

**National Mutual Aid & Resource Management Initiative  
Glossary of Terms and Definitions**

## **National Mutual Aid & Resource Management Initiative Glossary of Terms and Definitions**

### **Purpose**

This glossary of terms and definitions provides a basic understanding of the resources commonly used and/or exchanged during a disaster. These terms provide a basis for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) resource typing initiative. An annex of 11 Federal assets is also included in the glossary to provide a snapshot of the Federal capabilities available to State and local entities. The glossary is a living document, and will continuously be updated and revised. To provide additional information to the glossary, please e-mail Ms. Tanya Bathiche at [tanya.bathiche@associates.dhs.gov](mailto:tanya.bathiche@associates.dhs.gov).

### **Background**

The National Mutual Aid & Resource Management Initiative supports the National Incident Management System (NIMS) by establishing a comprehensive, integrated national mutual aid and resource management system that provides the basis to type, order, and track all (Federal, State, and local) response assets.

For ease of ordering and tracking, response assets need to be categorized via resource typing. Resource typing is the categorization and description of resources that are commonly exchanged in disasters via mutual aid, by capacity and/or capability. Through resource typing, disciplines examine resources and identify the capabilities of a resource's components (i.e., personnel, equipment, training). During a disaster, an emergency manager knows what capability a resource needs to have to respond efficiently and effectively. Resource typing definitions will help define resource capabilities for ease of ordering and mobilization during a disaster. As a result of the resource typing process, a resource's capability is readily defined and an emergency manager is able to effectively and efficiently request and receive resources through mutual aid during times of disaster.

## Alphabetical Listing of Terms

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## A

### **Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulance**

An ambulance service capable of delivering advanced skills performed by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) practitioners (e.g., intravenous [IV] fluids and drug administration).

### **Air Ambulance**

A rotary wing aircraft configured, staffed, and equipped to respond, care for, and transport patients. A rotary wing aircraft must be approved/licensed by a State to do so.

### **Air Conditioner/Heater**

A specialized climate-controlled piece of equipment used to support cooling and/or heating requirements within enclosed structures. Requires mobilization to the desired site, along with set-up requirements, such as power hookup and duct installation. Amps can range from 24 to 260 or more. Equipment used to accommodate schools and malls to small office and tent settings.

### **Air Search and Rescue Team**

Team provides search and rescue emergency airlift and other special services at the request of, and to support, State and county agency needs.

### **Air Tanker (Fixed-Wing Firefighting Aircraft) (Tanker)**

Any fixed-wing aircraft certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as being capable of transport and delivery of fire retardant solutions.

### **Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF)**

A motor-driven vehicle, designed and constructed for the purpose of aircraft rescue and fighting fires and capable of delivering Class B Foam, providing a specified level of pumping, water, hose, and rescue capacity and personnel.

### **All-Terrain Cranes**

A self-propelled, all-terrain, hydraulic crane capable of traveling over primary, secondary, and off-road surfaces at the tactical support level. Technical characteristics include diesel engine, power shift transmission, three-mode steering, and independently controlled hydraulic outriggers telescoping boom. Comes in various lifting capabilities and is used for construction, maintenance, bridging and resupply activities. Mobilization of larger all-terrain cranes requires tractor-trailer support for booms and jibs along with additional escort services.

### **Alpine Search and Rescue Team (Snow and Ice Rescue)**

Team conducts search and rescue operations for individuals in a high-altitude alpine environment.

### **Animal Health Incident Management Team**

Team provides overall management of animal-related volunteers and donations.

### **Animal Rescue Team**

A team proficient in animal handling and capture and management (minimum teams of two). Environments include water (swift water and flood), wildfire, and hazardous materials (HazMat) conditions. Operations include communications and/or evacuations to effect animal rescue.

### **Animal Health Technician**

Technician performs variety of animal healthcare duties to assist veterinarians in settings such as veterinarians' clinics, zoos, research laboratories, kennels, and commercial facilities. Prepares treatment room for examination of animals and holds or restrains animals during examination, treatment, or inoculation.

### **Animal Sheltering Team**

A team proficient in animal handling, animal care, and animal shelter management and manages the setup, management, and staffing of temporary animal shelters.

### **Animal Treatment Team – Small**

A self-equipped team proficient in the medical treatment of companion animals affected by disasters.

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**B**

**Basic Life Support (BLS) Ambulance**

An ambulance service capable of delivering basic emergency interventions performed by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) practitioners trained and credentialed to do so (e.g., splinting, bandaging, oxygen administration).

**Biological Agent**

Living organisms or the materials derived from them (such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and toxins) that cause disease in or harm to humans, animals, or plants, or cause deterioration of material.

**Boat, Fire**

A vessel or watercraft designed and constructed for the purpose of fighting fires providing specified level of pumping capacity. The boat is designed with the ability to carry firefighting foam and personnel for the extinguishments of fires in the marine environment.

**Bomb Squad/Explosives Teams**

A police unit specializing in the investigation and disarming of suspected explosive devices.

**Bomb Suits**

Suits made of Kevlar<sup>®</sup> (inner material) and Nomex 3 (outer material to protect from fire).

**Breathing Apparatus Support (SCBA Support, Breathing Air, Firefighting)**

A mobile unit designed and constructed for the purpose of providing specified level of breathing air support capacity and personnel capable of refilling self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) at remote incident locations (Compressor Systems or Cascade).

**Brush Patrol Unit, Firefighting (Brush Patrol)**

Any light, mobile vehicular unit with limited pumping and water capacity for off-road operations.

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**C**

**Canine Recovery Team (Cadaver Dog Team) (K-9 Recovery Team)**

Team provides highly trained recovery dog teams for search and recovery operations for deceased victims.

**Canine Search Team (Search Dog Team) (Dog Rescue Team) (K-9 Rescue Team)**

Team provides highly trained search dog teams for [search](#), [rescue](#), and recovery operations for living and deceased victims in a variety of environments.

