

The Power of CIMS

How the coordinated incident management system improves our resilience.

EEA Health and Safety Workshop
Haden Power - 10th October 2023





Our Responsibilities

New Zealand's electricity distributors, such as Powerco, have various responsibilities in emergency situations.

Section 60 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002

- Preparation: Have a plan
- Cooperation: Cooperate with local authorities
- Response: Respond promptly and effectively
- Recovery: Support the recovery efforts
- Communication: Keep customers and authorities informed



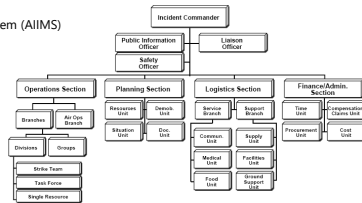
Coordinated Incident Management System CIMS

History

CIMS was first developed in New Zealand in 1998 to provide emergency management agencies a framework for effective coordination and cooperation in response to a major event.

CIMS is based on the Californian Incident Command System (ICS), now a component of the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

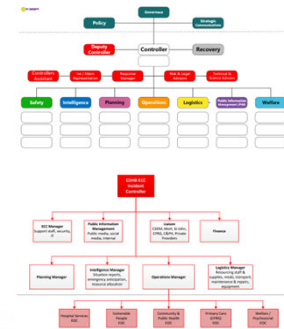
AIIMS in Australia: The Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS)



Coordinated incident Management System CIMS

Use in New Zealand

- It's a framework that's used by many government agencies and organizations to manage the response to incidents that involve multiple agencies or organizations.
- It's designed to help ensure that everyone involved in the response is on the same page and working together effectively.
- CIMS provides a common set of principles, structures, functions, processes, and terminology that can be used by all agencies and organizations



Coordinated incident Management System CIMS

Use at Powerco

- Improvement since Cyclone Dovi, and Gabrielle
- Key benefits,
 - Keeping senior leadership informed
 - Keeping the public and other agencies informed
 - Keeping a sense of control within the organization
 - Ability to scale
 - Reducing duplication
 - Having the right people in functional roles

Resilience

Resilience Definition

Resilience has become a common term in understanding how individuals, communities, and systems adapt and thrive in the face of adversity and change.

EEA Resilience guide definition:

"The ability of assets, networks, systems, organisations and people to anticipate, prepare, absorb, adapt to and/or rapidly recover from a disruptive extreme event."

Various resilience assessment models share commonalities, including the 4Rs used in EEA Resilience Guideline. The 4Rs, while widely known, are better suited for natural hazard events.

Other standards emphasize learning and adaptability, especially in non-natural hazard scenarios.

Resilience

The four Rs

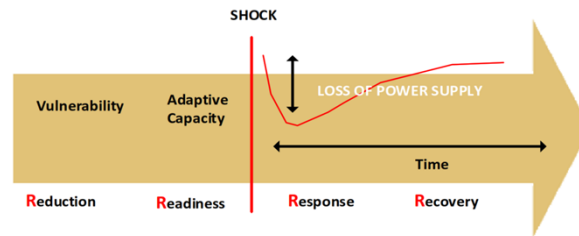
New Zealand's approach to hazard management is structured around four key areas of action referred to as the 4R's:

- Reduction – Risk management
- Readiness – Contingency plans
- Response – Make safe
- Recovery – Bounce back



CIMS and Resilience

How does CIMS fit with Resilience?

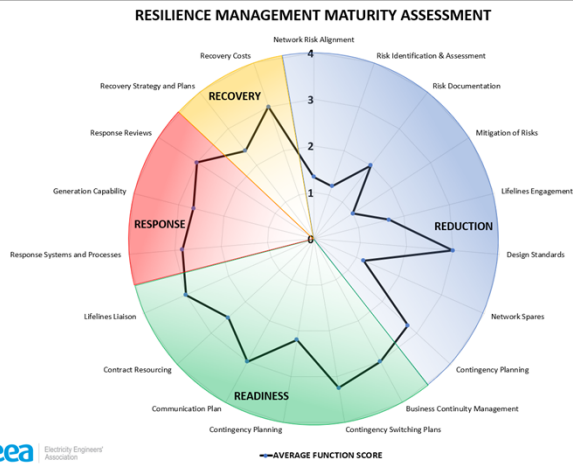


Impact of resilience from EEA resilience guide



Resilience

EEA RMMAT



How does CIMS improve resilience?

- A resilient organization must have a strong emergency management system, this is critical in the response aspect of resilience
- CIMS is flexible and can be adapted to suit each organization
- CIMS applies to all hazards and risks and is modular, consistent, and interoperable
- Reduces the need for ad hoc structures to be set up and therefore reduces duplication, training demands, communication breakdowns, and unclear role and responsibilities, which can slow down a response



Electricity Distribution Sector Cyclone Gabrielle Review

This report was prepared for the ENA with the express intent of being submitted to government agencies, stakeholders, and EDBs.

The report found that the electricity distribution sector faced significant challenges during Cyclone Gabrielle.

Whilst the sector responded well there is room for improvement in its risk reduction, readiness and response.

Five of the nine EDBs impacted by the cyclone use CIMS

Learnings	Strategy	Action
Constraints on resourcing impacted restoration efforts	Continuously improve resourcing and access	<p>(b) EDBs should determine possible network projects or contingency plans to mitigate risks and implement them based on criticality.</p> <p>7. Adopt CIMS and increase training to expand the resource pool</p> <p>(a) We suggest that EDBs should use the CIMS structure for emergency response. This will assist with options for external resource support, allows access to training courses, and builds transferable staff skills.</p> <p>(b) EDBs should strengthen role descriptions, expand training, and prepare a competency register for CIMS roles and other roles where constraints occur. This could include LV dispatchers, control room support roles, and field resource support roles.</p> <p>(c) EDBs should include an activity in their emergency response plan to prepare a multi-day staffing roster ahead of a large event. The roster will need to comply with the EDB's fatigue policy.</p> <p>(d) There could be merit in sharing learnings from best-practice CIMS operators.</p>

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Where to next?

New Emergency management Bill

- Name change, Lifeline utilities to Critical infrastructure entities
- Review and update emergency plans
- Sector-specific Plans

Review and implement learnings from Cyclone Gabrielle

In light of the growing number of extreme weather events and our increased reliance on electricity, the resilience of the electricity sector is becoming increasingly important.



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Thanks



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