

**COOP is a Four Letter Word:
The Challenges and
Advantages of Integrating COOP
and Emergency Management**

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What the Emergency Manager Sees



What the COOP Manager Sees



Now
what?

COOP Has Initiated Phase One: Strategy and Definitions



- We identified our alphabet soups
 - PMEF, MEF, EF, ESA...
- We appointed people
 - Managers, Coordinators, Planners...
- We wrote stuff
 - COOP, Pandemic, IT Contingency, BCPs...
- Heck, we even drilled stuff
 - Snow storms, diseases, terrorists...

• ***But there is still a cloud over our head...***

The Dichotomy

Emergency Management

- The Immediate
- The Inevitable
- The Blast
- “Incidents”
- Survival

COOP

- The Long-Term
- The Improbable
- The Rubble
- “Aftermath”
- Continuity

LANL's Bold Opinion! ***COOP Does Belong In EM***



- Established and Proven Processes
- Well-defined Roles
- Shared Resources
- Often Same Focus But Different Perspectives
- *So...how do we get there from here?*



The Challenge

How do we integrate COOP into a well-established EM Program?



One Option: Mention the Copious Amounts of COOP Funding



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UNCLASSIFIED

Follow the “Right” Path



- Merging the response & mitigation of an event
 - Then what...recovery
 - Most of the time back to business....
 - If recovery involves an Essential Facility = Essential Functions
 - If recovery involves site = Essential Functions + Everyone else (accountability)

“Response blinders”

- Majority of emergency planning efforts are focused on **protecting people**
- Majority of our exercises are focused on **protecting people**



Integrating COOP

- **How?**

- Adding COOP to EM-ED and ERO documents
 - Response Forms
 - List of Essential Facilities
 - List of Essential Functions (orgs within LANL)
 - Discussing the role of COOP within the EM program-response-recovery
 - Notifications matrix (call us “the COOP team” we are here to help)

- **Why?**

- It’s a natural fit
- Goals really are the same
 - Facility-Site recovery
 - Protection and Accountability of Personnel
- Programmatic requirements

Integration of COOP Into an Existing EM Exercise Program

- Existing LANL exercise requirements
- COOP exercise requirements
- How we did it
 - “Kill five birds with one stone”
- COOP exercise planning may require developing the scenario far in advance of and/or well after the initiating event occurs
- Simulation
- COOP awareness among response personnel

