

Paekakariki Landslip

Civil Defence Emergency Declared

At 12.30am on Saturday 4 October, a state of civil defence emergency was declared in the small town of Paekakariki, north of Wellington, as a result of heavy rain which caused extensive flooding and many landslips.

Rainfall in excess of 100mm in 24 hours and the impact of a narrow band of rain 10km wide directly over Paekakariki led to around 20 landslips in the area, with a debris fan across State Highway 1 at Paekakariki doing most of the damage.

Around 10,000 cubic metres of gravel poured down Paekakariki Hill during the event. Homes were affected, and many businesses were flooded. The Belvedere Motel was hit the worst, smothered by tonnes of rubble that filled their pool, nearly burying buildings and cars. Sewage from flooded septic tanks contaminated the mud and water which spread through houses, of which more than 20 were evacuated and five left uninhabitable.

The events of the night closed the state highway and main trunk railway north of Wellington, and the Paekakariki Hill Road. Hundreds of people were stranded on the Friday night. Many were returning home to the Kapiti Coast after the Wellington Lions vs Otago rugby game at the Westpac Stadium. Traffic along State Highway 1 ground to a halt and passengers on the train were either forced to sleep on the train, or to walk for over an hour to safety. About 150 were stranded in the city and spent the night sleeping at the Stadium. The Wellington Emergency Management Office was activated at 10 pm, monitoring the situation and supplying blankets and

refreshments to those staying the night at the Stadium.

In Paekakariki, Civil Defence Officer Rodger McCormack with support from Upper Hutt City Emergency Management Officer David Etchells set up an emergency operations center in Paraparaumu on Friday night. The operations centre was relocated to Paekakariki on Saturday afternoon.

The civil defence declaration was lifted at midday on 9 October.



The Minister of Civil Defence, Hon George Hawkins onsite at the Belvedere Motel on 6 October. He later presented a cheque of \$20,000 to Kapiti Coast Mayor Alan Milne as a contribution to the Mayoral Relief Fund.



Above: Storm damage on the Paekakariki Hill Road
Left: Cleaning up homes contaminated by sewage and floodwater. Photos courtesy of Kapiti Coast District Council.

MESSAGE FROM
JOHN NORTON



One Year On

As I write this, it is a year ago today since the enactment of the CDEM Act 2002.

Over the past two weeks, I have attended conferences for emergency management officers organised by both the South and North Island groups. The common theme from both these conferences is the realisation as planning has progressed, of the gaps to be filled and the relationships to be developed. The Mayor of Napier (Barbara Arnott) in opening the North Island Conference talked of the sharing of information and processes "the more we talk with each other the better it gets" she quipped "its all about communication".

Following the formation of CDEM Groups by 1 June 2003, there is a huge amount of energy now going into the Group planning process around the country. Recent events (SARS, Te Anau earthquake and the Paekakariki floods) have reinforced the importance of a coordinated response, highlighted the gaps individual agencies experience and reinforced the value of the planning arrangements.

It is useful at this time to recast the paradigm shifts embodied in the new environment. While we are building on existing capability, there is a different focus, a different expectation on individual agencies and a different backstop. The new Act does not recognise a "force-majeure" mentality where "we tried hard!" is good enough. It requires planning around the likely consequences of hazards and the ability of agencies to deal with them.

The three paradigm shifts are:

- the accountability of individuals, agencies and local authorities for their hazards and of the CDEM groups for planning for them.
- the shift from resourced based planning to impact and consequence based planning.
- the absolute expectation that everyone will do their job during a disaster – the role of CDEM is to assess, prioritise,

coordinate, monitor and support the response.

My sense is that the sector is in a good space right now – there is a lot of work to do, but there is good energy there driving and supporting it. The continuing threat of terrorism and the SARS scare earlier this year, are reinforcing the demand and expectation on what we are all doing. New understandings of hazards are also reinforcing these demands. Your communities expect that the arrangements you are working on are all in place, and that the relationships between agencies will stand up to the demands of a disaster.

Some observations to finish up with:

1. The new Act is standing up to the task. It is prescriptive where necessary, but is mainly enabling. The hooks are there and the Guidelines have been produced to support it. Where interpretations are called for we are endeavouring to keep them pragmatic.
2. CDEM Group Development. It is important that the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) is represented at a senior level – without that, there is no commitment. It is also important that the partners of the CEG (Health, Police and Fire) are engaged and contributing – this will only get better with time as the Group processes are resolved.
3. Role of Controller. It is imperative during emergencies, that the Controller is supported by the local authority management team. People in management roles do not stop doing them during an emergency. The new Act provides for Local Controllers to be accountable to the Group Controller. During the transition from the CD Plan to the CDEM Plan it is useful to deliberately exercise these arrangements and coordination even for small events.

It has been a challenging and productive year. On behalf of the Ministry team, I wish you all a safe and happy Xmas.

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National CDEM Strategy Approved

By Blair Robertson, Policy Analyst

The Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Act 2002 requires the Minister of Civil Defence, on behalf of the Crown, to complete a National CDEM Strategy by December 2003. The purpose of the Strategy is to set out the Crown's priorities for CDEM. The National CDEM Strategy has been developed in consultation with local and central government, emergency services, lifeline utilities, and community groups.

