

# EMA Update

Emergency Management Australia provides national leadership in the development of measures to reduce risk to communities and manage the consequences of disasters. EMA Update keeps AJEM readers abreast of the courses and activities that assist in this aim.

## KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS

### AUSTRALIAN DISASTERS DATABASE (EMATrack)

The redeveloped Australian Disasters Database went live on AGD servers in August, 2003. Figures for October show the Database averaging 17,000 hits, 573 visits per month, approximately 5.3% of all web traffic. This indicates strong interest from our users and some anticipation for its release. Enhanced reporting capability is being planned for the next quarter. Discussions have been held with stakeholders regarding partnerships and development, data standards, cost assessment, networks, GIS, and synergies with the development of AusDIN. A workshop may be held early 2004 to progress the major issues, particularly round questions of data standards, interoperability and assessment methods. The outcomes will feed into a Strategic Plan for the future of the EMA Disasters Database.

*For further information contact John Laurie  
Phone: 03 54 21 5280; email john.laurie@ema.gov.au*

### EMA WEBSITES:

The EMA websites continue to build their audience and provided a strong web presence for the 2003 Australian Disaster Conference in September, with daily summaries and comprehensive information pages. All the papers and presentations from the Conference are now available on the website. The Extranet is being further developed with the CBR section being expanded and the Education & Training section soon to include an interactive Bulletin Board.

Recent EMA involvement in the Science Festival featured an online competition and several online surveys have been conducted over the past 3 months. Figures show 444,000 hits for the month, 30% from overseas and 17,500 visits. The client base remains steady with an overall increase of 26% in website activity for the quarter. The EMA Intranet continues to demonstrate applied knowledge management in streamlining business activity across the two sites, and the range of available business functions continues to grow. An evaluation and design review is planned over the next quarter.

*For further information contact John Laurie  
Phone: 03 54 21 5280; email john.laurie@ema.gov.au*

### COMMUNITY AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

EMA is undertaking a review of the entire suite of magnetised Action Guides with the assistance of State and Territory agencies. A committee was formed and met late August to discuss the format and content of the series. A template for the format and content has now been developed. As a result of feedback from stakeholders, the new guides will not have quite as much text and focus more on a particular aspect of the event. The new Action Guide series will be available for distribution by the end of February 2004.

*For further information contact Cate Moore  
Phone: 03 54 21 5296; email cate.moore@ema.gov.au*

### AUSTRALIAN EMERGENCY MANUAL SERIES

EMA in collaboration with the States and Territories convened a workshop in Canberra on the 13th of November. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the views and recommendations of the States and Territories as to the future of the Skills Manuals component of the series. Discussions also centred on hard copy versus electronic availability and access to the manuals.

#### *Community Development in Recovery from Disaster*

'The guidelines for Community Development in the Disaster Context have been developed to assist in developing effective post-disaster community development activities. They incorporate and expand information and knowledge previously available in two EMA publications, Disaster Recovery and Community and Personal Support Services.'

*For further information contact Cate Moore  
Phone: 03 54 21 5296; email cate.moore@ema.gov.au*

### LIBRARY

There has been a slight delay in implementing the new library management system for clients external to EMA. All available efforts are being made to ensure Web access as soon as possible. The new catalogue will appear as a link from the Library section of the EMA website.

Also located on the EMA Web page is a list of free online journals and a comprehensive selection of web sites grouped into subject areas.

## KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS CONTINUED

The EMA Library staff were pleased to meet many of their clients face-to-face at the 2003 Disaster Conference in Canberra. The Internet Café operated by Library staff was a popular gathering place for delegates. Both of these activities allowed the Library staff to add to their friendships in the emergency management community and increased their knowledge of the relevant issues in their field.

*For further information contact Linda Hansen  
Phone: 03 54 21 5224; email [linda.hansen@ema.gov.au](mailto:linda.hansen@ema.gov.au)*

### AUSTRALIAN DISASTER INFORMATION NETWORK (AUSDIN)

The first AEMC endorsed AusDIN Steering Committee met in Canberra on the 1st October, chaired by the Director General EMA David Templeman. Nearly all States and Territories were represented and several speakers noted the growing convergence between

national security, consequence management, spatial data initiatives and networking.

Among some of the issues discussed were governance and cross-jurisdictional arrangements. A presentation on the Australian Libraries in Emergency Services (ALIES) was well received and partnership opportunities were explored. The issue of the AusDIN internet portal was discussed and this development will be overseen by the subordinate AusDIN Portal Group. The possibility of a new name for AusDIN was discussed and suggestions were invited. The meeting confirmed the significance of AusDIN in the whole-of-government approach to emergency management and to the new directions post September 11.

*For further information contact Kim Fitzgerald  
Phone: 02 6266 5617;  
email [kim.fitzgerald@ema.gov.au](mailto:kim.fitzgerald@ema.gov.au)*

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

### EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT (ERM)

The ERM review has commenced with a meeting of the national committee convened by EMA. The review will include the alignment of ERM materials with changes to the national Risk Management Standard AS/NZS 4360 and the inclusion of best practice examples in the new suite of publications.

*For further information please email  
[cathy.phelps@ema.gov.au](mailto:cathy.phelps@ema.gov.au)*

The second edition of the Critical Infrastructure Emergency Risk Management Handbook is nearing completion and will be posted on the EMA web site by mid November. Hard copy publication will be co-ordinated with the release of the revised Risk Management Standard AS/NZS 4360 in 2004.

