DISASTERCOM



DERA Newsletter

48 Years of Service

December 2010

Next Generation 9-1-1 System

FCC Initiates Project to Revolutionize Systems for Public and Responders

On December 21, 2010, the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced the initiation of a nationwide project to not just update, but completely renovate 9-1-1 Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) and emergency services dispatch systems. The proposed system will take advantage of new and emerging technologies to improve quality and response time, while reducing risk to first responders. For the first time, the 9-1-1 system will make use of videos and pictures from callers, as well as a multitude of other technological innovations.

Key Features of the New 9-1-1 System

- 1. Text for Help: Many individuals, including those with disabilities, rely on texting as their primary means of communication. In some emergency situations -- especially in circumstances where the sound of a voice call could further jeopardize someone's life and safety -- texting may be the only way to call for help. The current method of text accommodation is "TTY," which is based on old teletype technology that is slow and frustrating both for callers and emergency center personnel. The next-generation 9-1-1 will allow call centers to receive and send conventional text messages.
- 2. Real-Time Rapid Response: Mobile video and pictures will provide first responders with on-the-ground information that helps them assess and address the emergency in real-time. These technologies also will help the public report crime as it is happening. Next-generation 9-1-1 would develop advanced multi-media capabilities of 9-1-1 call centers.
- 3. Automatic Alerting: Next-generation 9-1-1 would enable emergency calls to be placed by devices in addition to human beings. Examples of such devices include environmental sensors capable of detecting fires or chemicals, highway monitors, security alarms, personal medical devices, and consumer electronics in automobiles. The commercial success of On-Star®, an automobile-based system which automatically notifies company dispatchers of collisions, fires and major equipment malfunctions, may provide one model for future automatic 9-1-1 alerting.

The FCC's initiative is the first step in fulfilling a mandate in the U.S. National Broadband Plan which laid out a vision for next-generation 9-1-1 that harnesses cutting-edge technologies to help save lives. The concept is to build upon the success of the national 9-1-1

System, which was established as the national emergency number in 1968, and is the side of public safety dispatch which the public sees. U.S. residents place more than 237 million 9-1-1 calls every year -- 650,000 per day. However, the system that was designed over 40 years ago--despite numerous upgrades and innovations--has major limitations and cannot fully use existing technologies. The new design will take into account many factors, including:

- Seventy percent of 9-1-1 calls come from mobile phones. But increasingly, consumers are using their mobile phones less to make calls, and more for texting and sending pictures and videos. These new technologies have the potential to revolutionize emergency response by providing public safety officials with critical real-time, on-the-ground information.
- Today's 9-1-1 system is not equipped to take advantage of new technologies. 9-1-1 call centers lack the technical capability to receive texts, photos, videos, and other data. Many 9-1-1 call centers don't have access to broadband, which makes it difficult to receive incoming data, particularly in large volume. Finally, call center operators have not been trained how to effectively communicate using these new technologies.
- The technological limitations of 9-1-1 can have tragic, real-world consequences. During the 2007 Virginia Tech campus shooting, students and witnesses desperately tried to send texts to 9-1-1 that local dispatchers never received. If these messages had gone through, first responders may have arrived on the scene faster with firsthand intelligence about the life-threatening situation that was unfolding.

Modernizing 9-1-1 is one of the FCC's key public safety priorities. On December 21st, the FCC launched Notice of Inquiry (NOI) number 10-200, requesting public comment on how to transition the current system to broadband-enabled, next-generation 9-1-1. This action will build on the FCC's recent order to improve 9-1-1 by beefing up location-accuracy requirements so that first responders can quickly find people who call for help on their mobile phones.

Details about the FCC initiative are available at www.fcc.gov or by contacting Patrick Donovan, Policy and Licensing Division, FCC Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, at 202-418-2413 or via email: Patrick.Donovan@fcc.gov.

DisasterCom is the quarterly newsletter of DERA International. News items and articles are always welcome. ISSN 1521-1592 Editor: Kathryn M. Dunlevy-Wilson

Membership in this Nonprofit Association is open to all who share our commitment to effective disaster preparedness and response. See back page for Membership Application

The Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association, International P.O. Box 797, Longmont, CO 80502 (USA)

P.O. Box 797 Longmont, CO 80502

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Letter from the Chair



Originally, I had planned to write this column about being prepared for the seasonal changes that are soon coming in your part of the world; however, once I reflected on my own experiences of the past six months, I saw how little the calendar itself has to do with the overall need for preparedness.

