

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.

DEVELOPMENT

EMA Local Government Emergency Management Capability Development Project

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and EMA are partners in a joint project aimed at boosting local government emergency management capability.

A consultative workshop will be held at the EMA Institute on 18 September 2002, bringing together representatives of State and Territory Local Government Associations, State and Territory emergency management agencies and local government emergency management practitioners to discuss options and to develop an implementation plan for the project. Initial discussion has centred on developing a resource 'tool kit' for Local Government, including delivering training in community based ERM that is tailored for use by local government. Other options will be discussed at the workshop.

For further information contact: Rob Cameron,
Ph: 02 6266 5408, Email: robert.cameron@ema.gov.au

Disaster Loss Assessment Guidelines

EMA and Queensland Department of Emergency Services (Qld DES) have co-sponsored the development of *Disaster Loss Assessment Guidelines* providing a methodology to assess impacts of disasters and assist in the evaluation of disaster risk treatment options. Professor John Handmer and staff from the Centre for Risk and Community Safety Research developed the Guidelines under contract. A case study on severe flooding experienced in the north Queensland in January 1998 accompanies the publication. EMA is sponsoring the national dissemination of the Guidelines during 2002/03, and in conjunction with Qld DES and other stakeholders, is developing ways of ensuring that capability enhancement flows from the development of the methodology.

For further information contact: Rob Cameron,
Ph: 02 6266 5408, Email: robert.cameron@ema.gov.au

EMA Emergency Management Projects Program

The EMA Projects Program fosters projects that help improve Australia's capabilities for preventing or dealing with natural or technological hazards and disasters.

The EMA Projects Program Selection Committee met on 5 June 2002 to consider over one hundred applications. The 14 projects selected for funding in 2002/2003 are as follows:

- Emergency rescue game (02/02), Michael Bartlett, Bartlett Games, Kingston, Tasmania.
- National standards for disaster victim identification in Australia (03/02), Superintendent Andrew Telfer, Australasian Disaster Victim Identification Committee.
- Spatial decision support systems for hazard risk management (04/02), Dr Andre Zerger, Department of Geomatics, University of Melbourne, Victoria.
- Disaster preparedness and recovery for communities (05/02), Professor Colin Pearson, Cultural Heritage Research Centre, University of Canberra, ACT.
- Establishing a fire disaster preparedness framework for significant private cultural collections in regional Victoria (06/02), Ms Robyn Sloggett, University of Melbourne Conservation Service, University of Melbourne, Victoria.
- Engaging industry with the emergency management competency standards (07/02), Ray Fogolyan, Public Safety Industry Training Advisory Body, Victoria.
- Weather extremes: mitigating the impact (08/02), Jeana Kriewaldt, Australian Geography Teachers' Association (Inc), Victoria.
- Flood action plans for industrial concerns, based on a case study for Penrith/Emu Plains, Western Sydney

(09/02), Sonia McManus, Macquarie University, NSW, and D I Smith, Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, ANU, ACT.

- Volunteers – Making the most of learning (10/02), Associate Professor John Henry, Research Institute for Professional and Vocational Education and Training, Deakin University, Victoria.
- Development of a dynamic transport planning tool for emergency evacuations under Australian conditions (11/02), Professor Peter Stopher, Institute of Transport Studies, University of Sydney, NSW.
- The researching, trialing and refinement of a fire safety educational puppet show for Pre-school to Year 3 students (12/02), Hugh & Ross Childers, Mana Puppets, Queensland; and Associate Professor John Lidstone, Queensland University of Technology, Queensland.
- An extension of everyday lives: identification of the strategies undertaken by women as household managers to reduce the impact of the hazards of the Northern Australian wet season on their families (13/02), Dr Alison Cottrell and Ms Linda Anderson Berry, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland.
- Development of community capacity assessment methodology as applied to disaster management capability (14/02), Dr Graham Marsh, RMIT University, Melbourne, Reverend Sydney Smale Victorian Council of Churches, and Philip Buckle, Department of Human Services, Victoria.
- Management of unaffiliated volunteers in disaster response and recovery in NSW (15/02), Kaye McCulloch, Coordinators of Volunteer Education, Referral & Resource Services (COVERRS), NSW.