On 27 November 2003, the Minister of Civil Defence, Hon George Hawkins, signed the National CDEM Strategy. A notice has been placed in the Gazette advising the

completion of the Strategy and a copy presented to the House of Representatives. Unless within fifteen sitting days, the House of Representatives resolves not to approve the Strategy, it automatically takes effect 28 days after notification in the Gazette. The Ministry therefore expects that the National CDEM Strategy will come into effect in late February 2004.

The final printed version of the Strategy will be widely distributed to stakeholders in March 2004, and copies made available to public and tertiary libraries. The Strategy will also be available on the Ministry's website www.civildefence.govt.nz.

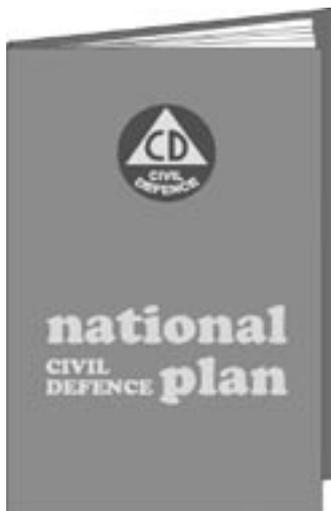


Minister of Civil Defence Hon George Hawkins signing the strategy document on 27 November 2003.

National CDEM Plan – the Working Group

By Peter Wood, Emergency Management Planner

The National Civil Defence Plan outlines the responsibilities for readiness, response and recovery tasks, and procedures to be used during and after an emergency. As required under the CDEM Act 2002, a new National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan is required to be in place by December 2005.



In September 2003, the Ministry invited nominations for a Working Group to guide the development of the new National CDEM Plan. The invitation called for nominations to represent the CDEM Groups of Auckland, Wellington, and Canterbury, and also one seat each for the rest of the North Island, and the rest of the South Island. Invitations were also sent to the chief executives of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the NZ Fire Service, NZ Police, the Ministry of Health, and the NZ Defence Force. An invitation was also sent to the National Lifelines Coordinating Committee. Because of the interest shown, and with an eye to the demographics of New Zealand, the original allocation of one seat to the rest of the North Island CDEM Groups has been increased to two.

While acknowledging a considerable level of response to the invitations, the desire to include as many interested parties as possible has had to be balanced with the need to keep the Working Group small enough to be effective.

Information on the Working Group processes and progress will be communicated in the next issue of Impact and in updates on the Ministry website, early in the New Year.

The work of the Working Group will be outlined to all interested parties as it progresses. At anytime during the life of the Working Group anyone wanting to make a contribution or submission can do so via a member or through Peter Wood (peter.wood@dia.govt.nz).

The Ministry is pleased to announce the membership of the National CDEM Plan Working Group as follows:

Appointee	Representing
Fred Wilson Auckland City Council	Auckland CDEM Group
Graham Miller Upper Hutt City Council	Wellington CDEM Group
Jon Mitchell Environment Canterbury	Canterbury CDEM Group
Mark Harrison Horizons Manawatu-Wanganui CDEM Group	Other CDEM Groups: North Island
Brendan Morris Environment Waikato Waikato CDEM Group	Other CDEM Groups: North Island
Dallas Bradley Southland Regional Council Southland CDEM Group	Other CDEM Groups: South Island
Pat Helm	Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
Lindsay Heal	NZ Fire Service
Senior Sergeant Gerry Prins	NZ Police
Major Mike Owen	NZ Defence Force
Dave Brunson	National Lifelines Coordinating Committee
Peter Wood	Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management

ITSU XIX

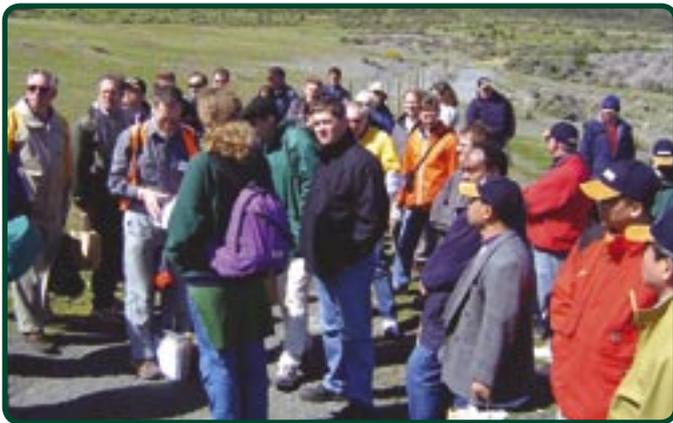
By Mike O'Leary, Manager Readiness

New Zealand's location in the South Pacific, our straddling of two major plate boundaries and our active volcanic zones make us particularly vulnerable to tsunami. This includes those that travel across the Pacific as well as those that are generated closer to home.

Though we have not had any significant tsunami in New Zealand in recent times we are very aware of the hazard and the potential risks it poses to our communities.

In relation to far field tsunami we are almost completely reliant on the services provided by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PTWC) for early warning and detailed information on the nature and size of any potential tsunami. The information coming from PTWC is an integral part of New Zealand's Civil Defence National Warning System and the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (MCDEM) is very keen to support PTWC in any way possible. This included hosting and contributing to the Nineteenth Session of ITSU (International Coordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific).

Between 29 September and 3 October 2003 the Ministry hosted the five-day ITSU XIX Conference in Wellington. It was a UNESCO / IOC organised meeting for the signatory countries involved in the Pacific



Delegates on a coastal Wellington field trip stop to look at the raised beaches of past earthquake events near Cape Turakirae, just east of the entrance to Wellington Harbour.



