

# EMS GATHERING 2018 LOWDOWN FROM THE LEESIDE

Cork Airport's Police and Fire Service staged a simulated aircraft incident as part of this year's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Gathering in September. The three-day event enabled paramedics, firefighters, trauma doctors and other EMS personnel to build on their skills and be ready to respond to aircraft emergencies in their communities or at their local airports.

Over 400 emergency medical professionals landed in Cork City for this year's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Gathering on 11-13 September, to share their experiences, practice lifesaving skills and rehearse dealing with challenging scenarios.

This unique multi-agency networking event allows ambulance, hospital, defence and policing services join forces and train together, so that when real disaster strikes all agencies can work optimally together.

Colleagues who have emigrated from Ireland and made their mark on other emergency services around the world return each year to share their knowledge, while also welcoming new colleagues from North America, Canada, Australia and Europe.

Adjunct Prof Conor Deasy, Consultant in Emergency Medicine at Cork University Hospital and Deputy Medical Director of the National Ambulance Service, said: "The EMS Gathering is the most successful EMS conference in Europe, with workshops in compassionate communication, trauma, sepsis, addiction, wellness at work."

## SIMILAR CHALLENGES WORLDWIDE

He added that it was great to get an opportunity to rehearse scenarios with



Cork Airport Fire and Rescue crew gave an aircraft emergency demonstration to delegates who attended the 'EMS Gathering 2018' at Cork Airport Fire Training Facility in September.



Colin O'Leary and Chris Duke from the HSE National Ambulance Service treat a casualty, who was rescued from the burning aircraft.

colleagues from other agencies and hear how similar challenges are dealt with around the world. A wide range of talks, seminars and events took place during the course of the three days, including 'Emergency Care on the Streets', 'Trauma through the Ages' and 'Tactical Emergency Care'.

Paramedics, aeromedical services, doctors, nurses and responders from statutory, voluntary, defence, ambulance, police and private services with multiple levels of qualification joined forces to learn from each other and share knowledge and experience. Over 400 delegates attended from the UK, Canada, USA, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Turkey and Iceland.

Kieran Henry, Operations Manager at the National Ambulance Service and EMS Gathering Organiser, said that a highlight this year was the workshops on 'Trauma through the Ages' in addition to a number of displays taking place at the historic Fort Camden Meagher, overlooking Cork Harbour in Crosshaven.

A diverse range of training events were held during the course of the EMS Gathering including simulations of many extreme emergency scenarios, such as water rescue, nightclub medicine, aircraft disasters and traumatic entrapment.

The Metropole Hotel and the Everyman Theatre in the centre of Cork's historic Victorian Quarter were the main venue and hub for EMS Gathering 2018. For more information visit <http://msgathering.ie/>



Fireman Ger Tobin emphasises the importance of gathering all information at the site of a crash.