



HITS Committee

Highway Incident & Transportation
Systems

Goals and Strategic Directions 2013



Goals and Strategic Directions

The **HITS Committee** of the National Association of State EMS Officials is committed to engaging NASEMSO on highway safety issues relevant to emergency medical services. By collaborating with our highway safety partners at the national and state levels, the HITS Committee's ultimate goal is to reduce the rates of death and disabling injury from motor vehicle crashes on our nation's highways.

***Leadership** refers to the role of state EMS offices as “lead agencies” for EMS as well as thoughtful leaders in public policy development. State EMS offices are looked to by the EMS community for guidance and approval, as well as regulation and licensure. NASEMSO works to support EMS officials nationwide in understanding and implementing processes that improve EMS practice and subsequent patient outcomes.*

The **HITS Committee** supports leadership under these principle goals:

- Goal #1. Increase NASEMSO representation at national highway safety-related meetings.
- Goal #2. Recruit and engage HITS members to serve as active NASEMSO liaisons to various highway safety-related national committees and organizations.

***Systems Development** refers to the role of state EMS offices in the development of effective systems of emergency medical care. The growing national awareness of the importance of coordinated systems of care places NASEMSO squarely in a leadership role, demonstrating the need for state offices to coordinate the disparate functions that support effective systems. Such functions include Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMS), communications systems; regional asset coordination in daily operations and in natural and man-made disasters; EMS data collection, analysis and reporting; and ongoing review and refinement of systems operations.*

The **HITS Committee** supports systems development under these principle goals:

- Goal #3. Educate State EMS Offices on effective collaboration with their respective state highway safety counterparts. Provide tools for use by State EMS Officials when interacting with highway safety colleagues and communities.

***Quality Improvement or “QI”** is the process of continually reviewing, assessing and refining practices to improve outcomes. The steps of developing an effective cycle of collecting high quality data, reviewing it in proven multidisciplinary processes, identifying strategies to implement needed changes and communicating them to all stakeholders are the key to QI success, and to subsequently improving patient outcomes.*



The **HITS Committee** supports quality improvement under these principle goals:

- Goal #4. Promote the further use and application of EIRRA (EMS Incident Response & Readiness Assessment) for measuring preparedness for response to highway MCIs as well as other manmade or natural disasters. A tool that was initially completed and tested by NASEMSO in 2011, EIRRA has potential for much wider distribution and application in the broader highway transportation and emergency preparedness communities.
- Goal #5. Promote the concept of a model inventory for EMS similar to the model inventories of highway partners (MIRE, MMUCC, etc). Seek opportunities for further development of the MIECE Proof of Concept completed by NASEMSO in 2011.
- Goal #6. Support and promote the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) in interactions with highway safety colleagues to ensure the adoption of data standards that maximize data sharing and lead to improvement in crash victim/patient outcomes.

The **HITS Committee** 2013 work plan will continue to focus on long term strategies previously initiated, as well as those short term strategies not yet completed. These include the following:

- Recruit HITS Committee members to represent NASEMSO at national highway safety-related meetings and serve as established members of highway safety committees and organizations. Such representation is intended to mutually educate NASEMSO members and highway safety colleagues about each other's respective disciplines; build lasting professional relationships with highway safety peers; and promote cooperation in addressing mutual goals of saving lives and reducing debilitating injuries from motor vehicle crashes. [Goals 1 & 2]
- Educate NASEMSO members on the availability of opportunities for collaboration with state highway safety counterparts in their respective states. Develop "highway safety guide" on federal highway safety programs in all states including those where specific EMS components are required. Create tools for state EMS officials to use (power point presentations, talking points) when interacting with highway safety representatives. [Goal 3]
- Distribute EIRRA Guidelines and summary information at highway safety and EMS meetings. Seek opportunities to formally present EIRRA at EMS, highway safety, and preparedness meetings. [Goal 4]
- Distribute MIECE Guidelines and summary information at highway safety and EMS meetings. Seek opportunities to formally present MIECE at EMS, highway safety, and preparedness meetings. [Goal 5]
- Develop brief summary and/or talking points for "lay persons" on NEMSIS to be distributed at national highway safety meetings and for use by state EMS officials when participating in state highway safety meetings (TRCC, strategic highway safety planning). [Goal 6]



2013 Workplan Goals, Objectives and Action Steps

Goal 1: Increase NASEMSO representation at national highway safety-related meetings.

Objective/Strategy:

Increase NASEMSO participation at national highway safety related meetings. Determine which meetings are most important to attend and identify members able to attend.

