Improving Emergency Collaboration

The key to success in emergency management and business continuity is in the pre-planning stage. In the nuclear power industry, ongoing drills provide opportunities to assess readiness and procedures.

The world leader in teleconferencing technology, Forum Communications, has introduced the next generation of emergency communications solutions to replace outdated firebar/red phone systems. If you are still using 1980's technology you put your staff and your community's safety at risk.

The Forum solutions offer the flexibility to fit your specific contingency programs. This solution can save corporations millions of dollars by enhancing business continuity and coordinating worldwide resources.

Forum's Sympozium Enhanced Firebar for instant notification and collaboration provides all functions needed for find-me application, business continuity management, and is internet accessible.

Figure 1 shows view of five pre-set emergency groups

The system administrator creates multiple 'emergency groups'. Each group will contain the contact details for particular responders by emergency type (e.g., HAZMAT, FEMA, fire, medical, & engineering). One individual can belong to several groups. Each person can provide up to four contact numbers (cell, home, etc.) and indicate their available times. The dispatcher can easily initiate the dial-out to the correct list or lists.

Applications for the Sympozium Enhanced Firebar are not limited to fire and medical response. This solution allows enterprise organizations to connect regionally or globally in the event of a local or widespread emergency to immediately inform support personnel and to implement and manage the appropriate contingency plan.

With Sympozium's Enhanced Firebar functions and find-me capability, management is better equipped to handle non-emergency events as well. By pre-planning the information flow and utilizing quick delivery, organizations can respond swiftly to changes in their business climate and better manage their resources.

Forum Communications offers several smaller instant collaboration systems to match specific needs and budgets. The Confer ALERT Plus is a hybrid system that integrates ring-down circuits and (PSTN) public telephone network or PBX interface for on-campus response communication. Forum's systems are recommended by federal and military agencies.

ABOUT FORUM
Providing reliable conference solutions for over fifteen years, Forum Communications International, provides the widest and deepest product line for business and emergency teleconferencing. Visit their website at www.forum-com.com or call 972-680-0700, ext. 2 for technical sales.

Planning Your Emergency Communications to Minimize Damage and Human Cost:
1) Identifying ‘emergency specific’ groups requires improved inter-agency co-operation.
2) Use of ‘availability’ information maximizes the chance of reaching available responders, saving precious time.
3) ‘Blast dialing’ and email/paging to first responders reduces the overall response time.
4) ‘Find-me’ technology improves the probability of connecting individual first responders.
5) Integrating simultaneous email, SMS (Short Message Service) and Pager-based messaging increases success rate in disseminating time-critical emergency details and orders.
6) Internal recording capabilities and event log with time stamps, simplify post-event analysis.
7) Sympozium can be used as a notification system to cover a wide area for general emergency announcement.

Sympozium, Confer and ALERT Plus are copyrighted by Forum Communications, Richardson, TX, Made in USA.