*For further information please email  
[michael.tarrant@ema.gov.au](mailto:michael.tarrant@ema.gov.au)*

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMPETENCY STANDARDS REVIEW

During 2003 EMA worked with the Emergency Management Sector Working Group to review the national industry competency standards for emergency management. The process involved workshops with emergency management practitioners in all states and territories and an extensive validation process. The consultations confirmed the importance of emergency risk management as core competencies and identified additional competencies in the area of emergency planning, leadership/teamwork and liaison with other organisations. The outcomes are currently

with the Australian National Training Authority for endorsement.

*For further information [www.psitaab.org.au](http://www.psitaab.org.au)*

### ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC SAFETY (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)

EMA delivers programs aligned to five units of competency from the Advanced Diploma in Public Safety (Emergency Management). Competency in eleven units must be demonstrated for the award of this qualification. The Emergency Management Sector Working Group is investigating the likely demand for the full qualification with a view to encouraging other training providers to deliver it.

*If you are interested in completing this qualification you are encouraged to access our on line survey at  
[www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au)*

### COMPETENCIES FOR WORKING WITH CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL AND RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES

A 3 day national workshop involving CBR content experts from all operational sectors was held at EMA Mt. Macedon in late October. The object of the workshop was to identify the competencies required for working with CBR emergencies across all levels and sectors and expose any gaps. Workshop participants also reported on current training provision in their jurisdictions. An issues paper outlining a draft CBR competency profile will be one outcome of the workshop. The issues paper will be

## EDUCATION & TRAINING CONTINUED

circulated to a broader change of stakeholders and further national consultations will be held to gain input and refine the profile.

*For further information please email  
colin.fiford@ema.gov.au*

### FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Research and consultation with the emergency management field in 2002 specified a need for more flexibility in the delivery of EMA programs. Generally respondents supported face to face learning with on-line support. Full distance learning was only seen as appropriate for introductory programs. A CDROM to support the Course in Introduction to Emergency Risk Management has been developed in consultation with a state and territory steering committee. The CDROM is designed to support distance or face to face learning and is currently being piloted.

Users of this well-researched and engaging resource will be able to learn about the topic through a variety of activities. These include case studies with photos and maps, which can be used to work through emergency risk management exercises with follow-up questions for reflection on the process. There is also a self-testing quiz, links to relevant websites and a formal assessment. The CDROM is important in increasing access to emergency risk management programs provided by EMA as the Course in Emergency Risk Management is a pre-requisite for other EMA emergency risk management programs.

*For further information email fred.ritman@ema.gov.au*

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT—ENHANCING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

In many occupations, from criminology to nursing, there is a strong move to base professional practice on evidence relating to what works best, rather than just "doing things like we've always done them".

This concept underpinned development of EMA's Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management. EMA developed this qualification after widely consulting the field. The program has been designed to be dynamic in content so that participants can engage with topical themes, contemporary issues and current research agendas in emergency management.

Access to this program is through state/territory Nominating Authorities with an additional selection process to meet the specific entry requirements for Graduate Certificate programs. Nominations have closed for the first intake in 2004. It is anticipated that there will be one intake per annum. Delivery of the accredited and nationally recognised program will commence in May 2004.

*More information can be found at  
(<http://www.ema.gov.au>).*

## DEVELOPMENT

### **Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum (AEMVF)**

The Volunteer Forum met in Sydney on 22 October and examined issues such as the Charities Definition Inquiry, the Public Safety ITAB, tax incentives for volunteers, possible representation of emergency management volunteers on a Third Sector Council, insurance issues, the 2003 Australian Disaster Conference, casual or spontaneous volunteers, research into the cost of being a volunteer and the timing of the next Volunteer Summit.

As one of the main objectives of Forum quarterly meetings is the sharing of information, this meeting saw the introduction of a different format, with presentations being given on Tax Issues Surrounding Volunteers and the Liability Law Reform Program by Rebecca Jensen from the Australian Tax Office, and Dallas Booth from the Insurance Council of Australia, respectively.

Planning has commenced for a second Volunteers Summit which is proposed for Canberra in March/April 2005. A Steering Committee is being established shortly the AEMVF will be utilised to provide guidance on this major event. Regular updates will be provided through the AJEM.

*For further information contact David Winterburn*

*Phone: 02 6266 5009*

*Email: david.winterburn@ema.gov.au*

### **Emergency Management Projects Program 2003/2004**

The EMA Projects Program is aimed at fostering projects that help improve Australia's capabilities for preventing or dealing with natural or technological hazards and disasters. Currently EMA are funding 10 projects for the 2003–04 financial year, which are outlined on the EMA website.

The projects encompass a wide range of topics including school education and research projects.

Products of the 2002–2003 EMA Projects Program are available from the EMA website [www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au) or from the EMA Library at Mt Macedon.

The program for 2004–2005 is proposed to be broadened to the "EMA Research and Innovation Program". More information on this will be provided in the next edition of AJEM.

*For further information contact Rheannon Nicholson*

*Phone: 02 6266 5497*

*Email: rheannon.nicholson@ema.gov.au*

### **ALGA—EMA Local Government Emergency Management Capability Development Program**

EMA has partnered with the Australian Local Government Authority (ALGA) to provide the Local

Government Emergency Management Capability Development Program to fund projects at the Local Government level to enhance emergency management capability in the States and Territories.

