



September 2011

## Dams Sector Web-Based Training Courses

### Background

The great diversity of the Nation's critical infrastructure provides for significant physical and economic resilience in the face of terrorist attacks, natural disasters, or other emergencies. However, this vast and diverse aggregation of highly interconnected assets, systems, and networks may also present an attractive array of targets to domestic and international terrorists and magnify greatly the potential for cascading failure in the wake of catastrophic natural or manmade disasters. Failure or disruption of the Nation's critical infrastructure can threaten national security, result in mass casualties, weaken the economy, and damage public morale and confidence.

Improvements in protection and resilience of the Nation's dams and levees can make it more difficult for terrorists to launch destructive attacks, as well as lessen the impact of any attack or other disaster that does occur and provide greater resiliency in response and recovery. Dam and levee stakeholders have decades of experience planning for and responding to natural disasters as well as operational failure and disruption.

To ensure that dam and levee stakeholders have access to the knowledge required to enhance protection and resilience at their respective facilities, the Dams Sector developed a series of Web-based independent study (IS) training courses to effectively provide information pertaining to security vulnerabilities, enhance the ability to assess risks to facilities, support the implementation of effective protective programs, and improve incident response capabilities within an all-hazards framework.

### Courses

#### ***IS-870 Dams Sector: Crisis Management***

This module addresses crisis management activities as an important component of an overall risk management program, and provides dam and levee stakeholders with recommendations to assist in the development of various plans focused on enhancing preparedness, protection, recovery, and resilience capabilities. The training course describes the purpose and basic elements of emergency action plans, recovery plans, and continuity plans; and addresses the basic elements of an effective exercise program.

This course contains the following topics:

- Risk Management and the Dams Sector
- Crisis Management Programs: Plans
- Crisis Management Programs: Exercises

***Recognizing the importance of continued training, the Dams Sector developed a series of three Web-based training courses:***

- IS 870 Dams Sector: Crisis Management
- IS 871 Dams Sector: Security Awareness
- IS 872 Dams Sector: Protective Measures

***Training provides the opportunity to continue learning state-of-practice methods aimed at enhancing protection and resilience capabilities.***



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## **IS-871 Dams Sector: Security Awareness**

This module provides information to enhance the ability to identify security concerns, coordinate proper response, and establish effective partnerships with local law enforcement and first responder communities. The training course describes common security vulnerabilities; potential indicators of threats; surveillance detection; and reporting of incidents and suspicious activities.

This course contains the following topics:

- Common Security Vulnerabilities
- Potential Indicators of Threat Activities
- Reporting Incidents and Suspicious Activities

## **IS-872 Dams Sector: Protective Measures**

This module addresses protective measures related to physical, cyber, and human elements, and describes the importance of these measures as components of an overall risk management program. The training course describes the basic elements of the risk management model, and discusses the steps required to develop and implement an effective protective

This course covers the following topics:

- Protective Programs
- Risk Management and Reduction Strategies
- Protective Measures

## **Availability**

The “IS-870 Dams Sector: Crisis Management” training course is available via the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Institute (EMI) Web site (<http://emilms.fema.gov/IS870/index.htm>).

Due to the sensitivity of the information provided within the “IS-871 Dams Sector: Security Awareness” and “IS-872 Dams Sector: Protective Measures” training courses, both have been designated as ‘For Official Use Only’ and are thus only accessible through the Homeland Security Information Network – Critical Sectors (HSIN-CS) Dams Portal (<https://cs.hsin.gov/C2/DS/default.aspx>).

### **For more information:**

Please contact the Dams Sector-Specific Agency at [damsportal@dhs.gov](mailto:damsportal@dhs.gov) for additional information pertaining to the training courses or HSIN-CS Dams Portal access.

The National Protection and Programs Directorate/Office of Infrastructure Protection (NPPD/IP) leads the national effort to mitigate risk to America’s critical infrastructure from the full spectrum of 21st century threats and hazards. NPPD/IP coordinates with government and critical infrastructure owners and operators across 18 diverse sectors to enhance critical infrastructure resilience, strengthen protective programs, and share vital information.



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