

Private Sector Preparedness

Private Sector Preparedness



Hear more about FEMA preparedness initiatives and the Private Sector Preparedness Accreditation and Certification Program (PS-PREP) at the Summer 2009 San Francisco Bay Area InfraGard chapter meeting, hosted by FEMA Region IX ... Participate in an industry roundtable with FEMA Region IX and FEMA HQ staff to discuss this developing program ... Get your voice heard ...

Did you know ...



DHS/FEMA is developing a program to certify the "preparedness" of private sector entities ...

Private sector participation is voluntary ...

Private sector certifications will be overseen by the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board on behalf of DHS/FEMA ...

DHS/FEMA has held two public meeting to obtain feedback from the private sector, both in Washington D.C. ...

August 20, 2008
InfraGard Quarterly Meeting: 9AM – Noon
FEMA / Industry Roundtable: 1:30PM – 4PM
Auditorium / 3rd Floor / North Tower
Federal Building / Oakland, CA
<http://www.sfbay-infragard.org>



More info on reverse...

PS-PREP BACKGROUND:

The “Implementing the Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007” (the 9/11 Act), requires the Secretary of Homeland Security, among other things, to:

...develop and promote a program to certify the preparedness of private sector entities that voluntarily choose to seek certification under the program; and implement the program through an entity...which shall accredit third parties to carry out the certification process under this section...

The 9/11 Commission’s central recommendation concerning this was that DHS promote private sector preparedness standards that establish a common set of criteria and terminology for preparedness, disaster management, emergency management, and business continuity programs. This recommendation is the genesis of the Voluntary Private Sector Preparedness Accreditation and Certification (PS-Prep) program.

The PS-PREP program will assess whether a private sector entity complies with one or more voluntary preparedness standards adopted by DHS, through a system of accreditation and certification set up by DHS in close coordination with the private sector. Within DHS the PS-PREP program is managed by FEMA.

PS-Prep will raise the level of private sector preparedness through a number of means, including:

- (i) establishing a system for DHS to adopt private sector preparedness standards;
- (ii) encouraging creation of those standards;
- (iii) developing a method for a private sector entity to obtain a certification of conformity with a particular DHS-adopted private sector standard, and encouraging such certification; and
- (iv) making preparedness standards adopted by DHS more widely available.

Congress recognized that achieving preparedness in the private sector is often more quickly and efficiently accomplished through incentives and certification processes made available to the private sector—since the private sector has greater resources and is generally more nimble than the Federal government—than through Federal regulatory mandates. PS-Prep will work with these other programs to leverage the powerful private sector tools DHS has been authorized to use.

One approach being considered by adoption by PS-PREP is adoption of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1600 Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs. The ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board, or ANAB, has been selected by DHS/FEMA to develop and oversee the certification process, manage accreditation, and accredit qualified third parties to carry out certifications in accordance with the accepted procedures of the program.

DHS/FEMA - Voluntary Private Sector Preparedness Accreditation and Certification Program Resource Center <http://www.fema.gov/business/certification/index.htm>