Project proposals from the States and Territories must develop relationships between emergency management agencies and Local Government Associations, must provide deliverables at the LG level and encourage Local Government to adopt sustainable Emergency Risk Management processes.

Projects have commenced, or are soon to, in each of the States and the Northern Territory.

One of the products to be developed from the program will be a web site that can be accessed by Local Government Councilors and staff to learn about emergency management.

*For further information contact Paul McAlonan*

*Phone: 02 6266 5438*

*Email: paul.mcalonan@ema.gov.au*

### **Senior Women In Management (SWIM)**

EMA is providing guidance and support to a Senior Women In Management (SWIM) Team who are undertaking a project to "Identify, document and analyse issues covering collection of post disaster economic loss data and promote the benefits of a nationally consistent approach to post disaster data collection of relevant material to improve future disaster mitigation strategies".

The SWIM Team has undertaken stakeholder consultation with agencies with an interest in post disaster data collection including Department of Transport and Regional Services, Geoscience Australia and EMA. Consultation meetings have also been held with a range of stakeholders, in Victoria, South Australia and Queensland.

The SWIM Program is a prestigious and unique Australian Public Service (APS) senior officer development program designed by the APS Commission. The SWIM program provides already competent and high achieving officers with the opportunity to focus on further development through a program that combines high quality coursework with challenging work placements and Learning Set group work.

*For further information contact Paul McAlonan*

*Phone: 02 6266 5438*

*Email: paul.mcalonan@ema.gov.au*

### **Review of Australian Emergency Manual: Safe and Healthy Mass Gatherings**

EMA is undertaking a review of the Australian Emergency Manual: Safe and Healthy Mass Gatherings and is seeking input to the review from any interested parties.

## DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED

This particular manual provides guidance to a wide range of personnel on the management of risks associated with conducting events, often involving large numbers of people.

Since its publication in 1999, Australia has had significant responsibilities for organising a wide range of events which attract small and large crowds, but none bigger than the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. EMA would like to incorporate the knowledge gained from these experiences in the new version of the manual. Another issue to be considered in the review is the implication of Australia's changed security environment for event safety and management.

An electronic copy of the manual is able to be downloaded from the EMA website, [www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au) in the publications section.

*For further information contact Paul McAlonan*

*Phone: 02 6266 5438*

*Email: [paul.mcalonan@ema.gov.au](mailto:paul.mcalonan@ema.gov.au)*

## 2003 Australian Safer Communities Awards

The 2003 Australian Safer Communities Awards ceremony will be held at the Mural Hall, Parliament House, Canberra on Thursday, November 6, 2003. The Attorney-General, the Hon Philip Ruddock will announce the national winners of the Awards at the ceremony.

The Awards recognise best practice and innovation that help to build safer communities. They cover organisations and individuals working in risk assessment, research, education and training, information and knowledge management, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. Details of the awards including information on past years' winners are also available on the EMA website—  
[www.ema.gov.au](http://www.ema.gov.au)

*For more information contact Li Peng Monroe*

*Phone: 02 6266 5408*

*Email: [lipeng.monroe@ema.gov.au](mailto:lipeng.monroe@ema.gov.au)*

## PLANNING & OPERATIONS GROUP

### Retirement of Rod McKinnon

EMA Director of Planning and Operations Rod McKinnon retired from EMA after nearly eight years in this key position. In farewelling Rod, Director General David Templeman warmly praised Rod's contribution to the development of emergency management capability in Australia and wished him a rewarding and relaxing retirement in Queensland. Mr Templeman added that Rod's strategic perspective and operational management skills, well honed by 33 years service in the Royal Australian Engineers, would be missed by all in EMA.

### National Counter Terrorist Exercise "Fastball"

EMA participated in the National Counter Terrorist Investigation and Consequence Management Exercise (ICMEX) codenamed "Fastball" in Brisbane in early October. The exercise, hosted by the Queensland Police had several components and included managing the consequences of a radiological dispersal device in the context of a mass gathering, a deliberate chemical release on public transport facilities, and an urban search and rescue scenario.

*For further information contact Rob Cameron, Acting Director Planning and Operations, 02 6266 5525, email [robert.cameron@ema.gov.au](mailto:robert.cameron@ema.gov.au)*

### CBR Enhancement Program

The first tranche of equipment in the Australian Government's Chemical Biological and Radiological Enhancement Program (CBREP) was delivered to States and Territories in September. The first phase of the CBREP saw each jurisdiction take receipt of a range of personal protective, detection and CBR operational support equipment valued at \$900,000. The second phase of the CBREP, acquisition of distribution of deployable mass casualty decontamination systems is underway and progressing as per project planning.

*For further information contact Matt Smith, Acting Assistant Director CBR Enhancement Program, 02 6266 5474, email [matthew.smith@ema.gov.au](mailto:matthew.smith@ema.gov.au)*

## PLANNING & OPERATIONS GROUP CONTINUED

### Plan SPRED Trial

In late November 2003 in Townsville, EMA will coordinate a trial of the Australian Contingency Plan for Radioactive Space Debris Re-Entry (AUSCONPLAN SPRED). The trial involves representatives from the Incident Response Regiment, the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, the Defence Science and Technology Organisation and 5th Aviation Regiment. The trial will consist of a series of activities to confirm Standing Operating Procedures that would be used during an incident involving re-entry of radioactive space debris. The trial will be conducted over two and a half days and will focus on Ground and Helicopter search operations.

