



# 2007 GSP Tabletop Exercise

Presented By:

Spartanburg County Office of  
Emergency Management

# Welcome

- Welcome & Introductions



# Content

- Purpose
- Tabletop Exercise?
- Objectives
- House Rules
- Various Roles
- Instructions to Remember
- The Exercise



# Purpose

- This tabletop exercise will enable participants to demonstrate and evaluate the response capabilities, communication, resources, data, coordination, and organizational elements involved in a plane crash response.
- Participants will have an opportunity to assess their own preparedness for responding to such a scenario and identify individual needs for information and/or training.





# Tabletop Exercise?

- Informal group discussion stimulated by a scripted disaster scenario
- Low stress, designed to promote free and open exchange of ideas
- Identify issues (e.g., coordination, communication, resources, and policy)
- Familiarize players with roles, functions, plans, and procedures



# Objectives

- Identify the policy issues that would arise during a plane crash event
- Identify and understand measures that can be performed at the local level
- Recognize the roles of various public officials
- Illustrate the need for intense teamwork and communication



# Objectives

- Identify gaps in local preparedness plans, policies and/or procedures
- Build relationships with participants from other key agencies
- Identify additional training needs in your organization/agency



# House Rules

- What happens in this room stays in this room with the exception of the lessons we learn and the relationships we develop.
- Please be sensitive to the noise level.
- Above all, courtesy and professionalism prevail.
- There will be no actual news media involved in this exercise.





# Various Roles

- Facilitator – SCOEM
- Participants – Those with an active role in the exercise
- Observer – Those designated to observe
- Evaluator – SCEMD



# Participant's Role

- Play your own role in your agency (if possible)
- Identify gaps and strengths of response plans
- Take note of perceived deficiencies to be discussed during The Debriefing



# Instructions to Remember

- Respond as a group as the information emerges
- Maintain your agency's role throughout the exercise
- Not all will participate equally
- Lack of active participants does not mean lack of learning



# Components of the Exercise

- The Setting
- The Scenario Unfolds
- Various Agency Roles/Responses
- Debriefing





# The Setting

- Time of Day: 14:35
- Day of Week: Tuesday
- Weather: Wind blowing South @ 10knts
- Temp: 31 Degrees



# Scenario Unfolds

- A 717 has diverted to GSP from ATL with 76 souls on board
- The aircraft has reported an intermitting hydraulic problem
- The GSP FD was notified of the emergency via crash phone with Alert 2, Level 5 @ 14:35
- At the time of the notification the aircraft was 25 miles NW of the airport @ 22,000 ft descending rapidly



# Scenario Unfolds

- As the aircraft was lined up for final approach the crew radioed the ATC that the aircraft had become sluggish to respond to controls
- On short final about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile off the end of the RW, the aircraft pitched nose up and banked left
- The aircraft rolled and crashed into the wooded area between FedEX & Brockman McClimon Rd just off Gateway Dr
- There is a post crash fire and the aircraft is upside down with the fuselage mostly intact



# Initial Questions

- Whose in charge of the situation?
- Which agencies should be involved?
- What would your agency's initial role be?
- With whom would your agency be communicating?
- Within your own agency, with whom would you communicate first? Why? How?





# Scenario Continued

- Following the Crash, there is a huge surge in 911 calls from local residents. This surge has greatly hindered response times.
- Families at the terminal are demanding information about which flight crashed
- A local Islamic terrorist cell has taken credit for the incident
- Local and National Media are requesting further details about the crash



# Questions

- Who addresses the 911 issue and how?
- How are family issues inside the terminal addressed?  
Who addresses them?
- Since we know an intermitting hydraulic problem caused the crash, how do we address rumor control?
- Do we need a JIC established for this event? If so, who will become the main contact for the media?



