



ERMC *presents...*

INCIDENTALS *quarterly news letter*

Spring 2008



Land Use Comes To The Forefront...

With the ongoing growth of communities coupled with the amazing pace of industrial development, we are truly starting to see strains within the different stakeholders from this rapid expansion.

Perhaps this is no more evident than the public input that has been seen at the electric transmission system construction proposed for central Alberta. We are seeing similar reactions to the high speed bullet train that has been mentioned for the Edmonton to Calgary corridor.

These examples have made headlines but there are more and more regional/local issues that are coming to the forefront. In the case of large scale industrial developments, often a straight buy out of the local land owners is performed to mitigate risks that could develop through the design, construction and operational phases of the development.

We have seen pipeline companies with legacy systems advocate against residential subdivisions on or near their pipelines and rights of way. After the subdivision is approved, the pipeline company may be told that it is their responsibility to upgrade their emergency response capabilities and to deal with this development that they had advocated against. As our population grows, these types of issues will continue to be a challenge to emergency planners.

What to do?

Well, we know we can't stop the people – indeed, most of us are all looking for more people and they need to live and recreate somewhere. We see in this an increasing need for emergency preparedness and response professionals to be creative and innovative in their planning. It also means that we need to be aware of the benefits that some technology might bring to our emergency planning efforts.

For instance, with the ongoing development of notification and communication software, text messages and satellite communications, there are now many options to consider when designing systems to communicate/notify internal and external audiences.

The expanded use of GPS and GIS databases to accurately map and lay out terrain and populations is just an expected ability. A few short years ago, it was leading edge stuff.

Plume dispersion/monitoring alarms have seen a tremendous leap in applications. Technology exists today that uses solar power to operate remote gas detection systems. These monitoring systems can be placed strategically around assets – say a sour gas well – and can be set up to communicate via satellite phone should an alarm situation arise. This notice would allow an operator to “log in” remotely and immediately evaluate the conditions. Obviously, notification to the required audiences could immediately follow.

Additional developments on plume dispersion technology have gone from the traditional “sniffing” technology to the use of lasers – point to point. By analyzing the differences in the beam, concentrations of gases can be determined. This technology can greatly increase the range of detection over a wide geographic area. Within plume dispersion, the CBRN capability, once never dreamed of, is now an expected capability that organizations are needing to include in their emergency planning efforts.

Technology has also now grown and we are seeing specialty software applications in crisis supply chain management. The whole field of resource planning, accessing supplies during an emergency and managing these supplies – outside of normal business operations – is now a recognized specialty within the supply chain management field.

Another area that has evolved tremendously over the past few years is in the area of personal protective equipment (PPE). Equipment has gotten lighter, more heat/chemical resistant, and easier to manage/maintain. Breathing apparatus is simpler to operate and provides more feedback than ever to users.

The message is simple. To cope with the ongoing pace of development and the pressures that we are all under from increasing population and increasing development, we need to be aware of the evolving technologies that we can use to help us do our jobs.

Technology cannot replace our own critical thinking, a solid risk analysis and good planning coupled with training and exercises – but it sure may be able to help us manage our response should an incident occur. It can provide immediate information, immediate connectivity and immediate response capabilities – as long as we know how to manage these capabilities.

Regardless of the industry you are in, ERMC can assist you in evaluating what your risks are, work with you on your plan – and include in

that plan technology that can augment and assist you in your response. We make sure that any technology solutions add value to your response not complications.

The ERMC Team



Yes, we know you are interested in reading about our team but we thought we would take this opportunity to let everyone know we are really busy at ERMC and are looking to add to our full time consulting staff.

If you think you can contribute your skills and training across a wide range of industrial, public sector and not for profit organizations, we would love to hear from you. We do risk analyses, help produce emergency response plans, deliver custom training, perform organizational consulting and help plan and coordinate exercises – from Table Tops to Full Scale Mocks and we’re looking for a few good people to help us continue to deliver high quality, relevant service to our growing list of clients.

We can promise you lots of challenge, lots of variety, the opportunity to work with an industry leader and a generous incentive based compensation plan that rewards your ability to be productive and efficient.

We also strongly support ongoing professional development for our team so if you are interested, you can contact us in complete confidence at bhertz@ru-ready.com or call and ask for Bruce at 1-800-718-3762





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Disaster Forum Update

We are only days away from DF 2008 and so far based on delegate registrations, 2008 is shaping up to be as good or better than '06 and '07. Disaster Forum will run at the Banff Centre, APRIL 21 – 24, 2008.



