CSA Z1600
Emergency Management & Business Continuity Programs

Successful emergency management means more than quick response to unplanned incidents. It requires effective planning for prevention, mitigation, preparedness, and for business continuity and recovery.

CSA has partnered with Public Safety Canada and other stakeholders to create a new voluntary Canadian standard: **CSA-Z1600: Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs.** This new Canadian Standard incorporates a risk-based, all hazards approach that integrates emergency management and business continuity programs for a total program approach, providing both opportunity and rationale for collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

A company without an emergency management and business continuity program is like a home owner without insurance. Traditional emergency programs have focused only on preparedness and response. CSA Z1600 is the first comprehensive Canadian standard that covers both emergency management and business continuity planning and is applicable to both private and public organizations of all sizes.

Events such as SARS, the 2003 blackout, and the Quebec ice storms demonstrate that natural or human-induced disaster can occur anytime, anywhere. Recent research suggests a disaster (such as an influenza pandemic) could cost the Canadian economy $9 billion due to absenteeism and a domino effect on other businesses and organizations. CSA Z1600 serves as a benchmark, allowing organizations to evaluate or initiate an emergency management and business continuity program to help keep their employees safe and their businesses up and running when disaster strikes.

Building on CAN/CSA-Z731-03

In 1991 CSA facilitated the development of an Emergency Preparedness and Response standard (CSA Z731), in order to aid organizations, businesses and other public and private entities in developing emergency management programs. With the introduction of Z1600, CSA Z731 will be revised to become an important supporting standard under Z1600.

North American Alignment

The CSA Z1600 Standard is based on the NFPA 1600 Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs standard. Public and private stakeholders in Canada have clearly expressed an interest in evolving emergency management/security systems and standards to be truly North American in scope and application. CSA strongly believes the adaptation of the NFPA 1600 Standard provides a sound base for emergency management and business continuity planning while reducing costs and complexity for companies operating in both Canada and the US.

A Recognized Resource

CSA's involvement in emergency management has grown out of a long-standing, rich heritage in matters of public safety. Since its inception in 1919, CSA's mandate has been to help reduce life-threatening risks and to improve the quality of life for Canadians through the development of consensus- based standards solutions.

CSA is recognized and accredited by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), and is fully engaged with leading standards development organizations in the U.S., including the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and serves as a member of the ANSI-Homeland Security Standards Panel (ANSI-HSSP).

Internationally, CSA is an active member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Strategic Advisory Group on Security (AGS).

ABOUT CSA

CSA's reputation as a leading standards development organization dates back almost 90 years. As an independent, not-for-profit membership association, we publish over 3,000 standards and standards-related products in a wide range of subject areas. We also offer a full suite of services and solutions that help you understand, interpret and apply standards so you can achieve the most value from employing standards. Please visit us at **www.csa.ca/solutions**

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Z1600 SUPPORT TOOLS, EDUCATION and TRAINING

For more information on CSA Z1600, or to purchase the standard, visit **shopcsa.ca**.

Additional products in support of the standard will include e-learning and compliance tools, as well as a Z1600 handbook. These will be available in late 2008.

CSA Education & Training offers seminars on CSA Z1600 "Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs". These seminars cover the requirements for a comprehensive program, as well as case studies and exercises to maximize understanding and facilitate application. Sessions covering "Essentials" and "Audit" requirements will be offered throughout the year, with additional programs planned for the near future. For more information visit learningcentre.csa.ca or call 1-800-463-6727.

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