For further information contact: Rheannon Nicholson, Ph: 02 6266 5497, Email: rheannon.nicholson@ema.gov.au

PLANNING & OPERATIONS

New Zealand Urban Search and Rescue Exercise

Exercise Phoenix was held in New Zealand during the period 24-26 July 2002. Hosted by the Ministry for Civil Defence and Emergency Management the exercise aimed at testing the NZ response to a major earthquake including procedures for acceptance and coordination of international humanitarian aid.

Representatives from the United Nations, Singapore, the USA and Australia participated in the exercise. EMA sponsored a small Australian team representing the advance elements of an Australian Urban Search and Rescue Task Force.

A number of lessons from the Exercise are relevant to similar disasters in Australia and the National Urban Search and Rescue Working Group will address these issues for Australia.

*For further information contact: Trevor Haines,
Ph: 02 6266 5169, Email: trevor.haines@ema.gov.au*

United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Strengthening International Urban Search and Rescue Assistance

EMA has continued to play a significant role in the development of a United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Strengthening International Urban Search and Rescue Assistance. Turkey is to sponsor the draft Resolution at the 57th Session of the UN General Assembly in late 2002.

EMA participated in a meeting at the United Nations in New York in early June aimed at briefing countries that had not participated in the initial development work and seeking their support for the project.

*For further information contact: Rod McKinnon,
Ph: 02 6266 5328, Email: rod.mckinnon@ema.gov.au*

Chemical Biological Radiological Preparedness

A review of Australia's Counter Terrorism arrangements following the events of 11 September 2001 in the United States, identified a need to enhance Australia's capacity to respond to deliberate Chemical, Biological and Radiological (CBR) incidents. This resulted in \$17.8 million being identified in the May 2002 Federal Budget for the enhancement of Commonwealth, State and Territory capabilities for responding to CBR incidents.

EMA has been tasked to manage the project involving the acquisition of equipment for State and Territory first responders and the conduct of specialist training. Equipment will be procured for detection and identification, personal protection, decontamination, casualty extraction and management, and general support.

*For further information contact: Don Patterson,
Ph: 02 6266 5165, Email: don.patterson@ema.gov.au*

Communications Planning

EMA recently participated in a meeting of the International Telecommunications Union in Geneva as a member of the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) Australian delegation.

EMA's participation arose from a recommendation of the inter-governmental Spectrum Harmonisation Committee, which sought representation from the Emergency Management sector.

Delegations prepared background information and recommendations for consideration at the World Radio Conference 2003. The subject matter related to identification of globally/regionally harmonised bands for the implementation of future advanced solutions to meet the needs of public protection agencies, including those dealing with emergency situations and disaster relief.

*For further information contact: Mark Sullivan,
Ph: 02 6266 5050, Email: mark.sullivan@ema.gov.au*

Exercise SAGIP 2002

EMA recently participated in Exercise SAGIP 2002, the 3rd International Working Group and Exercise on Multinational Disaster Response and Humanitarian Assistance. The exercise was held in Manila and was hosted by the Philippines Office of Civil Defense.

Nineteen countries from the Asia/Pacific region, Europe, USA and the UK attended to further develop a framework for multinational cooperation crafted during SAGIP 2000. The Director General Emergency Management Australia, David Templeman, led the Australian delegation.

*For further information contact: Steve Banks,
Ph: 02 6266 5505, Email: steven.banks@ema.gov.au*

Urban Search and Rescue Training in Fiji

Emergency Management Australia, the New Zealand Ministry for Civil Defence & Emergency Management and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance recently sponsored an Urban Search and Rescue Course in Fiji. The Australian Capital Territory Emergency Services Bureau assisted by the New South Wales Fire Brigades and the New Zealand Fire Service conducted the course.

