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COMCARE Praises Joint Advisory Committee Report to Congress

Report recognizes the need for a national interoperable broadband network that connects all emergency response organizations

Washington, DC – February 14, 2008 – COMCARE Emergency Response Alliance today praised the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) on Communications Capabilities of Emergency Medical and Public Health Care Facilities report to Congress on the need for nationwide improvements to the way emergency responders and health facilities communicate with one another. The Committee strongly endorsed having all emergency response agencies use shared interoperable broadband networks based on standards and open architecture. David Aylward, a Director of COMCARE, said the report “is a noticeable departure from past outdated approaches to emergency communications that tend to focus on single areas or professions. To their great credit, the Committee put EMS and public health in the context of overall emergency communications.”

“We are delighted that JAC powerfully endorsed connecting all organizations in emergency response to a common, shared, interoperable and Internet Protocol broadband system” Aylward said. “It is imperative that patient and incident information in emergency situations be shared across 9-1-1, EMS, emergency room personnel, public health officials, appropriate private sector, and other emergency responders in order to provide the best possible care and to do so efficiently. This report is a breakthrough in making such recommendations.”

COMCARE

COMCARE is a national non-profit alliance dedicated to advancing emergency response. We promote the adoption of modern, interoperable emergency systems and the development of new procedures, training, and tools to maximize their value for emergency responders. We encourage cooperation across professional, jurisdictional and geographic lines, seeking to improve effectiveness through solutions that integrate emergency response professions, government, and the public and private industry. COMCARE's 100+ organizational members represent the wide diversity of the emergency response community.

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