

Homeland Security Risks – A Risk Management Perspective

By: Rich Woldt – CEO

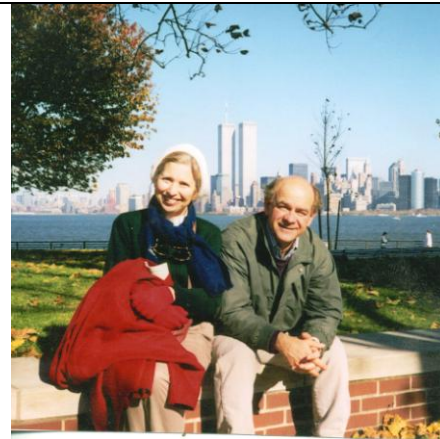
The Risk Management Learning Center

Who would have thought?

November 2000 while visiting Ellis Island I posed for a picture making sure the WTC was centered in the background. Little did I know that less than a year later Al Qaida terrorist would be so evil as to fly commandeered commercial aircraft into both towers, intentionally killing hundreds of innocent, defenseless occupants and the courageous first responders who'd risk their lives to rescue those in harms way. Yet, on September 11, 2001 that's exactly what they did and have vowed to strike again if we give them half a chance.

Even more troubling, Al Qaida terrorists vow to strike again, have franchised their evil to the disenchanted and disgruntled citizens in every population, and boast of recruiting homegrown terrorists at every level of both the public and private sectors in rural, urban and suburban communities. Terrorist' have prioritized their targets based potential body counts, vulnerable secondary targets, ability to disrupt communication links and transportation systems, benefit from global media coverage, the ability force the concentration of response and recovery assets into predictable staging areas and refugee shelters, and finally to fuel hysteria during mass evacuations.

On the first year anniversary of the 9-11-01 we launched a five-year, five-phase Risk Management R&D project to identify, measure, and develop appropriate terrorist' risk controls. *Many R&D documents are filed in our RMLC library at www.RMLearningCenter.com.*



Five-year, five phase Risk Management Strategic Action Plan 9-11-02 to 9-11-07

Following the same Strategic Action Plan (SAP) used by US, European, Asian, Canadian, Australian, and Caribbean Departments of Homeland Security and Emergency Government, we formulated a five-year, five-phase Risk Management (RM) strategy to benchmark the public and private sector's ability to identify, measure, and control the terrorist risks that were and continue to escalate around the world.



During the first year or “Phase I” we developed regional threat assessments so as to focus on risk concentrations, security at predictable terrorist targets, and level of public sector readiness should a similar attack be launched within the first year. Our primary objective was to objectively measure the need for private sector involvement before, during, and after any large scale community crisis. Large scale was defined by the type, scope, duration, and extent of physical damage caused by the crisis.

Phase II studied how to equip, phase III how to staff and train, and Phase IV how to respond to and recover from any large scale community crisis.

Phase V, titled “When the rubber meets the road” introduced Risk Management training materials for the thousands of Critical Incident Response Teams (CIRTs), Visual Intelligence of Persons and the Environment Recon (VIPER) squads, and neighborhood watches that have formed across the country and around the world. A primary objective in Phase V was to introduce the Incident Command System (ICS), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the use of the internet to identify, measure, and control terrorist' risks on a local and regional level.