The course was the first of its type to be conducted in the South Pacific and provided first responders with the basic knowledge of search and rescue operations in a structural collapse environment. A total of 30 participants from police, fire, ambulance and the military from Fiji, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Vanuatu attended the five-day course.

*For further information contact: Trevor Haines,
Ph: 02 6266 5169, Email: trevor.haines@ema.gov.au*

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Guidelines for Emergency Managers Working with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities

Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD) are a particularly vulnerable part of Australian society in the context of emergencies. Many variables may contribute to this vulnerability, including language, culture and familiarity with the environment in which they live. A set of guidelines for emergency managers, who are working with CALD communities, has been developed collaboratively as a result of a national workshop held at the Emergency Management Australia Institute in May 2001. The guidelines have been designed to assist emergency managers and practitioners to work proactively with CALD groups in their communities, with the aim of assisting to create a safer, more sustainable community.

The guidelines will be launched at a media event later this year. The electronic version can be sourced through EMA's website (www.ema.gov.au) and hard copies of the guidelines can be obtained through your State/Territory emergency management organisation after October 2002.

For further information please contact: Louise Mitchell, Ph: 03 5421 5264, Email: louise.mitchell@ema.gov.au

Recovery Management Program Redevelopment

Feedback from practical situations and evaluations from participants in the course in Recovery Management is informing the redevelopment of recovery management training at EMA.

The program has been expanded considerably in consultation with key stakeholders. The context and scope of the new program will allow much greater exploration of current recovery management practices and ideas.

The new structure consists of one pre-requisite module – Context of Recovery Management – and five interchangeable modules, to allow participants to select their specific areas of interest.

Participants who have completed the existing course in Recovery Management will be credited as having completed the new Context of Recovery Management module.

Modules currently planned for development are:

- Context of Recovery Management
- Community Based Recovery Management
- Planning and Managing Recovery
- Community Engagement/Needs Assessment
- Centre Management and Operation
- Recovery Services

The content will be mapped to relevant national competency standards to provide maximum value for participants.

A pilot of selected course modules is planned for October 2002, with the redevelopment project scheduled for completion by early 2003.

For further information, contact: Margery Webster, Ph: 03 5421 5283, Email: margery.webster@ema.gov.au

Graduate Certificate in the field of Emergency Management

A research project to determine the likely demand and preferred structure and content for a Graduate Certificate in the field of Emergency Management is almost complete.

Interim findings indicate a high level of demand for such a program. Most respondents have worked in the field of emergency management for 6 years or more and many for more than 9 years. Interest came from people with a range of educational experience from year 12 through to those who already hold Masters degrees. The preferred structure was for core and elective subjects including a research, action learning or work-based project. In relation to content, the preference was for contemporary issues in the field and management skills in the context of emergency management. The Project Reference Group will meet shortly to progress the recommendations.

If you require further information contact: Dianne Cooper, Ph: 03 5421 5274 or Email: dianne.cooper@ema.gov.au

Flexible Learning

Consultation to inform a flexible learning strategy for the Institute has commenced. Past participants in EMA courses and also potential learners will be consulted to identify the level of interest in flexible learning and the preferred mode and media for delivery. In addition, managers from a range of emergency management agencies will be interviewed to assess workplace support for this mode of learning. Advice on the infrastructure required and professional development for staff to support this approach will form part of the strategy.

For further information contact: Colin Fjford, Ph: 03 5421 5290 or Email: colin.fjford@ema.gov.au

Emergency Management Assessor Network

EMA is working with the Emergency Management Sector Working Group to establish a network of assessors of emergency management competency standards. A small number of emergency management agencies are implementing the standards and are keen to ensure quality and consistency in assessment decisions. There is also growing interest from non-emergency service industries such as local government and mining and petrochemicals industries. A workshop will be held in September to trial moderation instruments.