Although I now see snow outside my window in Colorado, DERA members in Queensland, Australia are battling floods of historic proportions in the middle of their summer heat, while our members in Europe are still contending with the aftermath of brutal winter storms that shut down highway, rail and air transportation during December. Many DERA members are still supporting Haitian earthquake/flood/Cholera relief efforts nearly a year after that series of tragedies began. None of this was in the long-range forecast; millions of people were caught unprepared.

In April, I was in Bismarck, ND, and the day began with some rain that changed to snow. By noon the slush was 6 inches thick and driving was difficult. That night another 6 to 8 inches of snow had fallen and then it froze. The freeze snapped hundreds of miles of power lines. Farms getting ready for calving season were without power and water. Some locations were without electricity for weeks. Most of the snow in the area was gone within a day and there was no trace of bad weather the following day. Nevertheless, human misery and financial devastation continued for weeks.

I was in Kentucky and the spring weather was hot. Sudden downpours after dark on a Saturday evening built up a wall of water and flooded a trailer park and in minutes washed away the memories of a lifetime for some and the lives of others.

News reports dwell on large, dramatic events, yet every disaster is local. The reality is that each day is a struggle for many people around the world, and faraway localized disasters can be as tragic and deserving of help as the events making major headlines.

(Cont'd page 3)

My request of you is that you do your best to help your neighbors understand their need to prepare, then be positioned and willing to help others in need when the time comes. You are truly the first line of community preparedness and response. Remember, the DERA mission is Preparedness and Emergency Response. I try to live up to that calling every day.

I encourage you to educate and guide your friends and acquaintances based on your level of expertise. You may wish to use the outline for a simple, workable family disaster plan that Sal Meloro spells out in his column in this newsletter. Of course, I'd like your friends and colleagues to join and participate in DERA; but I really want them to be prepared for whatever may happen, and I know you can help them succeed.

Howard Pierpont Board Chair - DERA

Member News

Gaye Cameron

Sydney, NSW, Australia

Gaye is now a Senior Consultant for the National Safety Council of Australia, based in Sydney, NSW, Australia. Gaye's responsibilities include providing advice and direction to organizations including leading Government Departments, not only on safety compliance, but also assisting organizations develop and test their Crisis/Business Continuity Plans, Emergency Plans and Procedures, and providing training in varying aspects of emergency preparedness for organizations including Dam Safety Emergency Plans, Crisis Plans and

The National Safety Council of Australia has offices in Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne, through which service is provided for all parts of Australia and New Zealand. If needed, the Council can also provide advice and assistance around the world.

Gaye formerly held a position with the State Water Authority in Sydney with responsibility for dam safety studies and standards.

Gaye can be contacted directly at +61 2 9213 6299 or email: gaye.cameron@nsca.org.au

Share a Workable Family Disaster Plan

By Sal Meloro

This is the first of a series of articles in which Sal will be exploring a variety of preparedness topics, from the very basic through highly complex.

Although the federal government has repeatedly issued warnings since 9/11 that Americans need to prepare for major catastrophic events, whether manmade or natural, the fact remains that a mere 25% of all Americans are prepared for a major disaster. As emergency professionals and volunteers, we can make a difference in the survivability of our communities by sharing a simple family disaster plan with our friends and colleagues. Feel free to share, modify, and copy the following Family Disaster Plan:

- Meet with your family to discuss the need for a family disaster plan. The meeting should include a discussion of why your family needs a plan, including the various risks that your neighborhood faces, and a discussion of the importance of each member working together as a team to keep the family safe.
- 2. Review the types of disasters that have the greatest likelihood of occurring in your neighborhood. Brainstorm and commit to writing (whether on the computer or on a sheet of paper) the steps each family member should take in the event of each of the most likely disaster scenarios. Because a disaster is a very stressful, confusing time, the plans with the fewest, simplest steps are the best. Calmly discussing disasters and steps ahead of time will reduce fear and anxiety, and help everyone know how to respond.
- Pick two places to meet in the event of a disaster: one not too far outside the home in the event of a sudden house emergency such as a kitchen fire, and the second one outside the neighborhood in the event the family must evacuate the neighborhood. In both situations, everyone must be able to recite the exact family meeting location and should memorize the address and phone number of the location outside the neighborhood. Include both of these locations in writing on the Family Disaster Plan and review them every six months with all the family present.

