

Crisis Response Journal vol.1

Issue One

- **Multi-Agency rescue at Scottish factory collapse**



- **Underground waste fire in France**

- **School siege in Beslan, Russia**

Will Stewart looks at the apparent breakdown in multi-agency liaison and other factors during Fire Service operations at the terrorist siege

- **Tornado strikes Czech town**

- **Tank farm blaze in Tanzania**

- **The Indian problem**

Two serious fire tragedies, occurring within the gap of just six months and taking between them the lives of 158 people, shook up the state of Tamil Nadu in Southern India, writes Director S K Dogra.

- **Multi-agency rescue after flash floods**

The Boscastle flooding of August 2004 turned out to be the UK's largest recorded maritime rescue in history.

- **What does the media want from you?**

- **Natural disasters – urban mitigation**

Mostapha Mohaghegh lays out the main elements for effective disaster management response and planning for urban areas

- **Crisis assistance around the world**

Emily Hough speaks to Toni Frisch, the Assistant Director General of the Swiss Agency for Development and

Co-operation and head of the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Department

- **Fire, Police and EMS co-operation**

Emily Hough, Frank G Straub, PhD and Brian J Nickerson, PhD, report on the first-ever multi-agency summit to be held in the USA

Issue Two

- **Denmark's fireworks blast**

CFO Henrik B Hansen reports on the fireworks factory explosion in Kolding, in which one firefighter died and several others were injured

- **Quake rescues in Japan**

- **Rescuers killed in Bangkok**

- **Madrid terror attacks**

Joaquin Saez Murcia describes the Madrid bombings from the emergency services perspective and outlines the lessons learned

- **Underground duct blaze**

- **Tsunami: Can lessons be learned?**

S K Dogra, Director of Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services introduces a special section looking at the impact of the Asian tsunami, as experienced by those who actually responded to the event

- **Tsunami: International assistance**

Toni Frisch presents his observations on the massive international response to this disaster

- **Tsunami: Emergency response in Thailand**

Thailand's government has been frank about what parts worked and what areas need to be improved upon, writes Laura Wilshaw

- **Tsunami: Crisis management**

The State Relief Co-ordinator for Tamil Nadu, outlines governmental rescue and relief operations

- **Tsunami: Military assistance**

By Commodore Thaiy Hari of the Indian Navy

- **Tsunami: Fire service operations**

- **Tsunami: From relief to rehabilitation**

Mr Thiruppugazh shares his observations on disaster management capacity building and long term reconstruction

- **Integrated disaster response**

Emily Hough interviews Elie van Strien to find out more about how the Netherlands is ensuring greater overall co-ordination and co-operation between its Police, Fire and EMS services

- **Leading for our future**

It is possible to run a large Fire service, both on and off the fire ground, with an extremely flat structure, says Mike Hall, Chief Executive/National Commander, New Zealand Fire Service.

- **A command system for all agencies?**

Arnold M Howitt and Herman B 'Dutch' Leonard of the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, say that some shortcomings must be addressed to avoid failure or incomplete adoption of America's national emergency response system



In Depth

- **International rescue teams – Part II**

- **Chemical and biological issues – Part II**

- **Vehicle rescue – Part II**

- **Elements of preparedness**

- **Adapting to new threats**

Emergency organisations must adapt their risk management methodology, organisation and operational methods, says Adi Moncaz

- **Public partners in Singapore**

- **Epidemic – a case study**

Hong Kong Fire Services Department was in the front line in the battle against SARS, write both Lam Chun-man – Director of Hong Kong Fire Services and Leung Shiu-hong – Senior Assistant Chief Ambulance Officer

In Depth

- **Chemical and biological issues – Part I**

By Michael J Powers of the Chemical and Biological Arms Control Institute in Washington DC, USA

- **Aviation terrorism**

- **Vehicle rescue – Part I**

International rescue teams – Part I

- **Online training**

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Issue Three

● **EUDREX exercise**

● **SAREX Exercise**

● **Papal funeral and inauguration**

Emergency Services and Civil Protection units from across Italy ensured the safety of millions of pilgrims who descended on Rome to mourn Pope John Paul II and to celebrate the election of his successor



