

Disaster News You Can Use

October 2023

What's Inside:

- Industry News.....Pg. 2
- Policies & Research.....Pg. 3
- Industry Best Practices.....Pg. 4
- Innovative Technology.....Pg. 5
- Recovery Program Management.....Pg. 6



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

October 1962, Columbus Day Storm

The Columbus Day Storm of 1962 (also known as the Big Blow, and in Canada as Typhoon Freda) was a Pacific Northwest windstorm that struck the West Coast of Canada and the Pacific Northwest coast of the United States on October 12, 1962. Typhoon Freda was the 28th tropical depression, the 23rd tropical storm, and the 18th typhoon of the 1962 Pacific typhoon season.

On October 11, Freda turned eastward and accelerated across the North Pacific, before striking the Pacific Northwest on the next day. On October 13, the cyclone made landfall on Washington and Vancouver Island, and then curved northwestward. Afterward, the system moved into Canada and weakened before being absorbed by another developing storm to the south on October 17.



The bell tower of Campbell Hall

The wind toppled trees, destroyed homes, and left areas without power for weeks. It's estimated that there were \$230-280 million in property damages across Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, and California, as a result of the storm. The estimated damage approached \$1 billion when factoring in the loss of timber in the region. Forty-seven people were killed by the windstorm.



Warmest September on record as 'gobsmacking' data shocks scientists

The world's September temperatures were the warmest on record, breaking the previous high by a huge margin, according to the EU climate service.

Ongoing emissions of warming gases in addition to the El Niño weather event are driving the heat, experts believe.

Some scientists said they were shocked by the scale of the increase. They say 2023 is now "on track" to be the warmest on record. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



National Emergency Alert Test Results

FEMA, in conjunction with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), conducted a national test of Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The test message was sent nationwide via WEA to cellular phones and over EAS to radio and television stations, beginning at approximately 2:20 p.m. ET, Oct. 4.

The testing process is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the FEMA public alert and warning systems to distribute an emergency message nationwide and the operational readiness of the infrastructure for distribution of a national message to the public.

All the cell carriers that participate in WEA received the alert on Oct. 4th. The EAS test alert was successfully processed and made available to broadcasters.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

Federal Disaster Declaration Granted to Tennessee

Three Tennessee counties will receive federal recovery assistance under a Major Disaster Declaration as a result of severe weather that impacted the state from June 25-26, 2023.

"We remain focused on providing resources and support to the communities who were devastated by this severe weather event," said TEMA Director Patrick Sheehan. "Federal disaster assistance will bring much-needed economic relief to these impacted jurisdictions."



FEMA official assess TN storm damage

The Major Disaster Declaration will make federal disaster relief available to eligible jurisdictions and certain private, non-profit organizations in Fayette, Shelby, and Tipton counties.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

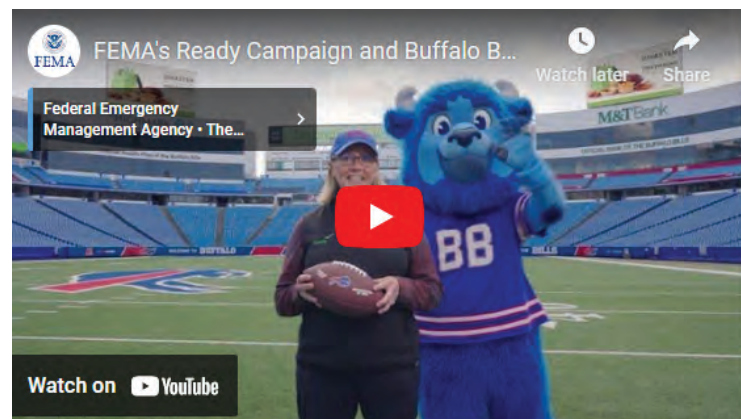
FEMA, Buffalo Bills Team Up on Disaster Preparedness PSA

FEMA's Ready Campaign and the National Football League's Buffalo Bills teamed up to encourage football fans to prepare for emergencies.

In two new public service announcements (PSA), FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell and the team's mascot, Billy Buffalo, urge fans to gear up for disasters.

In the PSA, which was filmed at the Buffalo Bill's Highmark Stadium in Buffalo, New York, Administrator Criswell and Billy Buffalo encourage people to know your risks, make a plan with friends and family and build an emergency supply kit.

The PSAs acknowledge that disasters can happen any time. They praise the strong, resilient Buffalo community's resilience in the face of the December 2022 devastating snowstorm, making it especially relevant that this preparedness message will be highlighted at the Buffalo Bill's Oct. 1 home game.