Further information contact: Susan Henry, Ph: 03 5421 5276 or Email: susan.henry@ema.gov.au

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Social Perspectives on Disaster Workshop

The *Social Perspectives on Disaster Workshop* was held at the Institute from 2 to 5 July 2002. Fifty-two people were involved in the Workshop, including 11 international participants. The program included presentations and discussions on Emergency Management in a Changing World, Disaster Consequences, Equity and Contemporary Approaches to Risk.

Outcomes included:

- Identification of potential research partnerships between EMA and a number of overseas based organisations; and
- Identification of processes for ongoing global exchange of information on social issues as they relate to disaster management.

Presenters will be providing papers for inclusion in both the *Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* and the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management*. A Workshop report is also to be compiled in conjunction with James Cook University, summarising each of the presentations and discussion sessions of the Workshop. This will be found on the EMA website, www.ema.gov.au

Occasional Workshop Series

EMA conducted another workshop in the *Occasional Workshop* series on 26 August 2002. The purpose of this workshop was to again provide an opportunity for a small group of senior emergency managers to share experiences with an international researcher. This time the guest was Ken Mitchell, who is Professor of Geography at Rutgers University. He is currently Chair of the Study Group on the Disaster Vulnerability of Megacities, has served on hazards and disasters committees of the National Research Council (USA) and is adviser to US and international hazards management agencies. The report of this workshop will be found on the EMA website, www.ema.gov.au.

Disaster Awareness & Education Resource Kits

Disaster Awareness and Education resource kits are available to educators and contain information pamphlets, action guides and a copy of the 48-page *Hazards, Disasters & Survival* booklet. The kit is a useful reference for school projects or for general community education and interest in hazards, disasters and how to prevent and prepare for them.

For further information contact: Greg Moore, School Education Officer, Ph: 03 5421 5242 or Email greg.moore@ema.gov.au

COMMUNITY AWARENESS Community Awareness within EMA

The *Surviving Cyclones* – A5 fold out colour pamphlet – developed by EMA in partnership with the Bureau of Meteorology has been revised and features a complete new look, comprising layout, images and the focus of information.

Copies of this pamphlet will be available mid-October through all State/Territory Emergency Services.

Staff Changes at EMA

Merrick Chatfield has resigned to take up a position as Deputy Director at the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) in Bangkok. His resignation marks the end of an era. Merrick started with the Institute in 1975 and left in 1980, returning in 1987. Over the last ten years he has had three leaves of absence – two to ADPC and one to VicSES.

Andrew Coghlan is on long service leave, returning early in 2003. Bruce Gray will replace Andrew in the position of National Training Consultant – Disaster Recovery. Bruce has been working in the State Emergency Recovery Unit of the Victorian Department of Human Services and has recently been involved in recovery planning for Foot and Mouth Disease.

James Gustus has returned to the Victorian State Emergency Service as a Senior Emergency Management Officer, based in Benalla after completing a 12-month secondment at the Institute.

New faces in the EMA library

Over the past nine months, there has been a considerable changeover of staff within the EMA Library, situated in the Emergency Management Australia Institute at Mt Macedon.

In December 2001, Christine Jenkinson moved from the position of Library Manager to the role of EMA Community Awareness Program Manager. Linda Hansen recently joined the Library in the role of Library Manager in June 2002. Giovanna di Natale was appointed to the new position of Reference Librarian in December 2001. In June 2002, after 12 years of service to the Library, Sharon Bradley, transferred to the Business Management group of EMA resulting in a vacant Library Technician position. Craig Irvine currently fills this role.

In addition to these internal changes, the Library was relocated from its position within Defence Library Service to rejoin Emergency Management Australia within the Attorney General's Department, resulting in a greater freedom of operation for the service.

Despite the changes and upheavals, the Library collection continues to expand and services offered pre-December 2001 continue uninterrupted. The collection of books, reports, conference proceedings, videos, and emergency management plans remains intact and is being constantly updated. Titles available within the Journals Collection are increasing and this is reflected in the Library catalogue.