- 4. Discuss several possible escape routes for exiting the home in case of emergency, and discuss several escape routes for evacuating from the neighborhood in case roads are blocked or closed. Remind family members to follow the advice of local officials during evacuations.
- Include in the Family Disaster Plan an emergency communication plan—a way that family members who become separated can communicate with one another. If family members have a mobile device, it should include an ICE (In Case of Emergency) contact in the address book for quick access. Most importantly, ask an out-of-town relative or friend to be the "Family Contact." Because it is often easier to make a long distance call than a local call in a disaster, the family contact person should be outside your immediate calling area. Family members should call the contact person to notify him/her of the member's location during the disaster. The contact person's name and address should be included in writing on the Family Disaster Plan and reviewed in a family meeting every six months or so.
- Write down how you will evacuate and care for pets in case of a home emergency or larger neighborhood disaster.
- Write down near the house phones and program into mobile devices emergency telephone numbers including fire, police, and ambulance since there may not be time to look up numbers in an emergency.
- 8. Teach all responsible family members how and when to turn off water, gas, and electricity at the main switches and valves, and review these procedures every six months or so. Attach a shut-off valve wrench or other special tool in a conspicuous place close to the gas and water shut-off valves. Turn off utilities only when a leak or damaged line is suspected or when instructed to do so by authorities. (If you do turn off the gas, you will need a professional to turn it back on.) Paint shut-off valves with white or fluorescent paint to increase visibility.
- Stock emergency supplies and assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit. Keep enough supplies in your home to meet your physical needs for at least three to ten days. The kit should contain items you may need in case of an evacuation including food, water, first aid supplies, and any medications family members

- need. Keep copies of life sustaining prescription drugs in your kit. Store these supplies in sturdy, clearly labeled, easy-to-carry containers such as backpacks or duffel bags.
- Keep a smaller Disaster Supplies Kit in the trunk of your car in case you become stranded or are not able to return home.
- 11. Keep a portable, battery-operated radio or television and extra batteries in a safe, dry, easily accessible place in your home. Maintaining a communications link with the outside world can mean the difference between life and death. Make sure all family members know where the battery-operated radio or television is, and always keep a supply of fresh batteries with it.

Please take time in the New Year to share this simple plan with friends, family, neighbors and colleagues to help make 2011 a safer, healthier year.

Free Teleconference Service for Disaster Response

DERA provides disaster organizations and emergency responders with a service that provides free teleconference bridging for up to 150 participants.Participants pay for their own long distance call into the server.

DERA provides the conference server at no cost to organizations or participants. Again, callers pay normal long distance charges and nothing else.

Our system can support up to 150 participants on each call.

Details below:

Dial-in number: 1-218-862-6420

International: + 011 218 862 6240

Conference Access Code: 527-3257 # (Pound Key)

---Rules of Use----

- 1. All calls must be in support of disaster operations, responder training, exercises or DERA member activities.
- 2. Only one teleconference at a time can be supported.

- ... The moderator for your call should call the dial-in number and log in with the access code, above.
- ... If no conference is in progress, the moderator should stay on the line and let any other callers know that you are in the process of setting up a call.
- ... If a conference is in progress, the moderator should wait for a break in the conference and announce "I need to speak with the moderator." When the moderator answers, briefly explain that you need to set up another call and find out when the existing teleconference will end
- ... Your moderator should call back to the conference line a few minutes before the scheduled closing time of the ongoing call and log in. When the old conference ends, remain on the line, announcing "This is (your name) I am the moderator for a new teleconference for (organization).
- ... When your moderator has established control of the conference bridge, invite your participants to call in. We have found that SMS (short text messages to cell phones or Blackberries), or broadcasting a tweet allows you to get your participants online within two or three minutes if everyone is prepared.
- 3. After your call has ended, please have your moderator send us a short email with the title TELECONFERENCE REPORT, that tells us the name of your organization, brief subject of the call, length of the call, and the approximate number of participants. Email to: reports@disasters.org.
- 4. Please feel free to use this service as much as you need and to share this information with other response organizations. However, please do not allow misuse of the service. The members of DERA are funding this service so that response organizations can better respond to disasters and conduct training and exercises. Unnecessary calls not only drain our limited funds, they tie up the service so that those with legitimate need cannot access it.

DERA members are encouraged to share access to our teleconference service with organizations preparing for or responding to emergencies.

DERA Members are also welcome to use the service at any time for family communications or other nonprofit use.

Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Provides Timely Research

The Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (JHSEM) provides new, peer-reviewed research in the fields of homeland security and emergency management. Sponsored by the University of Maryland University College, the journal features articles on research and practice from a wide range of fields, including emergency management, engineering, decision science, health and medicine, political science, and public policy.