*For further information contact Don Patterson, Assistant Director Special Capabilities, 02 6266 5165, email don.patterson@ema.gov.au*

### National CBR Working Group

The National Chemical Biological and Radiological Working Group met at Mount Macedon during 15–17 October. Some 30 persons attended including representatives from Commonwealth agencies as well as the Chairs of State and Territory CBR committees. The meeting focussed on the ongoing work of the CBR Enhancement Program in which CBR equipment is being provided to State and Territory response agencies. Further refinement of the National CBR Coordination Arrangements is expected to be forwarded to the Australian Emergency Management Committee for endorsement early in the new year.

*For further information contact Don Patterson, Assistant Director Special Capabilities, 02 6266 5165, email don.patterson@ema.gov.au.*

### NRIS Exercise Murphy 03

Exercise Murphy 2003, the annual National Registration and Inquiry System Exercise was conducted on 22 October 2003. State and Territory Red Cross agencies participated in the exercise to register, process inquiries and match persons using the NRIS Local and NRIS National Web based system. The exercise was based on a cyclone impacting on Darwin and involved Southern states assisting in the registration process. Exercise Murphy is conducted annually to ensure NRIS is fully functional. NRIS can be used by States and Territories to register displaced persons in any emergency.

*For further information contact Don Patterson, Assistant Director Special Capabilities, 02 6266 5165, email don.patterson@ema.gov.au*

### Emergency Management Sector Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group

A meeting of the Emergency Management Sector Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group (EMCIPWG) is planned for November 19 and 20 2003. State and Territory departments and agencies and Industry continue to strongly support the activities of this group and recognise it as an important, broad information sharing forum for critical infrastructure protection issues. The proposed meeting has two aims:

- To share information on a range of risk assessment and risk management tools, methodologies and approaches to CIP currently in use by stakeholders with CIP responsibilities from both government and industry, and
- To scope the requirement for the establishment of an Emergency Services/Public Safety Industry Assurance Advisory Group (IAAG) as part of the national Trusted Information Sharing Network (TISN)

Attendees at the meeting will be State and Territory emergency managers, representatives from first minister's departments, police, State and Territory CIP review groups, representatives from industry including some chairmen of the established IAAGs and Australian Government departments and agencies.

*For further information contact David Morton, Assistant Director Civil Defence and National Support, 02 6266 5328, email david.morton@ema.gov.au*

# CONFERENCE DIARY

## 2003 November

### November 1-4

**Location:** Orlando, Florida  
**Title:** Annual Meeting of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM).  
**Enquiries:** IAEM, 111 Park Place, Falls Church, VA 22046; (703) 538-1795; fax: (703) 241-5603; email: [info@iaem.com](mailto:info@iaem.com); WWW: <http://www.iaem.com/>.

### November 2-5

**Location:** Seattle, Washington  
**Title:** Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting.  
**Enquiries:** GSA, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301-9140; (303) 447-2020 or (800) 472-1988; fax: (303) 447-0648; email: [meetings@geosociety.org](mailto:meetings@geosociety.org); <http://www.geosociety.org/>.

### November 3-6

**Location:** Boulder, Colorado  
**Title:** Campus Fire Forum S.  
**Detail:** This fire safety forum will focus on developing effective university-municipality working relationships, working with the media, anticipating riots, evaluating the effectiveness of fire safety programs, preparing for the unthinkable, and more.  
**Enquiries:** Campus Firewatch, P.O. Box 1046, Belchertown, MA 01007; (413) 323-6002; email: [forum5@campus-firewatch.com](mailto:forum5@campus-firewatch.com); <http://www.campus-firewatch.com/forumv/>.

### \*\*\*POSTPONED\*\*\*November 4-7

**Location:** Washington, DC  
**Title:** GDIN 2003.  
**Detail:** Conference themes include emergency telecommunications, disaster manager needs, the UN International Strategy on Disaster Reduction, information management (including homeland security), urban search and rescue, and many more.  
**Enquiries:** GDIN, 26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, VA 20152; (202) 647-5070; email: [gdin2003@hotmail.com](mailto:gdin2003@hotmail.com); <http://www.gdin.org/>.

### November 6-9

**Location:** Sunrise, Florida  
**Title:** Building Alliances Through Resonant Leadership.  
**Detail:** This conference will focus on leadership skills and other issues with the goal of providing a proactive network that supports, mentors, and educates current and future women chief officers.  
**Enquiries:** Terri Wallace; email: [terri.wallace@ci.greensboro.nc.us](mailto:terri.wallace@ci.greensboro.nc.us); <http://www.womenfireofficers.org/events.htm>.

### November 10-14

**Location:** Honolulu, Hawaii  
**Title:** 30th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment (ISRSE): Information for Risk Management and Sustainable Development.  
**Detail:** The overall theme of this conference is the use of Earth observation systems in understanding and managing our planet's environment with particular emphasis on natural hazards and sustainability.  
**Enquiries:** ISRSE, c/o Office of Arid Lands Studies, University of Arizona, 1955 East Sixth Street, Suite 205, Tucson, AZ 85719; (520) 621-3816; email: [isrse@email.arizona.edu](mailto:isrse@email.arizona.edu); <http://isrse.pdc.org>.

### November 11-13

**Location:** Washington D.C  
**Title:** Contingency Planning and Management Conference East.  
**Details:** This conference is geared toward those who work with developing, maintaining, and implementing business continuity plans. Educational sessions, disaster simulation exercises, and networking opportunities are included.  
**Enquiries:** CPM, 84 Park Avenue, Flemington, NJ 08822; (908) 788-0343; <http://www.contingencyplanningexpo.com>.