**Canine Urban Search and Rescue, Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Team (K-9 Team) (Dog Team)**

Team provides highly trained dog teams for operations supporting [US&R task forces](#) and [collapse search and rescue teams](#).

**Cave Search and Rescue Team (Technical Rescue Team)**

Team performs search and rescue services to assist in locating and removing injured or lost individuals from caves. Team members work in confined space conditions, which may involve extreme coldness, darkness, and the presence of water.

**Chemical Warfare Agent**

A chemical substance (such as a nerve agent, blister agent, blood agent, choking agent, or irritating agent) used to kill, seriously injure, or incapacitate people through its physiological effects.

**Chemical/Biological (C/B) Protective Ensemble**

A compliant vapor-protective ensemble that is also certified as being compliant with the additional requirements for protection against C/B warfare agents such as vapors, gases, liquids, and particulate. (National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] Standard # 1991)

**Chillers and Air Handlers**

A portable system that produces cold water through a series of components. When equipped with an air handler, cold air is generated and distributed. Requires mobilization to the desired site along with setup requirements, such as power hookup, water connections, and duct installation.

**Collapse Search and Rescue Team (Technical Rescue Team)**

Team responds to locate, rescue, and recover individuals trapped in a fallen structure or buried in structural collapse.

**Confined Space Search and Rescue Team (Mine Search and Rescue)**

Team provides search and rescue services to individuals in an enclosed area with limited entry or egress, which has a configuration not designed for human occupancy, such that an entrant could become trapped or asphyxiated. An Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) permit is required for confined space operations.

**Crawler Cranes**

Crawler cranes have a steel undercarriage. Usually used for long-term applications where significant weights and reaches are a factor. Stabilization is accomplished through precise boom and counterweight configuration. Best used on level working areas. Several mobilization units will be required to transport

boom units and counterweights. Set-up time can be accomplished with relatively ease and speed once all components are available for assembly.

**Crew Transport**

Any vehicle capable of transporting a specified number of crew personnel in a specified manner.

**Critical Care Transport (CCT)**

An ambulance transport of a patient from a scene or a clinical setting whose condition warrants care commensurate with the scope of practice of a physician or registered nurse (e.g., capable of providing advanced hemodynamic support and monitoring, use of ventilators, infusion pumps, advanced skills, therapies, and techniques).

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**D**

**Debris Management Monitoring Team**

Team manages oversight of the removal, collection, and disposal of debris following a disaster, to mitigate against any potential threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the impacted citizens, and expedite recovery efforts in the impacted area, and address any threat of significant damage to improved public or private property. To act as the representing agent for the owner/agency hiring for this service providing overall coordination with all levels of government and other Emergency Support Functions (ESFs). Provides daily reports as required. Required liability coverage for all aspects of operations and financial capabilities to manage progressive monitoring processes.

**Debris Management Team**

Team facilitates and coordinates the removal, collection, and disposal of debris following a disaster, to mitigate against any potential threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the impacted citizens, and expedite recovery efforts in the impacted area, and address any threat of significant damage to improved public or private property. Team mobilization will vary depending on the team selection, need, and or emergency. Debris removal process will vary depending on the team selection and need.

**Decontamination**

The physical or chemical process of reducing and preventing the spread of contaminants from persons and equipment used at a hazardous materials (HazMat) incident. (National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] Standard # 472)

**Deployable Portable Morgue Unit (DPMU)**

Mobile equipment and operations facility, fully equipped to support [DMORT](#) functions. Add-on to DMORT when no local morgue facilities are available. Supports either standard [DMORT](#) or [DMORT-WMD](#).

**Deployment**

Departure of team or personnel from home unit or base.

**Desert Search and Rescue Team (Wilderness Rescue Team)**

Conducts [search](#) and [rescue](#) missions, evidence searches, and responds to other disaster or emergency situations in a desert environment.

**Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) – Basic, National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

A DMAT is a volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, which has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or under similar State or local auspices). Usually includes a mix of physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians, other allied health professionals, and support staff. Standard DMAT has 35 deployable personnel. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

**Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) – Burn Specialty, National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

A Burn Specialty DMAT is a volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the acute management of burn trauma patients. Members of the burn team are especially trained surgeons, nurses, and support personnel that include physical and occupational therapists, social workers, child life specialists,

psychologists, nutrition and pharmacy consultants, respiratory therapists, chaplains, and volunteers. Team composition is usually determined ad hoc, based on the mission at hand. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

**Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) – Crush Injury Specialty, National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

A Crush Injury Specialty DMAT is a volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of crush injury patients. Crush teams deal with crush and penetrating injuries. Usually includes a mix of physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians, other allied health professionals, and support staff. Team composition is usually determined ad hoc, based on the mission at hand. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

**Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) – Mental Health Specialty, National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

A Mental Health Specialty DMAT is a volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of psychiatric patients. A multidisciplinary staff of specially trained and licensed mental health professionals provides emergency mental health assessment and crisis intervention services. Usually includes a mix of physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians, other allied health professionals, and support staff. Team composition is usually determined ad hoc, based on the mission at hand. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

**Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) – Pediatric Specialty, National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

A Pediatric Specialty DMAT is a volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of pediatric patients. Usually includes a mix of physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians, other allied health professionals, and support staff. Team composition is usually determined ad hoc, based on the mission at hand. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

**Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT), National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

A DMORT is a volunteer group of medical and forensic personnel, usually from the same geographic region, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in victim identification, mortuary services, and forensic pathology and anthropology methods. Usually includes a mix of medical examiners, coroners, pathologists, forensic anthropologists, medical records technicians, fingerprint technicians, forensic odontologists, dental assistants, radiologists, funeral directors, mental health professionals, and support personnel. DMORTs are mission-tailored on an ad-hoc basis, and usually deploy only with personnel and equipment specifically required for current mission. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information for this Federal Resource.**

**Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT) – Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

Same as [DMORT](#) except adds additional capability to deal with deceased persons residually contaminated by chemical, biological, or radiological agents.

