



PARTNER UPDATE

Fire Service/HazMat GIS Data Model

NASFM and The Metro Fire Chiefs are proud to receive the 2008 ESRI Special Achievement in GIS Award. Under their leadership, the new fire service/Haz Mat GIS Data Model was created in partnership with the US DOT Pipeline and HazMat Safety Administration. NASFM and Metro Chiefs thank the 2008 pilot sites for their participation:

- Colorado Springs Fire Department (CO)
- Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (CA)
- Charlottesville Fire Department (VA)
- Harris County Fire Marshal's Office (TX)
- Los Angeles City Fire Department (CA)
- South Central Counter Terrorism Task Force (PA)

The mission of the United States fire service is to protect life, property, and natural resources from fire and other emergencies. Every day, across our nation, first responders perform this duty as a matter of fact, selflessly responding to calls for help from communities in need. On September 11, 2001 the face of the US fire service changed forever. It has always been a tough job, but on that day, the pressure to perform their jobs in the face of grave dangers became more acute, and much more public.

Risk management, preparedness, and mitigation have become increasingly important functions for meeting the public's expectations for the service the fire department provides in each community. The role of GIS to perform these tasks has become increasingly important. Unfortunately, while pockets of fire service GIS excellence have become a more common occurrence, most of the nation's first responders are still without access to good, readily accessible GIS.

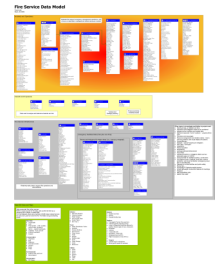
The National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), in partnership with other major fire service leadership organizations, is changing that landscape.



2008 Special Achievement in GIS

National Association of State Fire Marshals

Metropolitan Chiefs Association



Download the Fire GIS Data Model

<http://www.esri.com/naspg/projects/bestpractices.html>

For More Information Contact:

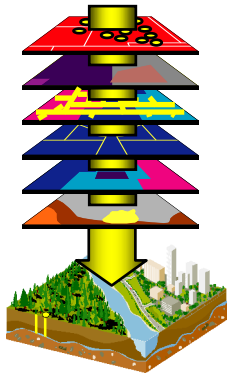
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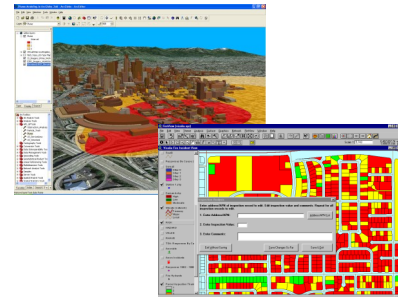
On The Web
<http://www.publicsafetygis.org>



As NASFM became aware of the lack of good fire department GIS available to most local first responders, they set out to do something about it.

In 2005, working under a cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), NASFM identified the potential of GIS as a strategic tool for sharing data to enhance collaborative decision support for the prevention, mitigation and response to emergencies.

In 2006 NASFM sponsored a series of workshops: Managing Public Safety GIS. Workshop participants identified the need for a uniform data model and asked NASFM for help.



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Creating a user-based data model: The Importance of Leadership

In 2007, NASFM initiated a project to develop a national Fire/HazMat GIS Data Model to support regular and disaster related operations for local public safety agencies.

To accomplish this feat, NASFM reached out to sister organizations and created a national leadership team which includes representatives from the Metropolitan Fire Chief and Volunteer and Combination Officer Sections of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), The National Association

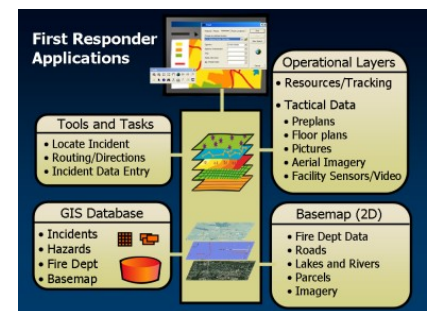
of State Fire Marshals, The National Alliance for Public Safety GIS (NA-PSG), and GIS specialists from the public and private sectors

With dedicated input and collaboration from fire department GIS specialists across the nation, the data model template was published in an astonishing 6 months.

Since March of 2008, six pilot implementation projects have been using the data model to test, refine, and validate its usefulness. With the initiation

of these pilot projects, the data model leadership team has begun to extend its outreach to encourage participation from a wide variety of stakeholder groups.

Teams are creating guidelines and toolsets, and the momentum is building towards the realization of a national system of networked resources to provide our nation's first responders with the information they need to keep them safe while they work to protect our safe keeping.



Fire/HazMat GIS Data Model Leadership Team

Executive Leadership:
Chief Keith Richter, Contra Costa County, CA (Metro Chiefs)
Rand Napoli, FL State Fire Marshal, Ret. (NASFM)
Chief Fred Windisch, Ponderosa VFD, TX (Vol and Comb Officers)

ArcGIS Technical Lead:
Steve Grise, ESRI

Key Technical Contributors:
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Industry Leads:
Peter O'Rourke, NASFM
Jennifer Schottke, ESRI

