



NEW YORK CITY

Office of Emergency Management

NYContinuity

Emergency Management Newsletter for Businesses

NYC OEM

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Welcome to **NYContinuity**, a monthly publication to help you prepare for emergencies, strengthen your continuity plans, update you on emergency management news, and inform you about events and resources available to businesses in New York City.

This month's issue examines physical security and infrastructure protection. The continuity feature introduces risk assessments and basic elements of physical security. NYPD Shield, the New York City Police Department's counterterrorism program that informs private sector organizations about developing situations in the City, preparations for upcoming events, and new intelligence and threat information, occupies the guest spotlight.

This month's issue also announces a webinar hosted by the Department of Homeland Security on critical infrastructure protection and resilience.

NYContinuity is a newsletter for small business owners and continuity professionals brought to you by OEM.

Continuity Feature: Physical Security



Risk Assessments

Whether you have a professional security manager or if you are responsible for safeguarding your own assets, a risk assessment should be the first step in determining the measures needed to protect your organization.

Security professionals use several different risk assessment models, but all of them address the following questions:

- How critical is the asset you want to protect?
- How recognizable and accessible is the asset?
- What would be the human, economic, environmental, and symbolic affects of an attack on the asset?
- How easily can the asset be replaced?
- Is there a history of attacks targeting the asset or similar assets?

Answer these questions for the various threats facing your organization (e.g., larceny, active shooters, and/or improvised explosive devices). In your security plan, prioritize the threats that are the most likely to occur and the most potentially damaging.

You can also use the risk assessment process to evaluate the threat that other hazards, including natural hazards (e.g., storms) and utility disruptions, pose to your organization.

For more information on how to conduct a risk assessment, read [A How-To Guide to Mitigate Potential Terrorist Attacks Against Buildings](#) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Protective Lighting and Closed Circuit Television

Protective lighting can deter attackers by helping your security personnel identify and respond to threats. Lighting can also reduce a potential attacker's opportunities for concealment and surprise.

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) systems can reduce the need for large numbers of security personnel by allowing one person to monitor several locations simultaneously. Set up your camera system to address your specific needs: for example, use wide-angle lenses to detect intruders, but use tight-angle lenses to positively identify personnel.

Make sure your lighting and camera systems work together. A camera focused on a dark area or a light shining directly into a camera will not be efficient. Perform regular maintenance on your lighting and camera systems so they operate correctly when you need them.

For more information about security tools and techniques, read FEMA's [Site and Urban Design for Security: Guidance against Potential Terrorist Attacks](#) (see especially Chapter 6).

Guest Spotlight: NYPD SHIELD



NYPD SHIELD keeps private sector organizations informed about developing situations in the City, preparations for upcoming events, and new intelligence and threat information.

Shield, an umbrella program for NYPD initiatives related to security and counterterrorism, shares best practices, lessons learned, and counterterrorism training opportunities. NYPD SHIELD is a public-private partnership program of the New York City Police Department that aims to protect the city from terrorist attacks.

For more information, visit the NYPD SHIELD website, www.nypdshield.org.

Upcoming Event: Critical Infrastructure Resiliency Webinar



Homeland Security

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will discuss the importance of resiliency and the steps that DHS and its partners are taking to protect the nation's critical infrastructure.

What: Webinar, *Critical Infrastructure Resiliency: The Next Frontier in Homeland Security*

When: Wednesday, January 6, 2010, 3:00-4:00 PM

To register for this event, please go to: <https://connect.hsin.gov/e33382319/event/registration.html>.

For more information about the webinar, visit http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1231165582452.shtm.

If you have any topics or themes that you would like to see covered or any suggestions for how we may improve this newsletter, please send an e-mail to publicprivate@oem.nyc.gov. To see if your topic has been covered in a past issue, please visit the [NYContinuity Archive](#).

Sincerely,
The **NYContinuity** Team

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