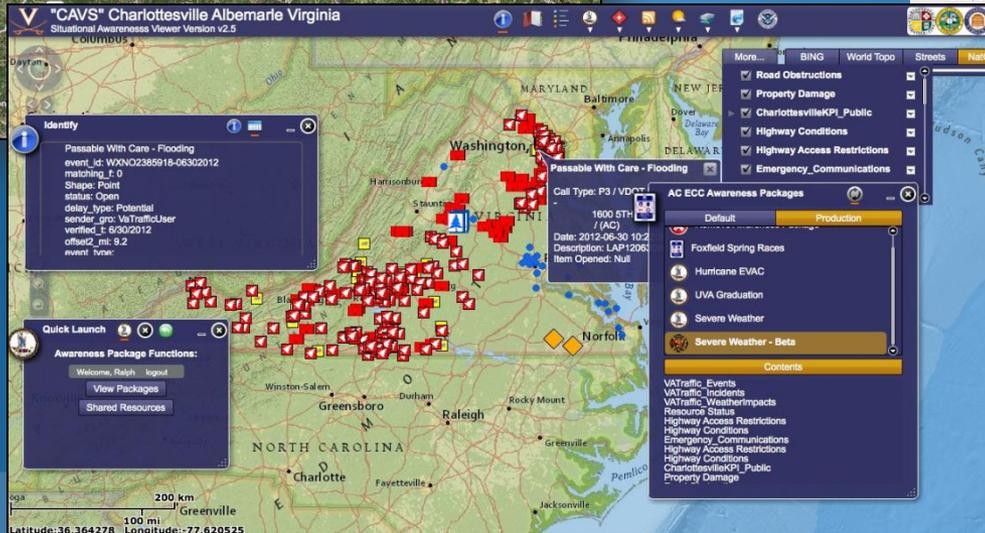


Situational Awareness and Crisis Management in Virginia

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The Problem:

Situational awareness and crisis management tools are not being utilized to their ultimate potential. There needs to be a balance between technology, policies, and procedures.



Virginia Department of Emergency Management
Virginia Emergency Operations Center
10501 Trade Court, Richmond, VA 23236

Spot Report #1
2012.06.29 Severe Weather
30 June 2012 0230

Summary: Line(s) of strong to severe thunderstorms with winds impacted Virginia during the evening on 29 June 2012 and continued into the early morning hours of June 30.

Casualties: 2 injuries; 0 fatalities

- Danville – 1 due to tree limb strike
- Spotsylvania – 1 to firefighter

Emergency Declarations:

Craig County at 10:06 pm 29 June
Highland County at 8:58 pm 29 June
Botetourt County at 1:50 am 30 June
Albemarle County at 2:03 am 30 June

Local Emergency Operations Centers Open: 16

Bath, Culpeper (now closed), Salem, Danville (now closed), Fairfax, Shenandoah, Goochland, Franklin, Loudoun, Page, Craig, Highland, Albemarle, Winchester, and Botetourt

Shelters were opening or considering opening shelters (cooling centers) prior to this event based on a weather forecast which calls for temperatures to surpass 100 degrees. Given the current situation, shelter operation estimates following this event the establishment of these facilities becomes a high priority.

Restoration: Dominion alone has 839,421 customers they report to be without power. Work is ongoing. Removal of vegetative debris and utility lines is underway, but delayed due to the current situation. As completed, damage assessments and power restoration will be accelerated.

For Assistance: 1
Priority – 3 Chain Saw Crews. To be filled by VDOT and VDOF at first light.

AC ECC Readiness, partially augmented, staff monitoring local situation reports.

