NFIRS Status Report

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NFIRS Contract Changes

- The new USFA Operations and Maintenance Contract for NFIRS became effective October 1st

- DHS EAGLE (Enterprise Acquisition Gateway for Leading Edge Solutions) contract

- "Aerient" is the new EAGLE contractor maintaining NFIRS

- Contract structure is different from the Verizon contract

- Currently in a transition period

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NFIRS User Support

- All NFIRS user support now goes through the NFIRS Support Center

- Why?

  - Bitsy and Marianne are no longer available
  - The NSC gives us a way to track and manage user requests
  - The NSC allows us to track resources used

- (888) 382-3827 or fema-nfirshelp@dhs.gov

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NFIRS January Change Cycle

- Upcoming changes will become effective January, 2008

- The spec cycle changes are posted on www.nfirs.fema.gov

- DET changes will go out in a list server email to PMs

- NFIRS 4.1 data will sunset with the January 1st 2009 cycle

- No NFIRS 4.1 data will be accepted after that point

NFIRS January Change Cycle

Considerations for evaluating system changes

- Is the change practical and/or feasible?

- What is the cost/benefit ratio?

- How will the change impact future data analyses?

- How will the change affect future data collection?

- Is there more than one requestor for the change?

NFIRS January Change Cycle

Considerations for evaluating system changes

- How will the change affect the NFIRS specification?

- How will the change impact the fire software vendors?

- Is the change categorized as maintenance or as an enhancement?

- Will the change conflict with higher priority work initiatives?

- Is the change simple or complex?

NFIRS January Change Cycle

Considerations for evaluating system changes

- Will the change impact the database schema?

- Will the change affect the transaction file format?

- Is it a code change?

- Will the change involve major changes to software?

- Will the change involve multiple software tools and applications?

NFIRS January Change Cycle

Considerations for evaluating system changes

- How much will it cost in personnel and funding?

- How many man days will it require to develop and test?

- What is the impact on system Operations and Maintenance?

About 175 maintenance items are currently being tracked

Report any suggestions for new system changes to the NSC

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Future Major NFIRS Enhancements

Major Enhancement Areas

- Data collection tools

- Data transmission and validation

- Data output and reporting tools

Data Collection

Web browser data collection tool

- Allows departments, particularly small single station departments, to report quickly and easily

- No install or configuration required

- Easy reporting to meet federal Fire Grants reporting requirements

Data Transmission, Validation

- Use of XML technologies

  - Exports

  - Validation

  - Data storage

Data Analysis and Reporting

Revised NFIRS Web Output Reports Tool

- Requirements developed via a contract with Keybridge Technologies, Inc.

- Two year development cycle

- Replaced Actuate COTS reporting engine with Open Source engine

- Rebuilt the reporting framework

- Rebuilt the GUI (user interface)

Data Analysis and Reporting

Revised NFIRS Web Output Reports Tool

- Replaced the report designer tool
- Adds many new features and flexibility
- Multi-phased development and implementation
- Phase 1 focuses on porting existing functionality
- Following phases increase functionality
- Phase 1 is currently in early testing
- Demo presentation will follow

Data Analysis and Reporting

Future Data Tools and Features

- Use of OLAP business intelligence tools
- Compare data between departments
- Compare data between states
- Compare data to the national fire experience
- Analyze data flexibly using pivot tables

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Questions?