[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



INDUSTRY POLICIES & RESEARCH

New Industry Policies

- Congress proposes between \$40M and \$200M in budget cuts to National Weather Service
- US water infrastructure 'unsustainable' amid rapidly evolving crisis
- Global Risks Report 2023

FEMA announces \$3 billion for climate resiliency



Information on Hurricane Ian inside the National Response Coordination Center at FEMA in 2022

Research & Innovation

- Acting Fast When an Epidemic Hits
- How data models may shape the future of wildfire response
- Climate change boosts risk of explosive wildfire growth in California by 25%, study says

Babcock Ranch: Florida's first hurricane-proof town



Not a single home in Babcock Ranch lost power or access to clean water when Hurricane Ian hit in 2022

Other Industry News

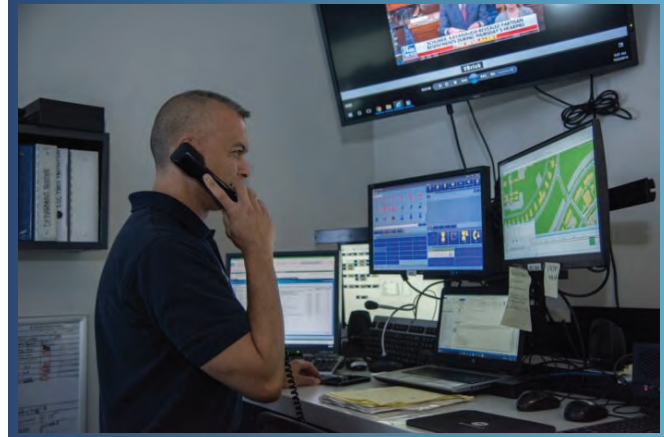
- Preservation Teams Show How to Salvage Family Treasures
- Hawaii Fires: Honolulu Mayor Orders Review Of Wildfire Risk On Oahu
- Florida has new ways to pay for disasters like Idalia
- FEMA names six Bay Area communities as 'Disaster Resilience Zones'

Preparedness Saved Lives During Hurricane Hilary



Woman and her dog, make their way through a flooded street in Valley Village amid Tropical Storm Hilary.

New Survey of Emergency Communications Center Personnel Offers Insight on the 911 Profession



Lead dispatcher for the 502nd Civil Engineer Group/ Fire Department, responds to a 911 emergency call on Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas

Upcoming Events

Industry Conferences:

- Nov. 3-9, 2023 IAEM Long Beach, CA
- Nov. 28-30, 2023 NHC Preparedness Conference Las Vegas, NV
- Dec. 7-8, 2023 Ohio Emergency Management Winter Conference and Vendor Show



INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES



Michael Kemp, Ph.D., CEM
Director of Training, ISC
MichaelKemp@i-s-consulting.com

The Game-Changer: How Innovative Technologies are Revolutionizing Emergency Management

In the dynamic and often unpredictable emergency management landscape, technology has emerged as more than just a supplementary tool—it's the fulcrum on which modern strategies pivot. Akin to a lighthouse amidst a storm, technology illuminates the path, providing clarity and direction as communities navigate the intricate maze of emergency phases, from Prevention to Recovery. These innovative technologies, including advanced Enterprise Management Systems, are no longer passive participants but proactive change agents. They enable us to assimilate vast amounts of data, predict possible challenges, and formulate real-time solutions. Whether it's through AI-driven risk assessments, drone surveillance, advanced communication networks, or the precision of an Enterprise Management System, our approach to emergencies has transformed. We no longer react to crises; with the technological advancements at our disposal, we anticipate, adapt, and evolve, ensuring that our strategies are always several steps ahead, ever-responsive to the shifting paradigms of emergency management.

From Prediction to Proactivity: How Technology Shapes Each Phase

As we delve deeper into the intricacies of each emergency management phase, it becomes evident how indispensable technology has become. No longer confined to the silos of theoretical application, technology's practical implications in the field of emergency management are far-reaching and transformational. Let's explore this evolution, phase by phase, to understand the profound impact of technological advancements.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

Project Highlight

After Action Review & Improvement Mission Planning | Hurricane Maria - Puerto Rico

The 2017 hurricane season was the ultimate test of our federal emergency management system. Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria impacted some of the most heavily populated areas of the United States and caused widespread damages in multiple states and territories. ISC interviewed disaster management officials from FEMA, State/Territory emergency management agencies, Puerto Rico's Central Office of Recovery, Reconstruction, and Resiliency (COR3), and territory/municipal governments. In just a few short weeks, ISC analyzed and synthesized data and prepared an operational improvement plan for FEMA Headquarters to be incorporated into future hurricane disaster response and recovery operations.