Task	Responsibility	Due Date	Done	Budget
Compile and maintain list of national highway safety meetings for 2013.	Mary Hedges	Jan - Feb 2013		
Distribute to HITS Committee and solicit members interested in attending.	Mary Hedges, Keith Wages	Jan - Feb 2013		
Secure funding to support NASEMSO member travel to national highway safety meetings.	Dia Gainor, NASEMSO leadership	ongoing		

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	done
Compile list of national highway safety meetings for 2013.													
Distribute meeting list to HITS Committee soliciting persons interested in attending.													
Seek travel funding for national meetings. (ongoing)													

Goal 2: Recruit and engage HITS members to serve as active NASEMSO liaisons to various highway safety-related national committees and organizations.

Objective/Strategy:

Recruit HITS members to serve as NASEMSO liaisons to various highway safety committees and organizations, including NCHRP projects, with the intent of assuring EMS is represented and not overlooked as national strategies are formed.

Task	Responsibility	Due Date	Done	Budget
Update/maintain list and descriptions of highway safety organizations/committees, indicating which need NASEMSO representation. Distribute to members, soliciting persons interested in representing NASEMSO.	Mary Hedges, Keith Wages	Ongoing		
Update/maintain HITS Project & Partners document to provide current information on highway	Mary Hedges	Ongoing		



safety related projects with NASEMSO involvement. Publish on NASEMSO/HITS website.													
Report regularly at bi-monthly HITS Committee meetings on the status of HITS-related projects and committees.		Keith Wages, Mary Hedges, Dia Gainor and Committee members serving on projects/committees											
Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	done

o **Goal 3:** Educate State EMS Officials on effective collaboration with their respective state highway safety counter parts. Provide tools for State EMS Officials' use when interacting with highway safety colleagues and communities.

Objective/Strategy:

Educate NASEMSO members on effective engagement with their highway safety colleagues at the state level. The intent is to foster productive working relationships so that EMS and highway safety officials can share strategies to optimize roadway safety, both prevention and emergency response. Create tools for state EMS officials to use (power point presentations, talking points) when interacting with highway safety representatives.

Task	Responsibility	Due Date	Done	Budget
Develop <i>highway safety guide</i> on federal highway safety programs in states, identifying those with EMS components.	Mary Hedges, Dia Gainor			Funding needed
Create <i>Talking Points</i> for use by state EMS officials when interacting with highway safety colleagues.	Mary Hedges, Dia Gainor			Funding needed
Conduct session at Annual Meeting on effective collaboration with highway safety counter parts, distributing tools (guide, power point and talking points).	Mary Hedges, Dia Gainor, HITS Committee	Sept. 2013		
Promote the Power Point presentation (developed by Dia Gainor in 2012) for use by State EMS Officials when presenting to highway safety communities in their respective states.	Mary Hedges, Keith Wages	ongoing		

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	done
Develop Hwy Safety Guide, Talking Points													
Distribute power point, guide, talking points and educate members on importance of participation in hwy safety /transportation activities.													



Goal 4: Promote the further use and application of EIRRA (EMS Incident Response & Readiness Assessment) for measuring preparedness for response to highway MCIs as well as other manmade or natural disasters.

Objective/Strategy:

Distribute EIRRA Guidelines and summary information at highway safety and EMS meetings. Seek opportunities to formally present EIRRA at EMS, highway safety, and preparedness meetings.

Task	Responsibility	Due Date	Done	Budget
Distribute EIRRA Guidelines and summaries at relevant national, state and regional meetings.	Dia Gainor, Mary Hedges, HITS Members	ongoing		
Seek opportunities for EIRRA presentations at relevant national, state and regional meetings.	Dia Gainor, Mary Hedges, HITS Members	ongoing		

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	done
Distribute EIRRA Guidelines and promote use of EIRRA													

Goal 5: Promote the concept of a model inventory for EMS similar to the model inventories of highway partners (MIRE, MMUCC, etc). Seek opportunities for further development of the MIECE Proof of Concept completed by NASEMSO in 2011.

Objective/Strategy:

Distribute MIECE Guidelines and summary information at highway safety and EMS meetings. Seek opportunities to formally present MIECE at EMS, highway safety, and preparedness meetings.

Task	Responsibility	Due Date	Done	Budget
Distribute MIECE Guidelines and promote further development of MIECE	Dia Gainor, Mary Hedges, HITS members	ongoing		

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	done



- **Goal 6:** Support and promote the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) in interactions with highway safety colleagues to ensure the adoption of data standards that maximize data sharing and lead to improvement in crash victim/patient outcomes.

Objective/Strategy:

Develop brief summary and/or talking points for “lay persons” on NEMSIS to be distributed at national highway safety meetings and for use by state EMS officials when participating in state highway safety meetings (TRCC, strategic highway safety planning).

Task	Responsibility	Due Date	Done	Budget
Draft summary/talking points in non-technical language with assistance from Data Managers.	TBD (Mary Hedges, Data Managers?)	Sept 2013		
Publicize and distribute summary/talking points	Mary Hedges, HITS Members, Data Managers, Rachael Alter?	Dec 2013		

Task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	done
Draft summary/talking points.													
Finalize and distribute summary/talking points.													