



Coordinating Major Incidents Across Jurisdictions

LAFIS Association

Switzerland & Liechtenstein

Cooperation between different emergency services and other organizations is crucial for managing major incidents and events. Common objectives and a single source of information are essential for collaboration during natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and large-scale social or sporting events.

The Situation and Command Information System (LAFIS) Association provides members with a high-performance incident command system to enable joint operations across organizations and jurisdictions. Members include the Swiss Armed Forces and all cantonal police forces, as well as several municipal police forces, command centers, and other emergency service organizations in eastern Switzerland and parts of central and northwestern Switzerland. The national police force of Liechtenstein and SSB, Swiss Rail's transportation police, support the association as partners.

Using major event management software from Hexagon's Safety & Infrastructure division, the LAFIS Association harnesses the collective capabilities of these diverse responders and provides tools to manage incidents and events throughout the entire life cycle. Nearly one-third of the Swiss population benefits.

A Shared System

Before the LAFIS Association was founded, separate command staffs and self-contained incident command

processes complicated cross-organizational collaboration. Agencies deployed liaison officers to exchange information during multi-agency events or incidents near cantonal borders. Only Zurich-area police jointly managed major incidents and events via a shared system.

Those Zurich agencies selected Hexagon to deploy their incident command system application. During the implementation stage, the agencies determined they could expand intercantonal collaboration with the Hexagon software. Following the solution's launch in the canton of Zurich, agencies in eastern Switzerland formed the LAFIS Association to support financing, development, and operation of a shared system by multiple organizations. Many LAFIS Association members are also users of Hexagon's industry-leading computer-aided dispatch (CAD) solution.

Hexagon's major event management software meets the members' requirements for usability, availability, and user-friendliness to support complex operations harmonized through joint processes and scenarios. Access to a central server and multiple clients enables the exchange of information and situational assessments, which are crucial elements for effective intercantonal cooperation.

Relevant command staffs can transfer data and information on operational or personnel resources into the system. Among other critical capabilities, the software provides



Hexagon's major event management software ensures users like the Zurich Cantonal Police's situation room have access to the exact capabilities needed.

a map-based common operating picture and information on resource status and availability. The system is integrated with positioning servers through interfaces created in close cooperation with Hexagon partners ISA Telematics and Datcom.

Capabilities on Demand

In-depth sharing of information greatly enhances cooperation among association members. The system supports the real-time exchange of notifications and messages between command staffs throughout the entire event life cycle.

Organizational charts for each partner provide a comprehensive overview of the deployed personnel and their respective connections. By deploying GPS tracking devices, agencies can monitor the position of objects in real time on the digital map.

Organizations can define access rights to operational data before creating events in Hexagon's software and can modify them throughout the operation. Each user is assigned a defined role, from reading privileges to administrator tasks for user management. This improves the system's usability for Swiss militia organizations by ensuring each user has access to the exact capabilities needed.

"LAFIS has established itself as an important command staff resource that complements the tactical systems of each operational step," said Marius Weyermann, head of incident command and operations, Zurich Cantonal Police.



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Marius Weyermann
Head of Incident Command & Operations
Zurich Cantonal Police

The World Economic Forum

The association and its shared system simplify coordination during high-profile activities, such as Zurich's Street Parade and the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos. As the WEF host country's public safety authorities, Swiss emergency services must maintain safe travel routes and guard dignitaries.

With major event management software from Hexagon, association members provide comprehensive travel monitoring by immediately forwarding information on threats, accidents, blocked routes, and diversions to stakeholders. And with GPS tracking visible on the common map, they can monitor the location of car convoys, helicopters, and more.

Early interorganizational creation of a common event in the Hexagon system for WEF safety and security results in better planning for and quick reaction to potential threats and impediments. Linking police and public safety

agencies greatly enhances the safe transportation of protected persons, improves the efficiency of police resources, and ensures the implementation of a unified incident command system.

The LAFIS Association expects more organizations will join and extend the joint operational area. The system's scalability ensures the smooth integration of new members, including smaller organizations that only manage a few events per year. With Hexagon's major event management software, organizations of all scope and size can benefit from purposeful and efficient major event and incident management.

LAFIS ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS

- Appenzell Ausserrhoden Cantonal Police and Cantonal Command Staff
- Appenzell Innerrhoden Cantonal Police and Cantonal Command Staff
- Basel-Stadt Cantonal Police and Cantonal Command Staff
- Glarus Cantonal Police and Cantonal Command Staff
- Grisons Cantonal Police and Cantonal Command Staff
- Lucerne Police
- Schaffhausen Police and Cantonal Command Staff
- St. Gallen Cantonal Police and Cantonal Command Staff, St. Gallen City Police
- Swiss Armed Forces: Territorial Divisions 1-4, Military Police, and Special Services
- Thurgau Cantonal Police
- Zurich Cantonal Police and Cantonal Command Staff, Zurich City Police, and Zurich Protection & Rescue
- Winterthur City Police
- Zug Police and Zug Cantonal Command Staff

PARTNERING AGENCIES

- SBB Transportation Police
- Liechtenstein National Police and National Command Staff

(as of April 2018)

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Hexagon's Safety & Infrastructure division provides software for smart and safe cities, improving the performance, efficiency and resilience of vital services.

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