



## Project Briefing Paper - January 2008 Incident Based Automation (IBA)

The IBA Project is comprised of 3 Phases: Phase 1 focuses on Operation and Maintenance (O&M) efforts for the current I-Suite application. Phase 2 is complete and focused on the analysis and development of recommendations for improvements in incident automation and business practices. Phase 3 is currently working on completing necessary tasks to address selected action items resulting from Phase 2.

### Phase 1 I-Suite

The I-Suite Development Team visited 25+ incidents during the 2007 fire season. The team gathered input and suggestions for future versions of I-Suite and also provided on-site assistance on the use of the application. During the visits, the I-Suite team received very positive feedback on the performance of the application and on how valuable the site visits are to the IMT's. The next release of I-Suite is scheduled for early May 2008. The primary focus of this release will be improving the Cost and Accrual process. I-Suite is also currently going through the Certification and Accreditation process.

### Phase 3 Tasks

Three areas of business needs for incident automation are currently being addressed:

1. The development of incident management enterprise business and data models ('As-Is' and 'To-Be') and a gap analysis which will assist management with determining the need for new systems or improvements to existing systems supporting all aspects of incident automation. This contract was awarded to IBM and will conclude in February 2008. Over 100 Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) have been interviewed as to the business processes performed on an incident and the data collected (either manually or automated).
2. The re-engineering of the current I-Suite application. The name for this new project is 'e-ISuite'. e-ISuite will use the Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) allowing the sharing of incident information and data among multiple applications (such as ROSS and ICBS-R). Design work has just begun with the contractor (SabiOso) and SMEs are reviewing use cases and goals. Planned release date for e-ISuite is 2009/2010.
3. The development and award of a national contract(s) which will deliver computer infrastructure, support, and connectivity to incidents and other events. The intent for this contract is that vendors will be geographically located so that the equipment can be quickly mobilized to incidents. Implementation of a national contract for infrastructure and connectivity will provide the same level of consistency and standards to all incidents. In addition, this contract will be available for Expanded Dispatch, Buying Teams, Training, and any type of event that has a need for equipment and connectivity.

For more information on these projects or Incident Based Automation, contact Gina Bald, IBA Deputy Project Manager ([gbald@fs.fed.us](mailto:gbald@fs.fed.us)) or Mary Ann Szymoniak, IBA Business Lead ([mszymoniak@fs.fed.us](mailto:mszymoniak@fs.fed.us)).