

To assist our students understand the acronyms used within the emergency management sector we have developed this handy reference sheet to decipher the language of the industry.

Acronym	Meaning
2IC	Second In Charge
AA	Assembly Area - CIMS
ACC	Accident Compensation Corporation
ALP	Ambulance Loading Point - CIMS
ALS	Advanced Life Support
AOS	Armed Offenders Squad (NZ Police)
AREC	Amateur Radio Emergency Corps – NZ Amateur Radio Transmitters Assoc
ARU	Animal Rescue Unit
AVSEC	New Zealand Aviation Security Service
ASTM	American Society for Testing & Materials
BCP	Business Continuity Planning
BFR	Big Friendly Rock
BFT	Big Friendly Tree
BLS	Basic Life Support
CAB	Citizens Advice Bureau
CAT1A	USAR Awareness training course/certified
CAT1R	USAR Responder training course/certified
CAT2	USAR Technician training course/certified
CAT3	USAR Manager training course/certified
CBRN	Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear
CCP	Casualty Collection Point - CIMS
CD	Civil Defence
CDEM	Civil Defence Emergency Management
CDEMG	Civil Defence Emergency Management Group
CEC	Community Emergency Centre (same as Sector Post)
CEG	Coordinating Executive Group
CEM®	Certified Emergency Manager (IAEM)
CIMS	Coordinated Incident Management System
CISD	Critical Incident Stress Debriefing
CT	Counter Terrorism
DHB	District Health Board
DHS	Department of Homeland Security (USA)
DIA	Department of Internal Affairs
DOC	Department of Conservation
DPMC	Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
DTL	Deputy Team Leader (same as 2IC)
DVI	Disaster Victim Identification (NZ Police)
EFTS	Equivalent Full Time Student – Tertiary Funding
EMA	Emergency Management Australia
EMA	Emergency Management Advisor (typically MCDEM)
EMANZ	Emergency Management Academy of New Zealand
EMO	Emergency Management Officer
EMO	Emergency Management Office (usually at Group/Regional level)
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
ERU	Emergency Response Unit (commonly used by NZ Red Cross)
EQC	Earthquake Commission
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency (USA – underneath DHS)
FRSITO	Fire & Rescue Services Industry Training Organisation
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HSNO	Hazardous Substances and New Organisms
HB	Heli Base – CIMS
HF	High Frequency 3-30MHz
HP	Heli Pad - CIMS
IAEM	International Association of Emergency Managers
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Controller - CIMS
ICP	Incident Control Point - CIMS
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IGNS	Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (includes GeoNet)
IMT	Incident Management Team
ITO	Industry Training Organisation
INSARAG	United Nations International Search & Rescue Advisory Group
IRAANZ	Industrial Rope Access Association of New Zealand
LGITO	Local Government Industry Training Organisation (under LGNZ)
LGNZ	Local Government New Zealand

LOC	Level of consciousness
LSU	Life Support Unit (Ambulance with Advanced Paramedic & Ambulance Officer)
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry
MCDEM	Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (under DIA)
MCI	Mass Casualty Incident
MFaT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MIC	Media Information Centre
MOH	Ministry of Health
MVC	Motor Vehicle Crash
NCDEMP	National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan
NCMC	National Crisis Management Centre (operated by MCDEM)
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association (International – USA)
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NQF	National Qualifications Framework (NZQA)
NZAID	New Zealand's International Aid & Development Agency
NZDF	New Zealand Defence Force
NZFS	New Zealand Fire Service
NZTF	New Zealand Task Force (USAR – Operated by NZ Fire Service)
NZRC	New Zealand Red Cross
NZRT	New Zealand Response Team (Registered by MCDEM)
NZQA	New Zealand Qualifications Authority
NZUSARSDA	NZ USAR Search Dog Association
O/C	Officer in Charge
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODESC	Officials Committee for Domestic and External Security Coordination
OSOCC	On Site Operations Coordination Centre (UNDAC)
OSH	Occupational Safety & Health
PIM	Public Information Manager
PFD	Personal Floatation Device
PHEC	Pre-Hospital Emergency Care (Advanced First Aid)
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PSTO	Public Sector Training Organisation
PTWC	Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (Honolulu)
RAMS	Risk Analysis Management System
RAPID®	Response And Preparedness In Disaster project (by MCDEM)
RCC	Recognition of Current Competency
RCCNZ	Rescue Coordination Centre of NZ (National Aviation & Marine SAR EOC)
REDR	Register of Engineers for Disaster Relief
RMA	Resource Management Act
RT	Response Team – refer NZRT
RTC	Road Traffic Crash (see also MVC)
RQ3	Rescue 3 International (also abbreviated as RQ3I)
SA	Staging Area - CIMS
SAR	Search & Rescue
SATCOM	Satellite Communications (example Iridium or INMARSAT)
SFP	Safe Forward Point - CIMS
SITREP	Situation Report
SKED	Scheduled radio telephone traffic
SOLGM	Society of Local Government Managers
SOPS	Standard Operating Procedures
SPCA	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SRT	Swiftwater Rescue Technician
STG	Special Tactics Group (NZ Police)
TA	Triage Area - CIMS
TEC	Tertiary Education Commission
TIPS™	Targeted Incident Planning System (developed by EMANZ)
TL	Team Leader
TLA	Territorial Local Authority
TPP	Tai Poutini Polytechnic
UHF	Ultra High Frequency (300MHz to 3GHz)
UIAA	Union of International Alpine Associations
UN	United Nations
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment Coordination
USAR	Urban Search & Rescue
VHF	Very High Frequency (30-300MHz)
VMA	Vehicle Marshalling Area