Originally developed by Fire Departments

Called National Incident Management System (NIMS) by the Feds

Basic Features
- Common terminology
- Modular organization
- Management by Objectives
- Reliance on an Incident Action Plan – What do we want to do? Who is responsible for doing it? How do we communicate with each other? What is the procedure if someone is injured?
- Chain of Command and Unity of Command – Everyone has one supervisor. Receive work assignments only from the supervisor
- Unified Command – Various groups work together
- Manageable span of control – 3 to 7 direct reports

Incident Commander – (Provides overall leadership for incident response, Delegates authority to others, Takes general direction from the agency administrator/official).

Command Positions – Safety Officer, Public Information Officer, Liaison Officer

General Staff – Operations Section, Planning Section, Logistics Section, Finance/Administration Section

Sections may be further divided into Divisions, Groups, Branches, Task Forces, and Strike Teams

Facilities – Incident Command Post, Staging Area, Base, Camps, Helibase/Helispots