The staff changes provided the Library with an opportunity for a review and evaluation of library functions. Consequently some changes have already been implemented – a lounge area has been created just inside the library entrance doors, where clients can peruse some of the most recently arrived general interest magazines, conduct research or view a video from the collection. Before long, the library will conduct a stocktake and an innovative new library management system is also expected within the next few months.

For further information Email: ema.library@ema.gov.au, or visit the Library pages of the EMA website (<http://www.ema.gov.au>).

CONFERENCE DIARY

Date: September 17–18, 2002

Location: St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Title: Connecting Communities: Emergency Preparedness and Security Regional Forums

Detail: The first of a series of two-day forums intended to help metropolitan areas and their surrounding communities become better prepared to respond to emergency situations in the coordination, communication, planning and practice of safety and security measures.

Enquiries: E-mail: Tami von Isakovics at Isakovics.Tami.Von@fia.dot.gov

Website: <http://www.transit-safety.volpe.dot.gov/>

Sponsor: USA – Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Date: September 22–24, 2003

Location: Ancona, Italy

Title: ERES 2003 Fourth International Conference on Earthquake Resistant Engineering Structures

Detail: Paper Deadline: 28 March 2003

Enquiries: Conference Secretariat, ERES 2003, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst Southampton, SO40 7AA, U.K

Tel: 44 (0) 238 029 3223

Fax: 44 (0) 238 029 2853

E-mail: gcossutta@wessex.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2003/eres03/index.html>

Date: September 24–26, 2002

Location: Bali, Indonesia.

Title: Regional Workshop on Best Practices in Urban Disaster Mitigation: Lessons Learned from the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program and Other Initiatives

Enquiries: ADPC, P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani, 12120 Thailand.

Tel: (66) 02 524 5354 or (66) 02 524 5355

Fax: (66) 02 524 5350 or (66) 02 524 5360

E-mail: audmp@ait.ac.th

Website: <http://www.adpc.ait.ac.th/audmp/rllw/default.html>

Host: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

Date: September 27–28, 2003

Location: London, Ontario, Canada

Title: Dealing with Disaster

Detail: Emphasis will be placed on the understanding of the interaction between social and environmental factors.

Enquiries: Sandra Doyle, ICLR, University of Western Ontario, 1389 Western Road, London, Ontario, Canada N6A 5B9

Tel: 0011/0018 (519) 661 3234

Fax: (519) 661 4273

E-mail: ssdoyle@uwo.ca

Website: <http://www.iclr.org/>

Host: The Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction.

Date: October 3–6, 2002

Location: Antalya, Turkey

Title: Ninth International Symposium on Natural and Human-Made Hazards: Disaster Mitigation in the Perspective of the New Millennium

Detail: Submit abstracts to haz2002@metu.edu.tr by May 30, 2002

Enquiries: To receive conference announcements via e-mail, pre-register at haz2002@metu.edu.tr

For conference program and registration details, see <http://www.hazards2002.metu.edu.tr/>.

Host: The International Society for the Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Hazards

CONFERENCE DIARY

Date: October 10–11, 2002

Location: New Delhi, India
Title: Women and Disaster Management
Enquiries: Indian Environmental Society, U-112, Vidhata House, Third Floor, Shakar Pur, Vikas Marg, Delhi-110092, India.
Tel: (911) 204 6823/24
Fax: (911) 222 3311
E-mail: iesenro@del2.vsnl.net.in
Website: <http://iesglobal.org/>
Host: Indian Environmental Society

Date: October 15–18, 2002

Location: Shanghai, China
Title: Fifth International Conference of Local Authorities Confronting Disasters and Emergencies – LACDE 5
Detail: LACDE International Secretariat, c/o Union of Local Authorities in Israel, 3 Heftman Street, P.O. Box 20040, Tel Aviv 61200, Israel
Enquiries: General Conference
Tel: +972 3 695 5024
Fax: +972 3 691 6821
E-mail: ulais@netvision.net.il
Website: http://www.ulai.org.il/f_lacde.htm OR Mr. Zhang Qi, Shanghai Municipal Civil Defense Office, 593 Middle FuXing Road, Shanghai 200020, China;
Tel: 00 86 21 628 33910
Fax: 00 86 21 647 26679
E-mail: mfbmsc@stn.sh.cn
Website: <http://www.ulai.org.il/lacde.htm#5th>.