Tsunami Warning System and was a closed session addressing the functional aspects of the System. Forty-two representatives attended from 16 of the 25 signatory countries.

The Session was very successful with a number of important decisions being made about terms of the operation and governance of the Warning System. The draft Session Report can be viewed at <http://ioc.unesco.org/itsu/contents.php?id=74>.

It has been traditional that the biennial meetings of ITSU are preceded by an international tsunami conference. During the organisation stages of the ITSU Session, the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS) and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric (NIWA) accepted an invitation to stage this workshop.

Gaye Downes of GNS and Neville Ching of NIWA did considerable work in organising the workshop and presenting a comprehensive national and international programme over three days from 25 – 27 September.

They were also able to bring a number of other strategic partners into the organisation of the workshop in terms of support and sponsorship. This included MCDEM as well as Wellington City Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council and the Earthquake Commission.

On 30 September 2003, the Minister of Civil Defence, the Honorable George Hawkins, hosted representatives of the signatory countries at a function in the Beehive. They were also taken on a tour of the MCDEM managed National Crisis Management Centre in the sub-basement of the Beehive.

Preceding this was a small social function in which representatives of the signatory countries mixed informally with representatives of the New Zealand emergency management sector, fellow representatives, UNESCO representatives and the Minister. The New Zealand Commission for UNESCO was very generous in providing funding for the reception and in providing a welcoming speaker in Associate Professor Vince Neal.

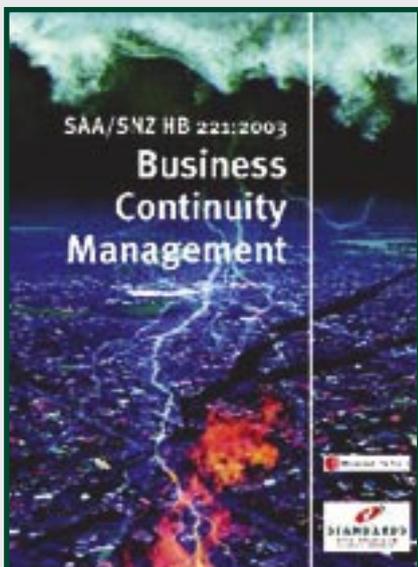
Supporting Business

by Hans Brounts, Emergency Management Planner

In seeking a disaster resilient society, the first expectation under the CDEM Act 2002 is the ability to: "Continue to function to the fullest possible extent, even though this may be at a reduced level, during and after an emergency".

As a challenging theory, if every New Zealand organisation (business, lifeline utility, government department, Crown entity etc) planned for continuance of its service in the face of adversity, it could be argued that the only task remaining for the CDEM sector would be to ensure that planning was coordinated.

Emergency managers in local authorities and the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management are often asked for advice and best practice examples of continuity planning. To support the expectation of continuity planning, the Ministry has assembled a limited range of resources on its website under the "Information for Businesses" pages - including references to consultants and local authority information sources (these pages have recently been updated).



Northland Hazard Report

The potential risks and hazards Northland might face - both likely and less likely - were detailed in a report for the meeting of the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group.

The group, which met in Whangarei on 2 December, is chaired by Northland Regional Council Deputy Chairman Peter Jensen and includes representatives of each of Northland's three District Councils, the police and fire service.



Peter Jensen, CDEM Group Chair

In a report to the group, Graeme MacDonald, the Northland Regional Council's Emergency Management Team Leader, ranks more than 20 potential hazards, prioritising them according to their seriousness, manageability, urgency and potential for a risk to grow.

When all those factors are combined, the potential risks can be ranked from one to 15. Unsurprisingly, Northland's number one hazard is flooding, followed by the significant failure of a vital utility like the region's electricity network, which ranks second equal with a serious animal disease

or human epidemic. Other risks ranked include cyclones, fires, landslides, aircraft and ship accidents.

However, the more unusual risks listed include terrorist or hostile acts, tsunami and even space debris. A volcanic eruption is rated 15th equal along with a major rail accident.

Mr MacDonald says the hazards are ranked using an internationally recognised standard that takes into account things like potential loss of human life, economic losses and long-term social impacts.

"A foot and mouth outbreak in Northland would not necessarily cause any loss of human life at all, however, the impact on



Northland's economy and perhaps the national economy would be catastrophic."

Mr MacDonald says before the enactment of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, emergency management in Northland had focused mainly on response and recovery activities to emergencies like floods and storms. But with the law change, there is now a wider focus on all hazards that could impact the region and country.

The newly ranked hazards will be included in the CDEM Group Plan currently under development by the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.

Continuity Planning

HB221:2003 - Business Continuity Management

In October 2003 the joint AS/NZ Standards Working Party on risk management completed its handbook.

The continuity management handbook supports the NZS4360 Risk Management standard and is a practical 'how to' guide for developing a Business Continuity regime organisation-wide, as well as crisis management and continuity plans. The handbook contains much of the information the Ministry had intended to put in a future Director's Guideline. Although the handbook is not CDEM focused, Ministry staff have provided input to the handbook's development.

The handbook is a useful resource for continuity planning and is being recommended to departments and organisations by Ministry staff. It is available for purchase from Standards New Zealand - P/Bag 2439 Wellington, Ph 04 498 5990.