### November 12-13

**Location:** Orlando, Florida  
**Title:** 2003 IBHS Annual Congress "Taking the Lead in Property Loss Reduction."  
**Detail:** This congress on natural hazard loss reduction brings together professionals in the insurance industry, emergency management, government agencies and academic institutions, for the purpose of discussing the latest developments in natural hazard mitigation.  
**Enquiries:** IBHS, 4775 East Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL 33617; (813) 286-3400; <http://www.ibhs.org/congress/>.

#### November 13-14

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Title: First International Conference on Structural Health Monitoring and Intelligent Infrastructure (SHMII-1).

Detail: The conference will address progress in the development of building, transportation, marine, underground, energy generating, and other civilian infrastructures that are periodically, continuously or actively monitored.

Enquiries: SHMII-1 2003 Secretariat, c/o the Department of Urban and Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Ibaraki University, Nakanarusawa-cho, 4-12-1, Hitachi, Ibaraki 316-8511, Japan; tel: +81-294-38-5172; email: shmii-1@mx.ibaraki.ac.jp; <http://www.civil.ibaraki.ac.jp/shmii/>.

#### November 14-16

Location: Pilani, India

Title: Second Conference on Disaster Management-Case Histories of Disasters.

Detail: The focus of the conference will be on earthquakes, floods, cyclones, and drought. Conference organizers are accepting contributions of case histories of disaster management for presentation through July 15, 2003.

Enquiries: Satyendra P. Gupta Civil Engineering Group, BITS, Vidhya Vihar Campus, Pilani, Rajasthan, India, email: spgupta@bits-pilani.ac.in or spguptaus@yahoo.com; <http://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/>.

#### November 15-19

Location: Orlando, Florida

Title: Annual Meeting of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM).

Enquiries: IAEM, 111 Park Place, Falls Church, VA 22046; (703) 538-1795; fax: (703) 241-5603; email: [info@iaem.com](mailto:info@iaem.com); WWW: <http://www.iaem.com>.

#### November 16-19

Location: Norfolk, Virginia

Title: Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Conference: Stay the Course.

Detail: This conference will focus on training, networking, and continuing education for a variety of emergency management issues.

Enquiries: Katrina Harris, 2003 Conference, c/o General Physics Corporation, 500 Edgewood Road, Suite 110, Edgewood MD 21040; (800) 364-7974; <http://www.2003conference.org/>.

#### November 16-20

Location: Orlando, Florida

Title: The 2nd International Wildland Fire Ecology and Fire Management Congress held jointly with the 5th Symposium on Fire and Forest Meteorology.

Detail: This conference includes sessions on fire ecology, wildfire management and suppression, fire technology, social aspects of fire, remote sensing and fire, and more.

Enquiries: AMS, 45 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108-3693; 617-227-2426; email: [amsmtgs@ametsoc.org](mailto:amsmtgs@ametsoc.org); <http://www.ametsoc.org/AMS/meet/FAINST/5firee2fireeco.html>.

#### November 17-21

Location: Las Vegas, Nevada

Title: HazMat Explo 7.

Detail: This conference approaches Hazardous Materials from a variety of perspectives, such as first responders, emergency and industrial planners, medical practitioners and many others. Explo focuses on networking, education, and sharing state-of-the-art hazardous materials equipment.

Enquiries: Brent R. DeCracker, Destination Media and Marketing, 10056 Gold Thorn Street, Las Vegas, NV 89123; (702) 768-0887; email: [brent@hazmatexplo.org](mailto:brent@hazmatexplo.org); <http://www.hazmatexplo.org/>.

#### November 19-20

Location: Moreton-in-Marsh, U.K

Title: The 8th Annual Research Event of the Fire Service College.

Details: The event brings together an audience of researchers and practitioners interested in issues related to fire and emergency management.

Enquiries: Anne Eyre; tel: (01926) 427939; email: [anne.eyre@traumatraining.com](mailto:anne.eyre@traumatraining.com).

#### November 19-22

Location: Leon-Guanajuato, Mexico

Title: 14th Mexican National Conference on Earthquake Engineering.

Detail: The theme for the congress is "challenges for earthquake engineering in the twenty-first century." The conference is directed toward professors, researchers, students, practitioners, building officials, institutions from the private and public sectors, and all others working with topics directly related to earthquake engineering research, teaching, design and construction.

Enquiries: Angelica Mendoza-Reyes, Camino Sta. Teresa No 187, Local 9, Col. Parques del Pedregal, Delegacion Tlalpan, 14 020 Mexico; tel: (52-55) 5606-1314; email: [smis@mx.inter.net](mailto:smis@mx.inter.net); <http://www.smis.org.mx>.



## December

### December 7-10

**Location:** Baltimore, Maryland  
**Title:** 2003 Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) Annual Meeting.  
**Detail:** The theme for the meeting is "bridging risk divides," and it will highlight building links among risk disciplines and sectors such as academia, industry, government, and nonprofits.  
**Enquiries:** SRA, 1313 Dolley Madison Boulevard, Suite 402, McLean, VA 22101; (703) 790-1745; email: [sra@burkinc.com](mailto:sra@burkinc.com); <http://www.sra.org>.

