



EMMCO West, Inc.

Northwestern PA EMS Council

**Annual Report
EMMCO West, Inc.
FY 2010—2011**



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EMS Graduation Ceremonies



EMMCO West has initiated a recognition ceremony for newly certified EMS providers. These EMS graduation ceremonies are designed to recognize the time, dedication, and efforts made by these newly certified EMS personnel.

The ceremony provides information to each provider on how to become recertified and participate in continuing education programming.

Congratulations to our region's newest EMS providers !



Ceremonies held at UPMC Hamot, St. Vincent Health Center, Millcreek Community Hospital, Clarion Hospital, UPMC Horizon-Greenville, Warren Co., and Days Inn-Meadville. EMMCO West thanks our Graduation Sponsors!

EMSOF Projects FY 10-11

Prehospital Provider Equipment-

Funding for FY 10-11 consisted of a base budget amount of	\$41,774
Supplemental EMS provider and/or system development funding...	\$12,585
Budget Revision	\$17,208

Total EMSOF:	<u>\$71,567</u>
Matching local funding	\$56,651

Total Prehospital Provider Equipment funding FY 10-11...	<u>\$128,218</u>
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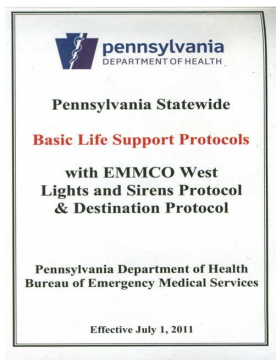
Special Projects funded—



Suction Unit Replacement—Included in this year's prehospital provider equipment funding was a portable suction unit replacement project. EMS Agencies with dated suction units were provided special funding, (a ratio of 80% EMSOF 20% Local match). The suction unit replacement program was recommended by the EMMCO West Quality Improvement committee and was based on their research of suction unit failures at the time of ambulance safety and/or licensure inspections and/or via monthly self-reporting forms.



Commercial Tourniquet— Effective July 1, 2011, all licensed and recognized EMS vehicles must carry a commercial tourniquet. The PA Department of Health, Bureau of EMS, approved a special funding project, using remaining prehospital provider equipment funding, to acquire a commercial tourniquet for every licensed or recognized PA Department of Health vehicle in the EMMCO West region.



Statewide ALS & BLS Protocol Booklets— The revised 2011 PA Department of Health Statewide ALS & BLS Protocols are required to be carried on board each licensed and/or recognized EMS vehicle. EMMCO West, Inc. requested special funding from the PA Department of Health, Bureau of EMS, to reproduce copies for each licensed or recognized EMS vehicle within the region. Additional copies were provided to EMS agencies upon request and were distributed during regional protocol rollout sessions conducted by EMMCO West.

Special Projects Continued...

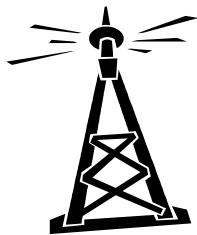


12 Lead EKG Transmission Project “Phase III”- The third year of the EMMCO West region’s 12 lead EKG transmission project was implemented. Four (4) additional hospitals and Ten (10) EMS agencies were provide transmission modems or decoder units. The transmission system uses existing 400 MHZ radios to transmit the 12 lead EKGs.

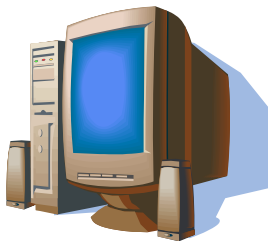
At the conclusion of phase III, all EMMCO West Medical Command Facilities will have the Rosetta 12 lead decoding units to receive 12 lead transmission from ALS EMS agencies.



EMS Week Recognition Program— During May 16-21, 2011, EMMCO West staff members visited over 90+ licensed or recognized EMS agencies. The EMMCO West staff members visited with EMS providers and thanked regional EMS providers for their patient care efforts throughout the region. Each EMS agency received several gifts, including a jar of candy, pens, (1) commercial tourniquet and statewide protocol booklet for each licensed or recognized PA DOH EMS vehicle. Thanks is offered to all EMS providers and EMS Agencies throughout Northwestern Pennsylvania.