Date: October 23–25, 2002

Location: Binghamton, New York
Title: 2002 Applied Geography Conference
Detail: Includes sessions on hazards, environment issues, and related applications and techniques
Enquiries: Burrell Montz, (607) 777 2615 e-mail: bmontz@binghamton.edu or Graham Tobin, (813) 974 4932 e-mail: gtobin@chumal.cas.usf.edu

Date: March 8–12, 2003

Location: Reno Hilton, Reno, Nevada, USA
Title: 2003 National Disaster Medical System Conference
Detail: The 2003 National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) Conference is designed to promote interaction between local, State and Federal public health practitioners and policy makers. Expert faculty from a variety of local, State and Federal agencies as well as from volunteer and academic entities will present over 75 accredited educational sessions on key topics such as Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), clinical medicine, mental health, response teams, and international coordination. Networking with these expert faculty members as well as many of the Nation's leaders in the field of emergency management will give participants access to the latest in emergency response and coordination capabilities.
Enquiries: Tel: USA 1 800 872 6367 (and press the 'star' key)
E-mail: ndms@usa.net
Website: www.oep-ndms.dhhs.gov

Date: 16–18 October, 2002

Location: Sydney, Australia, Manly Pacific Parkroyal
Title: Annual Conference of the Australasian Coroners' Society: Disaster victim identification and disaster management.
Detail: The conference will feature sessions of interest not only to coroners but also to other professionals in the coronial system, including forensic scientists, pathologists, counsellors and practitioners. A number of speakers from Australia and overseas will provide an insight into various aspects of, and differences between coronial jurisdictions. The Conference will provide opportunities for information sharing and for continued debate and discussion. It will also promote a closer relationship between coronial jurisdictions including emergency and investigative personnel.
Enquiries: Diane Flecknoe or Michelle Cookson
Tel: 8584 7760
E-mail: diane.flecknoe@agd.nsw.gov.au or michelle.cookson@agd.nsw.gov.au

CONFERENCE DIARY CONTINUED

VICTORIA

Date: October 26, 2002

Location: MFESB Training College, 619 Victoria St., Abbotsford, Vic
Title: Combined Emergency Services Seminar Committee 24th Annual Seminar: Victoria – Are You Prepared?
Detail: One-day presentation on various aspects of the above theme. The conference, as always, is designed for hands-on people and planners in the emergency management field.
Enquiries: Bob Wardzynski, Registrar, PO Box 52, Briar Hill, Vic, 3088
Tel: (03) 9432 5300 Fax: (03) 9432 3656
E-mail: cessi@omega.au.com
Website: www.cess.au.com

QUEENSLAND

Date: September 27–29, 2002

Location: Gold Coast, Australia
Title: Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) Conference 2002
Enquiries: AFAC Conference Manager, C/O Intermedia Convention and Event Management, P.O. Box 1280 (Unit 11, 97 Castlemaine Street), Milton QLD 4064 Australia
E-mail: afac2002@im.com.au
Website: <http://www.fire.qld.gov.au/afac/>

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Date: October 17–18, 2002

Location: University of Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia
Title: Australian Earthquake Engineering Society
Detail: Total risk management, emergency management, seismology, seismic upgrades of the built environment, media management, role of insurance in earthquake preparedness and recovery are the themes of this conference. In addition to oral presentations from notable experts in the field, ample time will be devoted to poster sessions for detailed discussion and for connecting with other people in widely differing fields but with a common interest in earthquakes. There will also be a shake table demonstration.
Enquiries: Barbara Butler, PO Box 829, Parkville VIC 3052
Tel: (03) 8344 6712 Fax (03) 8344 4616
E-mail: b.butler@civag.unimelb.edu.au
Website: www.aees.org.au

