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News Release

IAEM-USA Announces the 2021 Technology and Innovation Award

Oct. 12, 2021 (Falls Church, Va.) – The IAEM-USA Awards & Recognition Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is pleased to announce the winner of the IAEM-USA 2021 Technology and Innovation Award. The award will be presented at the Monday Networking Luncheon and Awards Ceremony on Oct. 18, 2021, at the 69th IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The winner of the 2021 IAEM-USA Technology and Innovation Award is The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

MEMA implemented a robust burn rate modeling system with collaboration between hospital-coalitions, universities, private-sector, and emergency management. The strength of the MEMA process was that it utilized composite modeling to produce a mean burn rate that could be utilized to project the potential personal protective equipment (PPE) need over time, which was cross referenced with local-level sampling. Once the methodology was developed, the Burn Rate Planning Tool was created to project/predict PPE burn rate across the state and be an intuitive tool requiring no special training with accurate data-driven projections that other jurisdictions could utilize. This project saved the lives of the public by preventing the spread of COVID-19, as well as, the life and safety of first responders and medical practitioners, who needed these supplies to safely respond to and provide emergency medical care. This not only supported the life and safety of those in the state of Maryland, but nationally as this tool was shared widely with other state and federal partners.

The **Technology and Innovation Award** recognizes the development of technology and innovation to improve emergency management operations, public education, or the emergency management/homeland security field. The winning project must be capable of being shared with IAEM members via a link from the IAEM website.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 5,000 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and others involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of disasters including acts of terrorism. IAEM provides access to the largest network of emergency management experts who can provide advice and assistance; the Certified Emergency Manager program; annual scholarships; a comprehensive monthly newsletter; and more.

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