



PANEL SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Panel Name: Private Sector Mutual Assistance Panel Discussions

Date/Time: January 14, 2015; 11:15am to 12:00pm ET

Purpose of the Panel:

Mutual assistance is a process familiar to both public and private sectors during times of disaster. Yet mutual assistance varies greatly from sector to sector. Additionally, some of these mutual assistance processes require the sharing of sensitive operational information that cannot be delayed, confused and/or compromised by non-operational, outside efforts. Understanding how the electric sector's mutual assistance and information sharing processes work is critical for government and other sectors to understand how they can support power restoration efforts across a wide region of multiple states. This panel will bring together representatives from the Regional Mutual Assistance Groups (RMAGs) to discuss their overall processes in the Southeast, mid-Atlantic, and Northeast Regions. The panel will look at several issues including basic processes, obstacles encountered, internal efforts underway to improve, and who public-sector can assist when called upon.

Objective of the Panel:

- Develop a shared perspectives and strengthen understanding of the private sector requirements to support Public/Private Mutual Assistance
- Identify chokepoints in government and/or private sector processes for disaster response
- Continue improvement of Regional Fleet Movement Coordination Process
- To identify proposals for solutions
- Capture recommendations from attendees
- Create awareness, involvement, and support of CATEX Annual Information Sharing Drills & Tabletop Exercise Series

Public Sector Mutual Assistance & Information Sharing Panel Discussions

Date/Time: January 14, 2015; 12:45pm to 1:30pm ET

Purpose of the Panel:

Mutual assistance and information sharing between states/locals across multiple states is critical to government's response to both regional and national disasters. Sharing information and assets via various systems and platforms is important to response efforts. The private sector needs to understand his process and at times can play an important role in these efforts particularly with information sharing focused on expediting power and supply chain restoration issues. This session will look at how states/locals and FEMA conduct mutual assistance and sharing information; the efforts FEMA is making to support both public and private sector mutual



assistance; regional information sharing issues that impact the fuel/energy sectors in recent exercises; and how the private sector could become involved in the process to help with information sharing and situational awareness.

Objective of the Panel

- Develop a shared perspectives and strengthen understanding of the public sector requirements to support Public/Private Mutual Assistance
- Identify chokepoints in government and/or private sector processes for disaster response
- Continue improvement of Regional Fleet Movement Coordination Process
- To identify proposals for solutions
- Capture recommendations from attendees
- Create awareness, involvement, and support of CATEX Annual Information Sharing Drills & Tabletop Exercise Series

National Trade Associations Mutual Assistance Panel Discussions w/ Electric, Food and Fuel Sectors

Date/Time: January 14, 2015; 1:30pm to 2:15pm ET

Purpose of the Panel:

National trade associations are important in the overall mutual assistance process for their sector. Some become operational during disasters and some don't. They all provide access to a national audience, policy and regulatory information, educational tools, and can play an important role in information sharing during large-scale disasters. Since these organizations don't always work with state and local governments at the regional level, it is important for state and local governments to understand how each sector utilizes a mutual aid process. Representatives from the electric, food, and fuel sectors will discuss how each of their sectors utilize mutual assistance; discuss some of the gaps they see in information sharing and processes; and discuss the interdependencies they have with other sectors and the need for situational awareness to be shared quickly between all stakeholders involved in a large-scale disaster.

Objective of the Panel:

- Strengthen understanding of a trade association's role in support of Public/Private Mutual Assistance
- Identify chokepoints the information sharing process for disaster response
- Identify cross sector opportunities that can enhance Public/Private Mutual Assistance
- To identify proposals for solutions
- Capture recommendations from attendees
- Create awareness, involvement, and support of CATEX Annual Information Sharing Drills & Tabletop Exercise Series