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## 5 NEWS UPDATE

### 21 IRISH HEALTHCARE AWARDS

The Irish Healthcare Awards 2014 are now calling for entries from individuals and institutions in acute and primary care, public health, pharmaceutical companies, patient support groups, private sector and other sectors with an interest in healthcare.

## 44 CYBER SECURITY

Cyber crime is now big business and criminals are looking to steal information such as credit card information, and financial and personal details, which they can sell or trade. Independent security consultant Brian Honan outlines the best practice procedures and protocols to adopt when responding to computer security incidents.

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### 23 CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

A leading cardiologist is calling on Irish healthcare professionals to engage in debate and discussion to help Ireland tackle the challenge of preventing cardiovascular disease, which he says is the ultimate answer to the biggest killers of heart attack and stroke in Ireland.

## 50 HOSPITAL RESPONSE

The HMIMMS (Major Incident Medical Management & Support – The Hospital Response) programme provides an opportunity for all clinical and non-clinical personnel to understand its principles and adapt their own hospital plans and response accordingly in the event of a major emergency incident. 'Emergency Services Ireland' gets some very positive feedback from some participants of the recent HMIMMS course in Dublin.

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### 25 GARDA AUTHORITY

In terms of setting up a new independent Garda Authority, Dr Maurice Hayes, the former Northern Ireland Ombudsman, tells 'Emergency Services Ireland' there definitely is "a strong argument" for replicating something along the lines of the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

## 62 OVERSEAS AID

A group of Irish firefighters, who returned from West Africa following delivery of vital emergency resources and training as part of the Niger Fire Engine Project, are already putting plans in place for next year and beyond.

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### 31 CROSS-BORDER MANAGEMENT

The newly-established Cross-Border Emergency Management Working Group is currently working with the International Centre for Local and Regional Development and the All-Island Research Observatory on a pilot project to map resources along the border area such as local authority offices, rest centres, evacuation centres, and fire stations.

## 67 IRISH PRISON SERVICE

The establishment of an independent complaints mechanism and prison ombudsman, and putting an end to overcrowding and slopping out in Irish prisons are some of the many goals high on the agenda for Deirdre Malone, the new executive director of the Irish Penal Reform Trust.

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### 37 CROSS-BORDER TRAINING

Health services personnel from both sides of the border, including some military reservist doctors and nurses, who may be deployed to international disaster zones worldwide, will have an opportunity to participate in a three-day specialist training course in October.

## 75 EU FIRE OFFICERS

A number of EU initiatives, such as emergency management in social media generation, the interoperability for emergency services and the new Emergency Services Driving Standard, were reviewed by European senior fire chiefs at a recent meeting in Westport, Co. Mayo.

### 41 CROSS-BORDER CO-OPERATION

Ongoing co-operation between the HSE National Ambulance Service and the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service has been placed on a more formal footing through the development of an updated and enhanced Memorandum of Understanding.

## 79 IRISH RED CROSS

The Irish Red Cross has identified ten areas in which Ireland's laws and regulations could hinder international emergency aid entering the country during a humanitarian disaster, and claims that tighter measures are needed here for effective international disaster response.



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## 82 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) – more commonly referred to as drones – may have taken off across Europe and the USA, but due to an ostensive lack of awareness the concept has not gained popularity in Ireland within the context of emergency response situations.

## 85 SPECIAL REPORT

The Road Safety Authority's plan to introduce a national Emergency Services Driving Standard, expected to go live in 2015, aims to abolish the current situation whereby all emergency drivers in this country are trained and assessed to differing standards.

## 91 WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT

Some Irish fire services have undertaken specialist wildfire training since 2011 and are now equipped with specific wildland firefighting equipment and doctrines. Yet, with a likelihood of increased problems in this area, an expansion of these developments is clearly warranted.

## 100 AVIATION FIREFIGHTERS

A five-day Aviation Firefighter Revalidation Course at the Air Corps Fire Training Facility saw a number of firefighters undergo this rigorous programme to recertify as aviation firefighters for a further four years.

## 105 ROAD SAFETY GROUP

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is to set up a 'Road Safety Working Together Group' comprising of members from the local authority, the Road Safety Authority, An Garda Síochána, Dublin Fire Brigade, HSE National Ambulance Service, and the National Transport Authority.

## 108 BARRINGTONS HOSPITAL

The opening of nine new in-patient suites

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in Barringtons Hospital forms part of the private hospital's ambitious masterplan to establish Ireland's first medical village on King's Island in the heart of Limerick city.

## 111 DISASTER RESPONSE

Ireland is not prepared to deal with extreme weather conditions such as major flooding and freezing episodes, according to the co-founder of a Galway-based disaster response charity. Disaster Tech Lab wants to use its experience of assisting overseas missions to improve the level of preparedness at home.

## 115 COMMUNITY RESUSCITATION

Northern Ireland's Communication Resuscitation Strategy aims to increase its survival rate for out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, whilst also increasing the number of people with CPR skills and availability of public access defibrillators.

## 117 MOUNTAIN RESCUE CONFERENCE

Mountain rescue teams from Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland aim to share and build on best practice at the UK-Ireland Mountain Rescue biennial conference on 12-14 September in the Scottish Highlands.

## 121 UK EMERGENCY SHOW 2014

The organisers of the Emergency Services Show, which returns to Birmingham's NEC on 24-25 September, again invite Ireland's emergency services personnel to network with peers and learn how the UK is dealing with austerity cuts.

## 123 UK NEWS

## 135 INTERNATIONAL NEWS



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