

BCG News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minnesota's Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) Region 2 utilizes DisasterLAN (DLAN) across all Counties and Tribes within the Region

Buffalo, NY – April, 29th, 2014 – While deployed to New York State during hurricanes Sandy and Irene, several HSEM Region 2 Minnesota IMAT teams were impressed with the state's emergency management software, DisasterLAN (DLAN). After using the software to help manage New York's emergencies, they saw that DLAN could be a large benefit to the counties and tribes within Region 2.

The region recently purchased their own DLAN system. Their DLAN Local Responder (LR) system provides situation awareness, resource tracking, and incident tracking during incidents and events throughout the region. The region also purchased the optional GIS module for their system, which allows users to share mapping data amongst all users in the region.

Kerry Swenson, director of Cass County Emergency Management, notes, "The entire process has gone well for us, from the initial contact about the system to pricing, installation, and training...The experience with BCG has been great and we will and have recommended the system to others."

In addition to being able to share information easily among the members of the region, HSEM Region 2's DLAN system can share information with the state HSEM, which also uses a DLAN system. DLAN can also communicate with other incident management software systems. Although HSEM Region 6 uses a different system, BCG was able to customize a solution to allow the two systems to share information. In fact, DLAN offers a full suite of interoperable communication options, making it able to communicate with any system that meets federal interoperability standards.

HSEM Region 2's DLAN system is a shared regional solution jointly administered and operated by a diverse set of 17 municipal entities including the counties of Aitkin, Carlton, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Pine, and St. Louis; the tribal nations of Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Leech Lake, and Mille Lacs Band; and the City of Duluth. Although all of these users have distinct emergency management issues to address, their DLAN system gives them a common platform to help solve all their needs.

Minnesota's Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) is a Division of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. Region 2 covers Northeast Minnesota.

DisasterLAN is a web-based incident management system designed for use in emergency operations centers to manage both planned events and disasters using ICS and NIMS standards.

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