**Donations Management Team**

A donations management team consists of one or two persons trained and experienced in all aspects of donations management. The team will be deployed to a disaster-affected jurisdiction after impact to assist in the organization and operations of State or local donations management in support of the affected jurisdiction.

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## E

### **Emergency Response Team – National (ERT-N)**

Team provides coordination for Federal response and recovery activities within a State. Once the ERT-N is operational at the Disaster Field Office (DFO), it assumes responsibility from the Regional Operations Center (ROC) staff for management of the Federal response and recovery operation. Major organizational elements of the ERT-N include operations, logistics, information and planning, and administration sections. These four sections coordinate at the staff level and provide mutual support to accomplish priority missions. This coordination includes interaction, consultation, planning, information sharing, operational decisionmaking, and commitment of resources.

### **Emergency Response Team – Advance Element (ERT-A)**

The portion of the ERT-A first deployed to the field, usually the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and the disaster site to join State emergency management personnel to coordinate Federal assistance, determine the extent and focus of initial disaster response activities, and identify a suitable DFO site.

### **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)**

A practitioner credentialed by a State to function as an EMT by a State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system.

### **EMS Strike Team**

A team comprised of five resources or less of the same type with a supervisor and common communications capability. Whether it is five resources or less, a specific number must be identified for the team. For instance, a basic life support (BLS) strike team would be five BLS units and a supervisor or, for example, an advanced life support (ALS) strike team would be comprised of five ALS units and a supervisor.

### **EMS Task Force**

A team comprised of five resources or less of same type with a supervisor and common communications capability. Whether it is five resources or less, a specific number must be identified for the team. For instance, an EMS task force might be comprised of two ALS teams and three BLS teams and a supervisor.

### **Engine, Fire (Engine Company)**

Any ground vehicle providing specified levels of pumping, water, hose capacity, and staffed with a minimum number of personnel.

### **Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Management Support Team**

Team provides support to an Incident Commander (IC). An IC is an optional member of the team, because it is assumed that an Incident Command/lead has already been established under which these support functions will operate. Typically comprised of an information officer, liaison officer, safety officer, logistics officer, and administrative aide.

### **Equipment Transport (Heavy) (Heavy Equipment Transport)**

Any ground vehicle capable of transporting a dozer or tractor.

### **Evacuation Liaison Team**

Team provides support in State and local emergency response efforts by compiling, analyzing, and disseminating traffic-related information that can be used to facilitate the rapid, efficient, and safe evacuation of threatened populations. Primarily operates in the State or local EOC as an extension of Emergency Support Function (ESF) #1 – Transportation.

### **External Resources**

Resources that fall outside a team's particular agency, including other agency resources or commercially contracted resources.

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**F**

**Field Mobile Mechanic**

A motor-driven vehicle designed and constructed to provide specified level of equipment capacity and mechanically trained personnel.

**Field Veterinary Medical Officer (Veterinary Medical Field Officer)**

A professional veterinarian, who works to implement animal and poultry disease control programs. Duties can include supervising animal and poultry disease control and eradication services; contacting animal and poultry owners and organizations to explain disease control programs and to provide veterinary medicine advice; conducting epidemiologic investigation of disease outbreaks; inspecting health certificates, livestock auctions, and animal and poultry dealer records; monitoring animal and poultry production and marketing activities; and preparing surveys and reports of disease prevalence.

**Flash Fire Protective Ensemble**

A compliant vapor-protective ensemble that is also certified as being compliant with the additional requirements for limited protection against chemical flash fire for escape only. (National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] Standard # 1991)

**Food Dispenser Unit (Food Dispenser)**

Any vehicle capable of dispensing food to incident personnel.

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## **G**

### **Generators**

Diesel-fueled engine generators are used to support electrical requirements at facilities of various sizes such as hospitals, housing, plants, and commercial stores. Units are usually mounted on tow behind or trailer mobilized equipment. Deployment and set up can be accomplished within hours.

### **Ground Ambulance (Medical Transport)**

A ground transport vehicle configured, equipped, and staffed to respond to, care for, and transport patients.

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## H

### **Hazardous Materials (HazMat)**

Any material that is explosive, flammable, poisonous, corrosive, reactive, or radioactive, or any combination thereof, and requires special care in handling because of the hazards it poses to public health, safety, and/or the environment. Any hazardous substance under the Clean Water Act, or any element, compound, mixture, solution, or substance designated under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); any hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); any toxic pollutant listed under pretreatment provisions of the Clean Water Act; any hazardous pollutant under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act; or any imminent hazardous chemical substance for which the administrator has taken action under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 7. (Section 101[14]) [CERCLA](#)

### **Hazardous Material Response Team**

An organized group of individuals that is trained and equipped to perform work to control actual or potential leaks, spills, discharges, or releases of HazMat, requiring possible close approach to the material. The team/equipment may include external or contracted resources.

### **Hazardous Materials Company**

Any piece of equipment having the capabilities, [personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#), equipment, and complement of personnel as specified in the Hazardous Materials Company types and minimum capabilities. The personnel complement will include one member who is trained to a minimum level of assistant safety officer – HazMat.

### **Hazardous Materials Incident**

Uncontrolled, unlicensed release of HazMat during storage or use from a fixed facility or during transport outside a fixed facility that may impact public health, safety, and/or the environment.

### **HazMat Task Force**

A group of resources with common communications and a leader. A HazMat Task Force may be preestablished and sent to an incident, or formed at the incident.

### **HazMat Trained and Equipped**

To the level of training and equipment defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

### **Helicopters (Firefighting) (Helicopter or Copter)**

An aircraft that depends principally on the lift generated by one or more rotors for its support in flight. Capable of the delivery of firefighters, water or chemical retardants (either a fixed tank or bucket system), and internal or external cargo.

### **Helitack Crew (Firefighting Crew)**

A crew of firefighters specially trained and certified in the tactical and logistical use of helicopters for fire suppression.

### **Helitanker (Firefighting Helicopter)**

A helicopter equipped with a fixed tank, Air Tanker Board certified, and capable of delivering a minimum of 1,100 gallons of water, retardant, or foam.