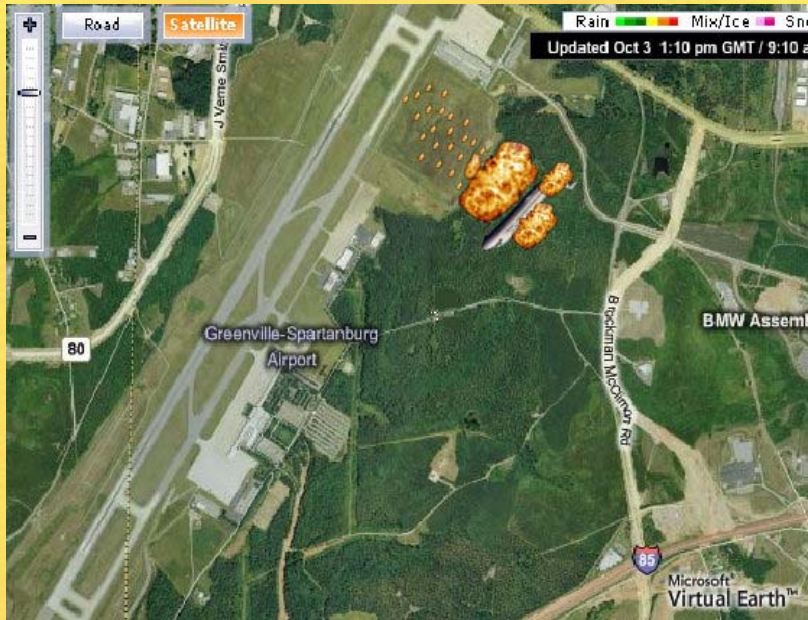
# Scenario Continued

- GSP FD and Police are the first on-scene
- Crowd control issues around the scene of the crash have already surfaced. Onlookers and the media have arrived. Numerous people are trying to get a closer look
- GSP FD report a rapidly growing fire due to the massive amount of fuel and extremely dry conditions.
- An MVA involving 5 cars has occurred on Hwy 101, blocking both lanes of traffic. Traffic on Brockman McClimon Rd is at a standstill due to onlookers.





# GSP MAP





# Questions

- Which Agency or Agencies should address crowd control issues?
- How will the public be notified to stay away from the crash site?
- With a plane crash at GSP, growing fire around the crash, and a major MVA on Hwy 101, whose responding to what? What are all of the support agencies doing?
- Is there a need for outside resources? If so, what's needed and how do you acquire these resources?



# Scenario Continued

- County Fire 1 has went down.
- An initial triage of victims who escaped or were discharged from the wreckage has occurred. Forty-five souls were recovered. Of those 45 souls, 13 are Red (Immediate), 7 Yellow (Delayed), 5 Green (Minor) and 20 Black (Deceased). The Fire Department thinks the remaining 31 souls are still in the plane. In addition, 4 of the 13 Red need immediate air transport.
- Al Jazeera reports that the Saudi Arabia World Cup Squad was on the plane. The following names have been released to the media:

## **Saudi Arabia World Cup Squad**

- Goalkeepers: Mohammad Al-Deayea (Al-Hilal), Mohammad Babakar Al-Khojali (Al-Nasr), Mabrouk Zaid (Al-Ittihad)
- **Defenders:** Abdallah Sulaimane (Al-Hilal), Hussein Abel Ghani Al-Solaimani (Al-Ahli), Mohsen Al-Harethi (Al-Nasr), Fawzi Al-Shehri (Al-Ahli), Ahmed Al-Dokhi Al-Dossari (Al-Hilal), Redah Taqer Fallatah (Al-Shabab), Mohamed Ashleya Al-Johani (Al-Ahli), Mansour Al-Thaqafi (Al-Nasr)
- **Midfielders:** Khamis Al-Ouairan Al-Dossari (Al-Ittihad), Abdallah Al-Waked (Al-Shabab), Mohamed Nour Al-Hossawi (Al-Ittihad), Nawaf Al-Temyat (Al-Hilal), Abdel Aziz Al-Khathran (Al-Shabab), Omar Al-Gamedi (Al-Hilal), Mohammad Al-Shalhoub (Al-Hilal)
- **Forwards:** Sami Al-Jaber (Al-Hilal), Al-Hassan Al-Yami (Al-Ittihad), Abdallah Al-Jamaan Al-Dossari (Al-Hilal), Obeid Al-Dossari (Al-Ahli), Ibrahim Suwayed Al-Shahrani (Al-Ahli)



