



**The 4th International Conference on Information Systems for
Crisis Response and Management**

Delft, the Netherlands, May 13-16, 2007
<http://www.iscram.org>

CALL FOR PAPERS

FOR A SPECIAL *ACADEMIC/PRACTITIONER/DEMONSTRATION* SESSION ON

Visualization in Crisis Management

Session ID: 31VISU

Motivation for this session:

Emergency preparedness and response personnel are faced with volumes of complex data from numerous information systems that they must evaluate, correlate, and use to support time-critical decisions. As information systems are made more intelligent, planners and responders will remain an essential part of the greater "system". Visual analytics is a powerful approach for enabling users to work effectively with intelligent systems.

Research Area:

Visual Analytics is the science of analytical reasoning supported by the highly interactive visual interface. People use visual analytics tools and techniques to synthesize information; derive insight from massive, dynamic, and often conflicting data; detect the expected and discover the unexpected; provide timely, defensible, and understandable assessments; and communicate assessments effectively for action. The issues stimulating this body of research provide a grand challenge in science: turning information overload into the opportunity of the decade.

Information sources may provide data that is structured or unstructured, geospatial or non-spatial. Databases, maps, news reports, and system statuses must be brought together and presented in a manner which emergency personnel can leverage. Visual analytics can help users assess situations, make and carry out decisions, and prepare and present reports under a variety of conditions. Advancements in the effectiveness of visual analytics can provide improvements throughout the lifecycle of emergency preparedness and response.

Topics:

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- Light-weight "mashups" that synthesize information from diverse data sources
- Innovative visual analytics techniques for events unfolding across space and time
- Scalable data representations of very large volumes of highly heterogeneous data
- Analytical reasoning including the human analytic discourse, knowledge discovery methods, perception and cognition, and collaborative visual analytics
- Presentation, production, and dissemination methods including methods and tools for capturing the analytics process, and story telling for specific and varying audiences

Type of contributions:

Demonstrations, prototypes, and papers are invited that deal with any aspects of visual analytics for emergency management that facilitate situational awareness, decision making, and information sharing. Of particular interest are innovative visual analytics techniques that have been evaluated through observation or experiment.

- We invite researchers from academia or research labs to present their research or research-in-progress papers. Prospective presenters submit a regular research (or research in progress) paper which will be reviewed according to the usual academic standards.
- We invite practitioners to present their practice or experiences in information systems development, use or needs. Prospective presenters submit a PowerPoint presentation which will be reviewed according to standards of relevance and contents.
- We invite presentations of non-commercial demonstrations of information systems. Prospective contributors submit a description of the demonstration or simulation they intend to present at the conference. These will be reviewed according to standards of relevance to the general theme of the conference.

Important Notice:

All submissions must be submitted to the ISCRAM2007 central email address: iscram2007@iscram.org.

All submissions must be formatted according to the ISCRAM2007 instructions published on iscram.org. All papers, presentations or demos will go through a double-blind review process, leading to a decision of (conditional) acceptance or rejection. Acceptance rates at previous conferences were at 50-60 percent.

Accepted papers will be included in the ISCRAM2007 program and published in the official proceedings if and only if (1) the paper is formatted according to the instructions, (2) the authors sign the copyright transfer form (see iscram.org) and (3) one of the authors registers for the conference and pays the registration fee before the cut-off date for early registration. Authors who have multiple papers accepted can only register for and present one paper at the conference; co-authors need to register separately.

Session Chair:

Aaron Burgman
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Senior Software and Human Factors Engineer
The MITRE Corporation, Bedford, MA, USA

Important ISCRAM2007 Deadlines:

- Paper Submission Deadline: January 15, 2007
- Notification of acceptance: February 22, 2007
- Closing date Early Registration: March 1, 2007
- Final version submission deadline: March 15, 2007
- ISCRAM2007: May 13-16 2007

About ISCRAM:

The ISCRAM Community is a worldwide community of researchers, scholars, teachers, students, practitioners and policy makers interested or actively involved in the subject of Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management. At its annual international conference alternating between the US and Europe, the ISCRAM Community gathers to present and discuss the latest research and developments in this growing area during an interactive and stimulating 3 day program. The ISCRAM Community also organizes ISCRAM-CHINA, an annual conference for ISCRAM research in China. All information on ISCRAM can be found at <http://www.iscram.org>.

This year the conference will be held from 13-16 May in the Netherlands in the city of Delft. All details on this conference will be made available via the ISCRAM website mentioned above.

TIP!

If you have the intent to submit a paper or presentation to one or more sessions, the session organizers would greatly appreciate an early, voluntary, notification. Please send your abstract TO: the Session Chair(s) (See e-mail addresses above) *and* CC it to: iscram2007@iscram.org.

The subject of the mail should be:

"Abstract for <session ID> on <your short title>"

The content of the mail should include:

- The type of contribution you want to submit: an academic paper, a presentation or a demo
- The title of your contribution
- A short description (abstract) of your contribution (10 lines)
- Any remarks/questions you have.

The session organizers will answer any questions you have, and may provide you with some tips.

Please note that submitting an abstract is not obligatory; it will be appreciated however. The organizing committees will not review the abstracts, or make a selection on the basis of abstracts. Only the final and full submissions will be used for this purpose. Sending an abstract does not oblige you to submit the full paper.