





NEMA's story

- National Emergency Management Association was established in February, 1974
- State directors of emergency management are the voting members of NEMA
- In 1990 NEMA became an affiliate organization with The Council of State Governments (CSG)
- NEMA celebrates its 35 anniversary in 2009



Evolution of Emergency Management

- Civil Defense
- Major disasters
- Domestic terrorism
- Sept 11, 2001
- Emerging bio events
- Hurricane Katrina
- ?



Current challenges (and strategic plan items)

- Evolving environment in which emergency managers must operate
- Constantly changing requirements being placed on states by the federal government
- Current focus on catastrophic disaster planning and emerging issues such as Pandemic Influenza



Top 5 National Emergency Management Issues

1. All-hazard emergency preparedness
2. Emergency management must be owned by elected officials at all levels of government
3. Our nation requires an integrated emergency management system
4. Citizens and businesses must understand and take responsibility
5. Education and training resources are required to build an effective system



Recommendations for improvement

1. Build and maintain a baseline capability
2. Plans must be based on state specific hazard identification and risk assessment
3. Activities must be coordinated at the federal level
4. Unity of effort is a pre-requisite for effective disaster response
5. Interstate and intrastate mutual aid assistance must be recognized and supported



Recommendations for improvement

6. Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) should be recognized
7. Develop leadership and professional development curricula
8. Focus on enhanced public information, crisis communications, and warning to include corresponding actions by the public
9. Understand the limitations of government in disasters
10. Integrate private sector into the emergency management system.



The goals of NEMA are to:

1. Strengthen the nation's emergency management system.
2. Provide national leadership and expertise in comprehensive, all-hazards emergency management.
3. Serve as a vital emergency management information and assistance resource.
4. Advance continuous improvement in emergency management through strategic partnerships, innovative programs, and collaborative policy positions.



To ensure successful national preparedness

- All-hazard
- Span the national mission areas of prevent, protect, respond, recover
- Recognize collaborative and cooperative approach with all partners
- Strengthen and promote mitigation



For further information:

- NEMA Website
www.nemaweb.org
- NEMA 35th Anniversary Materials
www.nemaweb.org/?2972
- NEMA 2009 Mid-Year Conference and Anniversary Celebration, March 6-11, Alexandria, VA
www.nemaweb.org/?2781