



## 2016 Annual Report

Highlights from 2016 are outlined below. Key successes over the past year include conducting the NISC's first virtual information sharing exercise—called CHECKPOINT 16— with over 60 participants from across the country and internationally, adding new tools and apps to the Member Portal, and developing partnerships with local, state, and federal government organizations, non-profits, and the private sector.

- **Membership**

- In 2016, NISC membership has grown to include 229 organizations, adding about 100 new members since fall 2015.
- Growth has increased significantly from the private sector as well as state and local governments; the NISC has also added new members from the federal government, academic institutions, and non-profit organizations
- Membership grew in large part due to significant interest in the CHECKPOINT 16 information sharing exercise that was held in May 2016
- NISC Membership - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/nisc-membership/>

- **CHECKPOINT 16**

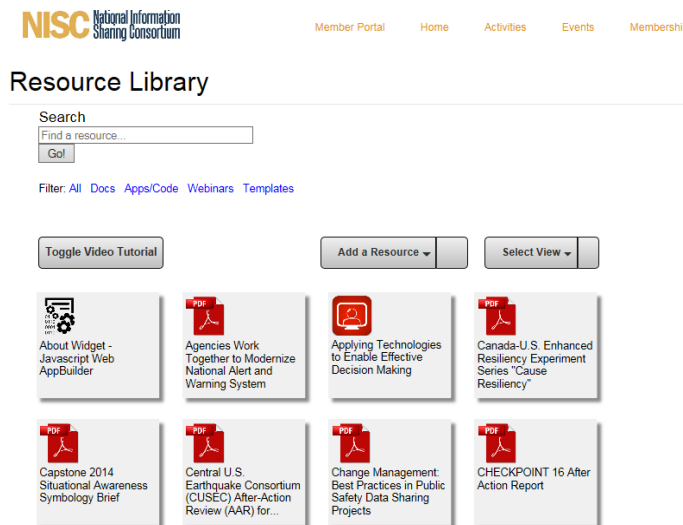
- On May 11, 2016, the NISC conducted its first, multi-national, virtual information sharing exercise designed to test and evaluate situational awareness and decision support tools found in the NISC Member Portal
- The CHECKPOINT16 Exercise was made possible through a grant the NISC received from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science & Technology Directorate
  - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/nisc-activities/checkpoint16/>
- Using a national power outage scenario, the exercise included over 60 participants from local, state, and federal government agencies; state national guard units; private sector companies; Canadian participants; and nonprofit organizations
- Facilitation of the virtual tabletop exercise enabled through a custom-built app- the Battle Rhythm Manager - which allowed participants to test/provide in-stride feedback on specific information sharing tools while playing through the exercise scenario
- Tools used during the exercise, including the Battle Rhythm Manager, are available on the NISC Member Portal and the After Action Report is available on the NISC website
  - NISC website - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/>
  - Battle Rhythm Manager - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/brm/>

- **Cascadia Rising**

- On June 7-10, 2016, the NISC conducted a parallel exercise with the Pacific Northwest Cascadia Rising Exercise to demonstrate how the private sector can share information using the online mapping tools found in the NISC Member Portal
- The NISC’s parallel effort was conducted in collaboration with Oregon’s Public Private Emergency Network (PPEN) and 7x24 Exchange

- **Resource Library and Member Portal**

- Over 60 “open” and “members only” resources available on the NISC Resource Library
  - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/portal/resources/>



- Since its launch in 2015, the Member Portal has had over 500 downloads of its products, including the *Essential Elements of Information (EEI) Publication Guidance* and multiple EEI template map packages
  - Essential Elements of Information - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/nisc-activities/eis/>
  - Member Portal (Member log in required) - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/portal/>
- The NISC has added additional tools and apps since the portal’s launch in March 2015, including the vUSA Web Application, Resource Planning Template, additional EEI templates and map packages, CHECKPOINT 16 Exercise Viewer, Mutual Aid Resource Planner, and Battle Rhythm Widget

## Member Portal



**vUSA Web Application**  
Try out a Common Operating Picture based on Esri's Web AppBuilder. [Download](#) the vUSA widget from the NISC Resource Library to deploy in your own viewer!



**Resource Planning Template**  
Assign resources and resource partners, and identify critical gaps that emerge when resources must be shared



**Test Drive Templates & Apps**  
Test operational & technical templates, social media templates, and more



**NISC Resource Library**  
Share content with other members & access resources shared by members and the NISC



**NISC Virtual USA Information Products**  
Information resources developed from Virtual USA projects



**NISC Member Directory**  
Contact information for all member organizations and representatives

- **Canada-U.S. Enhanced Resiliency Experiment (CAUSE) IV**
  - The NISC provided support for the April 2016 CAUSE IV experiment between the United States and Canada;
    - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/partner-highlights/736-2/>
    - [http://www.science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h\\_D587271D.html](http://www.science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_D587271D.html)
    - Participating Organizations (Canada and United States) - <https://goo.gl/4fEsrj>
  - CAUSE IV evaluated the impact of technologies and applications on cross-border emergency response and medical operations
  - NISC tools that were used during CAUSE IV included:
    - NISC ArcGIS Online Organizational account for enabling organization to organization information sharing
    - NISC Virtual USA (vUSA) widget and Map Viewer
    - Social Media GeoForms
- **New Executive Director, Board & Executive Committee Members**
  - September 2016, Sean McSpaden re-joined the NISC as its volunteer Executive Director
    - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/introducing-niscs-new-executive-director/>
  - In October 2016, the NISC elected three new members to the NISC Board of Directors
  - Current Executive Committee Members and Directors:
    - Executive Committee:
      - Chair: Doug Eades, Kentucky Emergency Management
      - Vice Chair: Jonathon Monken, PJM Interconnection
    - Directors:
      - Danjel Bout: California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
      - Richard Butgereit: Division of Emergency Management



- Travis Cryan: Metrolina Healthcare Preparedness Coalition
- Jamison Day: Ecosify, LLC
- Bryan Koon: Florida Division of Emergency Management
- Derrick Phillips: St. Louis Fire Department
- William Ray: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Major General William N. Reddel III: New Hampshire National Guard
- Eddie Reyes: Amtrak Police Department
- Chris Tubbs: Southern Marin Fire District/City of Sausalito
- Philip Dawe: Defence Research and Development Canada, Centre for Security Science (DRDC CSS)

NISC Leadership - <https://www.nisconsortium.org/about-nisc/leadership/>

- **Strategic Plan Refresh**

- The NISC Board of Directors are in the process of reviewing and updating the NISC's Strategic Plan to set a course for the next 3-5 year planning horizon.
  - Current NISC Strategic Plan (2013-2017)  
[https://nisconsortium.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/NISC\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2013-17\\_v1.pdf](https://nisconsortium.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/NISC_Strategic_Plan_2013-17_v1.pdf)

- **Sponsors**

- The NISC is actively working to build its network of sponsor organizations in the Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze categories
- The Corporate Sponsorship guide has been updated -  
<https://www.nisconsortium.org/sponsorship-program/>