Communication Project Funding— The EMMCO West Communication Committee and Board of Directors approved two regional communication projects. Project 1 funded improvements to the mobile communications unit and increased the height of the 800 MHZ radio antenna. Project 2 improved 400 MHZ radio system through moving a tower site from Presque Isle to UPMC Hamot Medical Center, Erie, PA.



PCR Data System Improvement— EMMCO West identified EMS agencies that were experiencing difficulties processing / sending PCR data, due to software or hardware issues. EMMCO West staff identified processing options and assisted these EMS agencies to procure other software or hardware systems to assure effective data processing.

Special Projects Continued....



EMSLOT (EMS Leaders of Tomorrow) 2011— Held in conjunction with Symposium 2011, EMMCO West held another in a series of EMSLOT sessions for current or future supervisors or administrators of EMS agencies. EMS management sessions were conducted by Chris Heile, J.R. Henry and Richard Gibbons, Jr. and featured several problem solving exercises for participants to resolve.

Symposiums "in the county"

Symposium Presentations Held Within Individual Counties—

In addition to its annual educational symposium, EMMCO West has developed a new continuing education outreach initiative. Presentations that are usually only seen at regional, state, or national conferences are now being presented within EMMCO West county locations.

So far, three presentations have been conducted, in addition to Symposium 2011.

- October 2010 Katherine West, Infection Control Officer Program, Venango County
- May 2011 Amish School Shooting , Mercer County
- June 2011 Pathology of Shock & Organ Lab, Crawford County



EZ IO Drill Project— There were 63 requests for EZ IO Drills by regional EMS agencies. The IO Drill was not initially funded through the Prehospital Provider Equipment funding. Through a budget revision, EMMCO West was able to identify additional funding to allow the IO drills to be acquired. The PA Department of Health Bureau of EMS approved this special IO drill project to enable these ALS services to acquire the EZ IO drill and three different size IO needle systems.



AED Trainer Updates— With the implementation of the 2010 CPR guidelines and 2011 Statewide ALS & BLS protocols, EMMCO West has purchased updated AED training units for state certification testing and initial training programming.

All live AEDs are to be updated to the revised 2010 CPR guidelines. EMS agencies are to contact their AED vendor for specific update information.

Special Projects Continued....

Totals:

EMS System Development Funding & Budget Revisions **\$ 112,715**
Funding of Special Projects listed on Pages 4, 5, 6, excluding suction.

Combined EMSOF Equipments & Project Funding: **\$ 240,933**



EMMCO West Corporate Vehicles

To complete work plan tasks, EMMCO West staff utilizes corporate vehicles to perform their job tasks. Particularly useful are the two pickup trucks for moving the (2) mobile hospital trailers, MSEC trailer, and the MCI trailer.

The EMMCO West corporate vehicles for fiscal year 10-11 traveled **39,962** miles to conduct work plan activities.

CISM Team & Clinical Director

The regional CISM team renewed its membership with the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation. The regional team responds to requests for assistance throughout Northwest PA.

The regional CISM team welcomed its new clinical director, Mary Rollinger. Ms. Rollinger is a graduate from Edinboro University and St. Bonaventure. She also serves as the clinical director of the Chautauqua CISM team and is a practicing mental health counselor. We welcome Mary to the EMMCO West CISM team.

By The Numbers...Regional Statistics From Work Activities

The following are statistics from various work plan areas. The numbers reflect current statistics in their respective areas.

Patient Care Reports (PCR)

FY 10-11 : 105,949 (estimated)

Medical Command Facilities— 10

Recognized medical command facilities are:

- Clarion Hospital
- UPMC Northwest
- Grove City Medical Center
- Sharon Regional Health Center
- UPMC Horizon—Shenango
- UPMC Horizon—Greenville
- Meadville Medical Center
- Warren General Hospital
- UPMC Hamot Medical Center
- St. Vincent Health Center

Medical Command Facility Inspections— 4

EMS Personnel w/medical command authorization— 282

12 Lead EKG Transmission Participating Hospitals— 12 total

- 10 Medical Command Facilities
- Corry Memorial Hospital
- Titusville Area Hospital

These hospitals have the General Devices “Rosetta” decoder units to be able to receive 12 lead EKG transmission via the 400 MHZ radio system. Additional systems exist in some hospitals to receive fax or photos of 12 leads.