**High-Angle Rope Rescue (Rope Rescue) (Technical Rock)**

Rescue in which the load is predominately supported by the rope rescue system.

**Hydraulic Excavator (Large Mass Excavation 13cy to 3cy Buckets)**

Track undercarriage construction equipment used to excavate and load earth, blasted rock, sands, and other types of aggregate, also used to load or handle demolition materials. Provides rapid excavation for construction and repair of runways, roads and trails, railroads, pipelines, waterways, and quarry operations. Larger hydraulic excavators may require some dismantling in meeting mobilization requirements. Dismantled pieces usually require additional mobilization support. Multiple accessories are available for varying tasks.

**Hydraulic Excavator (Medium Mass Excavation 4cy to 1.75cy Buckets)**

Track undercarriage construction equipment that is a track-mounted, hydraulic-controlled, excavating system used to excavate and load earth, blasted rock, sands, and other types of aggregate, also used to load or handle demolition materials. Provides rapid excavation for construction and repair of runways, roads and trails, railroads, pipelines, waterways, and quarry operations. Slightly smaller than the larger hydraulic excavator category, these usually do not require dismantling for mobilization requirements. If dismantling is considered, it may require additional mobilization support. Multiple accessories are available for varying tasks.

**Hydraulic Truck Cranes**

Highly flexible and mobile self-propelled cranes that can be deployed with ease. They usually do not require any setup or special mobilization consideration. Depending on the actual lifting requirements, these cranes come in various sizes and capabilities. Stabilizers include outrigger for stability.

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I

**Ice Search and Rescue Team (Water Rescue Team) (Public Safety Dive Team)**

Team locates and rescues individuals trapped under ice-capped water.

**Illumination Unit (Lighting Plant)**

A portable light-generating unit capable of providing three to six lights of 500 watts each with extension cords from 500 feet to 1,000 feet to provide specified level of illumination capacity.

**Incident Management Team**

A command team comprised of the Incident Commander (IC), appropriate command, and general staff personnel assigned to an incident. (Source: FIRESCOPE)

**In-House**

Assets or expertise specifically owned, possessed, directed, and/or controlled by the responding entity.

**Instrument Flight Rules (IFRs)**

Set of rules, guidelines, and procedures that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has established for pilots to operate aircraft in marginal weather conditions, usually defined as ceilings below 1,000 feet/visibility less than 3 miles.

**International Medical Surgical Response Team (IMSuRT), National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

An IMSuRT is a volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS and the State Department, and whose personnel and equipment give it deployable medical and surgical treatment capability, worldwide. The only NDMS medical team with surgical operating room capability. Full team consists of roughly 26 personnel, which is a mix of physicians, nurses, medical technicians, and allied personnel. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

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**L**

**Lattice Truck Cranes**

This is the larger of the wheel cranes. Usually used for long-term applications where significant weights and reaches are a factor. Stabilizers include outriggers for stability. Several mobilization units will be required to transport boom units and counterweights. Set-up time can be accomplished with relative ease and speed once all components are available for assembly.

**Law Enforcement Aviation – Helicopters – Patrol and Surveillance**

Helicopters of various sizes to provide multifunction aerial support for ground operations.

**Law Enforcement Aviation – Fixed Wing**

Fixed-wing aircraft of various sizes used for surveillance, extraditions, personnel, and cargo transportation.

**Law Enforcement Canine Teams – Cadaver Detecting Dogs**

Patrol dogs trained to find and passively alert on decaying human tissues, bones, and fluids.

**Law Enforcement Canine Teams – Explosive Detecting Dogs**

Patrol dogs trained to detect and passively alert on a variety of odors indicating the presence of explosive devices.

**Law Enforcement Canine Teams – Narcotics Detecting Dogs**

Patrol dogs capable of finding and alerting on cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamines, heroin, and their derivatives.

**Law Enforcement Canine Teams – Patrol Dogs (K-9s)**

Trained canine units providing law enforcement with a nonlethal means of apprehending dangerous criminal offenders; detecting intruders and alerting handlers to their presence; pursuing, attacking, and holding criminal offenders who resist apprehension; searching and clearing buildings and large open areas for criminals; tracking lost children or other persons; detecting the presence of certain narcotics, explosives, and tobacco products; locating deceased subjects, crime scenes, and minute physical evidence; and providing a strong psychological deterrent to certain types of criminal misconduct.

**Law Enforcement Dive Teams – Evidence Recovery**

Underwater teams used to recover evidence.

**Law Enforcement Dive Teams – Recovery**

Underwater teams used to recover drowning victims and lost vessels.

**Liquid Splash-Protective Ensemble**

Multiple elements designed to provide a degree of protection for emergency response personnel from adverse exposure to the inherent risks of liquid-chemical exposure occurring during hazardous materials (HazMat) emergencies and similar operations. The liquid splash-protective ensemble is either an encapsulating or nonencapsulating ensemble. (National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] Standard # 1992)

**Low-Angle Rope Rescue (Rope Rescue)**

Rescue in which the load is predominately supported by itself and not the rope rescue system.

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**M**

**Management Support Team (MST), National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

An MST is a command and control team that provides support and liaison functions for other NDMS teams in the field. MSTs are usually staffed by a mix of Federal employees and are constituted on an ad-hoc, mission-specific basis. An MST (perhaps as small as one or two individuals) always accompanies an NDMS unit on a deployment. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

**Mine Rescue Team (Confined Space Rescue)**

Team locates and rescues individuals lost or trapped in active or abandoned mine shafts or other below-ground entrapments.

**Mobile Communications Center (Mobile Emergency Operations Center [EOC]) (Mobile Command Center) (Continuity of Operations Vehicle)**

A vehicle that serves as a self-sustaining mobile operations center capable of operating in an environment with little to no basic services, facilitating communications between multiple entities using an array of fixed and/or wireless communications equipment, providing appropriate work space for routine support functions, and providing basic services for personnel in short-term or long-term deployments.