### December 8-9

**Location:** La Jolla, California  
**Title:** 2003 International Conference on Seismic Bridge Design and Retrofit.  
**Detail:** Topics to be discussed at this conference include new seismic design approaches, effects of vertical accelerations on bridge response, evaluation and application of seismic response modification devices in bridge design and retrofit, and more.  
**Enquiries:** Phyllis O. Erebor, AGI, P.O. Box 9094, Farmington Hills, MI 48333; (248) 848-3784; email: [phyllis.erebor@concrete.org](mailto:phyllis.erebor@concrete.org); <http://www.concrete.org>.

### December 16-18

**Location:** Bandung, Bali, Indonesia  
**Title:** Construction (EASEC-9).  
**Detail:** The conference theme is "embracing the challenges of the 21st century," with a focus on the use of information technology, training and education, distance partnerships, digital communication, and more.  
**Enquiries:** Muhamad Abduh, Department of Civil Engineering, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Jl. Ganesa 10, Bandung 40132, West Java-Indonesia; tel:(62)-(22)-2510715; email: [easec9@si.itb.ac.id](mailto:easec9@si.itb.ac.id); <http://www.si.itb.ac.id/easec9/home.php>

## 2004

## January

### January 7-9

**Location:** Berkeley, California  
**Title:** 11th International Conference on Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering (ICSDEE).  
**Detail:** This conference will provide a platform for communication and dissemination of ongoing advances in both research and practice, with the aim of encouraging continued efforts at advancing practice in all regions. Themes include: seismicity, ground motions and site effects, soil liquefaction, lifeline earthquake engineering, codes, policy issues, insurance, and standards of practice, observations for recent earthquakes, and much more.  
**Enquiries:** The Secretariat, c/o Integrated Meeting Specialist Ltd. 1122A Serangoon Road, Singapore 328206; tel: 65 6 295 6790; email: [sdee@inmeet.com.sg](mailto:sdee@inmeet.com.sg); <http://www.sdee-ege.org/>.

## February

### February 4-8

**Location:** Los Angeles, California  
**Title:** EERI Annual Meeting 2004.  
**Enquiries:** EERI 499, 14th Street, Suite 320, Oakland, CA 94612-1934; (510) 451-5411; email: [eeri@eeri.org](mailto:eeri@eeri.org); <http://www.eeri.org>.

### February 9-11

**Location:** Memphis, Tennessee  
**Title:** 4th National Seismic Conference on Bridges and Highways.  
**Detail:** This conference is a forum for information exchange about current national and regional practices and research for seismic-resistant design and retrofit of new and existing bridges and highway systems in all seismic zones. It will focus on advances in engineering and technology that provide increased seismic safety of highway bridges, other highway structures, and highway systems in the new millennium.  
**Enquiries:** Wendy Pickering, (217) 333-2880; email: [wpickeri@uiuc.edu](mailto:wpickeri@uiuc.edu); <http://www.conferences.uiuc.edu/conferences/conference.asp?ID=281>.

### February 16–19

**Location:** Cairo, Egypt  
**Title:** Seventh International Conference on the Geology of the Arab World.  
**Detail:** This conference will address new research contributions from the earth sciences and their environmental, industrial, and development applications in the Arab world. There will be a session on environmental hazards.  
**Enquiries:** The General Secretary, Geology Department, Cairo University, Giza, Arab Republic of Egypt; tel: 002 02 567-6858; email: gaw7@hotmail.com or melsharkawi@hotmail.com; http://gaw7.netfirms.com/.

### February 16–20

**Location:** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
**Title:** EC04 Conference.  
**Detail:** Relevant sessions include slope stabilization, community and government partnering, and natural disaster recovery.  
**Enquiries:** IECA, P.O. Box 774904, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477; (970) 879-3010; email: ecinfo@ieca.org; http://www.ieca.org.

### February 19–21

**Location:** New Delhi, India  
**Title:** World Congress on Natural Disaster Mitigation.  
**Details:** Plenary sessions for this multidisciplinary congress include the global and regional dimensions of natural disasters, their implications for national development, capacity building and public education and awareness of natural disasters, the role of government, mapping, vulnerability and much more.  
**Enquiries:** Organizing Secretary General, Engineer Bhawan Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002 India; tel: 91-11-2270168; email: tmcvec@del3.net.in; http://www.wfeo-cee.org/ndm.htm.

## March

### March 5–6

**Title:** Asia Conference on Earthquake Engineering.  
**Detail:** This conference aims to provide a venue for dialogue and cooperation among scientists, engineers, researchers, and planners addressing the issues of earthquake engineering practice and research, and seismic hazards and loss mitigation in "earthquake countries", from both highly and moderately seismic regions in Asia.  
**Enquiries:** ACEE 2004 Secretariat—ASEP Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines, Inc. Unit 713 Future Point Plaza Condominium, Panay Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines; tel: +632 4118603; email: acee\_2004@yahoo.com.

### March 26–29

**Location:** Washington, DC  
**Title:** GDIN2004.  
**Detail:** Conference themes include: emergency telecommunications, disaster manager needs, the UN International Strategy on Disaster Reduction, information management (including homeland security), urban search and rescue, and many more.  
**Enquiries:** GDIN, 26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, VA 20152; (202) 647-5070; email: gdin2003@hotmail.com; http://www.gdin.org

### March 29–31

**Location:** Crete, Greece  
**Title:** SUSI (Structures Under Shock and Impact) 2004.  
**Detail:** Conference topics include Aircraft and missile crash against high-rise buildings, Seismic engineering applications, and Software for shock and impact. Papers are invited on the topics of the meeting, or falling within the scope of the meeting.  
**Enquiries:** Conference Secretariat Rachel Green, Conference Secretaria SUSI 2004, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton SO40 7AA, UK; tel: +44 (0) 238 029 3223; fax +44 (0) 238 029 2853; email rgreen@wessex.ac.uk; http://www.wessex.ac.uk.