See the Standards NZ website at: www.standards.co.nz (tip - go to the "Shop" and type in the word "Continuity" in the Keyword box)

Risk management related documents available from Standards New Zealand include:

AS/NZS 4360:1999	Risk Management
HB 4360:2000	Risk Management for Local Government
HB 143:1999	Guidelines for managing risk in the Australia & New Zealand Public Sector
HB231:2000	Information Security risk management guidelines
HB 288:2001	Guidelines for managing risk in the Health care sector
HB3931:1998	Risk analysis of technological systems - application guide
HB 221:2003	Business Continuity Management

Staff Appointments

Shawn Hollister Communications Advisor

In late October, Shawn Hollister joined the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management as Communications Advisor.

Shawn holds a Bachelor of Speech Communication from Colorado State University and is currently earning a Master of Communication from Victoria University of Wellington.

Shawn brings to the Communications Advisor role strong skills in web development, the utilisation of audio-visual media, and writing for publications. He will play a key role in the ongoing development and maintenance of our website, and the coordination of projects, particularly in progressing projects identified in the National Public Education Strategy.



Steve Glassey Emergency Management Planner

Steve's main area of responsibility includes a range of response capability initiatives and continuing support of the urban search and rescue programme. This work provides support and frameworks for CDEM Groups in developing their response capability.

Steve has spent the previous 12 months on secondment to the Ministry from the New Zealand Fire Service, working on the USAR programme. In his new role he will continue to provide representation on the USAR Training & Standards Working Group, NZ USAR Search Dog Association, INSARAG Asia-Pacific Training Group, and FRISITO Quality and Training Advisory Groups.

Steve has a National Diploma in Adult Education & Training, National Certificate in Civil Defence Response, USAR Technician Certificate (Category 2) and Swiftwater Rescue Instructor 1 qualification. He has a diverse background including being a Naval Communicator (RNZN), SPCA Inspector, Ambulance Officer/Rescue Technician, and Training Manager.



PEGASUS 04

Exercising integrated response rescue capability

By Lynda Angus, Chair USAR Steering Committee

On 13–19 September 2004, there will be a multi-strand exercise, based in Christchurch, to exercise integrated response rescue capability. The exercise involves UNDAC (United Nations Disaster & Assessment), USAR (Urban Search and Rescue), CDEM Groups and the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (MCDEM). The exercise strands will be:

- UNDAC Pacific region biennial refresher training, which will include an On-Site Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) exercise. The latter involves the Pacific UNDAC team working with the local Emergency Management structures (in this case the Canterbury CDEM Group) and the national emergency management organisation (MCDEM) to coordinate international assistance into the country in a significant emergency. (Contact: John Titmus, MCDEM)
- USAR exercise. Taskforce 3 (Christchurch) will be deployed for a USAR exercise as well as focusing on the integration of USAR taskforces with local response rescue teams and Incident Control processes. (Contact: Artie Lind, TF Team Leader, NZFS)
- CDEM Group exercise (Pandora). ECAN will run their annual exercise in conjunction with these other exercise components and the Canterbury CDEM Group will be the local hosts of the programme, with MCDEM and the NZ Fire Service at the national level. (Contact: John Fisher, ECAN)
- Registered Responder participation. These teams will be invited to participate in the exercise and be involved in testing the border arrangements for the reception of international teams, along with the integration of response rescue components. (Contact: Steve Glassey, MCDEM)
- Border control exercise, to test the protocols which have been developed with border agencies and Christchurch airport.
NB: There will be some international observers to the exercise, but it is not planned to invite overseas teams to participate. (Contact: John Lovell, MCDEM)
- National Crisis Management Centre activation. (Contact: David Coetzee, MCDEM)

Details of the exercise are currently being developed and information will be placed on the Ministry and USAR websites as it is worked through.

Ian Craig Volunteer Development Fund

To foster volunteer rescue expertise and excellence in New Zealand

by Lynda Angus, Chair, USAR Steering Committee

The Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management with the National Urban Search and Rescue Steering Committee, has established a volunteer development fund of up to \$10,000 annually, in memory of Ian Craig who made such an outstanding contribution to the world of rescue and response training and capability development. It is appropriate that Ian's work should be continued through others whom he imbued with similar enthusiasm, or who have benefited from the developments in the rescue and response

field that he was instrumental in influencing. Ian's family is pleased to acknowledge the fund.

Grants may be made towards study, visits, training, research, or any initiative that contributes towards the development of volunteer response and capability rescue in New Zealand.

The Ministry invites applications from people who would like to be considered for a grant to be used towards some aspect of the development of response rescue capability in New Zealand. The application process and eligibility information is currently posted on the Ministry (www.civildefence.govt.nz) and USAR (www.usar.org.nz) websites.

Exercise Moa Tests Wellington's Terrorism Response

A terrorist attack in Wellington - this was the scenario for Wellington City Council's annual emergency exercise in August and it involved the activation of the emergency operations centre at WEMO.

Over 50 Council staff, including full activation of the Council's call centre backup, managed the incident cooperation with Police and other emergency services, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management, and Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

In addition to the activity at WEMO the scenario required an "evacuation" of the Civic Centre. Key Council units relocated to their backup locations to run their operations.

"This was an opportunity for these units to test their business continuity plans", says WEMO manager Karen Stephens. "For example the traffic signal management, usually managed through a system located in Civic Centre, was handled through a laptop in the CitiOperations depot in Torrens Terrace", says Karen.

