

Handout 2-1: Descriptions of NIMS Components

Component	Description
Resource Management	<p>Standard mechanisms to systematically manage resources, including personnel, equipment, supplies, teams, and facilities, both before and during incidents in order to allow organizations to more effectively share resources when needed.</p> <p>NIMS resource management guidance enables many organizational elements to collaborate and coordinate to systematically manage resources—personnel, teams, facilities, equipment, and supplies. Most jurisdictions or organizations do not own and maintain all the resources necessary to address all potential threats and hazards. Therefore, effective resource management includes leveraging each jurisdiction’s resources, engaging private sector resources, involving volunteer organizations, and encouraging further development of mutual aid agreements.</p> <p>This component includes three sections: Resource Management Preparedness, Resource Management During an Incident, and Mutual Aid.</p>
Command and Coordination	<p>Leadership roles, processes, and recommended organizational structures for incident management at the operational and incident support levels and explains how these structures interact to manage incidents effectively and efficiently.</p> <p>Multiagency Coordination Systems exist to coordinate four areas across the different NIMS command and coordination systems: ICS, EOCs, MAC Groups, and Joint Information Systems (JIS). The Command and Coordination component describes these multiagency coordination structures and explains how various elements operating at different levels of incident management interface with one another. By describing unified doctrine with common terminology, organizational structures, and operational protocols, NIMS enables all those involved in an incident—from the Incident Commander at the scene to national leaders in a major disaster—to harmonize and maximize the effects of their efforts.</p> <p>The NIMS Management Characteristics are the foundation of incident command and coordination under NIMS and contribute to the strength and efficiency of the overall system:</p>

Communications and Information Management	<p>Systems and methods that help to ensure that incident personnel and other decision makers have the means and information they need to make and communicate decisions.</p> <p>Establishing and maintaining situational awareness and ensuring accessibility and voice and data interoperability are the principal goals of the Communications and Information Management component. Properly planned, established, and applied communications facilitate information dissemination among command and support elements and cooperating jurisdictions and organizations.</p> <p>The following principles of communications and information management support incident managers in maintaining a constant flow of information during an incident. The key principles are (1) Interoperability; (2) Reliability, Scalability, and Portability; (3) Resilience and Redundancy; and (4) Security.</p>
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