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## Homeland Security, Nevada firm coordinates Web-based program

By Jay David Murphy Friday, September 11, 2009

The Department Homeland Security enlists the help of Nevada based Urban Environmental Research to compile a comprehensive website to help governmental agencies coordinate their efforts in a disaster.

The Department of Homeland Security has looked to a Nevada company for expertise in preparation for coordinating agencies throughout the country in case of another terrorist attack and disasters of any-kind.

Urban Environmental Research was given a tight budget of \$1.2 million to compile emergency response plans for 3,000 sites statewide. These sites are considered critical to Nevada's economy and infrastructure.

One of the unfortunate lessons learned on 9/11 was the lack of inter-agency communication.

That is where UER comes in. It is doing evaluations of floor plans, utility lines, evacuation routes, hazardous material storage locations, and many other factors and bring them together in a comprehensive Web-based program that will immediately accessible to emergency responders like the police, firefighters, and paramedics. This way, they have all the same information from which to draw upon during a major disaster.

Ultimately, this comprehensive Web-based program is designed to save lives and minimize property damage.