One of the key objectives was to exercise the different dynamics of a major incident resulting in a crime scene as opposed to a natural hazard emergency such as an earthquake. This required the understanding of different relationship requirements with Police, and highlighted the need to clearly define the difference between the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 and the Terrorism Suppression Act 2003.

Debriefs were held with all participants, with the conclusion that the exercise was a success.

"There is a need to reinforce current plans focusing on the importance of communications and strong relationships between the emergency service agencies and Wellington City Council," says Karen.



Council staff Stavros Michael, Andrew Dalziel and Rachel Cuthbertson assess infrastructure damage during Exercise Moa.

Strengthening CDEM Research Links

Goal 2 (Objective A) in the National Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Strategy aims to "Improve the coordination, promotion and accessibility of CDEM Research", on the basis that ongoing research is fundamental to the understanding and development of CDEM. In keeping with the stated objective and the CDEM Act 2002, the Ministry has established a Research Working Group (RWG) to strengthen linkages between the research community, tertiary sector and critically, practitioners both at local and group level. This renewed research environment is also providing an opportunity to contribute to the international discussion within this discipline.

The aim of the RWG is to promote an evidence based approach to CDEM research in New Zealand, reflecting the Ministry's vision of a 'Resilient New Zealand'.

The RWG acts as an interface between the Ministry and a number of the research bodies, most notably The Foundation for Research Science & Technology (FRST) which invests in research across a broad range of disciplines on behalf of the New Zealand Government to "...enhance the wealth and well-being of New Zealanders." FRST are currently funding a number of initiatives within their 'Natural Hazards Portfolio', of which many will have a direct positive impact on the sector. A number of proposals actively involve CDEM Groups. The Ministry has been invited to sit on the FRST Reference Group in an 'observer' capacity providing advice and guidance to the selection and subsequent funding process.

The RWG has established a set of research objectives to underpin the stated research aim and thus provide a clear platform on which to operate from in order to:

- provide a framework for the efficient and effective development of coordinated research activity.
- enhance CDEM policy, practice and decision making in New Zealand across the 4 R's (reduction, readiness, response and recovery).
- promote an effective research culture in the CDEM sector.
- maintain and enhance the capacity for research in disciplines relevant to CDEM.
- monitor and evaluate research priorities on an ongoing basis.
- promote joint working initiatives across the sector.

Fundamental to the Ministry's research focus is the promotion and maintenance of a holistic approach to multi-agency/organisational research in CDEM, thus ensuring an adequate balance between physical and social science research.

Based upon the research objectives, the RWG will develop research priorities seeking to reflect the ongoing changing needs of the sector, research bodies and tertiary groups. Whilst in its relative infancy, the RWG will seek to act as a strong conduit between all parties to facilitate a coordinated response to research requests and provide a forum in which to guide research issues over the coming years.

Recovery Symposium

12 – 13 July 2004

As part of its commitment to developing concepts, processes, plans and capability for recovery, the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management will be hosting the New Zealand Recovery Symposium in 2004. The Symposium will be held at the Napier War Memorial Conference Centre in Hawkes Bay, 12-13 July.

The symposium will focus on five key aspects of recovery:

- Economic
- Reconstruction
- Environmental
- Psychosocial
- Community

The symposium is aimed at senior central government managers, CDEM groups and emergency managers, recovery coordinators and practitioners, and academics. It is also open to members from agencies such as insurance, construction, lifeline utilities, and non-governmental agencies who will be involved in recovery following a disaster.

Early Bird registration – Received before 1st May 2004
NZ\$250.00

Full Registration – Received after 1st May 2004 NZ\$350.00

Late Registration – Received after 1st July 2004
NZ\$500.00

Further details on the symposium will be made available on the Ministry website: www.civildefence.govt.nz. For further information, contact sarah.norman@dia.govt.nz

Director's Forum

Community Resilience Through Partnerships

6-7 April 2004 Christchurch

The Director's Forum aims to bring together civil defence emergency managers and planners from local and central government, and representatives from emergency services, utilities, and scientific groups with an interest in emergency management to address issues of common interest.

The theme for the 2004 Director's Forum is "Community Resilience Through Partnerships".

Day One will focus on partnerships and will address the National

Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan structure, the cluster arrangement, and CDEM Group development.

Day Two will focus on community partnerships and planning among agencies and will address awareness, consulting with community groups, and volunteer support and development.

We are in the process of developing a detailed programme and are approaching groups within the sector for contributions. Current updates will be available on the www.civildefence.govt.nz website. For further information, please contact sara.williams@dia.govt.nz.

Innovation awards

The Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management has joined with the Ministry of Health, Healthline and Local Government New Zealand in supporting the Health Emergency Management New Zealand (HEMNZ) awards programme, which has been established to acknowledge, encourage and support health emergency management and planning within New Zealand.

These awards have been designed to celebrate success and excellence; provide encouragement; give recognition; and facilitate the sharing of initiatives amongst New Zealand health service providers and their key stakeholders.

Any organisation, group, agency or association working within the health sector in New Zealand may apply for the awards. These organisations, agencies or associations may be in any service setting: primary, secondary, tertiary or public health care providers; community or institutional based; private or public sector. Specialised teams or groups within an organisation may apply.

The awards have been divided into four award classifications:

- Health sector collaboration
- Interagency collaboration
- Innovation
- Planning and Preparedness

Within each classification there are up to two categories. Full details of the classification criteria are provided on the application form. Application forms can be obtained from the website: www.hemnz.org.nz or through Robert Patton at robertpatton@xtra.co.nz

Applications, which must be submitted on the HEMNZ Awards 2004 application form and be accompanied by requested documentation close on 9 Feb 2004..