Keynote speakers include

Andrew Clancy from New Scotland Yard speaking on the London Terrorist Bombings and Counter Terrorism.

Mark Ackerman, who was Vice President at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York on September 11, 2001. St. Vincent's is just a few blocks away from the World Trade Centre site in New York and received many of the survivors of that horrific attack.

On the last morning, we are pleased to confirm that we will have an expert panel discussion featuring:

Dr. Eric Newell, Chancellor of the University of Alberta - (Past CEO Syncrude).

Mr. Ralph Dunham, Sr. Vice President and Business Continuity Practice Leader, Marsh Risk Consulting.

Mr. Mark Egner, President, PRIMUS, member of the Alberta Environmental Protection Commission.

They will be discussing their views on their vision on what societal changes they see coming and the implications of those changes on Emergency Preparedness. The challenge to our delegates will be to identify how to bridge the gap from where we are today to what society will demand of us in the future.

In our winter edition, we listed a few of the break out speakers we have lined up. In this edition of Incidentals, we are providing a few more... They include:

Bart Clark, Manager, Emergency Services of Sturgeon County in Alberta – Chief Clark's County is experiencing massive industrial growth. He will speak on the challenges facing his department in ramping up to meet their new responsibilities – from EMS, Haz. Mat and Fire perspectives.

Jim Robbins, President of EWA Canada Ltd. – an expert on IT security will speak on risk management from an IT perspective.

Richard Marquise, Research Associate with IIR – a former FBI agent including special agent in charge of the Oklahoma City Division and work on the Pan Am flight 103 bombing.

Jeff Tully, Vice President – HCA Healthcare-Jeff was on site in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina and will speak on his experiences from the hospital setting in dealing with the disaster.

Geoffrey Cann – Partner, Deloitte, Inc. Geoffrey will be speaking on the lessons he and Deloitte's has learned from experience – they had offices at the World Trade Center and were close to the Madrid bombings.....

This is just a small sample of the quality and scope of our break out speakers. To see them and more of the rest of our impressive line up, join us at Disaster Forum. Hurry, there may still be some delegate spaces left.

There are also pre conference workshops that may have space available.

- **Counter Terrorism** – by Andrew Clancy - from Scotland Yard,

- **Advanced Exercise Design** – by Ed Wendlandt, from ERM

- **Crisis Communications** – by Garth Rowan from Rowan Allaire Communications.

- **Leadership Development and Team Engineering for All Emergency Services** – by Ted Buffington.

Check out the complete list of sessions and register online at: www.disasterforum.ca.

3. *Air – did you know that there are recorded incidents of hot air balloons actually landing INSIDE the fence line of chemical plants?*

4. *Bulk storage of fuel and/or chemicals. Do you know what those neighbors across the fence line are doing?*

5. *Utility disruption – often we think of electric power as the only utility – while vital, what about gas (heat) and internet connectivity. How would the loss of any of these three services affect you? What if it went on for 72 hours...???*

If you would like some outside eyes and ears to help, we would happy to chat with you about your own specific site requirements for risk analysis. Call us at 1.800.718.3762.

ERMC – TIPS

In each issue of Incidentals, we try to pass along a few tips that might be of benefit to readers.

In this issue, we take a quick look at risk analysis for your site. In many cases, we find that clients have looked at their facility and identified possible risks – fire, boilers, chemicals on site and the like.

What many organizations miss the “off site” risks that they are exposed to? Some things to consider when looking off site include:

1. *Heavy truck transports – Dangerous Goods routes nearby. Do you need to be concerned? If there was a transportation incident and you had to evacuate do you know how to identify wind direction? If you have to shelter in place, do you know how to shut down your air handling equipment?*

2. *Rail Transportation – often quantities of chemicals shipped are larger than in truck tankers – incidents could be more severe.*



ERMC is a leader in emergency preparedness and planning. We work right across Canada for some of the largest companies in industry and in all sectors of the economy.

Upcoming Newsletters...

ERMC provides the Incidentals newsletters on a quarterly basis. If you have any comments or suggestions as to content, topic or layout, we would like to hear from you. Please feel free to send us your thoughts at: info@ru-ready.com or, at the contact phone number/address below.

For more information visit www.ru-ready.com.

Call TOLL FREE at **1-800-718-ERMC** (3762), or **780-483-9168**.

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