyramid to the depths of the S.F. Bay, our heroes must face the most extreme conditions to save lives, and give meaning to their own existence in the process.

<http://www.nbc.com/trauma/>

NBC, Day One (TV Show)

In the aftermath of a global event that devastates the world's infrastructures, a small band of survivors strive to rebuild society and unravel the mysteries of why the event took place and what the future has in store. Told from the point of view of an eclectic group of neighbors in a Van Nuys, California apartment building, this journey of survival will show us that hope is found in the smallest of victories and heroes are born every day.

<http://www.nbc.com/day-one/>

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Interagency Coordinating Council on Emergency Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities, March/April 2009 Updates

COLLABORATING AGENCIES' DISASTER RELIEF EFFORT (CADRE) CONFERENCE DRAWS CAPACITY CROWD

DHS CRCL staff delivered a plenary presentation and co-lead a breakout session with Richard Devylder, Special Advisor to the Director, California Emergency Management Agency at the Fourth Annual Santa Clara County Disaster Preparedness Conference held on March 24, 2009 in San Jose , CA . The conference entitled, Together We Do Better: Meeting Accessibility and Functional Needs in a Disaster, brought together local government representatives with community and faith-based service providers to discuss, learn, and plan around issues related to disaster preparedness, response and recovery for disability and other special needs populations in the community. Participants in the breakout session on the Functional Accessibility Paradigm Shift, engaged in discussion on planning networks, shelter services, and recovery. This well attended conference was also an excellent opportunity for networking and cooperative information exchange.

CADRE is a leading network of organizations that provide community services that are essential in times of disaster. The CADRE Network matches community needs to resources. For more information, go to www.vcsv.us/cadre.

THINK CULTURAL HEALTH DEVELOPS CURRICULUM FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND CRISIS RESPONSE

The HHS Office of Minority Health, within the Office of Public Health and Science, has developed a Web-based Cultural Competency Curriculum for Disaster Preparedness and Crisis Response. The curriculum is currently under review for accreditation, with a projected launch date at the end of June 2009. The E-learning curriculum will provide information that is relevant to Emergency Management, First Responders (EMS , EMTs, Police, Fire, etc.), Disaster Mental Health workers, Public Health professionals such as the Commissioned Corps, as well as individuals from FEMA and the Red Cross. The curriculum content will include the following topics: (1) Models and approaches for delivering culturally competent services, including knowledge and skill-centered approaches; (2) Effective communication techniques and tools for delivering language access services; and (3) Tools and resources to help create both internal and external organizational supports to promote and sustain culturally and linguistically competent services in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. The outline of the course as well as other relevant information can be found at https://www.thinkculturalhealth.org/ccdpcr/default_3.asp.

FTA SPONSORS NEW RESEARCH ON COMMUNICATING WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN EMERGENCIES

On March 2 and 3, FTA and FHWA staff participated as liaisons to a Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) panel that developed a scope of work for a new research and demonstration project on emergency preparedness. The research sponsored by this project will produce a toolkit for emergency managers and transportation officials. The toolkit will contain strategies, policies, and practices that will allow them to more effectively communicate emergency preparedness information to the following individuals: older adults, people with disabilities, people with limited English proficiency, low-literacy, low-income individuals, and others who may have specific emergency

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communications needs and transportation needs. A request for proposals for this project can be found at <http://www.trb.org/TRBNet/ProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=2611>.

ICC WORKPLACE SUBCOMMITTEE COMPLETES ADDENDUM TO THE FRAMEWORK OF GUIDELINES: "PREPARING THE WORKPLACE FOR EVERYONE"

The Workplace Subcommittee has continued its mission to ensure that individuals with disabilities are included in emergency preparedness planning in the workplace, and have access to everything they need to evacuate during an emergency. As part of an effort to provide up-to-date information to employers and emergency managers, the Subcommittee has completed an addendum to the Framework of Guidelines: "Preparing the Workplace for Everyone," that addresses the needs of individuals with disabilities when evacuating using stairwells. This Stairwell Addendum is available online on the Department of Labor's Website at <http://www.dol.gov/odep/programs/emergency.htm>.

DISABILITY LAW HANDBOOK

The Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers Southwest ADA Center, a program of the Independent Living Research Utilization at The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research Memorial Hermann, announces the publication of The Disability Law Handbook, a 50-page guide to the basics of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other disability related laws.

Written in an FAQ format, The Disability Law Handbook answers questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act, the ADA Amendments Act, the Rehabilitation Act, Social Security Act, the Air Carrier Access Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, and the Fair Housing Act Amendments.

To download your individual copy of The Disability Law Handbook, go to <http://www.swdbtac.org/html/publications/dlh/disabilitylawhandbook.pdf>.

PROMOTING SAFE EGRESS AND EVACUATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The National Disability Authority (NDA) has launched an important new publication entitled "Promoting Safe Egress and Evacuation for People with Disabilities". The publication is aimed at ensuring the speedy and safe evacuation of public buildings by people with a disability, particularly in the event of an emergency. This publication will be of special interest to facilities managers, accommodation officers, health and safety personnel, access officers, disability liaison officers and human resource professionals in the public sector. To read the report, go to [http://www.nda.ie/cntmgmtnew.nsf/0/195244135ECA466B8025741F00529C24/\\$File/Egress1.html](http://www.nda.ie/cntmgmtnew.nsf/0/195244135ECA466B8025741F00529C24/$File/Egress1.html).

HURRICANE IKE IN TEXAS AND LOUISIANA : MITIGATION ASSESSMENT TEAM REPORT, BUILDING PERFORMANCE OBSERVATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

In response to Hurricane Ike, FEMA deployed a Mitigation Assessment Team (MAT) to evaluate and assess damage from the hurricane and provide observations, conclusions, and recommendations on the performance of buildings and other structures impacted by wind and flood forces. The MAT included FEMA Headquarters and Regional Office engineers, representatives from other federal agencies and academia, and experts from the design and construction industry. The conclusions and recommendations of this report are intended to provide decision-makers with information and technical guidance

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that can be used to reduce future hurricane damage. To read the report, go to <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3577>

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