

# Radio Communications Essentials

Module 7: Standard Operation Procedures, Training  
& Exercises

Jon Rosenlund

# Our Topics

1. Importance of Having SOP's
  2. NIMS
  3. SOP Development
  4. Training
  5. Exercising
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# Importance of Having SOP's

- Provide common understanding among users.
- Common sense is not automatic, its learned
- Avoid misuse and apply remedies
- Encourages buy-in to ensure participation
- Increase resource efficiencies

## **Husker Analogy**

- You've got to have a game plan for Saturday
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# What is the National Incident Management System?

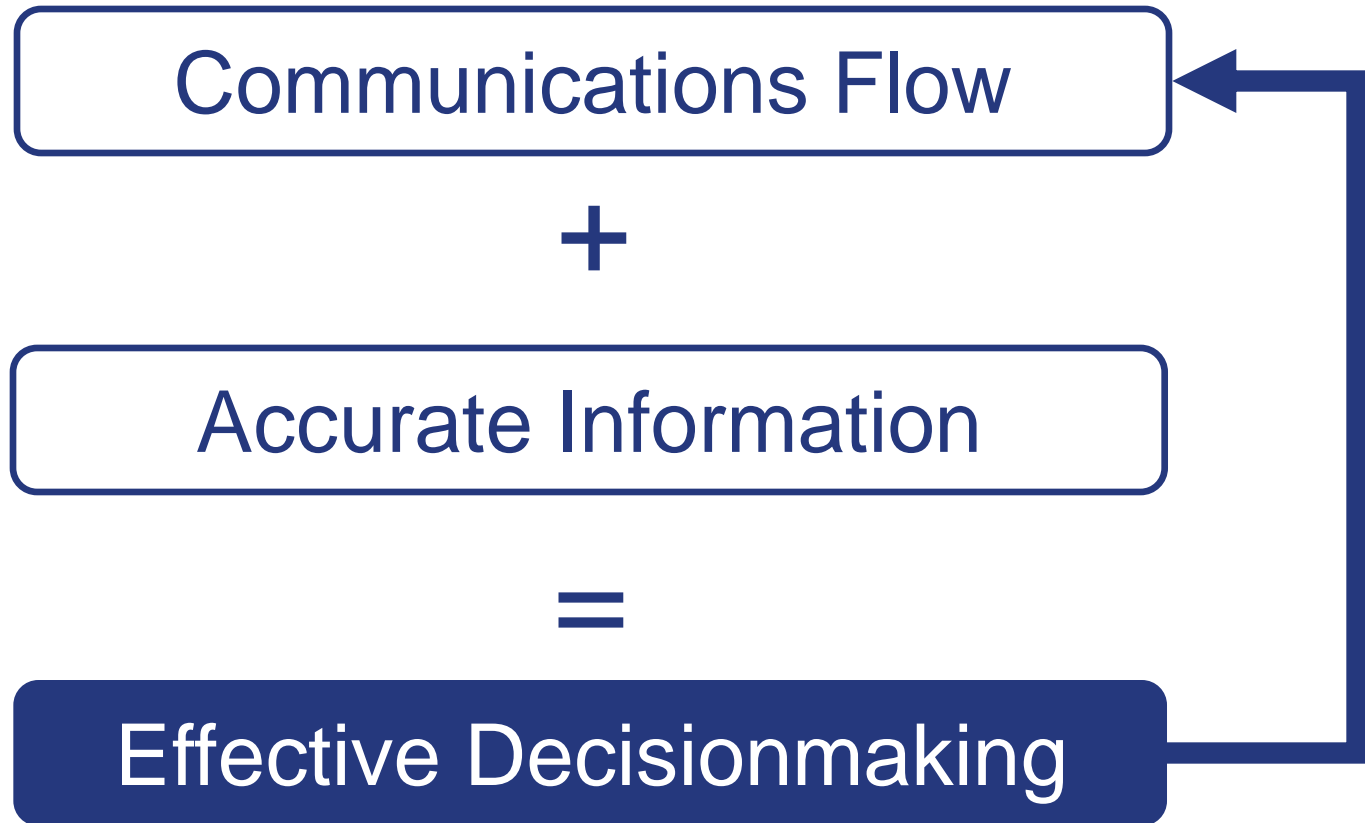
NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template.

- Enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together.
  - Prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity.
  - Reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.
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# NIMS Components

- Preparedness
  - **Communications and Information Management**
  - Resource Management
  - Incident Command and Management
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# Flexible Communications and Information Systems



# NIMS & ICS Training Online

NIMS & ICS Course	Target Audience
IS 700 – Intro to NIMS	All Elected, Appointed, and Public Safety Officials, Emergency Responders
IS 800 – Intro to National Response Plan	All Elected, Appointed, and Public Safety Officials, Emergency Responders
ICS 100 – Intro to Incident Command System	All Elected, Appointed, and Public Safety Officials, Emergency Responders
ICS 200 – ICS for Single Resources & Initial Actions	All Elected, Appointed, and Public Safety Officials, Emergency Response Supervisors
<a href="http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/NIMSTrainingCourses.shtm">www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/NIMSTrainingCourses.shtm</a>	

# SOP Development

## Hardware & Network

- How to use it
  - How to fix it
  - How to report failures
  
  - *We'll own it soon, so we better know how to maintain it on our own.*
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# SOPs for Dispatching

## Dispatchers

- Paraclete Usage
    - How and When to Patch,
    - Who to notify
  - Common Usage Channels
  - Radio Procedures
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# SOPs for Field Units

## Field Units

- Assigning frequencies on-scene
  - Strengthen NIMS through communications
  - Radio Procedures
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# Training

- No one knows what to do without training
- “Common sense” is not automatic, its learned behavior
- Radios are a tool, like firearms and hose.
- Get dispatchers and field units trained
  - On-line resources
  - Classroom training

## Husker Analogy

- Coach Pelini practices the game plan all week long.
  - Practices get progressively more realistic and difficult.
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# Exercising

- SOPs without exercises are a “myth”
- Gear your exercises to test the radios
  - Test dispatchers and units
  - Actually use the equipment, no simulations
- Involve your neighbors, State
- Don't fear failure. We exercise to expose weaknesses.

## Husker Analogy

- Expose the weak secondary before Saturday.
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# Our Topics

1. Importance of Having SOP's
  2. SOP Development to create common sense
  3. Training to learn
  4. Exercising to expose weakness
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