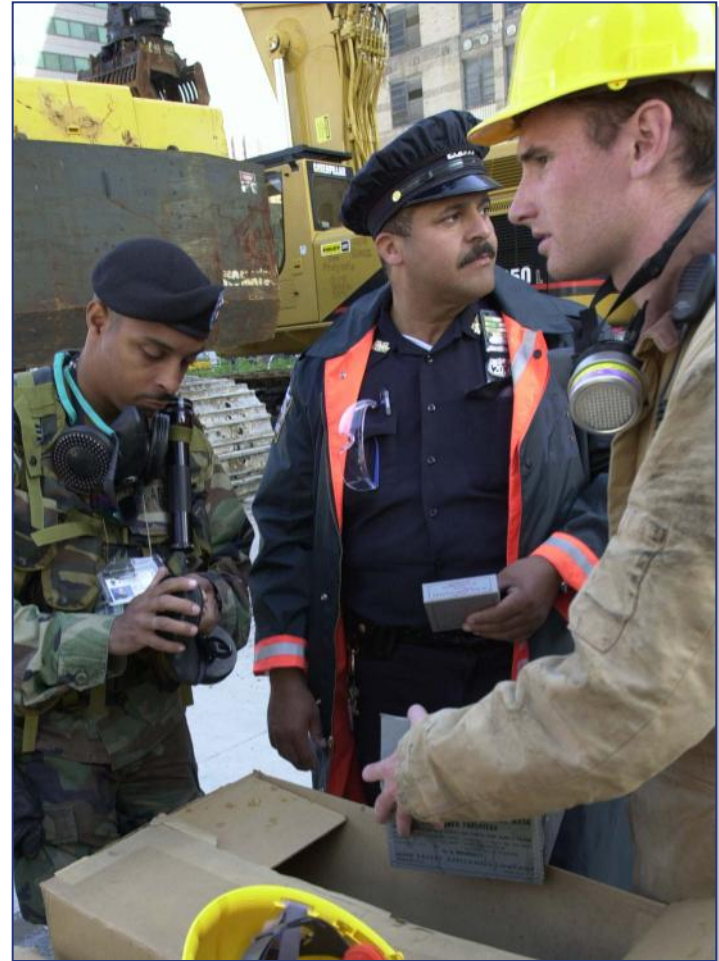


# Unit 2: ICS Overview



**FEMA**

Visual 2.1  
ICS Overview

# Unit Objectives

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## Identify:

- **Three purposes of ICS.**
- **Requirements to use ICS.**

## Unit List

- ✓ **Course Overview**
- **ICS Overview**
- **ICS Features & Principles**
- **Incident Commander & Command Staff Functions**
- **General Staff Functions**
- **Unified Command**
- **Course Summary – Putting It All Together**



**FEMA**

# Incident Command System (ICS): Promoting Response Partnerships

CC

[music]

**Click on the image to start the video.**



**FEMA**

Visual 2.3  
ICS Overview

# What Is ICS?

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## ICS:

- **Is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management concept.**
- **Enables a coordinated response among various jurisdictions and agencies.**
- **Establishes common processes for planning and management of resources.**
- **Allows for integration within a common organizational structure.**



**FEMA**

# When Is ICS Used?

ICS can be used to manage:

- Natural hazards.
- Technological hazards.
- Human-caused hazards.
- Planned events.



**FEMA**

Visual 2.5  
ICS Overview



# What Is an Incident?

An **incident** is . . .

. . . an occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, that requires a response to protect life or property.



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# Activity: ICS & Planned Events

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**Instructions: Working as a team . . .**

- 1. Briefly describe one example where ICS could be used to manage a planned event (e.g., sporting event).**
- 2. Identify the benefits of using ICS for the selected event.**
- 3. Select a spokesperson. Be prepared to present your example in 5 minutes.**

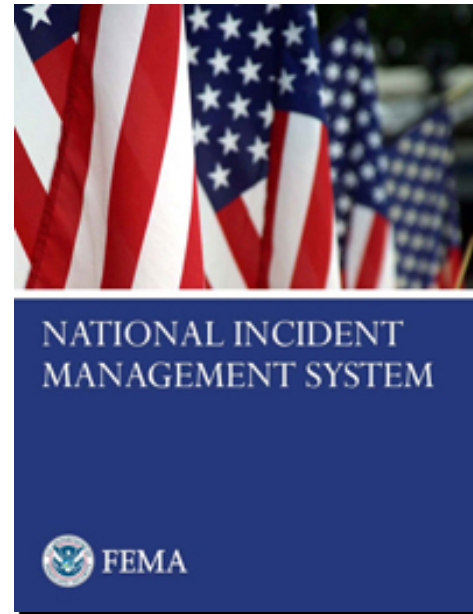


# Why Use ICS?

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**1. It Works!**



**2. Mandates**

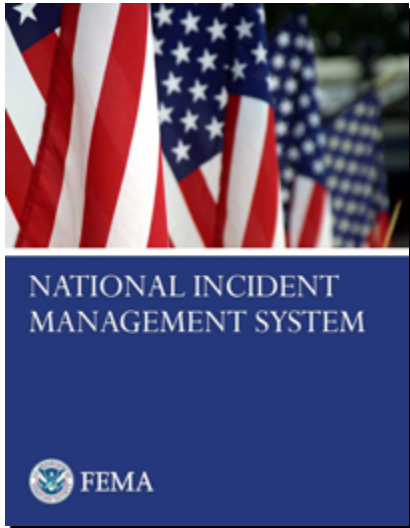


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# National Incident Management System (NIMS)

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**What ? . . .** NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template . . .

