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News Release IAEM-USA Announces the 2025 Volunteer Emergency Manager Award

Oct. 17, 2025 (Falls Church, Va.) – The Awards & Recognition Committee of the U.S. Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM-USA) has selected Major Rob Yusko as the IAEM-USA 2025 Volunteer Emergency Manager award recipient. The award will be presented at the 73rd IAEM Annual Conference & EMEX in Louisville, Kentucky.

2025 IAEM-USA Volunteer Emergency Manager Award Recipient Major Rob Yusko

Major Yusko has dedicated 17 years to serving as a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) volunteer and currently functions as the director of operations for the Colorado Wing. In this role, he oversees emergency management efforts for a 2,160-member organization, ensuring CAP missions are executed safely and effectively.

He serves as a 24/7 on-call "badged" operations staff member at both the Colorado State Emergency Operations Center and the Colorado Air National Guard Joint Operations Center. Additionally, he commands the five-state Rocky Mountain Region Unified Command Incident Management Team (UC-IMT), demonstrating his leadership in large-scale, multi-agency operations.

Major Yusko exemplifies the traits of a professional emergency manager—transparent decision-making, strong leadership, calm under pressure, and adaptability. Through extensive participation in training, exercises, and real-world missions, he stands out as a committed and competent volunteer. His contributions make him a natural and well-deserved choice for Volunteer of the Year.

The Volunteer Emergency Manager Award recognizes an individual who has served as an active volunteer in the field of emergency management for their exceptional emergency management services and contributions to the community.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a non-profit organization representing more than 5,800 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, the 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.