



**Main Point:** Status update on the development of the e-ISuite application.

**Background:** NWCG chartered the Incident Business Automation (IBA) Project with developing and implementing a web-based incident business application to replace the current stand-alone I-Suite system. NWCG stated in the Charter that the focus area and business need for this project were to provide an Enterprise level application that can be accessed via web browser; to utilize updated technology to replace the current client based application to address many of the issues experienced regarding security, approval and installation; and to provide further scalability and widespread interagency use.

This web-based application is known as e-ISuite. The original I-Suite system will remain available for use until full implementation of e-ISuite is accomplished.

**Key Benefits:**

- Ability to track incident costs from initial response through close-out
- Upward reporting capability for one or more incidents across the country
- Integration with other systems
- Increased security

**Current status:** Development of e-ISuite has been divided into two phases, and each phase divided into increments. Phase 1 contains 5 increments, with business requirements base-lined for all increments and a final SME walk-through of Increment 5 prototype scheduled for the end of September. Scenario testing for Phase 1 is scheduled for early January 2012, and will involve Subject Matter Experts from all of the NWCG affiliated agencies.

Work has begun in Phase 2 as well. Business requirements have been completed for Increment 6, the Project Team has begun documenting requirements for Increment 7, and work will begin on Increments 8 through 13 over the next few months. All current functionality in I-Suite will be included in the initial version of e-ISuite, with some enhancements included by design and other enhancements included by virtue of using updated technology.

**Future Activities:** Design and development of Phase 2 is scheduled to be completed in January 2013. Field testing on actual incidents will be conducted during the early fire season of 2013; any software issues or change requests as a result of field testing will be prioritized and implemented during that time.

Training is projected to begin in May 2013. Training will be a very large undertaking for which each agency's Incident Business person has been preparing. The IBA Project Team is working with the NWCG Incident Business Committee to assist the agencies with an e-ISuite implementation plan that includes an approach to training, and will be available to help with any issues that may come up.

- **e-ISuite system roll-out into production is scheduled for June through October 2013.**

**Upcoming meetings / outreach activities:**

- October 2011 – NWCG Incident Business Committee meeting in Boise, ID (as budgets permit)
- February – April 2012 – Presentations at IMT meetings (as budgets permit)
- Continue with Quarterly issues of our IBA Newsletter
- Outreach to Managers and other Stakeholders through Briefing Papers such as this
- Post information on the e-ISuite webpage (<http://iba.nwcg.gov/eISuite/eISuite.htm>)

**Further information may be obtained by contacting Gina Bald at [gbald@fs.fed.us](mailto:gbald@fs.fed.us) or 801-531-5325**