**Mobile Feeding Kitchen (Mobile Field Kitchen) (Rapid Deployment Kitchen)**

A containerized kitchen that can be positioned forward in fulfillment of Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 – Food and Water. The units are used to support feeding operations at emergency incidents.

**Mobile Field Force (Crowd Control Teams) (Riot Dispersal Team)**

Police units trained in handling large crowds and riot situations, including specialized training in crowd dispersal, tactics, and special weapons.

**Mobile Kitchen Unit**

A unit designed and constructed to dispense food for incident personnel providing a specified level of capacity.

**Mountain Search and Rescue Team (Wilderness Rescue Team)**

Team searches for and rescues people either above the timberline or in high-angle areas below the timberline, which can include glacier, crevasse, backcountry, alpine search and rescue, and other aspects of the environment.

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## N

### **National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Incident Support Team (IST)**

ISTs are components of [ERT-As](#) that provide Federal, State, and local officials with technical assistance in the acquisition and use of search and rescue resources through advice, Incident Command assistance, management, and coordination of [US&R task forces](#) and obtaining logistic support. **See *Annex A: Federal Response Teams* for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

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## O

**Occupational Health & Safety Specialists (Occupational Physicians; Occupational Health Nurses; Industrial Hygienists; Occupational Safety Specialists; Occupational Safety & Health Technicians; Health and Safety Inspectors; Industrial Hygienists)**

Personnel with specific training in occupational safety and health and topics such as workplace assessment or occupational medicine. Occupational health and safety specialists and technicians help keep workplaces safe and workers in good health unscathed. They promote occupational health and safety within organizations by developing safer, healthier, and more efficient ways of working. They analyze work environments and design programs to control, eliminate, and prevent disease or injury caused by chemical, physical, and biological agents or ergonomic factors. They may conduct inspections and enforce adherence to laws, regulations, or employer policies governing worker health and safety.

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**P**

**Paramedic**

A practitioner credentialed by a State to function at the advanced life support (ALS) level in the State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Equipment and clothing required to shield or isolate personnel from the chemical, physical, thermal, and biological hazards that may be encountered at a hazardous materials (HazMat) incident. (National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] Standard # 472)

**Public Safety Dive Team**

Team assists with location and recovery of drowning victims, evidence in criminal cases, and abandoned vehicles and provides safety divers for special events.

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**R**

**Radiological Material**

Any material that spontaneously emits ionizing radiation. (National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] Standard # 472)

**Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) Team**

Team provides a rapid assessment capability immediately following a major disaster or emergency. The RNA team will collect and provide information to determine requirements for critical resources needed to support emergency response activities. The RNA team is responsible for assessing both overall impact of a disaster event and determining Federal and/or State immediate response requirements.

**Release**

Any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment (including the abandonment or discharging of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles containing any hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant). (Section 101[22]) [CERCLA](#)

**Rescue**

To access, stabilize, and evacuate distressed or injured individuals by whatever means necessary to ensure their timely transfer to appropriate care or to a place of safety.

**Rope Rescue (High-Angle Rescue) (Low-Angle Rescue) (Technical Rescue)**

To rescue through the use of rigging techniques, anchor systems, belays, mechanical advantages, subject extrication techniques, and low- and high-angle rescue techniques.

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**S**

**Search Suit**

Suit made of Kevlar® and Nomex 3, often used by, but not limited to, bomb squad personnel, significantly lighter than bomb suits; allows user to conduct search with increased mobility.

**Search**

To locate an overdue or missing individual or individuals, or objects.

**Shelter Management Team**

Team provides managerial and operational support for a shelter during an emergency. Responsibilities of the team may include all or some of the following: operating the shelter; establishing security; ensuring the availability of adequate care, food, sanitation, and first aid; selecting and training personnel to perform operational tasks; monitoring contamination; performing decontamination; establishing exposure control and monitoring; monitoring overpressure and filtration systems; performing post-event reconnaissance; and directing egress.

**Special-Needs Shelter**

A refuge specifically designed to accommodate individuals with special medical needs who are not ill enough to require hospitalization. These shelters are supported by volunteer doctors and nurses and often have back-up electric capability to support those with medical equipment reliant on electricity.

**Sustainability**

Ability to continue response operations for the prescribed duration necessary.

**Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)/Tactical Teams**

SWAT teams are specially trained to handle high-risk situations and specialized tactical needs. Team members have advanced skills beyond that of typical patrol officers.

**Swift Water Search and Rescue Team (Flood Search and Rescue) (Water Rescue Team)**

Team conducts surface search and rescue operations on waterways where the water is moving fast enough to produce sufficient force to present a life and safety hazard to a person entering it.

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**T**

**Total Containment Vessel (TCV)**

A TCV is designed to transport explosive or chemical devices, fully enclosed. Used for explosive and hazardous materials (HazMat).

**Tender, Foam (Firefighting) (Foam Tender)**

The apparatus used to mix concentrate with water to make solution, pump, and mix air and solution to make foam, and transport and apply foam.

**Tender, Fuel (Fuel Tender)**

Any vehicle capable of supplying fuel to ground or airborne equipment.

**Tender, Helicopter (Helicopter Tender)**

A ground service vehicle capable of supplying fuel and support equipment to helicopters.

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**U**

**Urban Search and Rescue (US&R)**

US&R involves the location, rescue (extrication), and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped in confined spaces.

**Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force (US&R Team)**

Federal asset that conducts physical search and rescue in collapsed buildings; provides emergency medical care to trapped victims; assesses and controls gas, electrical services, and hazardous materials (HazMat); and evaluates and stabilizes damaged structures. **See *Annex A: Federal Response Teams* for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

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**V**

**Vapor Protective Ensemble**

A vapor protective ensemble or garment that is intended for use in an unknown threat atmosphere or for known high health risk atmospheres is vapor tight, and is in compliance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard # 1991, “Standard on Vapor-Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials Emergencies.”