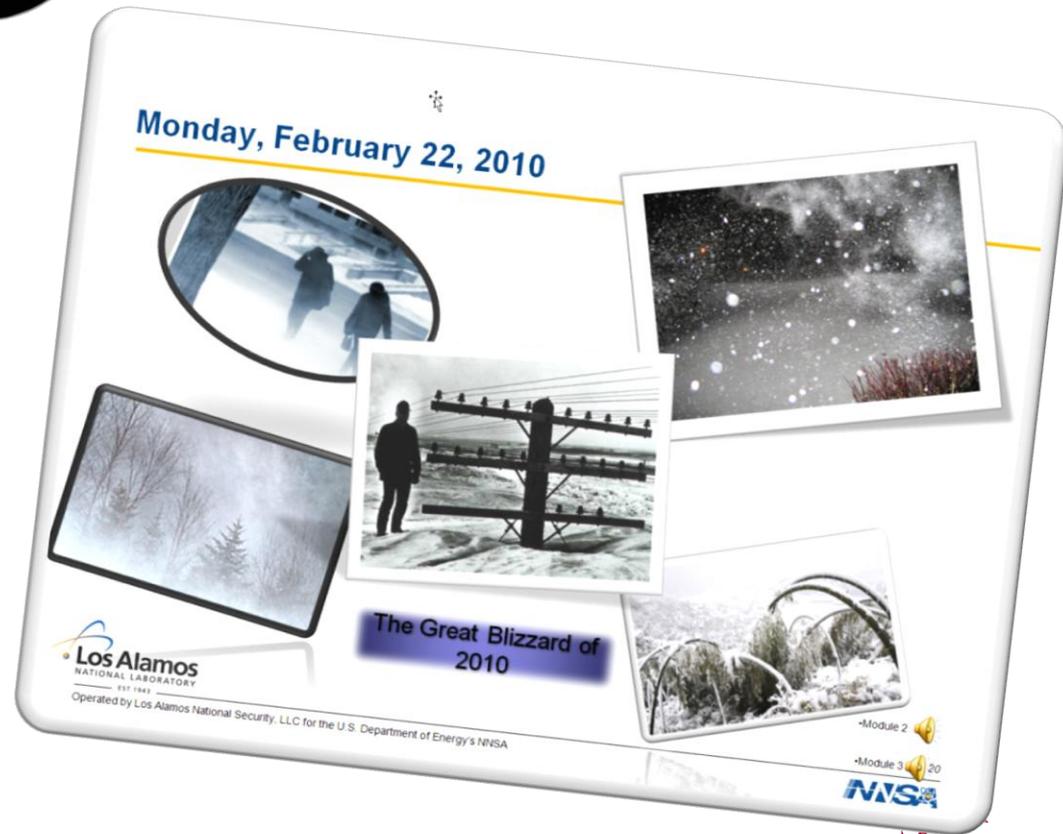


Los Alamos “Dome” Fire
April 1996

Challenges Integrating COOP Into an Already Existing Emergency Management Program (cont.)



- **December 2010 functional exercise**
 - “Response blinders”
 - Exercise COOP event and subsequent hazmat release
 - Test adequacy of an alternate facility
 - Test interaction between COOP Emergency Management Team and Emergency Response Organization
- 2011 Pandemic Drills
- IT Contingency Exercises span across EM, COOP, and BCP
 - Classified and Unclassified Systems



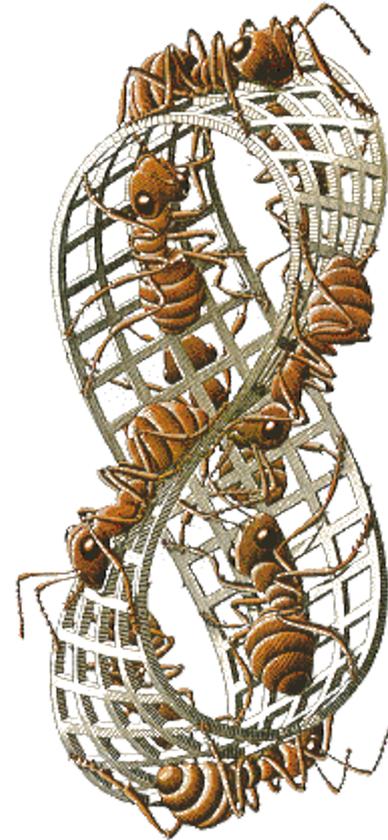
Going for Gold



- Exercises provide the opportunity to **do**
- December exercise brought major awareness to response personnel
- Change of pace from the “normal” exercises that start at the response or recovery phase
 - COOP exists beyond the emergency

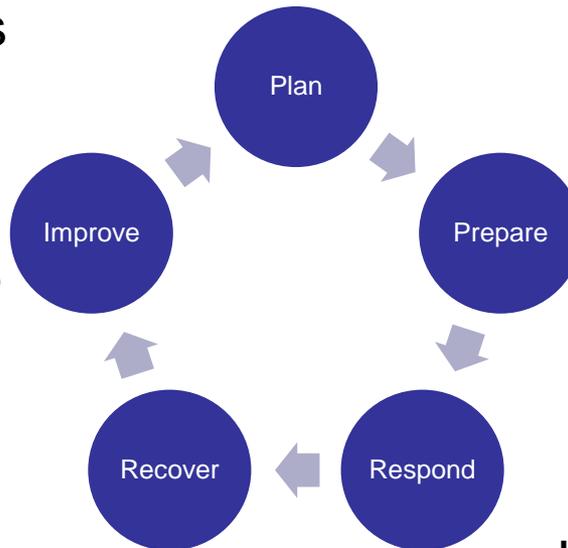
Moving From COOP to Continuity

- Continuity of Operations
 - Past the essential functions
 - What we do for the nation
 - Ensuring site sustainability
 - Ensuring we have a safe place to return to work
 - Benefits and pay
 - Jobs
 - What really matters?
 - Protect life, property and the environment!



Cycle of Continuity

- Planning
 - Team members
 - Documents
- Preparedness
 - Drills-Exercises
 - Training
 - Revising checklists
 - Assessments



- Response
 - Notifications
 - 12 hours
 - Alternate Faculty
 - Communications
- Recovery
 - Devolution
 - Reconstitution
- Lessons learned-improve

Integration is Complete ~

- COOP is inside the box...
 - Not outside waiting to come in...
- Holistic approach to the entire event...
 - Not just response



Will get there...when?



- COOP is no longer just a four letter word!
- Its part of our processes
- Absorbed within the Program
 - No longer a singular team
 - Check box in every drill-exercise
 - Applicable or not

Appreciate Support from:

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HELLO

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