

Incident Based Automation, IBA, System  
Business Process Modeling, Interview  
Incident Planning Section Chief  
Flint Cheney  
December 07, 2006

Interview Notes by Smith Young, IBM Senior Architect

NOTE: See interviewer questions at bottom based on interview write-up. Answer to be provided for finalization of interview notes.

Flint is the Branch Chief of Information Systems and Type II resource unit leader and Planning Section Chief responsible for the oversight of all tactical equipment hardware involved with the planning and tracking of incident resources.

Question: What are the activities you are involved with at the very beginning of an incident?

Answer: Pre-Incident Briefing involved with a wide range of activities, but primarily the “hand-off” of the “local resource list” that consists of an inventory:

- Resources on the incident
- Resources on order

Question: What are the roles and how would you describe them?

Role: “Planning Section Chief”

1. Planner only responsible for resources identified as “tactical”
  - a. Determines whether we (incident) need these tactical resources anymore
  - b. Interface with MAC Group - 14 day limit between incidents, i.e., “time-out”; Planner needs to request early replacement
  - c. Interface with Dispatch Centers that needs early info for hotel and airfare when demobing resources back to home unit.
2. getting ready for next days Incident Action Plan, IAP (the overall operational tactical plan for the incident)
  - a. Audience is Operations and anyone assigned to incident
  - b. E-mailed to a wide management audience (as many as 30 to 40 people) that includes both ground and aircraft
  - c. ROSS and ISuite are the primary source of IAP information that includes the status of individuals, equipment, supplies and crew resources consisting of
    - i. Ordered
    - ii. Pending
    - iii. In-route
3. Incident within an Incident as another business process
  - a. Planning responsible for configuring with ROSS
  - b. Composite type resources, e.g., fire engine plus associated people

- i. Constant resources
  - ii. Variable resources, people who might DeMob every 3 days, but fire engine stays on scene.
  - iii. Provides planning to organization responsible for composite resource
- 4. Shadowing – both when incoming and outgoing (normally ½ day)
  - a. Provides multiple day plan “Plan for Incoming”
- 5. Planner does a lot of briefing with turn over to local jurisdiction

Role: “Logistics Section Chief”

- 1. Logistician only responsible for resources identified as “infrastructure (support)” required to feed and house that includes, for example, transportation and radio equipment
- 2. Fire Cache: Makes requests throughout day for supplies from cache
- 3. Local Procurement: some infrastructure resources on contract, e.g., local procurement of supplies not from cache – Try to fill a need locally first.
- 4. Not responsible for a daily report (but keeps daily logs)
  - a. May use ROSS for “on-hand” inventory and what’s in pipeline
  - b. Records how many meals served per day
- 5. Shadowing
  - a. Logistics manages inventory with supplies and determines whether adequate
  - b. On exit
    - i. provides protocol for ordering and returning to cache
    - ii. Objective “Don’t leave too much for type III to do
    - iii. Relinquish “Delegation of Authority” back to local organization

Other Points of Contact:

Planning – Jim Jaminet, Type I Plans Chief

Logistics – Claire Brown (Brownie), Type 1 Logistics Chief in Fort Collins

Logistics – Larry Overby, Type 2 Logistics Chief Grand Junction

Recommendations:

- 1. Need replacement plan, much of the equipment is 6-7 years old; tiny budget therefore rely on rental contracts financed by different budget
  - a. Suppression – category for rental contracts
  - b. Pre-Suppression
- 2. Need wireless network at incident
- 3. iSuite is a requirement for all Type 1 and 2 incidents, optional for smaller incidents.
  - a. supported by IAP module in ISuite that provides data for planner (minimizes data entry)
  - b. there are dispatch centers that won’t use ROSS at the onset of an incident, therefore making the data transfer over to ISuite incomplete.
- 4. A daily ROSS print out for Logistics supporting a “Resource Order List”

Questions based upon write-up of Interview Notes:

1. What is the specific security policy that prevents the use of a wireless network?  
There is a FS wireless policy in place as of November, 2006. Very tight controls as to what can be done.