Published once a year at www.bepress.com/jhsem and continually updated, the journal's electronic format makes it possible to provide remarkably timely, responsive articles.

A sample of recent content includes articles on "Intelligence-Led Mitigation," "Analysis of Informal Networking in Emergency Management," "A Review of Nurses in Disaster Preparedness and Response," and "Politics or Risks? An Analysis of Homeland Security Grant Allocations to the States."

Recent book reviews include reviews of Catastrophic Disaster Planning and Response; Building Safer Communities, Risk Governance, Spatial Planning and Responses to Natural Hazards; Clear as Mud: Planning for the Rebuilding of New Orleans; and Would-Be Warriors: Incidents of Jihadist Terrorist Radicalization in the United States since September 11, 2001. Authors have included researchers from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Harvard University, Carnegie Mellon University, the Environmental Protection Agency, and Vanderbilt University.

The Journal is indexed in Current Contents/Social and Behavioral Sciences, Health and Safety Sciences, Intute, PAIS International, Risk Abstracts, Scopus, Social Science Citation Index (Thompson/ISI) Sociological Abstracts, Technology Research Database, and Worldwide Political Science Abstracts.

Access the journal at:

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Industrial Development Officer, P-4 (3 posts)
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Cleaner and Sustainable Production (Environmental Management)
Solvents, Toxic Waste and Fumigants (Montreal Protocol)

The incumbent will be responsible for the identification, formulation, appraisal and implementation of UNIDO's technical cooperation projects and programmes in the above-mentioned areas; mobilizing resources; organizing and running UNIDO's global forum activities (conferences, seminars, expert group meetings, etc.) including the preparation of technical papers; and providing advisory services to relevant stakeholders.

Industrial Development Officer, P-3 (7 posts)
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Cleaner and Sustainable Production (Environmental Management)
Competitiveness, Upgrading and Partnerships (Business, Investment and Technology)
Refrigeration and Aerosols (Montreal Protocol)
Renewable and Rural Energy (Energy and Climate Change)

The incumbent will be responsible for the development and implementation of technical cooperation projects and programmes in the above-mentioned areas; mobilizing resources and providing support to UNIDO's global forum activities.

The successful candidates shall have an advanced university degree in a relevant engineering discipline, natural sciences, economics or project management, supported by a minimum of 5-7 years of progressively responsible relevant experience in the substantive areas, including experience at the international level involving technical assistance to developing countries.

Further information on these positions, required qualifications, deadlines and information on the application process can be obtained on our website:

www.unido.org → Employment



International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds

EXTERNAL RELATIONS OFFICER

(Vacancy N°2010-05)

The International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds) are three intergovernmental organisations (1992 Fund, Supplementary Fund and 1971 Fund) which provide compensation for pollution damage resulting from oil spills from tankers. Compensation is governed by an international regime elaborated under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). At present, 104 countries belong to this regime. The IOPC Funds are administered by a joint Secretariat, based in London, with approximately 30 staff members.

Detailed information on the role of External Relations Officer, including the main duties and responsibilities, as well as qualifications and experience required, can be found on the Funds' website www.iopcfund.org.

Applicants should have a university degree in an appropriate field, ideally scientific or technical, and significant relevant professional experience preferably in an international context. Experience and/or background knowledge of the oil, chemical and shipping industries would be a strong advantage.

Applicants should have excellent IT skills, including experience of developing and using databases, and excellent oral and written communication skills, including drafting and presentation skills.

There are various attractive benefits, including six weeks annual leave and a provident fund.

Only candidates from 1992 Fund Member States will be considered.

The working languages of the IOPC Funds are English, French and Spanish. Fluency in English is required. Fluency in French and/or Spanish would be an asset. The post is to be filled as soon as possible.

Salary is in accordance with Grade P.3 of the United Nations scale and is free of United Kingdom income tax. The dependency rate (P.3, Step 1) therefore starts at US\$59,200 plus post adjustment of \$36,822, ie a total of US\$96,022 per annum whereas the single rate starts at US\$55,259 plus post adjustment of US\$34,371, ie a total of US\$89,630 per annum.

For further information on the vacancy and a copy of the IOPC Funds' Personal History Form, please visit our website www.iopcfund.org

The completed IOPC Funds Personal History Form should be sent to: Human Resources Manager, Finance and Administration Dept., International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds, Portland House, Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5PN or alternatively e-mailed to: Vacancy10.05.HR@iopcfund.org. The deadline for the receipt of applications is 31 January 2011.