● **Train crash in Italy**

● **Mortar attack blazes in Iraq**

● **Night club fire in Buenos Aires**

● **Guyana flood response**

This 'silent' disaster caused losses representing 59 per cent of Guyana's GDP, and much suffering among its population, writes Katrina Toll Velasquez of UNDAC

● **Car park collapse**

November 2004 saw Switzerland's worst-ever Fire Service tragedy when seven firefighters were killed by a roof collapse in an underground car park

● **Victim recovery in Thailand**

Emily Hough speaks to police victim recovery expert Mark Harrison on the efforts being made, and the technology used, to recover, identify and repatriate victims of the tsunami

● **IFE plans for the future**

Interview with Chief William Peterson, International President of the IFE

● **Disease control**

Well practised interagency co-operation and public communication are vital elements of any response to large outbreaks of infectious disease, says Dr Stephen Morse, Founding Director of the Columbia University Centre for Public Health Preparedness

● **Protecting Europe's public**

Dr Karl Ekdahl speaks to Emily Hough about the new European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

● **Guiding principals**

Dr Piero Calvi-Pariseti of the GiGnos Institute, outlines a proposal to improve assistance to the victims of natural disasters

● **Baltic co-operation**

Dr Eng Barbara Kucnerowicz-Polak outlines how the Baltic states are co-operating in a civil protection programme

● **Rapid reflection forces**

This is an age of total surprise, strategic traps and operational swamps, according to Dr Patrick Lagadec and Professor Pierre Carli, who say that a change in strategic thinking is vital to confront today's global challenges

● **An all-hazards approach**

Queensland in Australia has redefined its emergency management organisation by incorporating fire, ambulance, counter disaster and rescue forces within one department, writes Director General Michael Kinnane

In Depth

■ **International rescue teams – Part III**

■ **CBR threats: a case study – Part III**

Kevin Cuneo provides the third article in this series, writing from an emergency services operational perspective. In issue three, he looks at how Australia has developed its national CBR capabilities and outlines national strategies

■ **Vehicle rescue – Part III**

■ **World Conference on Disaster Reduction**

● **Disasters: the nurses' role**

Nurses of today need to be better prepared to care for victims of terrorism, write Dotti C James, PhD, RNC, and Joanne C Langan, PhD, RN

● **Policing Heathrow Airport**

Emily Hough speaks to Martin and Ian of the Metropolitan Police's SO18 Aviation Security Branch

● **Climate change and emergency response**

How prepared are Europe's emergency services and civil defence forces for the shift in planning and operational requirements that climate change may bring about?

● **Jamaica's hurricane planning**

The 2004 North Atlantic Hurricane Season was a major test for Caribbean countries, with several being affected, writes Dr Barbara Carby

● **Monsoon in Mumbai**

Nearly a metre of rain fell on Mumbai in just one day, writes Director Deshmukh of Maharashtra Fire Service, who describes the emergency response

● **Technical help in disasters**

● **Euratech exercise**

● **Moscow blackout**

● **Coping in the dark**

In 2003, the City of Toronto, along with the eastern seaboard of North America, was badly affected by a major power failure in the shared energy supply grid, writes Chief William Stewart of Toronto Fire Service

● **Interoperability: it's all about trust**

Edouard Dervichian contends that public safety organisations must avoid the new hazard of distributed processing

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Issue Four

● **London bombings: A whole city response**

Deputy Commissioner for Fire and Emergency Planning Roy Bishop and Assistant Commissioner (Service Delivery) Ron Dobson speak to Emily Hough about London's integrated multi-agency response to the bomb attacks on July 7

● **Transport for London**

Emily Hough speaks to Nick Agnew of Transport for London



In Depth

■ **Resilient infrastructure: lessons from the WTC**

■ **All-hazards approach – Part II**

■ **CBR threats: A case study**

■ **3D firefighting – Part I**

■ **International rescue teams – Part IV: case study**

Is a million deaths a year acceptable?