Shortlisted applicants will be advised by 8 March and the Awards presented at the HEMNZ2004 Conference dinner in Auckland on 11 Mar 2004.

www.civildefence.govt.nz – Online Calendar of Events

To promote easier information exchange within the emergency sector, the Ministry has created an online calendar of events. Anyone organising an appropriate event can submit details for posting on the website.

There are so many training opportunities, meetings, and conferences available to those within the sector. The calendar will help to provide a central point of reference for planning, sharing, and scheduling. The calendar will include details of locations, dates, and contact information.

To view the calendar, visit www.civildefence.govt.nz and browse to the Emergency Sector section. The calendar is located in the Conferences & Events pages.

If you would like to contribute to the calendar, or if you know of an emergency sector event that is not listed, please contact shawn.hollister@dia.govt.nz

USAR Milestones achieved

by Bernie Rush, National Rescue Manager, USAR

During November 2003 the national USAR (Urban Search and Rescue) taskforce project achieved several major milestones.

Three USAR Taskforce Groups

On 3 Nov, a multi agency group from Auckland arrived at Linton Military base to begin an intensive three-week training programme. On 22 Nov all of this group were presented with Category 2 USAR Technician certificates. The significance of this for New Zealand is that we now have three USAR taskforce groups strategically placed throughout the country:

- Central TF 1, based in Palmerston North.
- South TF 2, based in Christchurch
- North TF3, based in Auckland

All three taskforce groups are able to work independently, or if required combine to form one international level taskforce. They are trained to USAR international Medium level as identified by the INSARAG (International Search and Rescue Advisory Group) Guidelines, but only the Palmerston North team is equipped to this level at this stage.

Taskforce Support Staff

During the course in November, which established Task Force 3, a second course was conducted to train a national group of taskforce support staff. This USAR taskforce support team is a first for New Zealand. We now have 19 multi- agency, multi-skilled staff trained to support the three-taskforce groups.

Taskforce support staff now includes people who specialise in the following areas:

- Logistics
- Equipment management
- Communications
- Administration
- Search dog handlers
- Structural Engineers
- Medical

The taskforce support course also included the first doctor to train with New Zealand taskforce groups – Dr Tony Smith from Auckland.



Tunnelling through a pancake collapse simulator to exercise the rescue process in an apartment building collapse scenario.



Taskforce technicians using atmospheric monitoring equipment to check air quality before entering a confined space.

Although each support team member has specialised skills, all have been cross-trained in at least one other specialist area and many are able to undertake multiple tasks within the taskforce support structure. The introduction of support staff is a major step forward for the NZ USAR project and greatly enhances our national capability.

International standards achieved

Overseeing all aspects of this course was Capt Ernesto (Ernie) Ojeda, the Chair of FEMA's USAR Division National USAR training group.

Ernie has been travelling to New Zealand to conduct USAR training for us since 1995 when the first USAR pilot course was run. Ernie has had a major influence on the way the taskforce system has been developed here, in particular our CAT 2 training system.

In November Ernie was here to conduct an audit of two aspects of New Zealand's USAR system - the national USAR system; and the USAR CAT 2 training system, including the training package, course delivery and instructor competence.

Ernie was also able to oversee the early development of two new CAT 2 instructors Graham Berg and Ralph Moore, who will be based with TF 2 in Christchurch.

We are pleased to announce that our training package, training system and instructor group all achieved standards required for international recognition. In addition to this Ernie has signed five of our USAR CAT 2 instructors as competent to FEMA USAR Senior Instructor level.

Congratulations to the following NZ USAR Senior Instructors:

Graeme Mills	Palmerston North
Bryce Coneybeer	Wanganui
Mark Cooper	Palmerston North
Royce Tatham	Palmerston North
Gary Richardson	Palmerston North

Training and education: Waikato's interagency approach

By Elizabeth Prior, Waikato District Health Board

For the last two years the Hamilton Emergency Services Coordinating Committee (Fire, Police, Ambulance, Hamilton City Council and Waikato District Health Board) has provided a training and education programme based on the Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS). Since it started, more than 600 people, representing many 'responder' agencies, have been through CIMS Level 2 and Level 4 programmes across the Hamilton, Waikato, Otorahanga, Waitomo and Waipa Districts.

CIMS

CIMS was established to improve the management of incidents involving a multi-agency response. There had been a number of incidents that had occurred locally, nationally and internationally, in which it had been identified that lack of communication and integrated training amongst the response agencies had contributed to poor outcomes.

As a result, a national incident management system (CIMS) was adopted by all the emergency services, plus a number of other key agencies, including Health.

Localising the Approach

Two and a half years ago, Fire, Police and Ambulance, Hamilton City Council and Waikato DHB identified that there were opportunities to integrate their emergency management training, and that this should take the form of a multi-agency approach to multi-agency groups in a way which encouraged cooperation and integration. CIMS gave a clear direction to the content and form of the training programme.

In response to this, in late 2001, the Hamilton Emergency Services Coordinating Committee (ESCC) set up a working party to establish and provide training programmes based on CIMS. We established a standard for the course delivery and also made a clear commitment to ensuring that sessions would have participants from all 'responder' organisations and that the facilitators also presented as a combined group, further modelling the CIMS approach.

