



FEMA

# Lessons Learned Information Sharing

LLIS.gov

Sharing Information

Enhancing Preparedness

Strengthening Homeland Security

## LLIS.gov Resources for Interoperable Communications

### A TOOL FOR ENHANCING NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS

*Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS.gov)* is a US Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency program. *LLIS.gov* serves as the national, online network of lessons learned, best practices, and innovative ideas for the emergency response and homeland security communities. This information and collaboration resource helps emergency response providers and homeland security officials prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other emergencies. *LLIS.gov* provides Federal, State, and local responders with a wealth of information and front-line expertise on effective planning, training, and operational practices across homeland security functional areas.

#### [LLIS.gov at a Glance](#)

- Online since April 19, 2004
- Over 50,000 registered members
- Over 14,000 documents, including more than 1,700 state and local plans, 700 after-action reports, and 900 original content documents
- Secure message boards and collaboration tools
- Targeted information on current homeland security topics

**Interoperable Communications**

Interoperability broadly refers to the ability of emergency responders to work seamlessly with other systems or products without any special effort. Wireless communications interoperability specifically refers to the ability of emergency response officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized. This page presents planners with *Lessons Learned Information Sharing's* full collection of federal, state, and local interoperable communications guidance, research, and plans.

*LLIS.gov* needs your help. Active feedback and input from our members enables *LLIS.gov's* continued expansion and helps us meet the ever-changing needs of the emergency response community. Please take time to improve your community: submit After-Action Reports, Practice Notes, Lessons Learned, plans, templates, strategies, and other relevant information:

Submit Lessons Learned and Innovative Practices      Submit Plans, After-Action Reports, and Other Documents      Email Comments, Experiences, and Observations

<p><b>BASIC GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><b>National Emergency Communications Plan</b> The purpose of the National Emergency Communications Plan is to promote the ability of emergency response providers and relevant government officials to continue to communicate in the event of natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters and to ensure, accelerate, and sustain interoperable emergency communications nationwide.</p> <p><b>Interoperability Continuum</b> SAFECOM's interoperability continuum depicts the core facets of interoperability according to the stated needs and challenges of the emergency response community.</p> <p><b>Operational Guide for the Interoperability Continuum</b> This SAFECOM document provides guidance in each area of the interoperability continuum, including leadership and planning, governance, standard operating procedures, technology, training/exercises, and interoperable communications usage.</p> <p><b>National Response Framework: Emergency Support Function #2 - Communications Assets</b> Emergency Support Function (ESF) #2 - Communications supports the restoration of public communications infrastructure, facilitates the recovery of systems and</p>	<p><b>Related LLIS.gov Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICPI) Exercises Page</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP) Page</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Emergency Communications Library</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Common Language and Plain English</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Incident Command Using Standard Terminology for Command and Operations Sections</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Lesson Learned: Adopting Common Terminology across Emergency Response Disciplines</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Road Story: Virginia's Common Language</a></li> </ul>
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### INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCES

The *LLIS.gov* Interoperable Communications page is a one-stop resource for information related to every aspect of implementing interoperable communications plans and policies. Documents on this page address such topics as:

- Best practices;
- Common language and plain English;
- Governance;
- Strategic planning;
- Tactical interoperable communications planning;
- Technology solutions; and
- Training and exercises.

### INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS DOCUMENTS ON LLIS.gov

The *LLIS.gov* Interoperable Communications page also provides a searchable directory of interoperable communications plans, planning guidance and templates, after-action reports, and other documents, including:

- Commonwealth of Virginia 2008 Strategic Plan for Statewide Communications Interoperability;
- Communicator's Guide for Wildland Fire Management;
- Emergency Communications: Ensuring Telecommunications Capabilities during Power Loss (Lesson Learned);
- Emergency Communications: Utilizing a Communications Unit to Implement an Interoperability Plan (Lesson Learned);
- Information Sharing: Formal Information Flow Processes and Use of Alternative Means for Passing Information (Lesson Learned);
- National Emergency Communications Plan;
- Radio Communications: Congressional Action Needed to Ensure Agencies Collaborate to Develop a Joint Solution; and
- Regional Transportation Planning: Improving Communication Procedures (Lesson Learned).

**For more information on *LLIS.gov* or to register, please go to [www.llis.gov](http://www.llis.gov).**