**Veterinary Epidemiologist**

A practitioner who studies factors influencing existence and spread of diseases among humans and animals, particularly those diseases transmissible from animals to humans. Required to hold degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

**Veterinary Medical Assistance Team (VMAT), National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**

VMATs are volunteer teams of veterinarians, technicians, and support personnel, usually from the same region, that have organized a response team under the guidance of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the NDMS, and whose personnel have specific training in responding to animal casualties and/or animal disease outbreaks during a disaster. They help assess medical needs of animals, and conduct animal disease surveillance, hazard mitigation, biological and chemical terrorism surveillance, and animal decontamination. Usually includes a mix of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, support personnel, microbiologists, epidemiologists, and veterinary pathologists. **See Annex A: Federal Response Teams for more detailed information on this Federal Resource.**

**Visual Flight Rules (VFRs)**

Set of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules, guidelines, and procedures that apply to aircraft when a pilot is conducting flight with visual reference to the ground.

**Volcano Search and Rescue Team (Wilderness Rescue Team)**

Team provides technical rescue, avalanche rescue, and other aspects of mountain rescue services applicable for search and rescue operations in and around the surface of a volcano.

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**W**

**Water Search and Rescue Team**

Team conducts surface and subsurface search and rescue operations in all-water environments, including swift water and flood conditions. Water rescue teams come with all team equipment required to safely and effectively conduct operations. Water rescue teams can be assigned to special events to provide for the safety of citizens.

**Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)**

(1) Any destructive device as defined in section 921 of this title (“destructive device” defined as any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than 4 ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than 1/4 ounce, mine or device similar to the above); (2) any weapon that is designed or intended to cause serious bodily injury through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals, or their precursors; (3) any weapon involving a disease organism; or (4) any weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life. ([United States Code, Title 18-Crimes and Criminal Procedure, Part I-Crimes, Chapter 113B-Terrorism, Sec. 2332a](#))

**Wheel Loaders (Large: 41cy to 8cy)**

Rubber-tired equipment used for moving and/or loading large masses of various aggregate materials or demolition debris. Materials are usually loaded into material carrying equipment, such as dump trucks or stockpiled, processed, and/or moved around onsite. Accessories are also available for handling bulky materials/waste. A tractor-trailer unit usually handles the mobilization. Depending on the bucket size, dismantling is usually not an issue. Depending on the width, a transport permit may be required, along with escort services.

**Wheel Loaders (Medium to Small: 7cy to 2cy)**

Rubber-tired equipment used for moving and/or loading small to large masses of various aggregate materials or demolition debris. Materials are usually loaded into material carrying equipment, such as dump trucks or stockpiled, processed, and/or moved around onsite. Accessories are also available for handling bulky materials/waste. A tractor-trailer unit usually handles the mobilization but is not necessary for some pieces of equipment. Mobilization without a transport usually requires an operator’s license. Usually the width of this equipment does not require a transport permit but may still require an escort service.

**Wilderness Search and Rescue Team (Ground Search and Rescue)**

Team provides response search and rescue services, including all-weather search and rescue of missing persons, search and rescue management capabilities, trained ground search teams of all levels, technical rescue specialists, specialized wilderness medical personnel, and safety and survival education.

**WMD Chem/Bio**

A short-hand phrase for “Weapons of Mass Destruction, Chemical/Biological,” in reference to those substances that were developed by military institutions to create widespread injury, illness, or death.

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**Z**

**Zone, Contamination Reduction (Warm Zone)**

The area between the [Exclusion Zone](#) and the [Support Zone](#). This zone contains the personnel decontamination station. This zone may require a lesser degree of personnel protection than the Exclusion Zone. This separates the contaminated area from the clean area and acts as a buffer to reduce contamination of the “clean” area. (U.S. Coast Guard Incident Management Handbook, 2001 edition)

**Zone, Exclusion (Hot Zone)**

The area immediately around a spill or release and where contamination does or could occur. The inner-most of the three zones of a hazardous substances/material incident. Special protection is required for all personnel while in this zone. (U.S. Coast Guard Incident Management Handbook, 2001 edition)

**Zone, Support (Cold Zone)**

The “clean” area outside of the contamination control line. In this area, equipment and personnel are not expected to become contaminated. Special protective clothing is not required. This is the area where resources are assembled to support the hazardous substances/materials release operations. (U.S. Coast Guard Incident Management Handbook, 2001 edition)

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#### **Annex A: Federal Response Teams**

Annex A: Federal Response Teams includes definitions for 11 Federal Response Teams defined by capability and capacity. Definitions are divided into three subsections for each resource type to include *description*, *human resources*, and *equipment*. **Click on the below titles to view definitions.** The following Federal Response Teams are defined in Annex A:

- [Disaster Medical Assistance Team \(DMAT\): Basic Team](#)
- [Disaster Medical Assistance Team \(DMAT\): Burn Specialty](#)
- [Disaster Medical Assistance Team \(DMAT\): Crush Injury Specialty](#)
- [Disaster Medical Assistance Team \(DMAT\): Mental Health Specialty](#)
- [Disaster Medical Assistance Team \(DMAT\): Pediatric Specialty](#)
- [Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team \(DMORT\)](#)
- [International Medical Surgical Response Team \(IMSuRT\)](#)
- [Management Support Team \(MST\)](#)
- [Urban Search and Rescue \(US&R\) Task Forces](#)
- [Urban Search and Rescue \(US&R\) Incident Support Teams](#)
- [Veterinary Medical Assistance Team \(VMAT\)](#)

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## Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) Basic Team

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, and have formed a response team under the guidance of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), or under similar State or local auspices.
- **Human Resources.** Thirty-five deployable personnel that deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Staff can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply and treat up to 250 victims within 24 hours.
- **Equipment.** Equipment can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply. Full complement of equipment.

#### Type II

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, and have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS, or under similar State or local auspices.
- **Human Resources.** Thirty-five deployable personnel that deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Deploy to site within 24 hours of notification with all necessary staff. Function in existing facility using facility's equipment and supplies.
- **Equipment.** Limited to none.