(Photo of Rosetta Decoder Unit and Printer)

Regional Statistics Continued....



EMS Agency Statistics FY 10-11

Number of EMS Agencies –	94
Number of Licensure inspections –	New – 1 (Elite EMS)
Number of licensure inspections -	Renewals – 25
Number of VQRS inspections	Renewal – 7
Number of VQRS inspections -	New – 1 (Rouseville)
Number of Rescue -	Renewals – 1 (Fairview)
Number of New Rescue –	Rescue - Albion Swift Water – Lake City
Number of new air ambulance	New—1 (WCA – Star Flight)
Number of Ambulance Safety Inspections –	15 inspection locations

Statewide Ambulance Safety Inspections- (4) EMMCO West staff members participated in a statewide Ambulance Safety Inspection Day, held on April 28, 2011. Statewide, 485 EMS Vehicles were inspected. In the EMMCO West region, 27 vehicles were inspected and all passed. (5) vehicles had some type of deficiency, which were corrected and did not require the vehicle to be taken out of service.



Regional Statistics Continued....



EMS Education Statistics—Data is current to date of publication

First Responders -	11 personnel certified	2 courses
EMT-	(141 personnel certified)	24 courses reg. 16 courses finished
Paramedic -		5 courses reg.

Continuing Education Statistics—

Con-ed Courses Offered FY 10-11— 589 sessions

EMMCO West Office Offered— 38 sessions

Included EMMCO West programs—

- CISM “Suicide it was my choice”
- Protocol Rollouts & Train-The-Trainer Sessions
- EMS Instructor Course
- EMS Evaluator Course
- Symposium 2011
- Symposium’s In The Counties
 - * Infection Control Officer Course
 - * Amish School Shooting Course
 - * Pathology of Shock & Organ Lab
- PCR & Documentation
- SCAN EMS
- Cold Emergencies

