



DSPN

Disaster
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Continuity IQ

Fast Facts for our Valued Friends and Clients

July 2007

Here are some bullets and brain teasers about current events from your friends at Disaster Survival Planning Network (DSPN). In this issue, we update our information on NFPA 1600. If you'd like to forward this message to your colleagues, just click the "Forward Email" link at the bottom of this page.

Fast Facts about NFPA 1600

Did you know...

- In March 2007 the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Homeland Security Standards Panel issued a report aimed at bolstering national preparedness, response, and recovery efforts in the event of a natural disaster. A key resource identified in the document is NFPA 1600, which was developed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). This standard defines a common set of criteria for preparedness, disaster management, emergency management, and business continuity programs. More than 100 experts from dozens of public and private sector organizations and the professional preparedness and business continuity community were involved in the eight-month effort to develop this report.
- Launched in September 2004 by Homeland Security and the Advertising Council "Ready Business" is an extension of the Department's successful "Ready" Campaign that focuses on business preparedness. "Ready Business" encourages owners and managers of small- to medium-sized businesses to make an emergency plan; talk to their employees; and protect their assets. All "Ready Business" materials reflect the NFPA 1600 standard developed by the National Fire Protection Association and endorsed by the American National Standards Institute, the 9/11 Commission and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- "The latest attack in London is a stark reminder that the vast majority of American corporations are woefully unprepared, a point noted in the 9/11 Commission's final report," said Terri M. Solomon, a shareholder in Littler Mendelson's New York office. "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." (With more than 400 attorneys and 28 offices in major metropolitan areas nationwide, Littler Mendelson is the largest law firm in the United States devoted exclusively to representing management in employment, employee benefits and labor law matters.)
- In case you don't know, The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is an international standards organization. Don't let the words "national" and "fire" in the NFPA's name confuse you. The NFPA has over 60,000 members from all over the world. Less than a quarter of these members are affiliated with fire departments. The majority of the members are

representatives of the private and public sectors and come from a wide variety of fields.

- The 2007 edition of NFPA 1600 is now [available for download at no charge](#) at NFPA's web site. More than 115,000 copies have been downloaded from NFPA's web site since 2004.
- The new edition incorporates changes to the 2004 edition and expands its conceptual framework. Aspects of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery which are focused on in earlier versions have been updated, and prevention has been added as a fifth and distinct concept.

Brain Teasers

True or False:

1. According to the new edition of NFPA 1600, a prevention strategy should be based on the results of a business impact analysis.
2. According to the new edition, a prevention plan should include interim and long term actions to prevent hazards.
3. The 2007 edition of NFPA 1600 addresses prevention of natural disasters. It does not address human-caused incidents.
4. According to the new edition, a good prevention strategy should include the following (if practical): perimeter fencing, access control systems, patrols of facilities, and background checks for personnel.
5. The 2007 edition of NFPA 1600 states that prevention plans should be governed by a cost-benefit analysis.

Check your answers here...

Answers to the above questions:

1. *True.* This issue is addressed in Section 5.4.
2. *True.* See more details in Section 5.8.3.5
3. *False.* According to the new edition, prevention techniques should be applied to natural hazards as well as human-caused incidents, including terrorism, vandalism, sabotage, and human error. (Section A.3.3.12).
4. *True.* See more details in Section A.5.4.1.
5. *False.* Section A.5.4.2 states that a cost-benefit analysis should NOT be "the overriding factor in establishing a prevention strategy."

Readiness Check

Hard-to-remember details:

1. Have you carefully reviewed the 2007 edition of NFPA 1600?
2. Does your business continuity program include a prevention strategy and prevention tactics?
3. Do you regularly consider interim and long term actions to prevent hazards?
4. Have you implemented actions to prevent human-caused incidents?
5. Have you considered benchmarking your BC program against the 2007 edition of NFPA 1600?

New from DSPN

Check these out on our website:

- DSPN consultants are available to help you [audit your current plans](#) against emerging industry standards.
- We're bringing our one-day [benchmarking workshop](#) to Newport Beach on July 18, Chicago on October 24, and Dallas on November 7.
- [Pandemic Experience for Executives](#) is a new tabletop exercise from DSPN that is customized for your situation at your site.

Comments and Contributions

Tell us what you think...

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

In responding to recent incidents, did you discover an interesting detail that you would like to share with our readers? 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 Klier](#)

Popular Services from DSPN

- [How to Create Drills and Exercises...That Work!](#) is a one-day workshop designed for experienced business continuity coordinators who are looking for best practices in creating tests and exercises.
- [How to Benchmark and Sustain Your Program](#) is a one-day workshop focusing on emerging standards for building business continuity programs.

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