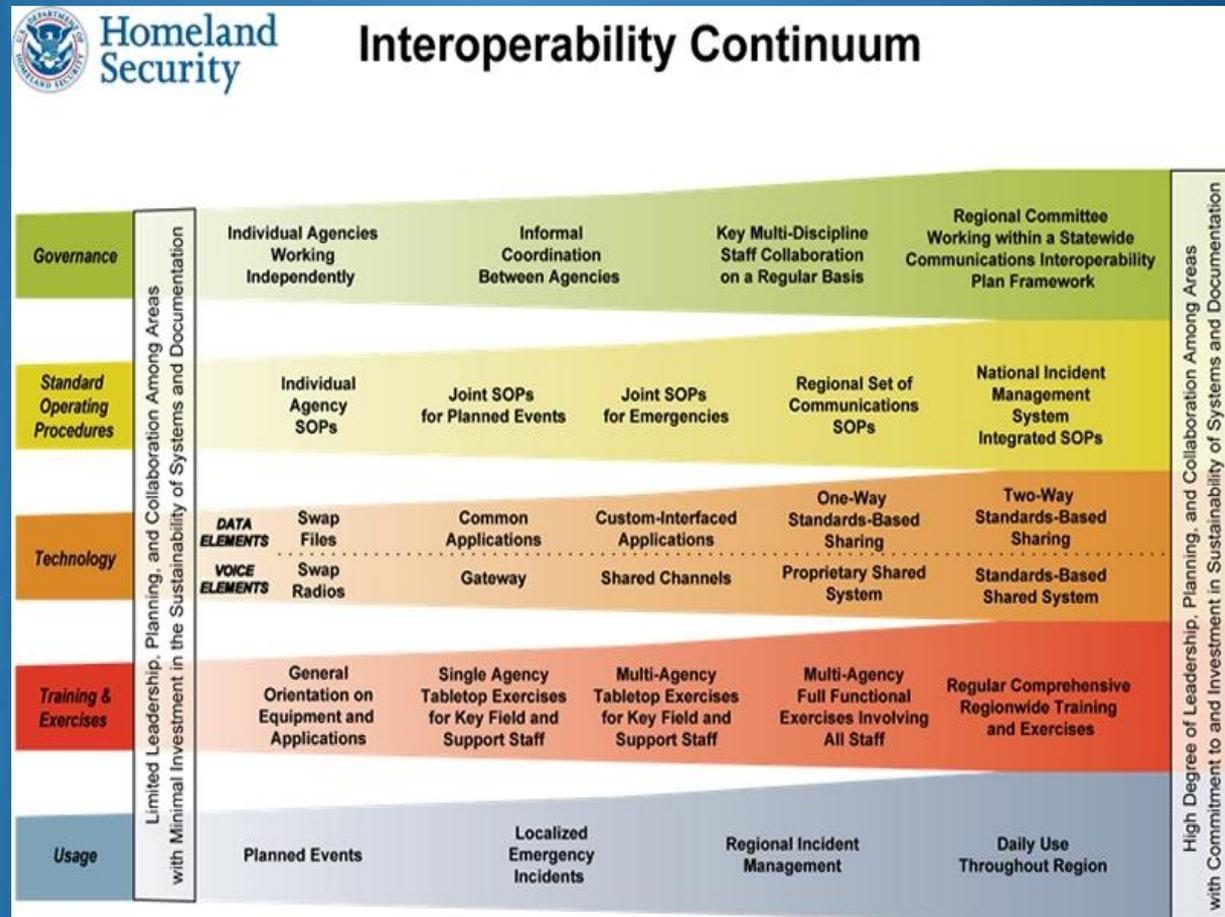
by: Ted Costin, Plans Chief

by: Patrick Cox, VERT Coordinator

operability in Virginia

The Solution:

- Improving upon preexisting capabilities to use and share information, through the utilization of the DHS/SAFECOM continuum as a model in the areas of:
 - Governance
 - SOPs
 - Technology
 - Training and Exercises
 - Usage



The Solution:

• Governance:

- A governing body should be established at the state level for oversight.
- A working group should be developed to generate feedback from stakeholders.
- A committee should be formed to involve private sector entities.

• Standard Operating Procedures:

- The Situational Awareness and Crisis Management uses **MUST** be integrated into existing Preparedness, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery SOP's.

• Technology:

- The incorporation of a viewer, complete with Awareness Package capabilities and other tools and dashboards.

The Solution:

- Training and Exercises:

- The development of a comprehensive training curriculum.
- Synthetic Exercise

- Usage:

- Everyday usage is essential. This will require a shift in the current emergency management culture.

● QUESTIONS?