#### Type III

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, and have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS, or under similar State or local auspices.
- **Human Resources.** Personnel roster only. May be less than full complement.
- **Equipment.** None.

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## Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) Burn Specialty

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of burn trauma patients.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification and function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply.
- **Equipment.** Equipment can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply. Full complement of equipment.

#### Type II

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of burn trauma patients. Current NDMS burn teams are Type II; they are not fully equipped teams, but rather they usually co-deploy, providing specialized equipment, supplies, and skills on those missions that involve burn casualties.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Function in existing fixed facility using facility's equipment and supplies.
- **Equipment.** Limited to specialized items for burns.

#### Type III

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of burn trauma patients.
- **Human Resources.** Personnel roster only. May be less than full complement.
- **Equipment.** None.

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## Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) Crush Injury Specialty

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of crush injury patients.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Staff can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply.
- **Equipment.** Equipment can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply. Full complement of equipment.

#### Type II

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of crush injury patients. Current NDMS crush injury teams are Type II.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Function in existing fixed facility using facility's equipment and supplies.
- **Equipment.** Limited or none.

#### Type III

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of crush injury patients.
- **Human Resources.** Personnel roster only. May be less than full complement.
- **Equipment.** None.

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## Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) Mental Health Specialty

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of psychiatric patients.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Staff can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply.
- **Equipment.** Equipment can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply. Full complement of equipment.

#### Type II

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of psychiatric patients. Current NDMS mental health teams are Type II.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Function in existing fixed facility using facility's equipment and supplies.
- **Equipment.** Limited or none.

#### Type III

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, such as physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, pharmacists, EMTs, other allied health professionals, and support staff. These individuals are usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of psychiatric patients.
- **Human Resources.** Personnel roster only. May be less than full complement.
- **Equipment.** None.

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## Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) Pediatric Specialty

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of pediatric patients.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Staff can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply.
- **Equipment.** Equipment can function for 72 hours in austere location without resupply. Full complement of equipment.

#### Type II

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of pediatric patients. Current NDMS pediatric teams are Type II. They do not deploy as a fully functioning team but generally co-deploy and augment another team.
- **Human Resources.** Deployment rosters are usually constituted on an ad-hoc basis, depending on situational need. Variable number of personnel. Can deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Function in existing fixed facility using facility's equipment and supplies.
- **Equipment.** Limited or none.

#### Type III

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the NDMS (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in the management of pediatric patients.
- **Human Resources.** Personnel roster only. May be less than full complement.
- **Equipment.** None.

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## Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT)

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and forensic personnel, such as medical examiners, coroners, pathologists, forensic anthropologists, medical records technicians, fingerprint technicians, dental assistants, radiologists, funeral directors, mental health professionals, and support personnel. These individuals are usually from the same geographic region, that have formed a response team under the guidance of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) (or State or local auspices), and whose personnel have specific training/skills in victim identification, mortuary services, and forensic pathology and anthropology methods. DMORTs are mission-tailored on an ad-hoc basis, and usually deploy only with personnel and equipment specifically required for current mission. The capability of the team can be expanded to include weapons of mass destruction (WMD) response.
- **Human Resources.** Thirty-one personnel to deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Provide on-site victim identification and morgue operations. Provide family assistance services.
- **Equipment.** Deployable Portable Morgue Unit (DPMU) add-on available when no local morgue facilities are available.

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## International Medical Surgical Response Team (IMSuRT)

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A volunteer group of medical and nonmedical individuals, usually from the same State or region of a State, that has formed a response team under the guidance of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) and the State Department, and whose personnel and equipment give it deployable medical and surgical treatment capability, worldwide. This is the only NDMS team with surgical operating room capability. Currently, a single IMSuRT exists as Type I, being a successor to the previous Incident Support Team (IST) specialty DMAT. Two additional teams are being formed.
- **Human Resources.** Full team consists of 26 personnel able to begin deployment to outside the continental United States (OCONUS) location within 3 hours of notification. Staff two operating room suites providing emergency surgery, treatment, and stabilization.
- **Equipment.** Usually deploys with all necessary equipment. Fully equipped to provide freestanding surgical capability, etc., but does not usually function in an austere environment without additional support.

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## Management Support Team (MST)

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** A command and control team that provides support and liaison and functions for other National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) teams in the field. A mix of Federal employees from NDMS headquarters, the PHS-2 team, or the CCRF normally staffs MSTs. Although rostered, MSTs do not exist except when actually deployed in support of a mission. An MST (perhaps as small as one or two individuals) always accompanies an NDMS unit on a deployment. MSTs are mission-tailored on an ad hoc-basis, and usually deploy only with personnel and equipment specifically required for current support mission.
- **Human Resources.** Deploy to site within 24 hours of notification; provide Federal supervision, coordination, and support at site of any NDMS team deployment, including ambulatory care (sick call) for Federal personnel.
- **Equipment.** Full complement.

#### Type II

- **Description.** A command and control team that provides support and liaison and functions for other NDMS teams in the field. A mix of Federal employees from NDMS headquarters, the PHS-2 team, or the CCRF normally staffs MSTs. Although rostered, MSTs do not exist except when actually deployed in support of a mission. An MST (perhaps as small as one or two individuals) always accompanies an NDMS unit on a deployment. MSTs are mission-tailored on an ad-hoc basis, and usually deploy only with personnel and equipment specifically required for current support mission.
- **Human Resources.** Deploy to site within 24 hours of notification with limited staff and communications equipment, but no tentage.
- **Equipment.** Communication and administrative only.

