



Command Support System for Event Management

Notting Hill Carnival, London, 2007

Event planning, event exercise simulation and event management are three of the benefits now becoming available through the integration of VectorCommand's proven Command Support System and its widely used Training and Exercising System. Typically, in the past, all three functions have been supplied by non-integrated, 'stovepipe' systems.

Over the last two years VectorCommand has been developing the newest of its stable of emergency management software applications, the Command Support System. In the hands of its early adopters in the UK and Australian Fire Services, this product has provided end-to-end technology support for the conduct of incident command during fire service operations. But increasingly, organisations - especially those involved in wider blue light operations - are seeing the potential to use this product not just to support real time incident management, but also during the planning stages in advance of predetermined events - i.e. to support the development of operational event management plans.

This extension of the scope of the use of Command Support System by its own customer base, combined with the fact that numbers of these same customers are also regularly using the Training and Exercising System application to exercise their plans, has encouraged work on closer integration of the two products, and the commissioning of further development, which will benefit those who already use the Command Support System in a planning mode.

In **Event Planning** mode, users of the Command Support System will have at their fingertips all modular components of the system required to build event plans, based on all available

intelligence and information, historical data, previous plans and accurate inventories of available resources (existing CSS functionality). They will also have the option to base the new event plan on all or part of a previous event. Once the system has been used to generate all the necessary components of an event plan, it will output the plan in electronic and document form for sharing with users outside the system, while also generating an electronic event plan file which is then stored on the system until the event takes place.

In **Event Management** mode the user will be able to launch either an existing event plan, or create a new event in real time. If an existing event plan exists, the system will automatically generate a gap analysis between the real-time availability and positioning of resources and the required allocation and positioning of resources required by the event plan. The system will then prompt and support users to allocate and position the required resources as per the plan, at which point the system will then support the onward command and control of the event in the same way as if for a spontaneous event (the focus of existing CSS functionality). The system will be capable of managing multiple simultaneous events, each with tiered management of multiple functions or areas within each event.

Increasingly, organisations are seeing the potential to use the Command Support System to support the development of operational event management plans.

