

Continuity IQ

from  DSPN

February 2006 **Fast Facts for Our Valued Friends and Clients**

Here are some bullets and brain teasers about current events from your friends at DSPN.

Fast Facts

Did you know....

1. Terri M. Solomon, of the Littler Mendelson law firm, recently spoke about the London terrorist attacks, "This catastrophe may finally prompt companies to become compliant with the NFPA 1600 Standard, which the 9/11 Commission recommended as the legal standard of care a company owes its employees and the public."
2. NFPA 1600 was developed and is maintained by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). NFPA membership totals more than 79,000 individuals from around the world and more than 80 national trade and professional organizations.
3. Established in 1896, NFPA's 300 codes and standards influence every building, process, service, design, and installation in the United States, as well as many of those used in other countries. NFPA's focus on true consensus has helped the association's [code development process](#) earn accreditation from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).
4. Electronic copies of the NFPA 1600 Standard for business continuity are available for public download at www.nfpa.org.
5. When asked for an example of how to measure a continuity plan, Charles Wallen, a project director for the Financial Services Technology Consortium, answered this way: "A real simple one would be what's the awareness in your organization? What kind of training is going on to make sure people recognize it's everybody's job to deal with business continuity?"
6. NFPA 1600 addresses employee awareness as a training requirement in section 5.12.2: "The objective of the training shall be to create awareness and enhance the skills required to develop, implement, maintain, and execute the program."
7. NFPA 1600 requires the creation of an Advisory Committee. A good way to ensure that your program's Advisory Committee is appropriately managed is to recruit a high level program sponsor. Look for an executive who has been personally involved in a disaster event.
8. NFPA 1600 requires effective damage assessment procedures. A good way to meet this standard is to organize a damage assessment team for each of your facilities.
9. NFPA 1600 requires businesses to "develop the capability to direct, control, and coordinate response and recovery operations." A good way to meet this

standard is to adapt the ICS Standard currently in use in the public sector. For more details, see www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/ics/

10. NFPA requires the creation of a "central contact facility for the media." A good way to meet this standard is to station your media spokesperson in a different location from your emergency operations center so your critical operations will not be disrupted by media attention.

Brain Teasers

True or False:

1. NFPA 1600 requires procedures to expedite payroll processing.
2. NFPA 1600 requires each entity to appoint a program coordinator to administer the program and keep it current.
3. NFPA 1600 requires an entity to exercise all plans annually.
4. NFPA 1600 is silent on the topic of hazard mitigation.
5. NFPA 1600 requires your plan to include a policy for unsolicited donations.

Check your answers here...

Answers to the above questions:

1. True. See Section 5.15.2.
2. True. See Section 4.2.
3. False. According to Section 5.13, the exact testing interval is not specified.
4. False. Section 5.4 of the standard describes an 11-point mitigation requirement.
5. True. See Section 5.5.5.

Readiness Check

Hard-to-remember details:

1. Does your impact analysis address the health and safety of persons in the affected area at the time of the incident? (See Section 5.3.3)
2. Does your resource management plan address the protection of expert knowledge? (See Section 5.5.2)
3. Have you considered using mutual aid agreements in your program? (See Section 5.6)
4. Does your program include processes and procedures for issuing a warning prior to an event? (See Section 5.9)
5. Have you established and equipped a primary and alternate facility to support continuity, response, and recovery operations? (See Section 5.11.2)

New From DSPN

Check these out on our website:

1. [DSPN's workshop focusing on NFPA 1600](#) will be offered in 10 cities during 2006.
2. [DSPN's workshop on testing and exercising](#) is receiving rave reviews around

the country. It is scheduled for Newport Beach, CA on February 9 Bellevue, WA on Feb 23.

Contributors to This Issue

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Comments and Contributions



Tell us what you think...

Thanks to all of you who have sent us comments about this mailing.

In responding to recent incidents, did you discover an interesting detail that you would like to share? If so, send it along and we'll consider it for a future issue. If you want us to print a comment or submission about your company, be sure to give us permission when you write.

Paul

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