Organ Lab

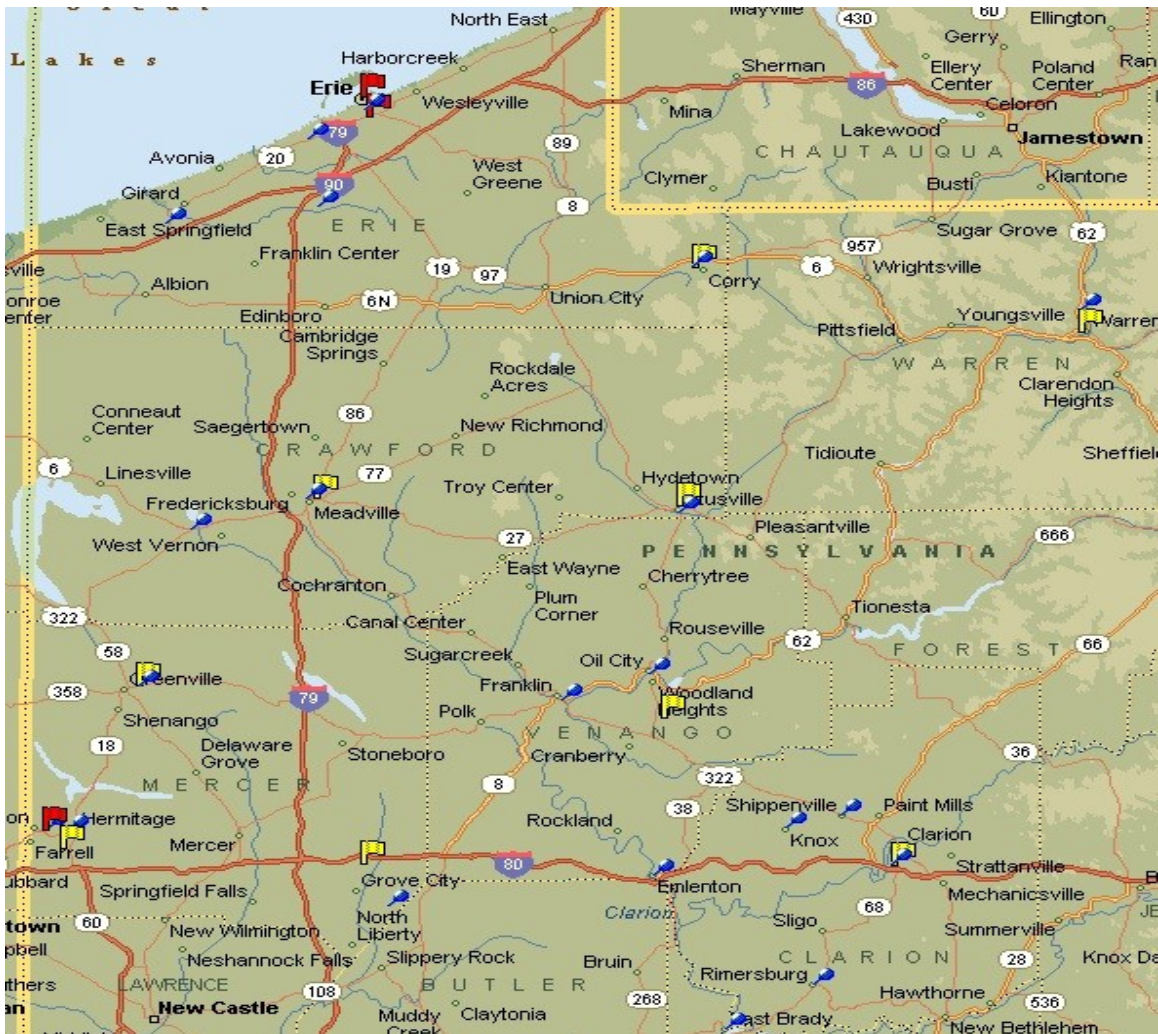


Don Holsten demonstrates the physiological effects of a Tension Pneumothorax using a pig heart and lungs



Mike Shaffer reviews the anatomy and electrical pathways within a heart.

12 Lead EKG Transmission Project General Devices Rosetta System



12 Lead EKG Transmission Project Status— (Blue Pins = EMS Agency w/12 lead TX)
By July 1, 2011, the following hospitals will be able to receive 12 lead transmissions over the 400 MHz radio system using the General Devices Rosetta system:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| • Clarion Hospital | (Yellow Flag) |
| • UPMC Northwest | “ |
| • Titusville Area Hospital | “ |
| • Warren General Hospital | “ |
| • Corry Memorial Hospital | ” |
| • Meadville Medical Center | “ |
| • Grove City Medical Center | “ |
| • UPMC Horizon (Greenville & Shenango Campus) | “ |
| • Sharon Regional Health System (PCI Center) | (Red Flag) |
| • UPMC Hamot (PCI Center) | “ |
| • St. Vincent Health Center (PCI Center) | “ |

Symposium 2011 (April 7—10, 2011)

EMMCO West conducted its annual educational symposium in early April 2011. The conference location was the Ambassador Conference Center, Erie, PA. This is the second year for the annual education conference to be held at the Ambassador Conference Center.

Nearly 400 EMS providers from PA, Ohio, and New York attended this year's event. The EMS Leaders of Tomorrow session started the conference off on Thursday and UPMC Prehospital Care's Extreme 3 interactive classrooms ended the conference activities on Sunday morning. In between these sessions, participants attended cutting edge educational presentations and various displays of new patient care equipment located in the vendor area.

Here's some views of conference activities-



Geriatric Emergency Instructor Joseph Byrne



EMMCO West donated \$2,800 to Make-A-Wish from the gift basket auction

EMMCO West extends a thank you to all of the EMS agencies and other EMS system stakeholders for their generous donation of gift baskets to the Make-A-Wish Chinese Auction. 36 gift baskets were donated and resulted in \$2,800.00 being donated to the Make-A-Wish foundation. All of the funds collected stay in Northwestern PA and benefit families in Northwest PA.