### March 30–April 1

**Location:** Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
**Title:** Safety in Action 2004.  
**Detail:** Presented by Safety Institute of Australia (Vic. Division) Inc. Streams include OHS Professionals and Engineers, Human Error in Occupational Safety, Chemical Management the Next Step, and Rail Safety.  
**Enquiries:** Safety in Action 2004 Organiser, Australian Exhibitions & Conferences Pty Ltd, PO Box 82, Flinders Lane, Melbourne VIC 8009; tel: +61 3 9654 7773; fax: +61 3 9654 5596; email: safety@aec.net.au; http://www.safetyinaction.net.au.

### March 31–April 2

**Location:** Crete, Greece  
**Title:** Damage and Fracture Mechanics 2004.  
**Detail:** Conference topics include Failure analysis, Environmental effects, Advanced analysis methods, and Behaviour at high temperature.  
**Enquiries:** Conference Secretariat Rachel Green, Conference Secretaria Damage & Fracture 2004, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton SO40 7AA, UK; tel: +44 (0) 238 029 3223; fax +44 (0) 238 029 2853; email rgreen@wessex.ac.uk; http://www.wessex.ac.uk.

## April

### April 13-17

**Location:** New York  
**Title:** New York Fifth International Conference on Case Histories on Geotechnical Engineering.  
**Detail:** This meeting will provide a forum for geotechnical professionals from around the world to present their research findings.  
**Enquiries:** <http://web.umn.edu/~eqconf/5thCHConf/>.

### April 15-18

**Location:** Kansas City, Missouri  
**Title:** Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting.  
**Detail:** The theme for this meeting is "the discipline of sociology in a post-disciplinary age: developing strategies for dialogue with fields near and far."  
**Enquiries:** Department of Sociology, Drake University, 2507 University, Des Moines, IA 50311; (515) 271-4108; email: [mss@drake.edu](mailto:mss@drake.edu); <http://www.themss.org/>.

## May

### May 16-21

**Location:** Biloxi, Mississippi  
**Title:** Lighting the Way to Floodplain Management.  
**Detail:** This conference will showcase the state-of-the-art techniques, programs, resources, materials, equipment, accessories, and services to accomplish flood mitigation and other community goals. Non-profit, government, business and academic sectors will share how they successfully integrate engineering, planning, open space, and environmental protection.  
**Enquiries:** ASFM, 2809 Fish Hatchery Road Madison, WI 53713; (608) 274-0123; email: [asfpm@floods.org](mailto:asfpm@floods.org); <http://www.floods.org>.

## June

### June 24-July 4

**Location:** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
**Title:** IX International Symposium on Landslides.  
**Detail:** Practicing and consulting engineers, geologists, researchers, construction managers, government officials, product suppliers, and others are invited to attend and present their recent experiences and developments in the field of landslide hazards.  
**Enquiries:** Secretariat 9 ISL-Rio 2004, Programa de Engenharia Civil COPPE-UFRJ, P.O. Box 68506, CEP 21.945-970, Rio de Janeiro RJ 78Brazil; tel: 55 21 562-7200; email: [9isl@geotec.coppe.ufrj.br](mailto:9isl@geotec.coppe.ufrj.br); <http://www.quattri.com.br/isl/interior.html>.

## July

### July 27-31

**Location:** Los Angeles, California  
**Title:** Geo-Trans 2004.  
**Detail:** This conference will focus on geotechnical engineering for transportation projects such as bridges, tunnels, underground structures, rail and highway corridors, and systems engineering. Seismic design, risk assessment, geographic information systems, and retaining structures are among the topics to be presented.  
**Enquiries:** ASCE, 1801 Alexander Bell Drive, Reston, VA 20191; (703) 295-6350; email: [conf@asce.org](mailto:conf@asce.org); <http://www.asce.org/conferences/geotrans04/>.

## August

### August 1-6

**Location:** Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada  
**Title:** 13th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (13WCEE).  
**Enquiries:** <http://www.13wcee.com/>, or <http://venuewest.com/13wcee/>; or contact: 13th WCEE Secretariat, c/o Venue West Conference Services Ltd., #645-375 Water Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 5C6, Canada; (604) 681-5226; fax: (604) 681-2503; email: [congress@venuewest.com](mailto:congress@venuewest.com).

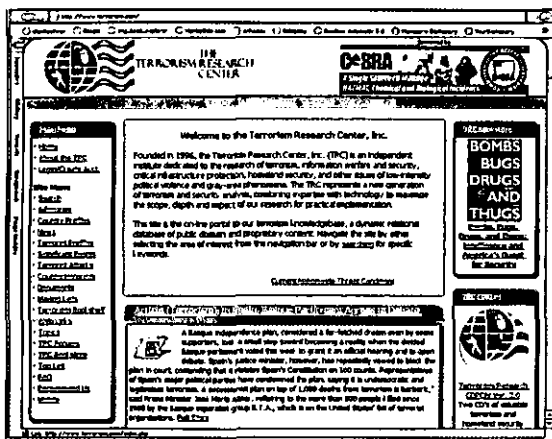
### August 15-22 2004

**Location:** Florence, Italy  
**Title:** 32nd International Geological Congress (IGC).  
**Detail:** The 32nd IGC includes a Topical Symposium on "Natural Hazards and Mitigation of Geological Risks".  
**Enquiries:** [32igc@32igc.org](mailto:32igc@32igc.org); or Chiara Manetti, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Via La Pira, 4 50121 Firenze, Italy; tel/fax: +39 055 2382146; email: [cmanetti@geo.unifi.it](mailto:cmanetti@geo.unifi.it); WWW: <http://www.iugs.org/iugs/news/igc32-02.htm>.