CONSULTING **OPPORTUNITIES**

Tribal HELM is the international development practice of Tribal Group plc, a leading provider of services to the public sector in the UK and internationally. We work in close partnership with our clients and partners in public and non-state sectors to achieve real improvements in the capability of countries to deliver better quality public services to their citizens.

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If you have an established track record in these sectors and are interested in working with us, further details of the specific services within each sector and application instructions can be found at www.tribalhelm.com/workingwithus or by contacting international@tribalhelm.com

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RIBAL HELM

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Ball State University's Advanced Crisis Communications Training Team is seeking experienced instructors to conduct two DHS/FEMA Instructor-led training sessions on Advanced Crisis Communications Strategies for Public Safety Communications Supervisors beginning in 2011 and Advanced Crisis Communications Strategies for Public Information Officers. Compensation will be competitive and travel is required.

Advanced Crisis Communications Training (ACCT) is a four-course training program created by Ball State University through a cooperative agreement with FEMA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The goal of this program is to train key emergency management professionals in media relations and crisis communications skills needed to effectively communicate information to the public in times of crisis.

Instructor qualifications for Advanced Crisis Communications Strategies for Public Safety Communications Supervisors: Experience in emergency management and proven experience as a trainer. 9-1-1- supervision experience is preferred but not required. The qualified candidates must attend a Train-the-Trainer session in Muncie, IN (travel expenses will be reimbursed). The selected instructors will be expected to set up and tear down training room(s), operate training technology (e.g., PowerPoint), register students, administer student preand post-tests and evaluations, distribute certificates of completion as well as conduct a 7.5-hour oral training session. The successful candidate will be expected to complete IS-702 NIMS and AWR-212W Advanced Crisis Communications Strategies for Public Safety Communications Supervisors (both are web-based training).

Instructor qualifications for Advanced Crisis Communications Strategies for Public Information Officers: Experience in emergency management and proven experience as a trainer. Public Information Officer experience is preferred but not required. . The qualified candidates must attend a Train-the-Trainer session in Muncie, IN (travel expenses will be reimbursed). The selected instructors will be expected to set up and tear down training room(s), operate training technology (e.g., PowerPoint), register students, administer student preand post-tests and evaluations, distribute certificates of completion as well as conduct a 7.5-hour oral training session. The successful candidate will be expected to complete the G-290 Basic Public Information Officers Course before his/her first training session. The E-388 Advanced Public Information Course is also strongly recommended.

Please submit resume or application (attached) with names and addresses of three professional references to acct@... or fax to the attention of Janet Kesler at 765-285-9278.

Member Supplies Available

DERA Online Store

www.cafepress.com/disasters



Pictured above are only a few of the many products available at the DERA Online Store.

"I am very pleased with the quality and variety of DERA-themed articles now available at the online store,' said Howard Pierpont, DERA Chair. "Prices are very reasonable and DERA is able to use revenues from the store to help keep costs of membership low, while providing

funding for our disaster field work. I encourage all our members to show their pride in our organization by wearing DERA apparel and using DERA-themed articles wherever appropriate, but especially at conferences and while on deployment."

There is also a direct link to the online store at the DERA homepage:

http://www.disasters.org

DERA AWARDS for Exceptional Service



DERA provides a number of recognition medals to honor exceptional service in emergency management.

DERA members may nominate deserving individuals for the awards, or may obtain medals to use as challenge coins or to present as personal mementos.

The following types of medals are currently available:

Copper - For Student Awards

Any DERA member may purchase copper coins to present as a token of recognition to students, volunteers or others deserving of special, on-the-spot recognition. Medals may be affixed to plaques or used as souvenir coins.

Bronze – Members Only

5-year members receive one free and may purchase additional medals to use as desired. All members may purchase bronze medals to use as "challenge coins" or to present as personal mementos.

Pewter – 10-Year Members Only

10-year members receive one free and may purchase additional coins.

Silver - For Life Members only

One is sent free to each life member. Life members may purchase replacement medals.

Gold - For Special Recognition

For exceptional service to DERA or for members who perform meritorious or heroic service above and beyond the call of duty during a time of emergency. Gold medals are awarded only by the Board of Directors upon nomination of an individual by a member in good

standing. The medal may also be presented affixed to an award ribbon in recognition of unique and exceptionally noteworthy student research into disaster preparedness and emergency response.