The result of this real-event After-Action Review were recommendations for modifying current organizational structures and processes within FEMA as well as state/territory agencies and municipal governments. ISC received commendation from FEMA Headquarters, COR3, and the prime contractor on not only the thoroughness and innovativeness of the strategy but also the depth of knowledge and expertise of ISC.





D Y S S E U S TM

672%

INCREASE IN
PROGRAM EFFICIENCY

300^x

STAKEHOLDER
COLLABORATION

99%

REGULATORY &
PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

54^x

RETURN ON
INVESTMENT

97%

PERFORMANCE
RATING

The Industry's First Comprehensive Emergency and Disaster Program Management Software

Odysseus offers a suite of tools and systems designed, dedicated to the efficient management of comprehensive disaster and emergency management programs. The union of technological and programmatic features offers organizations an efficient and effective method to systematically design, develop, maintain, and continually improve all elements of a comprehensive emergency management program.



Click Here to
Learn More About Our
Innovative Technology

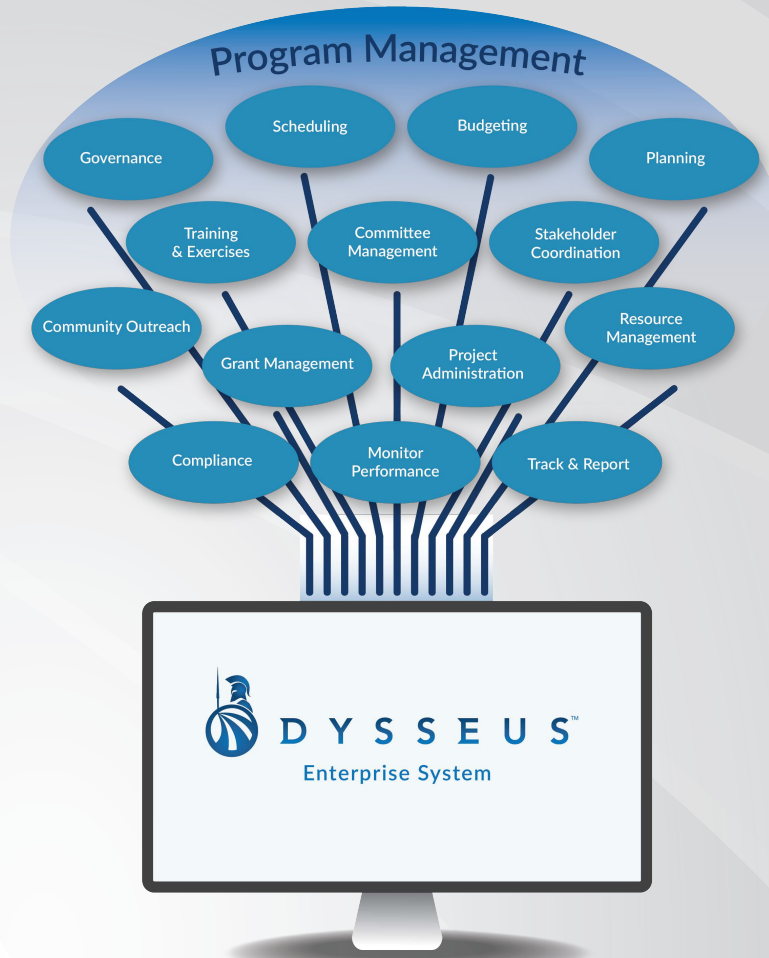
Contact us today to learn more.



Odysseus@i-s-consulting.com
847.437.4271

Odysseus in Work Disaster Recovery Program Management

The Odysseus™ Enterprise System gives you a complete platform to manage every aspect of disaster recovery programs. With Odysseus™, disaster recovery programs are integrated with the other operational phases of preparedness, response, and mitigation, providing a unified enterprise system and a comprehensive program management solution.



FEATURES

Planning &
Collaboration

Training
& Exercise

Collaboration
& Stakeholder
Coordination

Program
Compliance
& Assessment

Grant
Management

RESILIENT WORLD WEBINAR

October 26, 2023 12pm CDT

Discover the Future of Program Management:
Learn about Odysseus,
the first comprehensive emergency
and disaster management software

REGISTER
HERE