### August 20-28

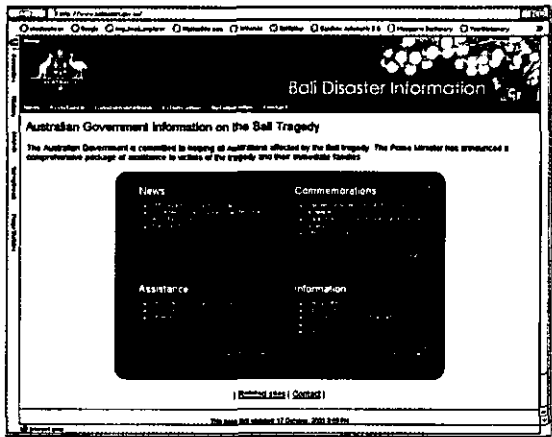
**Location:** Florence, Italy  
**Title:** The 32nd Session of the International Geological Congress.  
**Detail:** The conference has been designed as a forum for a broad debate of the most significant advances in the geological sciences, as well as to promote discussion of the congress theme: "from the Mediterranean area toward a global geological renaissance—geology, natural hazards and cultural heritage."  
**Enquiries:** Chiara Manetti, Borgo Albizi, 28, 50121 Firenze, Italy; tel: +39 055 2382146; email: [casaitalia@geo.unifi.it](mailto:casaitalia@geo.unifi.it); <http://www.32igc.org/default1.htm>.

# Interesting websites



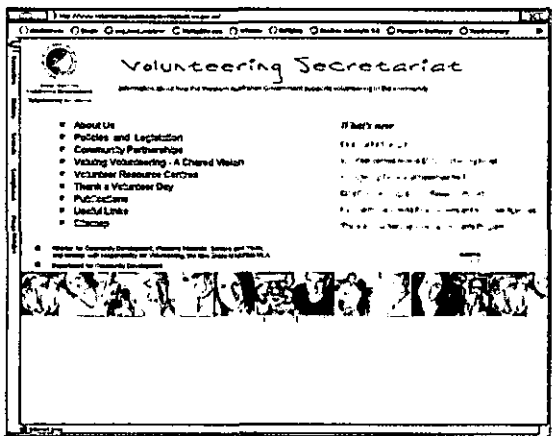
**Terrorism Research Center**  
[www.terrorism.com/](http://www.terrorism.com/)

The Terrorism Research Center is dedicated to informing the public of the phenomena of terrorism and information warfare. This site features essays and thought pieces on current issues, as well as links to other terrorism documents, research and resources. This site also contains book reviews and recommended reading for various aspects of terrorism.



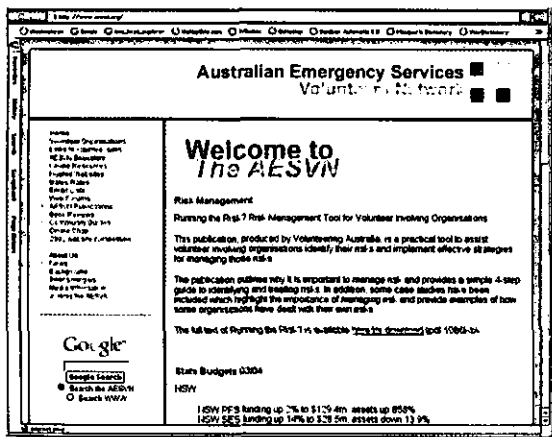
**Australian Government Bali disaster website**  
[www.baliassist.gov.au](http://www.baliassist.gov.au)

The Australian Government has developed a web site where people affected by the Bali disaster can find out about the assistance, support and other services available to them. The site is to become a dedicated communication channel ensuring there is ongoing relevant information available to the community. They are also developing a series of fact sheets and frequently asked questions.



**New website for volunteers in WA**  
[www.volunteering.communitydevelopment.wa.gov.au](http://www.volunteering.communitydevelopment.wa.gov.au)

The Western Australian Government supports volunteering in the community by providing information on this new web site. The role of the Volunteering Secretariat is to implement the Western Australian Government's Valuing Volunteers policy initiatives and to ensure across-government and across-community coordination for the volunteering sector.



**New Emergency Services website**  
[www.aesvn.org](http://www.aesvn.org)

The Australian Emergency Service Volunteers Network web site is dedicated to the 300,000+ men and women who freely volunteer their services to assist their fellow Australians and help keep this country safe.

AESVN is dedicated to helping Emergency Services personnel to share information, resources, ideas, thoughts and comments. The recent National Summit of Emergency Service Volunteers in Canberra highlighted the need for this service.

## COMING SOON...

The March 2004 Australian Journal of  
Emergency Management

The special 2003 Australian Disaster Conference issue.