Member's price for coins:

Copper: Two for \$15, ten for \$65.00

Bronze: Three for \$25. **Pewter**: Three for \$30.

Silver: Generally, additional coins are

not for sale. Replacements for lost/damaged coins are \$15.

Gold: Not for sale. Nominations may be made to the Board of Directors.

Postpaid to U.S. Add'l postage for airmail.

Note: These coins do not contain precious metals. Coin color refers to the cosmetic finish only, not metal content.



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The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) is searching for talented specialists across a wide variety of disciplines related to aviation safety and security.

EASA invites interested individuals to consult the "recruitment" section at:

www.easa.europa.eu



June 19 - 22, 2011
Toronto, Canada
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
North Building
wcdm.org

2011 WCDM Toronto Call for Presentations

June 19 - 22, 2011 in Toronto, Canada Deadline to Submit - November 26, 2010

The World Conference on Disaster Management (WCDM) is proud to be the premier annual event for disaster management professionals, providing a global perspective on current issues and concerns in the industry.

The 21st WCDM will bring delegates from over 40 countries within the fields of Emergency Management, Business Continuity, Emergency Response, Risk Management, IT Disaster Recovery, Disaster Management Research, Emergency Communications, Emergency Health, Security, HR, Environmental, Community Planning, as well as for the organizations which supply and service these professions.

A major goal of the WCDM is to offer a program that challenges delegates by examining traditional concepts and methods, and provides:

- new ideas and approaches to problem solving
- both leading edge and topical presentations
- opportunities to connect with key individuals and organizations across the disaster management spectrum

Submission of Abstracts

The WCDM and the Canadian Centre for Emergency Preparedness (CCEP) is now calling for presentations for the 21st WCDM taking place June 19 - 22, 2011 in Toronto, Canada.

The 2011 Conference theme will be based around: Innovative Solutions to the Increasingly Complex World of Disaster Management

Submissions of abstracts have to comply with the Theme and Objectives of the 2011 WCDM.

Submitters will be guided through four submission steps:

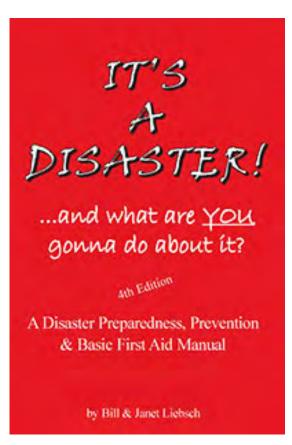
- 1. Create an Account (if you haven't previously last year if you have **forgotten your log-in** you can click on the hyperlink within the returning users to have your password emailed to you)
- 2. Add Speakers (or view the list of "My Speakers" that you already submitted. If you would like to update your speaker details please email acarley@wcdm.org)
- 3. Add Presentation
- 4. Assign Speakers to the Presentation (In the Step 2 of Add Presentation)
- 5. Submit for Review

Submission of abstracts **Deadline November 26, 2010**

If you have some knowledge to share and would like to submit an abstract, or know of someone who might be interested in presenting, please visit our web site at http://www.wcdm.org/Toronto/call-for-papers.html to access the Call for Presentations.

If you have any questions please call Adrian Gordon at (905) 330-4069 or email: agordon@ccep.ca





Get your own copy now!

DERA is partnering with FedHealth to make this book available to our members at the lowest possible cost.

It's a Disaster! is the highly acclaimed, definitive guide to disaster preparedness, prevention and first aid.

Every professional should have a copy for reference and every family should use one as their personal preparedness guide.

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Use the professional planning strategies and tools in *It's a Disaster!* for your own preparedness as well as an emergency guide for unexpected situations.

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Founded in 1962

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Preparedness - Response - Recovery - Professional Association

DERA is a Nonprofit Disaster Service and Professional Organization.

Our members work together as an active, world-wide network of disaster preparedness specialists, response and recovery teams, trainers, consultants, technical experts, researchers and project managers.

We help disaster victims by improving planning, communications and logistics, reducing risks and mitigating hazards, conducting community preparedness programs, and by sponsoring emergency response missions.

We sponsor a school awards program that encourages students to study the effects of disasters and to conduct projects that reduce local hazards and improve community preparedness, safety and environmental protection.

As a prominent international professional association, our membership is composed of key leaders in the field of emergency management from around the world, including key government officials, volunteers, consultants, business managers, researchers, educators, students and wide range of charitable groups.

Our quarterly newsletter, <u>DisastersOrg</u>, brings current information about developments in emergency management and reports on the activities of our global membership.

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