The 2011 child benefitting from Make-A-Wish donations is Javier. He is 13 years old and has been battling leukemia for over six years. His wish was to take his family to Disney World and ride the "fast rides" and the roller coasters. His parents are looking forward to watching him have fun and be a normal 13 year old boy.

Thanks to everyone that contributed towards making this wish possible. Your gift basket donation and/or participated in the Chinese Auction made this wish possible.

THANK YOU!!!

Symposium 2011 continued...

Costs Of Providing EMS Are Highlighted In Game Show Theme— It was a collision of Let's Make a Deal and the Price is Right! MC for the event was Al Boland. The game show contestants dressed up in their wildest costumes, in the hopes of being picked to play one of the pricing games. Participants were shown various types of EMS equipment and resources in the games they played. The games included “blinko”, “squeeze line”, and other games to identify what the costs of the EMS equipment and resources are. Participants were aided by the screams of prices from the crowd. The final price showdown was for a fully equipped BLS and ALS EMS Vehicle. The grand prize was a flat screen TV courtesy of a donation from WalMart.



Preparedness Activities In Northwest PA



May 21, 2011 Drill @ Erie Convention Center with Erie HazMat Team, SMAT, Medical Reserve Corp, NWPAERG Medical Subcommittee, Regional Hospitals, Erie County EMA, Region 18 EMS Strike Team, and PA Dept of Health



Jay Taylor, PA Department of Health , Bureau of EMS shows the new Patient Tracking System (Upper Left)

Erie HazMat Team decons simulated victim at drill (Top)

Patient care equipment is reviewed within Mobile Hospital System (Left)



Regional Preparedness Activities continued....

New NWPA Disaster Response Site Goes Online

The NWPA Disaster Response Group is a joint project of EMMCO West, Inc. and NWPAERG [Northwestern Pennsylvania Emergency Response Group]. It is funded through grants provided by the PA Department of Health, Office of Public Health Preparedness, and serves Erie, Crawford, Forest, Warren and Venango Counties; plus Clarion and Mercer.

Register/Sign In

Home

EMS Strike Team

NWPAERG

Operations

Preparedness

Education

Resources

Northwestern Pennsylvania Disaster Response Group

Latest News

Our Website Is Now Fully Operational

Posted: Monday, May 30, 2011

We are very pleased to announce the launch of our new website!

[View Older News Entries](#)

Operational Dashboard:

[Knowledge Center](#) | [Total Visibility](#) | [FRED](#) | [Erie Medical Reserve Corp](#) | [SERV-PA](#) | [EMMCO West, Inc.](#)

Region 18 EMS Strike Teams— FY 10-11

- Clarion Hospital EMS
- Community Ambulance
- Meadville Area Ambulance
- Elite EMS
- EmergyCare
- Cambridge Spring Volunteer Area Ambulance Service

ESF8 Coordinator for EMMCO West and EMMCO East Regions— George Klinzing

NWPAERG Affiliation—

EMMCO West actively participates on committees and activities associated with the regional terrorism taskforce. For the past five years, EMMCO West has served as the financial administrator for the NWPAERG. Beginning in June 2011, EMMCO West is transitioning its financial administration responsibilities to the Public Safety Institute at MercyHurst College. EMMCO West remains involved with the medical sub-committee and communication committees.

The new website is a joint project between NWPAERG and EMMCO West.

EMS Recognition Awards 2011



Tim Crane Volunteer of the Year 2011



Dave "Jay" Metheny EMS Achievement Award 2011

Volunteer of the Year Award— Tim Crane, Cranesville, Erie County

The Volunteer EMS Practitioner of the Year Award is presented to a practitioner for their continued support of volunteer activities and the promotion of the volunteer spirit among their peers.

