Automated Capabilities & Equipment Program

Summary

The Automated Capabilities and Equipment Program (ACE) resolves several gaps in CBRNE resource management by providing a web based information portal on the current inventory of Hazmat Teams CBRNE equipment. The Program interfaces directly with this equipment through the Internet to track usage trends, enables data storage of mission critical information, ensures proper maintenance/service/repair and provides a live telemetric remote feed of the instrument readings for Subject Matter Experts (SMEs).

ACE proposes extending the successful Los Angeles program by equipping all existing Hazmat "front line" instrumentation with wireless reach back Internet capabilities for the Tier 1 Counties of San Diego, Sacramento, Orange and San Diego.

Further ACE will provide a fully interactive website for secure interfacing with the equipment data which will include:

- A secure geographical resource interface showing who has what and where it is and what its readings are
- Correlated guidance data on the instrumentation and the substances it detects
- A resource library of current Hazmat support tools
- Form tools for editing CBRNE equipment inventories
- An interactive live alert and notification service for Hazmat and PRND events, weather and important news
- A news reader
- Event calendar
- A social interface to current social services (blog, Twitter, Facebook)

Results:

- Knowing who has what and where resources are located greatly enhances the continuity for not only a real-world response but the intense preparation and training necessary to achieve a successful and potentially life-saving response.
- Provides live incident data across response organizations regardless of their location.
- Enhances responder safety by allowing instruments to report live reading back to expert freeing up the responder to focus on other critical tasks.
- Simplifies the PRND mission by providing automated instrumentation data and spectra for reach-back
- Eliminates the radio transmission of secure or possibly inaccurate instrument readings.
- Provides a web GIS interface accessible through desktop and mobile platforms that enables command staff to see all relevant detection data.
- Is a resource enabling command staff to make decisions based CBRNE/PRND and other related events.
- Establishes field interoperable network communications platform for data sharing using mobile and portable network devices
- Furthers the goal of having a seamless regional and statewide response to both man-made (terrorist) and natural (earthquakes, Fires and Floods) disasters.
- Through the collaborative efforts of the CSTs, organizes and optimizes State wide Consortium of Technical Responders (CTR's) creating a larger resource and asset management tool for the Incident Commander.
- End users can pick from available local and regional resources based on the needs of their specific situation or type of disaster.
- Provides a Common Operating Picture planning and response tool based on known available assets.