

Massachusetts Turnpike Authority



NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

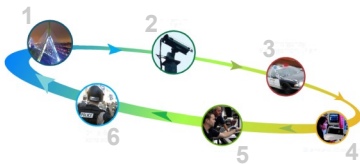
In an effort to actively improve its emergency preparedness systems and protocols, the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority sought to ensure that their Emergency Management Plan was in compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS), a comprehensive national approach to incident management. To this end, it enlisted Fortress’ Albert Samano, who conducted a NIMS assessment of the MTA using FEMA’s on-line NIMSCAST Self-Assessment Tool.

NIMS Assessment and Compliance Strategy

STATUS: Completed
LOCATION: Boston, MA

NIMS is national guidance that unifies federal, state, territorial, tribal and local lines of government into one coordinated effort. This system encompasses the **Incident Command System (ICS)** as a critical component, and also provides a common foundation for training and other preparedness efforts, communicating and sharing information with other responders and with the public, ordering resources to aid the response, and for integrating new technologies and standards to support incident management.

FORTRESS Security and Emergency Preparedness System™



- ✓ 1. Threat & Vulnerability Assessments
- ✓ 2. Mitigation Planning
- ✓ 3. Emergency Management Planning
- 4. Standard Operating Procedures
- 5. Training
- 6. Drills & Exercises

Mr. Samano evaluated the MTA’s Emergency Management Plan to **assess its compliance** to the criteria outlined in the NIMSCAST and then identified the appropriate actions needed to revise the MTA’s emergency management elements. Upon MTA’s acceptance of these actions, Mr. Samano developed and implemented a **NIMS compliance strategy** for the MTA to **revise and update their EMP**. This assessment approach is part of Fortress’ *Security & Emergency Preparedness Sustainability System™*, which is the first of its kind to combine all of the elements of disaster readiness, mitigation, and response into one systematic program that provides immediate benefits, and sustainable improvements for any institution, agency or company in addressing all hazards.

The completed NIMSCAST assessment provided the MTA with a clear picture of its alignment with national preparedness standards as well as a list of specific actions that would further enhance its emergency preparedness program’s effectiveness and NIMS compliance.