



NATIONAL INCIDENT REPORTING FOR THE U.S. FIRE SERVICE, BUILT FOR THE FULL MISSION

On January 1, 2026, NERIS became the sole national incident reporting system for fire and emergency response agencies across the United States — succeeding a legacy system after nearly five decades and completing the congressional mandate ahead of schedule.

It was built with the fire service, not just for it. More than 25,000 departments were individually invited to participate before launch. Nearly 1,400 public comments shaped the core data schemas during a national engagement period.

Every day, roughly 90,000 incident records flow into NERIS. Each one builds a detailed picture of fireground operations — and departments get analytics back within hours of submission, not years.

What NERIS Does

NERIS is the national data backbone for fire and emergency response reporting. It doesn't replace the RMS or CAD tools departments already use — it's the standard those systems report into. Unified validation rules ensure data quality holds regardless of which software a department runs. Departments retain full ownership and control of their data.

"This is what the fire service has needed for a long time. The data our firefighters collect every shift is coming back to us as something we can actually use. NERIS has changed how we brief leadership, how we justify staffing, and how we make the case for prevention."

- JON DAVINE,
State Fire Marshal, MA

How It is Built

NERIS uses a modular schema structure. A lean core captures baseline incident information quickly and feeds analytics within hours of submission. Extended schemas add to the record depth without changing what departments are already submitting.

SCHEMAS LIVE TODAY

ENTITY

Department profiles, staffing, apparatus, GIS boundaries

DISPATCH

CAD-sourced call data, timestamps, unit responses

INCIDENT

Core incident details, actions taken, outcomes

INCIDENT ANALYSIS

Cause, damage, loss, product involvement, structure detail

COMING IN 2026

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Responder exposure and injuries

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Inspections, home visits, hydrant checks, public education

Platform Capabilities

CAPABILITY	FEATURE	BENEFIT
 No-Cost Platform	Zero cost for fire and EMS departments, State Fire Marshal Offices, and emergency service agencies.	Removes the adoption barrier for volunteer and small departments , which historically produced the most underreporting.
 From Black Box to Visible Asset	Dashboards reflect department activity within hours of submission .	Staffing decisions, mutual aid requests, and resource placement can be informed by current data , not last year's report.
 Powering the Full Mission	Distinct schemas will capture incidents, saves, CRR activities, and firefighter health, not just fire suppression .	Prevention work, EMS response, and technical rescue are measured and documented alongside structural fires.
 Departments Own Their Data	Departments retain full ownership and control of their data.	Guarantees trust and autonomy in how information is used at the local, state, and federal level.
 Integration Partner Model	Dozens of RMS and CAD vendors have enrolled, with certified V1 Compatible designations published.	Departments keep their existing tools. Unified validation rules enforce data quality standards regardless of vendor.
 GIS Foundation	Incident data is geocoded and linked to department boundaries, station locations, and climate hazard layers.	Spatial analytics are standard , not a custom build.
 Future-Proof Architecture	Flexible cloud-based platform with a versioned API . New schemas and emerging hazard modules can be added without restructuring existing reporting.	The standard evolves as fast as the risks the fire service faces, informed by field feedback from practitioners .
 NERIS Public	Open, daily-updated geospatial datasets published for researchers, planners, and policymakers.	Data built with public investment is publicly accessible . The Fire Departments dataset is live; incident data will follow.



**FAQS AND PLATFORM
DOCUMENTATION**



RESOURCES



SIREN BLOG

HELP AND SUPPORT:

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neris.fsri.org

NERIS is a proud public-private partnership between the U.S. Fire Administration, DHS Science and Technology Directorate, and UL Research Institutes' Fire Safety Research Institute. The NERIS Team is committed to continuous improvement, using feedback to guide the system's evolution.

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