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## US&R Task Forces

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I (WMD Level)

- **Description.** Conducts safe and effective search and rescue operations at large or complex Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) operations including structure collapse incidents involving the collapse or failure of heavy floor, precast concrete and steel frame construction. Perform or provide high-angle rope rescue (including highline systems); confined space rescue (permit required); advanced life support (ALS) intervention; communications; weapons of mass destruction (WMD)/hazardous materials (HazMat) operations; and defensive water rescue. Conduct safe and effective sustained 24-hour search and rescue operations.
- **Human Resources.** A 70-person response. Multidisciplinary organization of command, search, rescue, medical, HazMat, logistics, and planning functions. Personnel comply with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1670 Technician Level requirements for the area of their area of specialty or operations level for support personnel.
- **Equipment.** US&R teams come with a substantial amount of equipment. Rescue equipment includes power tools, electrical equipment, technical rope, and safety equipment. Medical equipment includes antibiotics, medication, canine treatment, intubation, eye care supplies, immobilization and extrication equipment, and personal protective equipment (PPE). Technical equipment includes HazMat equipment, canine search and rescue equipment, and technical specialist equipment. Communications equipment includes radios, charging units, power sources, and computers. Logistical equipment includes water, food, shelter, safety, administrative support, and equipment maintenance.

#### Type II (Light Level)

- **Description.** Conducts safe and effective search and rescue operations at structure collapse incidents involving the collapse or failure of light frame construction and basic rope rescue operations; ALS intervention; HazMat conditions; communications; and trench and excavation rescue. Ability to conduct safe and effective 12-hour search and rescue operations.
- **Human Resources.** A 28-person response. Multidisciplinary organization of command, search, rescue, medical, HazMat, logistics, and planning functions. Personnel comply with the NFPA 1670 Technician Level requirements for the area of their area of specialty or operations level for support personnel.
- **Equipment.** Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) teams come with a substantial amount of equipment. Rescue equipment includes power tools, electrical equipment, technical rope, and safety equipment. Medical equipment includes antibiotics, medication, canine treatment, intubation, eye care supplies, immobilization and extrication equipment, and PPE. Technical equipment includes HazMat equipment, canine search and rescue equipment, and technical specialist equipment. Communications equipment includes radios, charging units, power sources, and computers. Logistical equipment includes water, food, shelter, safety, administrative support, and equipment maintenance.

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## Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Incident Support Teams

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I US&R Incident Support Team (IST) Full

- **Description.** A fully staffed Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) multifunctional management team activated to provide technical assistance in the acquisition and use of Emergency Support Function (ESF) #9 – Urban Search and Rescue emergency resources through advice, Incident Command assistance, incident response planning, management, and coordination of US&R task forces, and obtaining ESF #9 logistical support. The team is organized according to basic Incident Command System (ICS) guidelines, with a command staff and operations, planning, logistics, and finance/administration sections. A Type 1 IST is a full management team providing staffing to fill all necessary ICS functions for the assigned incident. A Type 1 IST can provide 24-hour operations for a minimum of 14 days before requiring personnel rotations and can provide its own administrative and living support as necessary.
- **Human Resources.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) US&R section, based on experience and training qualifications, selects IST members. The team is comprised of qualified National US&R response system personnel, with the ESF #9 assistants and the administration/finance section staffed by FEMA or other Federal agency personnel.
- **Equipment.** ISTs come with all the equipment necessary to perform the assigned task including administrative and computer supplies. Communication equipment includes microphone, antenna, fax, satellite telephone, radio, and pager. Tools include screwdriver, chisel, drill, hammer, and shovel. Power supply equipment includes power adapter, generator, surge protector, and grounding wire. Logistical equipment includes water, food, shelter, safety, administrative support, and equipment maintenance.

#### Type II US&R Incident Support Team (IST) Advance

- **Description.** Activated to provide technical assistance in the acquisition and use of ESF #9 – Urban Search and Rescue emergency resources through advice, Incident Command assistance, incident response planning, management, and coordination of US&R task forces, and obtaining ESF #9 logistical support. The IST is organized according to basic ICS guidelines, with a command and command staff and operations, planning, logistics, and finance/administration sections. The Type 2 is an Advance Element of a Type 1 IST and will require supplemental IST staffing to maintain 24-hour operations. It can provide its own administrative and living support as necessary.
- **Human Resources.** A 22-person US&R multifunctional management team staffing 14 ICS functions, IST members are selected by the FEMA US&R section based on experience and training qualifications. Twenty of the 22 members filling positions will be qualified National US&R Response System personnel, while the ESF #9 assistants will be FEMA staff.
- **Equipment.** ISTs come with all the equipment necessary to perform the assigned task including administrative and computer supplies. Communication equipment includes microphone, antenna, fax, satellite telephone, radio, and pager. Tools include screwdriver, chisel, drill, hammer, and shovel. Power supply equipment includes power adapter, generator, surge protector, and grounding wire. Logistical equipment includes water, food, shelter, safety, administrative support, and equipment maintenance.

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## Veterinary Medical Assistance Team (VMAT)

### Components and Capabilities

#### Type I

- **Description.** Volunteer teams of veterinarians, technicians, and support personnel, such as veterinarians, veterinary technicians, support personnel, microbiologists, epidemiologists, and veterinary pathologists. These individuals are usually from the same region, that have organized a response team under the guidance of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), and whose personnel have specific training in responding to animal casualties and/or animal disease outbreaks during a disaster. VMATs are usually mission-tailored on an ad-hoc basis, and usually deploy only with personnel and equipment specifically required for the current mission. All VMATs within the NDMS are considered Type 1. Epidemiologic capabilities are limited.
- **Human Resources.** Sixty personnel plus equipment. Deploy to site within 24 hours of notification. Provide animal care, treatment, and shelter; food and water testing; basic epidemiologic capabilities.
- **Equipment.** Full complement.

#### Type II

- **Description.** Volunteer teams of veterinarians, technicians, and support personnel, such as veterinarians, veterinary technicians, support personnel, microbiologists, epidemiologists, and veterinary pathologists. These individuals are usually from the same region, that have organized a response team under the guidance of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the NDMS, and whose personnel have specific training in responding to animal casualties and/or animal disease outbreaks during a disaster. VMATs are usually mission-tailored on an ad-hoc basis, and usually deploy only with personnel and equipment specifically required for the current mission. Epidemiologic capabilities are limited.
- **Human Resources.** Sixty personnel plus equipment. Some mix of capabilities less than Type I.
- **Equipment.** Limited or none.

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