Incident Management System
Incident Management System (IMS): Command & Control

- Emergency Management Ontario is leading the development and introduction of IMS across the province

- Streamlined command and control system used extensively within the fire fighting community for many years

- Results in common semantics and clearly defined roles and responsibilities, fosters inter-EOC communication, on scene interoperability, and an effective unified command structure

- Key positions: Incident Commander; leads for Operations, Finance & Administration, Logistics, and Planning; Emergency Information Officer; Liaison Officer; and Safety Officer
Why IMS?

- Framework for interoperability and compatibility
- Modular and scaleable
- Defines span of control
- Standardization of response structures, terminology and expectations
- Standardized roles and responsibilities with specific training
- Allows for development of planning teams
Incident Management System

Basic Structure

- Incident Commander
- Safety Officer
- Technical (Optional)
- Liaison/CEMC
- Emergency Information Officer
- Operations
- Logistics
- Planning
- Finance & Admin
Incident Commander

- Overall incident command and accountability to jurisdictional authority
- Develops strategic incident response objectives and leads development of an incident action plan
- Approves media releases
- Final decision-maker on operational issues
Emergency Information Officer

- Interface with media, the public and other agencies
- Develop accurate and complete information on the current situation
- Monitors media and other public information portals
Safety Officer

- Monitors incident operations from an operational safety perspective
- Implements measures to promote emergency responder safety
  - Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - Rest periods
  - Length of shifts
Liaison Officer

- Point of contact for other governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other organizations
- Coordinates cooperating agencies
- Position traditionally held by the emergency management coordinator
Technical Section

- Optional
- Varies according to nature of incident
- May include scientists (e.g. toxicologist or chemist)
- May also include information technology (IT) support
**Operations Section**

- Responsible for all activities focused on reduction of the immediate hazard
- Primary focus: safeguard human life
- Secondary: protect property and the environment
- Establish situational control
- Restore normal operations
- Usually consists of pre-existing response structure
- Operations Chief establishes tactical objectives and is accountable to the Incident Command
Logistics Section

- Responsible for all support requirements needed to facilitate effective and efficient incident management
- Provides facilities, transportation, supplies, equipment maintenance and fuel, food services, communications and IT support, and emergency responder medical services
- Logistics Chief coordinates units responsible for services and is accountable to the Incident Commander
Planning Section

- Collects, evaluates and disseminates incident situation information and intelligence
- Prepares status reports
- Displays situation information
- Responsible for all incident documentation
- Documents the Incident Action Plan
- Planning Chief coordinates the work of the planning section and is accountable to the Incident Commander
Finance & Administration Section

- Tracks all costs associated with responding to the incident
  - Compensation claims
  - Direct Response costs
  - Procurement
- Sets emergency human resources policies
- Coordinates volunteers
- Finance & Administration Chief coordinates the work of the section and is accountable to the Incident Commander
Unified Command

- Consists of the on-scene Incident Commander of all responding agencies, e.g.:
  - Fire
  - Police
  - Paramedics
  - Public Health
  - Public Works

- Work collaboratively to develop response objectives

- Primary agency changes as the incident unfolds
Unified Command
Primary Nature of Emergency: Fire

- Fire Service
  - Fire IMS
- Police Service
  - Police IMS
- Paramedic Service
  - Paramedic IMS
- Public Health Unit
  - Health Unit IMS
- Public Works
  - Public Works IMS
EOC Incident Management System Basics

EOC Director

- Deputy Director
- Liaison
- Emergency Information Officer

- Operations
- Logistics
- Planning
- Finance & Admin
Operations Section

- Responsible for all activities focused on reduction of the immediate hazard and to safeguard human life and property
- Establish situational control
- Restore normal operations
- Coordinate logistical needs of branches and communicate needs to the Planning Section Chief
- Usually consists of pre-existing response structure
- Operations Chief, in consultation with Branch Coordinators, establishes tactical objectives and is accountable to the Incident Commander
Questions?

Cathy Clark
Manager, 911 & Emergency Planning
County of Simcoe
cathy.clark@simcoe.ca
705-726-9300 x 1155