# Regional Logistics Program

New York • New Jersey • Connecticut • Pennsylvania

Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT)

**Newsletter Issue No. 10   •   February 2011**

## Conference

Registration for LogCon 2011: A Universal Approach to Disaster Logistics will open soon. To learn more about the conference and to reserve your spot at this inaugural event, please visit **www.LogCon2011.org**. The new LogCon 2011 website will be your one-stop shop for all things LogCon, including registration and review of program information. Make sure you mark your calendar to attend on **May 9th and 10th!**

## Regional Asset Database Project (RADP)

The February 17th planning team meeting kicked off with a presentation by Donald McGarry from MITRE, a non-profit corporation funded by the federal government to work in the public interest. MITRE is presently offering free technical assistance to the Region. Using a master list of common terms collected through the RADP, MITRE can build an automatic "thesaurus" or "universal translator" tool that will automatically identify resources not yet typed in FEMA's *NIMS Resource Typing Guidelines*. Pearl Cheng is reaching out to the administrators of our Region's asset databases to gauge their interest in collaborating with MITRE. An executive brief on this potential partnership is available on the VJPO.

Results of the RADP Survey were also presented to the planning team during the February 17th meeting. Jurisdictions that have requested assistance through the survey will be contacted by Pearl Cheng to discuss the next steps.

The *RADP Strategy Document* was also finalized by the planning team, and will now be reviewed by the Regional Logistics Program Lead and Advisor.

## Credentialing

The *Credentialing Annex* was presented to the Logistics Program Advisor for final review, and the Regional Logistics Program team is incorporating comments and suggestions. An executive briefing document and basic plan overview are now under development. These documents will be circulated to planning team members for review and approval at **the next planning team meeting on April 7th at 1100.**

## Private Sector

The Regional Logistics Program has begun outlining a roadmap for increased integration between the private sector and the Program. We are looking to identify existing resources or tools that can be used to connect the efforts of the public and private sectors and support greater sharing of key resources and information during an incident. If you have knowledge of any existing public / private sector initiatives or best practices that can assist in developing this component, please contact Jim Penta at jpenta@regionalcatplanning.org.

The Regional Logistics Program is an initiative designed to link resources, expertise, and information by encouraging collaboration among regional, state, and local emergency management partners in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut. The program kicked off in the summer of 2009 when logistics planning, resource management, information sharing and training efforts began.

The goal of these monthly newsletters is to keep all stakeholders up-to-date on emerging and ongoing initiatives and to promote and encourage feedback from regional partners and nationwide emergency managers and planners. Each newsletter will provide information on the previous month's work within the program.

## Concept of Operations (CONOPS)

The *CONOPS Playbook* was presented to the Logistics Program Advisor for final review. Changes are being incorporated and the final draft will soon be submitted to the planning team and RCPT to mark the completion of this deliverable.



### Intermodal Infrastructure Reports: Waterway

The Regional Logistics Program recently selected a vendor to execute the Waterway Task Order, which calls for an assessment of the Regional waterway infrastructure's capacity to transport freight after a catastrophic incident. The kickoff meeting for this project was held on February 23rd, and the initial research phase is now underway.

### Public Assistance Assessment Paper

For jurisdictions interested in learning more about Public Assistance (PA), the Regional Logistics Program is finalizing a brief assessment paper that will act as a primer for EOC Logistics and Finance decision-makers in the NY-NJ-CT-PA RCPGP Region. This assessment paper will provide a summary of PA Program components, eligibility, and application process. The *PA Brief* will be presented at the next CONOPS planning team meeting, **scheduled for April 12th at 1100**.

## Volunteers and Donations Management Annex (VDMA)

The VDMA planning team is currently reviewing the entire VDMA Suite as we prepare to send the documents to the RCPT for review. The VDMA Suite consists of three documents, all geared towards helping to manage the spontaneous volunteers and unsolicited donations that converge on a jurisdiction in the wake of a disaster. The *VDMA – EOC Guidance Document* provides time-phased guidance and direction for EOC personnel. The *VDMA Plan Template* provides detailed information for VOAD, COAD, and community members engaged in volunteer and donations management activities. The final piece in the Suite—the *Appendix and Toolkit*—is a collection of reference materials and easy to use templates. **The next planning team will take place on March 16th at 1400.**

## Logistics Intern Program



The Regional Logistics Program would like to introduce our Winter / Spring 2011 Logistics Intern, Nicole Aimone. Nicole is completing her Masters of Urban Planning at the NYU Wagner School of Public Service with a specialization in Environment, Infrastructure, and Transportation. She is currently putting her extensive research and planning experience to work, assisting the Logistics Program on a variety of initiatives, including work on the Receiving and Distribution Center Project. Please join us in welcoming Nicole to the Regional Logistics Program.

