

JIC/JIS Workshop



Joint Information Center (JIC) Joint Information System (JIS)

Providing the public with timely, accurate and complete information that will enable citizens to protect themselves in an emergency is a challenge and responsibility facing all emergency management officials. The Joint Information Center/System (JIC/JIS) has been designed specifically to meet the informational needs of the public and media during an emergency.

Argonne National Laboratory's JIC/JIS Workshop provides decision makers and their staffs with the concepts, tools and skills necessary to effectively manage information during a crisis. The course has been developed by highly experienced public information officers with experience on critical incidents large and small. It is designed within the framework of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and provides a methodology for handling emergency information regardless of the type of incident or the number of responding agencies involved.

In this three-day, interactive workshop, you will learn why you need a JIC/JIS, how it works, the functions to be performed, and the team, equipment and facility layout needed to get the job done. The course also includes modules designed to build the skills of individuals who will perform various functions within the JIC/JIS.

On the final day, you will participate in a highly interactive JIC-based training exercise using a scenario that tests the emergency information response capabilities of participating organizations. Experienced controllers guide the exercise play while "mock media" simulate local, state and national real-world media. Mock media cover the "story" as if it were a real event by gathering information and producing print and broadcast stories on the basis of what they learn. This gives players the opportunity to react in a controlled environment where their decisions can be assessed.

The exercise concludes with a discussion of how the JIC functioned, issue identification, why the mock media produced the stories they did, how player performance influenced media coverage and other lessons learned directly from JIC staff.

This course is designed for:

- JIC staff (all positions)
- Federal, state and local emergency management and response officials
- Elected and appointed officials
- Representatives from volunteer agencies and private sector organizations
- Contractors, secretaries and volunteers
- Public information officers and public affairs officers
- And anyone else who will be involved in your emergency information efforts

This course developed and presented by Argonne National Laboratory for the U.S. Army and FEMA Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)

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