The team established training standards at the outset, which, amongst other things, require that trainers are senior staff members who have adult teaching/training experience and expertise. Having senior staff members facilitate the session underscores that there is buy-in of both CIMS in general, and the training programme in particular, at senior management level in each organisation. All the trainers participated in 'Train the Trainer' sessions, specific to CIMS, prior to the programme commencing. Documented feedback was sought (and continues to be collected) following each session so that the team could gauge achievement of the goals and ensure the needs of the target group were being met.

The first sessions were held every Wednesday in March 2002. The feedback was excellent from the outset, with the interagency approach being commented on as one of the most useful aspects of the programme. The emergency services (which include Health) were prioritised first, and invitations have since been taken up by Hamilton Airport, Waikeria Prison, GPs, Environment Waikato, Hamilton Zoo and utility, welfare and lifeline services. Recent participants included the Huntly Mines emergency management team.

Since it started, the CIMS programme has extended into the wider region as well as Hamilton city, and includes evening sessions to ensure that volunteers, such as Fire, St John, Red Cross, Salvation

Army, Victim Support and others have ample opportunity to attend. Graeme Cleaver, Emergency Management Officer with Hamilton City Council believes that these programmes are important in bringing realistic scenarios to groups. "Since a number of support and volunteer agencies rarely have the opportunity to be involved in real-time incidents, this inter-agency approach means that voluntary organisations' and councils' civil defence and emergency management staff (paid and volunteer) are able to meet and network with a greater number of other emergency responders than they normally would".

The CIMS working party continue to be committed to the programme, and are currently planning 'refreshers' for people who have been through the programme. The most common feedback comment is that the participants would have liked more exercises, and this may be the way we approach refresher courses.

This programme has taken significant time and personal dedication but we are sure that this programme has led to better, safer outcomes for responders as well as the victims involved in incidents.

Anecdotally, we are hearing from senior response staff that incidents are being managed more effectively since the implementation of the programme. Prior to the programme starting, information and training around CIMS had been sketchy and uneven. We are now finding that attendees have heard about the programme, are hearing that it is useful and want to attend. We are told the people at incident scenes are using the terminology and starting to implement the system early on. The flow-on effect is that scene safety is established early, resources used prudently and the incident is managed efficiently.

Ongoing programmes

The ESCC now use this model for all their planning around identified risks, including the development of specific information or training packages, and exercises. A notable example of this is a package put together around Methamphetamine use and manufacture in the community.

Early this year, Waikato Police identified that the proliferation of methamphetamine use and the increasing discovery of clandestine laboratories in our district presented a risk to, amongst others, 'first responders' (fire fighters, police, ambulance officers, etc), Emergency Department/24 hour clinic staff, community health staff, Pharmacists and GPs. The CIMS working party came together in May to put a combined education package together ('Methamphetamine in our Community: identifying the risks and staying safe'), which is now being used around the Waikato and in other parts of New Zealand.

The Meth package differs slightly from the CIMS training in that, whilst the same message is given, the presenters quite often work individually rather than in a team. One of the reasons for this is that so many sessions are being requested that our resources are quite stretched. This is being managed in a number of ways. The Fire Service has provided 'Train the Trainer' sessions for someone from each Fire Station and packages are then presented at times best suited to the local brigades, many of whom are volunteers. Police are being inundated with requests for information from many community groups, and work together with Health to present combined sessions where appropriate.

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Working together for prepared communities

National Public Education Strategy By Chandrika Kumaran , Communications Manager

In September 2003, the National Public Education Working Group signed off on a five-year strategy which sets a direction for public education in civil defence emergency management.

The strategy outlines :

- the vision and goals of the national public education working group
- issues faced by those tasked with delivering public education, and the strategic principles and proposed strategies to address these issues
- indicative tasks for short, medium and long term.

The strategy defines programmes that are best coordinated and delivered at a national level by the Ministry working with the national public education working group, and supports strategies for programmes delivered by CDEM Groups, regional and territorial local authorities.

The strategy is consistent with the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Strategy and addresses in particular:

Goal 1: To Increase Community Awareness, Understanding and Participation in CDEM

The national working group was formed in early 2002 and is chaired by the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management. It comprises representatives from regional and district councils who consult with, and represent the views of the CDEM offices in their respective areas; NZ Fire Service; Police; and the Earthquake Commission.

At the August 2003 meeting, the Group agreed on a process to further progress some of the key tasks identified in the Strategy. A number of project groups are to be formed to address key areas of activity. Nominations for the working groups were called for in November and the membership of the groups will be finalised prior to Christmas. The project groups are:

❑ CDEM in Schools

Children are seen as vital agents of change for delivering the CDEM preparedness message into homes. The group will focus on strategies and activities to get the message home through children at school. This would include developing focus groups for teachers and CDEM educators to identify target groups and resources required. The group will also scope the development of national level resources for children, working with Ministry of Education.

❑ Managing Public Information

As defined in Part Seven of the National Civil Defence Plan public information is the deliberate, planned and sustained effort to establish and maintain mutual understanding between those managing the response to an event and the public.

The project will aim to develop a comprehensive guide and templates to assist Public Information Managers tasked with managing public information during an event. It will also seek to identify and implement effective pre-event working arrangements for broadcasting emergency messages with media agencies at a national, regional and local level.