# Questions

- What Channel will Fire Departments Switch to? How will they communicate this to all of their first responders?
- Where will the medical treatment area be established?
- How will EMS access the site (considering road conditions, etc) and most effectively transport patients?
- Where will these victims be transported? How are the hospitals planning to address this surge in patients? Who will address patient tracking? How will be patients be tracked?
- What role, if any, will SCHEART and RACES play in this Disaster?
- With the possibility of two choppers landing, who will get clearance from GSP and where will the LZ's be set up
- How will the JIC address the increased media attention cause by the news release from Al Jazeera? Will additional rumor control measures be implemented?





# GSP MAP



# Scenario Continued

- Runoff from the crash has went into the river.
- The media is demanding the last audio communications made by the pilot prior to the crash
- Numerous radical groups are blaming various parties for the crash. Various issues, such as the following, are arising:
  - Numerous reports are linking one of the soccer players to terrorist groups
  - The Islamic World raises questions of a Western conspiracy against Saudi Arabia for their involvement in 911



# Questions

- Who addresses the runoff issue? How will the hazardous materials be identified? Who will determine the impact this runoff will have on the environment? What steps can be taken to lessen the impact?
- Who has authority to release audio tapes and when will they do so?
- With numerous rumors circulating and survivors present, who questions the survivors about the crash? When are they questioned? Who leads the investigation?





# Scenario Continued

- Relatives of the victims have started to arrive. In addition, GSP, the Hospitals, and other agencies have been flooded by calls from family members. Many of these individuals only speak Arabic. In addition, many are showing stress related symptoms.
- The Fire Department Confirms that 31 souls are still on board, with no survivors amongst them.
- GSP FD request heavy equipment to assist with the eventual debris removal operation



# Questions

- What arrangements and agencies will be involved with relatives of the victims? Who will address their psychosocial needs? How will local personnel address the language barrier?
- Who will address the deceased management issue (51 dead)? Where will the deceased be taken? If this is under investigation, how long will it be until the deceased are removed from the crash site?
- Who will GSP ask for resources? How will these resources be obtained? Where is the first logical place to seek these resources?



# Scenario Continued

- All victims of the crash have been removed
- Debris Clearance has started
- First Responders have not been through a post event debriefing. Therefore, many are still trying to deal with the psychological impact of this disaster
- The media would like an estimate on the amount of damage sustained at GSP along with an update on those involved in the crash. In addition, they would like to know what steps are being taken to address the needs (psychological, physiological) of the responders, survivors, and the families.
- A final press release is scheduled shortly





# Press Release – 10 Minute Exercise

- The Facilitator will split the group into JIC and Media Workgroups. The JIC Workgroup will select a PIO and craft a final Press Release summarizing what's occurred, paying close attention to the response and recovery phase of his response. The Media workgroup will create questions for the PIO. After both groups have finished their assignment, an official Media release will take place.



**You Have  
10  
Minutes Left**



You Have  
9  
Minutes Left





You Have

8

Minutes Left



You Have

7

Minutes Left



**You Have  
6  
Minutes Left**





You Have

5

Minutes Left



You Have

4

Minutes Left



You Have

3

Minutes Left





You Have

2

Minutes Left



You Have

1

Minutes Left



# Times Up





# Exercise Debriefing

- Discuss the events of the exercise
- Identify gaps in plans, policies, and procedures
- Identify useful information (effective responses)
- Plan next steps
- Complete evaluation forms



# End of Exercise