CALL FOR PAPERS

Date: October 19–25, 2002

Location: Adelaide, South Australia
Title: ANCOLD Conference, 2002: Dams – Future Directions in Demanding Environments
Detail: More than ever before dams, both existing and proposed developments are coming under greater scrutiny in terms of their impacts on natural, social and economic environments. Achieving an equitable balance between minimising negative impacts and maximising benefits is a major challenge. How is the challenge to be met?
Enquiries: To receive up-to-date information about the conference, visit the ANCOLD web site at: <http://www.ancold.org.au> or alternatively the conference web site at: <http://www.plevin.com.au/ANCOLD>

INTERNATIONAL

Date: September 22–24, 2003

Location: Ancona, Italy
Title: ERES 2003 Fourth International Conference on Earthquake Resistant Engineering Structures
Detail: Paper Deadline: 28 March 2003
Contact: Conference Secretariat, ERES 2003, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst Southampton, SO40 7AA, U.K.
Tel: 44 (0) 238 029 3223 Fax: 44 (0) 238 029 2853
E-mail: gcossutta@wessex.ac.uk
Website: <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2003/eres03/index.html>

VICTORIA

Date: 6–10 May 2003

Location: Hotel Sofitel, Melbourne
Title: 13th Annual WADeM-World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine
Detail: WADeM is calling for the submission of papers for the 13th World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine. Abstracts must be submitted by 29 November 2002 to www.wcdem2003.com
Contact: Website: www.wcdem2003.com

Interesting Websites

Australasian Disaster & Hazard Research Directory
Making a Decade of Hazards Research - (1996)

The Australasian Disaster & Hazard Research Directory is a comprehensive resource for researchers, students, and professionals in the field of natural hazards. It provides a centralised access point for information on current and past research, projects, and publications. The directory is maintained by the staff of the Natural Hazards Research Centre at Macquarie University, Sydney.

For more information, please contact the staff of the Natural Hazards Research Centre at Macquarie University, Sydney. Tel: +61 2 9351 9600. Fax: +61 2 9351 9601. Email: nhrc@ema.gov.au

Australasian Disaster and Hazard Research Directory

Originally funded by the Australian Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and the Australian Emergency Management Institute (AEMI) and undertaken by the staff of the Natural Hazards Research Centre at Macquarie University. The present directory is concerned primarily with research related to natural hazards, interpreted broadly and recognises the many important synergies between natural and technological hazards.

<http://www.es.mq.edu.au/NHRC/ema.html>

Geoscience Australia

Australian Geological Survey Organisation (AGSO). This site contains comprehensive geoscientific databases covering earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, petroleum information, gravitational maps etc.

<http://www.ga.gov.au>

Bureau of Meteorology, Australia

Designed for aviation, marine, defence and general users, this site includes weather charts, radar images, satellite images, marine weather, rain and temperature maps, seasonal outlooks, climate averages, climate data sourcing, hydromet advisory services and water resources.

<http://www.bom.gov.au>

The Official New York City Website

Office of Emergency Management, New York

Featuring prominently on the *What's On* page in the Office of Emergency Management Section of the site is a photographic report on the visit by Australian Consul-General, Kenneth Allen. The purpose of the Consul-General's visit was to present an award to the OEM saluting the dedication, professionalism and sacrifice of the America emergency management team during the World Trade Center Disaster. The award was a framed display of public safety badges from agencies around Australia.

<http://www.nyc.gov>

School Education Website

Further improvements to the *Disaster Education in Schools* website include a new look and feel and improved navigation via a search engine. The site holds a wealth of resources for students, teachers and parents including a disaster investigation area, fact sheets, project and homework help area, an image gallery, lesson plans and links to state and territory resources.