EMS Achievement Award— Dave (Jay) Metheny, Mercer County

The EMS Achievement Award is presented to a regional EMS practitioner that has displayed leadership, insight, and vision to improve EMS within the EMMCO West region

Mentor of the Year Award— Jack Christie, Erie County

The EMMCO West EMS Mentor of the Year Award is given to an individual who exemplifies the ideal image of a mentor. Over a period of years, this individual has established a consistent outreach to EMS colleagues. The individual has contributed to the support and/or development of mentoring programs within their EMS agency or training institute. Guidance to EMS practitioners and/or students to exhibit professional values and behaviors are fostered by the candidate.



Jack Christie, Mentor Of The Year Award

Organizations and Activities That Helped Us to Recognize EMS Providers—

The following organizations helped EMMCO West to recognize EMS providers throughout Northwestern PA and beyond our region!



May 21, 2011 was EMS Provider Day at the races!

All participants that attended Symposium 2011, or requested tickets on line, received (4) tickets to the first Saturday evening races at Lake Erie Speedway of the season.



It was a hockey night in Erie with the Erie Otters!

This past February, the Erie Otters provided any certified EMS provider with free administration and 50% off for family-friends. EMMCO West staff was on hand to do a 50-50 raffle with proceeds benefiting Make-A-Wish.



Batter Up For EMS!

A special evening with the Erie Seawolves was offered to participants at Symposium 2011. Another EMS night was held on June 18, 2011 with the Erie SeaWolves. Go Wolves!



EMS Appreciation Day, Wednesday, May 18, 2011

The Sheetz corporation celebrated EMS Week throughout their chain of convenience stores. On Wednesday, May 18, 2011, any EMS provider that was in uniform or presented a certification card received a free coffee or fountain drink.

**Thanks To These Organizations And To Our
Region's EMS Providers**

Thank You

Public Safety Narrowbanding Dates Announced By Regional PSAP Centers

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) has mandated that all radio systems affected by the transition be updated by January 1, 2013. Radios including portables, mobiles, base stations, and even pagers are affected by this transition process. The FCC license that the public safety agency possesses will need to be updated to the new frequencies as part of the transition process.

The rebanding transition affects only VHF High band and UHF radios. Any radio system between the 150 – 512 mHz range is affected by this rebanding initiative. (*Note, VHF low band radio systems are not affected by this transition process, this includes low band pagers.*)

Regional PSAP (public safety answering points) are developing transition timetables for each county in the EMMCO West region. County and regional communication committees have been meeting with public safety system stakeholders regarding this transition process.

County	Timeframe
Clarion	Spring 2012
Crawford	September 2012
Erie	Fall 2012
Forest	Fall 2012
Mercer	Spring 2012
Venango	Fall 2012
Warren	July 2012

As the planning process in each county goes forward, more specific timeframes will be identified. The transition timeframes will vary from county to county. It will be a gradual transition process that will involve tower site by tower site upgrades. EMMCO West will post each county's implementation plan on its website, (www.emmco.org).



Mobile Communication Unit (MCU)

Northwest PA's mobile communication unit is being housed/administrated by Venango County. The regional asset is a joint project between EMMCO West and the NWPAERG.

The MCU has been used at a variety of events this past year that included the Rainbow People Gathering in Warren County and at county fairs & other activities. (Shown here at the NWPAERG Equipment Display)

Communication equipment contained within the MCU enables a regional PSAP communication system to be established/re-established in the event of a communication system outage or special event/activity.



Rainbow Gathering July 4th weekend 2010 in the Allegheny National Forest, Warren County, PA

PEHSC Jerry Esposito Award Presentation



PEHSC Executive Director Janette Swade & Bureau of EMS Director Joseph Schnmider present Chris with the award.

Chris Heile Receives 2011 Jerry Esposito Award

Chris Heile is the recipient of this year's Jerry Esposito Award, presented through the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council. The award is named in honor of Jerry Esposito who is considered by many to be the "Father of EMS" in Pennsylvania. Candidates are chosen based on their qualities of outstanding leadership, vision and creativity in the conduct of his or her duties as an EMS System or EMS service or operations manager.

- Exhibits proven ability as an EMS program manager
- Demonstrates concern for and proficiency in fostering/encouraging professional development in colleagues and mentoring new employees.

Congratulations Chris On Receiving This Award!