Exercise

Overview

A broad range of electronic resources are used in the National Response Framework, and are available to local responders engaged in Incident Command activities. In this exercise you will access some of these tools and discuss how each can assist you in functioning within the Incident Command System (ICS).

Objectives

1. Access tools available electronically.
2. Describe how the tool can be used to carry out the activities in a specific role in the ICS.

Facilitator Information

Time Requirement: 45 minutes
Number of Instructors: 1
Individual or small group activity
Evaluating usefulness of an electronic resource for ICS activities

(facilitator guide)

Resources

Participant worksheet

Laptops, tablets and/or smartphones to access the internet.

Blackboard, smart board or easel with paper for report back

A list of possible websites could include, but is not limited to:

- CAMEO: http://www.epa.gov/cameo (only for laptop computer)
- FEMA ICS forms/ job aids: http://www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/icsresource/icsforms.htm
- NIOSH Pocket Guide online: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npg/

Apps can be obtained at:

- iPhone Application Store: http://www.appstoreapps.com/

Preparation

Prepare multiple laptops and tablets for learner use; smartphones brought by participants may also be used.

Ensure internet access is available.

The class may be split into small groups for this exercise.

Review the participant materials.
Supplement the list of electronic resources above.
Prepare a website listing for distribution or posting.

Presentation of the Exercise

Background: As technology continues to advance, it is vitally important for training programs to provide learners with multiple forms of support resources. While the traditional paper and pen may be preferred by some, other learners seek means to allow technology to assist them in managing complex problems, such as emergency incident mitigation and Incident Command System functions. This exercise will allow students time and resources to identify some of the technology resources that could assist them in the performance of their job duties.

Ask participants to fill in the ICS duties/role. As appropriate, divide participants into small groups based on the duties/role.

Ask learners to access the internet.

Direct them to find an electronic resource through the internet that could assist them in implementing the ICS for the duties/role, using the list of possible web sites and the app stores that you provide. Other websites may be suggested by the participants.

Once the learners have accessed a site, App, or resource they will complete the worksheet.

Ask each individual or group to report back. This allows each to share how they would use this tool to assist them in accomplishing their duties within the Incident Command System; they may also point out problems or note the need for an alternative.

Record responses for all participants to view during the discussion.

Record additional websites or tools suggested by participants for use with this exercise in the future.

Developed by Lakeshore Technical College trainers