



ICS4ICS Exercise at GridSecCon Oct 17, 2023

Executive Summary

Brian Peterson, ICS4ICS program manager, facilitated an ICS4ICS Exercise on Oct 17, 2023, at GridSecCon in Quebec City Canada. The exercise participants identified these recommendations:

- Provide hand-outs to ICS4ICS Exercise participants including Acronyms, org chart, Planning-P, etc. (2-sided page, possibly laminated)
- Acronyms should be moved earlier in the deck
- Case-studies would be valuable to help understand processes (mock-roles)
- ICS4ICS should be presented at the larger group of the conference
 - A request to present to conference participants was not accepted
- Need to present ICS4ICS training at GRIDEx and potentially integrate ICS4ICS exercise materials into the GRIDEx exercise materials
 - Submitted proposal to integrated ICS4ICS into GRIDEx at their next (2025) exercise
- Help people understand the “WHY” asset owners should deploy the ICS4ICS program at their companies
- Describe how staff working in operations often must work with Cyber Incident Response and ICS4ICS efforts
 - They can’t perform operations work at the same time as Cyber Incident Response work
 - Mutual aid may be needed to back-fill some roles at companies that have few people in each role

Other Comments

These are other comments made by the exercise participants:

- Nice to have a little background on how the ICS4ICS program leveraged NIMS/ICS materials and describing their history from the 1970's
- Appreciated hearing about the future of ICS4ICS program and how to get involved in the program
- The structure of the ICS4ICS program is good including merging concepts of cyber-physical and NIMS/ICS
- Ransomware and other processes presented during the ICS4ICS exercise were valuable
- Linkage between the Planning-P steps in the exercise and the ICS4ICS documented (procedures) processes was valuable and should be added to more documents