- Links to the EMA Library allow teachers and school librarians to borrow teaching resources.
- Student activities such as "Create Your Own Tornado" that were produced for the CSIRO student magazine – The Helix – were recently added to the Activity Centre.

Plans are in place for the *Disaster Education in Schools* website to undergo a full audit. The aim of the audit is to further develop the site to include a comprehensive cover of information, activities and educational programs, across appropriate key learning areas of the primary and secondary schools curriculum.

The latest resource to be published on the website is the *Hazards Folder* by Chris Dolan. It is an issues-based teaching resource for the middle and upper levels of secondary schools. www.ema.gov.au/schools.html

Read any good books lately?

We are always on the look-out for book reviews. If you have read any interesting books or articles relevant to emergency management send them to the AJEM Editorial team:

The Australian Journal of Emergency Management
PO Box 3492
Manuka ACT 2604
Tel: (02) 6295 3662
Email: ajem@ema.gov.au

Erratum

The autumn edition of the Journal included an article by Anita Fletcher entitled *Wollongong storm on August 1998: a survey of affected residents two years on*. Table 2 appearing on page 38 made reference to water depths in homes affected by the Wollongong storm of 17 August 1988. The depths were incorrectly reported in centimetres in the table. The figures should have been reported in millimetres.

NATIONAL SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP SERIES

Find out how you can better use the tools of Spatial Information Technology.

The Geolnsight seminars and workshops will demonstrate the value of spatial information and its use in emergency management.

If you are part of the emergency management community don't miss this opportunity.

Presentation topics include:

- Mission-critical GIS for bushfire management
- Decision support tools to determine urban flood risk
- Deployable GIS for storm management
- Data capture systems and techniques for emergency management
- Digital spatial information – for future directions

Topics are streamed into two programs:

- Program 1 – Predominantly for CEOs and senior management
- Program 2 – Predominantly for middle management, front line operational staff and senior spatial information personnel.

Venues for 2002

Australian Capital Territory

Canberra Program 1 Thursday 10 October
Program 2 Wednesday 9 October

Northern Territory

Darwin Program 2 Thursday 26 September

Queensland

Brisbane Program 1 Wednesday 18 September
Program 2 Tuesday 17 September
Cairns

Rockhampton Program 2 Monday 23 September
Program 2 Friday 20 September

Tasmania

Hobart Program 1 & 2 Friday 6 September
Launceston Program 2 Tuesday 3 September

Western Australia

Albany Program 2 Friday 4 October
Perth Program 1 Wednesday 2 October
Program 2 Tuesday 1 October

A National Emergency Management Spatial Information Network workshop will be held in Canberra on Friday 11 October 2002. (Please note seminars have been held in other States in August)

Registration

Visit www.geolnsight.net.au for more details and online registration, or contact Karen Baskerville at the Geolnsight Project Office on (02) 6254 3911 e-mail geolnsight@technik.com.au

Australian Disasters Conference

Safer Sustainable Communities – 2003 Australian Disasters Conference

'Community Safety is Everyone's Business'

Planning is continuing for the 2003 Australian Disaster Conference, which is to be held in Canberra from 9–11 July 2003. The theme for the Conference is 'Community Safety is Everyone's Business'.

The proposed objectives of this important national conference are to bring together people from all areas of emergency management and provide an opportunity to:

- share information on recent developments and research in emergency management;
- highlight successful initiatives in community safety and sustainability;
- explore common issues, emerging trends and approaches to emergency management;
- build partnerships between government, private, non-government and community sectors and expand professional networks; and
- work together on achieving safer, sustainable communities.

To register your interest and to ensure you receive further information and regular updates via our mailing list email the Conference Coordinators enquiry@einsteinandedison.com.au, or phone Liz or Katie on 02 6232 4240.



Getting The Message Across Getting The Message Across

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE AND EXPO



Melbourne Convention Centre
Thursday 5th - Friday 6th September 2002

- COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMS FOR
- LOCAL COUNCILS
- EMERGENCY SERVICES
- HEAVY INDUSTRY
- HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
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