**Who? . . .** to enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together . . .

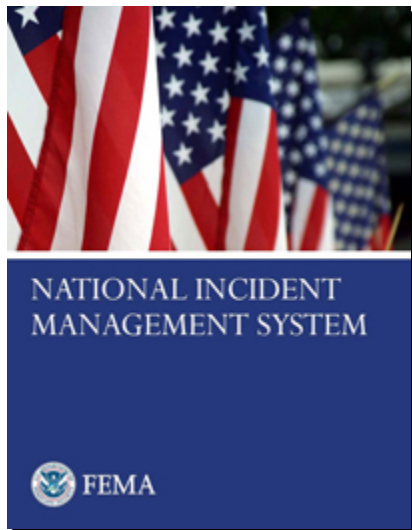
**How? . . .** to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity . . .

**Why? . . .** in order to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.



**FEMA**

# NIMS Components & ICS



**Preparedness**

**Communications and  
Information Management**

**Resource Management**

**Command and Management**

**Ongoing Management and  
Maintenance**

**Incident  
Command  
System**

**Multiagency  
Coordination  
Systems**

**Public  
Information**

**Additional Information:** [www.fema.gov/emergency/nims](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims)



**FEMA**

Visual 2.10  
ICS Overview

# Discussion Question

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**What are common causes of incident response problems?**



**FEMA**

Visual 2.11  
ICS Overview

# Lessons Learned

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**Without ICS, incident responses typically:**

- **Lack accountability.**
- **Have poor communications.**
- **Use unsystematic planning processes.**
- **Are unable to efficiently integrate responders.**



**FEMA**

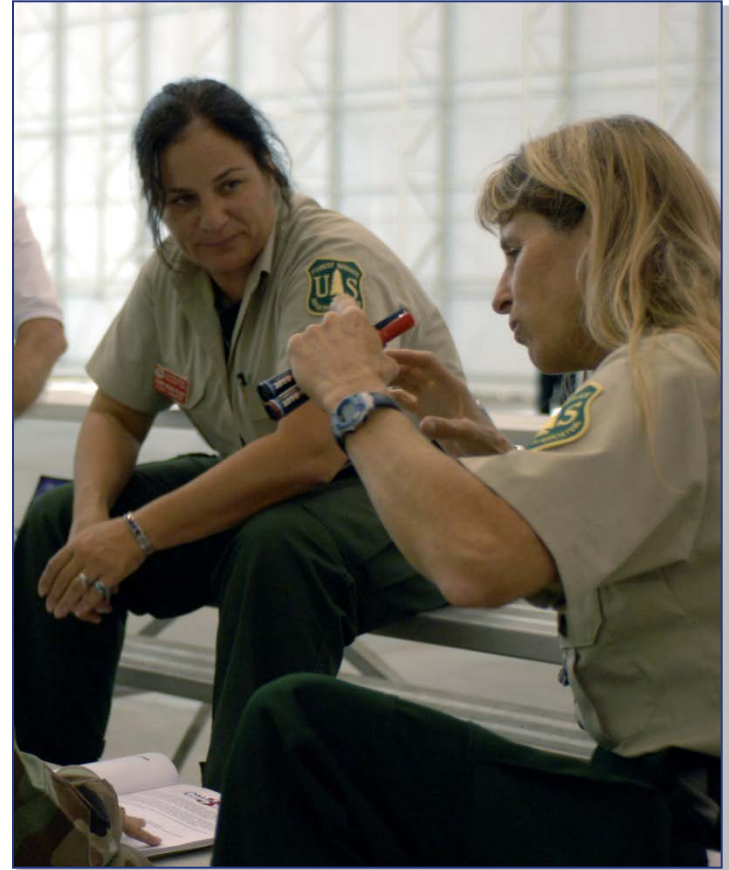
Visual 2.12  
ICS Overview

# ICS Benefits

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**ICS helps to ensure:**

- **The safety of responders, workers, and others.**
- **The achievement of response objectives.**
- **The efficient use of resources.**



**FEMA**

Visual 2.13  
ICS Overview



# Activity: Management Challenges

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**Instructions: Working as a team . . .**

- 1. Review the scenario presented in your Student Manuals.**
- 2. Identify the top three challenges in managing this incident. Write these challenges on chart paper.**
- 3. Using what you have learned so far, describe how ICS could be used to address these challenges.**
- 4. Select a spokesperson. Be prepared to present in 10 minutes.**



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# Summary

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## ICS:

- **Is a standardized management tool for meeting the demands of small or large emergency and nonemergency situations.**
- **Represents best practices, and has become the standard for emergency management across the country.**
- **May be used for planned events, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism.**
- **Is a key feature of NIMS.**



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