## Commodity Distribution Point (CDP)

The most recent CDP planning team meeting was held on Wednesday, February 16th. During the meeting, the planning team reviewed part two of the draft *CDP Plan* and discussed the title of "Lead Agency CDP Operations Center" in Operational Component Two. Offline discussions regarding the final terminology for this management component are ongoing. Also during the meeting, the recommendation was made to revise the plan trigger time to 24 hours for urban areas and 48 hours for suburban areas. Discussions regarding the plan title (CDP vs. POD vs. C-POD) also continue, and we welcome any comments or suggestions. **The next planning team meeting will be held on March 30th at 1400.**

## Staging Area/Receiving and Distribution Center (RDC)

Development of the *Receiving and Distribution Center Field Operations Guide (RDC FOG)* continues, as additional components of the documents are developed. Most recently, on February 24th the Operations Section of the document was shared with the planning team for review and feedback. Once finalized, its contents will be released to the planning team in early March for review and comment.

The Operations Section, which leverages advanced concepts used in response to complex incidents, will provide standard ICS guidance for flexible response and tactical assignment of resources. In addition, an optional Deployment Branch, providing users with guidance for establishing a branch to support the deployment of shipments from the RDC, has been included as a starting point for OPS personnel mobilized at an RDC operation. The FOG also leverages the organizational strengths of an incident complex to enable an RDC to manage both the RDC and co-located (or nearby) transportation facility, such as a port, airport, railhead, or commercial distribution facility.

The anticipated completion for the first full draft of the FOG is scheduled for **early April**, when the next planning team meeting will take place.

## Area Logistics Emergency Response Teams (ALERT)

The updated *ALERT Concept Document* is currently under review with the planning team. The document is a comprehensive representation of what we believe ALERT should be and how it will be built, operated, and sustained. Planning team members have been asked to look closely at the proposed ALERT curriculum and member deployment process. The next phase of ALERT—training and development—will begin following a spring review of the ALERT Concept Document by the RCPT. Training will be based on the Expanded Dispatch concept, and will provide future ALERT members with a solid grounding in the resource request process throughout the Region. **The next planning team meeting will be held on March 29th at 1400.**

## Regional Resource Management Solution (RRMS)

On February 28th, several members of the RIMS planning team will travel to Bethpage, NY for a special program hosted by the Applied Science Foundation for Homeland Security. The program will feature Dr. Bob Griffin, Director of Support to the Homeland Security Enterprise and First Responders, and Dr. Matt Clark, Director of University Programs. Dr. Griffin oversees the office that will be responsible for UICDS. Therefore, it is anticipated that the event will provide a valuable opportunity for planning team members to learn more about the long-term evolution of the system as jurisdictions continue to explore it as a potential platform for sharing interoperable resource messages.

A recent demonstration of FEMA's IPAWS-OPEN aggregator also revealed how the tool may support the Region through its capabilities to receive and broadcast XML-based messages. EDXL-RM is the standard gaining consensus across the Region as a common language to share interoperable resource messages. It is also one type of XML message that could be shared using the IPAWS-OPEN platform. While planning team members are comfortable with programmatic aspects of the IPAWS-OPEN platform (it is directly required under Executive Order 13047), questions have been raised regarding the platform's enterprise scalability (its ability to handle widespread use with thousands of messages being exchanged). Efforts are currently underway to investigate this aspect of the IPAWS-OPEN platform.

Next steps for the RIMS planning team continue to evolve based on new information and leads.

## Website

Work on the Regional Logistics Program website began this month. The kickoff meeting and first working session were held to lay the groundwork for the overall design, feel, and functionality of the website. In the effort to develop the RLP website, we are collecting photos from our project jurisdictions. If you have any photos showing your OEM in action, please submit them to Pearl Cheng at pcheng@regionalcatplanning.org.

## March 2011 Planning Team Meetings

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 **VDMA PTM9** 1400-1500 | 17 | 18 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28 | 29 **ALERT PTM10** 1400-1500 | 30 **CDP PTM8** 1400-1500 | 31 |  |

## Regional Logistics Program Contact Information

| Name | Title | Initiative | Email | Phone |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jim Penta | Senior Logistics Planner | CONOPS, Credentialing | jpenta@regionalcatplanning.org | 646-215-6566 |
| Alexander Marks | Logistics Planner | RRMS, SA | amarks@regionalcatplanning.org | 646-215-6564 |
| Nancy Harris | Logistics Planner | VDMA, Conference, ALERT | nharris@regionalcatplanning.org | 646-215-6563 |
| Pearl Cheng | Logistics Planner | RADP, Website, CDP | pcheng@regionalcatplanning.org | 646-215-6565 |
| Detgen Bannigan Greeff | Planning Associate | Credentialing | dbannigan@regionalcatplanning.org | 646-215-6567 |
| Kiran Dhanji | Program Manager |  | kdhanji@oem.nyc.gov |  |
| Alex Markowski | Program Lead |  | amarkowski@oem.nyc.gov |  |

✧ The Virtual Joint Planning Office (VJPO) is an information management tool the Regional Logistics Program uses to house draft program documents.

✧ For access to the VJPO or for more information on joining a planning team, please email RCPLogistics@RegionalCATPlanning.org

✧ *Please note:* planning team participation is open to all.

✧ All documents mentioned in this newsletter are available on the VJPO.

www.vjpo.org/RCPGP/NYNJ/Projects/Logistics/default.aspx