❑ Sponsorship and Partnerships

A key strategy is to develop effective partnerships within the CDEM sector and explore with partners and potential sponsors areas of common interest. The project group will seek to identify and develop specific programmes to maximise the opportunities available.

❑ Research and Evaluation

A guiding principle for the strategy is to utilise research to audit and benchmark current levels of awareness and preparedness and identify how we can overcome barriers to action. The working group will investigate options for meeting the research needs and identify requirements. Tools could include a formal survey, use of focus groups, and researching current best practice and literature in New Zealand and overseas.

Information on the Strategy and work programme can be viewed on the Ministry website at www.civildefence.govt.nz (Public Education and Information section). For further information, please contact chandrika.kumaran@dia.govt.nz.

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Ongoing Support

The Fire Service have been leading proponents of combined training since its inception. Chief Fire Officer (Hamilton) Martin Berryman: "From the Fire Service perspective it is important that we are managing an incident with all the relevant agencies that need to be involved, and that responders understand the incident management system. The success of this training programme is that all agencies are part of it and contribute."

Inspector Peter Devoy, Operations Manager, Waikato Police District believes that combining training has enhanced Police understanding and respect for the roles of the other response agencies. "Where there had been an acceptance to work in combination with these groups there is now a better understanding of the expertise of each group and a respect that each have skills, experience and resources which complement Police and are readily available to us."

The Waikato District Health Board has benefited enormously from these sessions. All planning is now based on the CIMS model, which fits exceptionally well with the 'all hazards' approach to planning

that the DHB employs. "Duty Managers and other members of staff who are responsible for managing incidents now have a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of other agencies, which makes on-site incident management run smoothly" comments Delwyne Board, one of the Operations Managers at Waikato Hospital.

The interagency approach to training that is taken by the Hamilton ESCC has proven to have many benefits for all the organisations involved, including improved communication, better understanding of each others' roles, integrated risk assessment, more efficient incident management and better integration of pre-planning for known events. The group is committed to continuing this approach to emergency management and contingency planning in this region.

Contributors:

Martin Berryman	Chief Fire Officer, Hamilton
Graeme Cleaver	Emergency Management Officer, Hamilton City Council
Peter Devoy	Operations Manager, Waikato Police District
John Kelly	Strategic and Operations Planning, Waikato Police District

Strong turnout for North Island CDOs Conference

Over 50 civil defence practitioners from the North Island attended a two-day conference in Napier on 26-27 November. For many of the delegates at the conference, it would seem that the only disappointment was the rather wet weather over the two days.

Napier Mayor Barbara Arnott who welcomed the delegates was however very impressed that the gathering of civil defence staff in Napier brought about not only much needed heavy rains after a particularly long dry spell, but also a 4.0 earthquake near Hastings the night before.

The conference with the theme of "The impact of all hazard planning on Civil Defence Emergency Management" was hosted by the Hawke's Bay Regional Council, Napier City Council, Hastings District Council, Wairoa District Council and Central Hawke's Bay District Council. The Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management contributed by underwriting some of the costs to ensure the conference planning could proceed.

Conference organiser and Napier City's Civil Defence Manager Nigel Simpson said that the conference was aimed at dealing with the changes brought about by the new civil defence emergency management legislation and was aimed at providing a forum:

- to explore the practicalities of community delivery of civil defence/emergency management
- examine organisation model options and debate their effectiveness
- develop common philosophies and best practice in key result areas

Rob Cameron, Acting Director Planning and Operations from Emergency Management Australia opened the first day with an interesting keynote session on the impact of all hazards planning, and provided a perspective on where Australia was heading in this area. On the second day, Sandra Bee, Hawke's Bay District Health Board's Emergency Response Advisor provided a useful insight into the region's planning for pandemics, focusing on their experience of the SARS event earlier this year. John Norton, Director, MCDEM outlined the work being done



l-r Conference organisers Nigel Simpson, Napier City Council and Lisa Pearce, Hawkes Bay Regional Council with Emergency Management Australia's Rob Cameron (centre)

to support the new legislation, in particular progress on the National CDEM Strategy and the National CDEM Plan.

Sports Hawke's Bay Chief Executive, Colin Stone, rounded off Day One with an after dinner speech on volunteer management, health and safety, and potential for civil defence to establish links with regional sport authorities.

Over the two days the delegates heard presentations from each of the regions on where they were at with their planning arrangements, and how they were dealing with particular issues. The delegates voiced strong support for the conference to be held annually and congratulated this year's organisers, for their efforts in bringing the event together.

Fred Wilson from Auckland City Council has offered to host the 2004 conference in Auckland.



l-r John Norton, MCDEM; Marshall Hyland, Porirua City Council; Ivan Parke, Far North District Council; and Dave Jack, Hutt City Council

New Zealand Earthquake Engineering Conference

18-20 March, Rotorua

The 2004 Annual Conference of the New Zealand Society of Earthquake Engineering will be held in Rotorua Friday 19 March to Sunday 21 March 2004.

The theme of the Conference is: "Earthquake engineering: getting the message across and moving ahead" Recent media coverage of events highlights a lack of knowledge and confidence in civil engineering practices. The "Leaky Building Phenomenon" and "The Scarry Report" are recent examples of such a lack of confidence. Given the significant advances in earthquake engineering in the last few years, such as the development of the new Loadings Standard for New Zealand, the engineering image deserves to be better. Clearly, there is a need to get the message across to the public as to what earthquake engineers do and how well they do it.

For further information visit nzsee.org.nz.