

# From The Chief Officer.....



Number 113

*"Our mission is to protect lives and property"*

11 April 2014

## Foundations of CFA

The "**Foundations of CFA**" publication has just been released. It is a very important document for all CFA members to read and to understand. **In particular, CFA's leaders should absorb, understand and apply the principles, concepts and standards described within the document.** Whilst primarily intended as an internal reference document, the "Foundations of CFA" also informs external organisations and partner agencies about CFA's purpose, structure and service delivery activities. The document describes the basic rationale for the existence of CFA and strengthens the understanding of principles that have guided CFA members for many years. The document provides direction for all subordinate service delivery doctrine, leading to a consistency of effort across the organisation. The "**Foundations of CFA**" describes four fundamental aspects of the organisation:

- **why we exist**
- **who we are**
- **what we do**
- **how we deliver services**

The document has been through an extensive process of consultation over the past year. Based on feedback from many volunteers, the VFBV and various other stakeholders, the document has been through a process of review, restructuring and refocussing. At the time of printing, it is consistent with current practices and the Victorian emergency management arrangements. It is intended the publication can be updated as required to reflect changes, both internal and external to CFA (e.g. the introduction of Emergency Management Victoria). Each Brigade has received one copy of the publication. Owing to very strong demand, a second print run is now being organised. Further information will be provided soon on how to obtain more copies. An electronic copy is available on the intranet and Brigades Online (Docs, Forms, Manuals>About CFA) or by clicking [here](#). Questions and comments in the first instance to Operational Doctrine Adviser, Claire Johnson on (03) 9262 8569 or [c.johnson@cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:c.johnson@cfa.vic.gov.au). I sincerely thank and commend everyone involved in the development of this publication. They have shown dedication and commitment. The end result is something we can all be truly proud of. Well done!

## eMap wins Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Award

eMap, the operational mapping solution for bushfire and into the future other hazards in Victoria, has received recognition for spatial excellence by **winning the Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Award** in the category: People and Community. Congratulations to the interagency team (DEPI, MFB, CFA and FSC) behind the success. Fantastic effort - well done to all!

## 2014 Resilient Australia Awards

Applications are open for the 2014 Resilient Australia Awards. The awards program commenced as the Australian Safer Communities Awards in 2000 and is now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year. The awards are a valuable opportunity to recognise, share and promote work that is strengthening community disaster resilience across the nation. Applications are open to the following sectors:

- Not-for-Profit sector [includes volunteer, youth and community groups and organisations]
- Education and research sector
- Private sector
- Local government
- State and territory government
- Australian Government

Further information is available from the Victorian awards convener – Heather Lakin on (03) 8684 7938 or [heather.lakin@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:heather.lakin@justice.vic.gov.au). Application forms can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

## Regional Radio Dispatch Service Milestone

At 8pm on 2 April 2014, District 12 transitioned to the Talkgroup 512, Category 1 dispatch. This is the first regional District to transition to the digital dispatch service. Since then, Districts 2 and 15 have also transitioned. Another major step forward for emergency service communications!

*"Good timber does not grow with ease. The stronger the wind, the stronger the trees.*

**- J William Marriot**