

June 11, 2007

L.A. County to Acquire a Mobile Hospital

The Los Angeles County (LAC) Board of Supervisors approved last week a \$5.4 million grant from the federal Urban Area Security Initiative Program to increase the county's ability to prevent and respond to an emergency.

The grant will authorize the Department of Health Services' Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency to improve emergency preparedness, response, and planning capabilities as well as purchase necessary equipment to respond to acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and public health emergencies. Plans include purchasing a mobile hospital and personal radiation equipment under this grant.

The mobile hospital facility provides diagnostic and definitive patient care designed for rapid deployment. LAC's mobile hospital system consists of a tractor-trailer facility and a tent facility. Each facility is self-contained and can be deployed independently of each other depending on the type and scale of the incident.

Tractor-Trailer Mobile Hospital Component

This facility consists of two 53-foot tractor-trailers. The first tractor-trailer serves as the patient care facility. It has slide-out units that provide approximately 1,000 square feet of interior treatment space. The facility has two surgical suites and 10 patient beds that can be configured to provide critical care or emergency services. It also has a dental/ENT (ear, nose and throat) and ophthalmologic chair. Comprehensive diagnostic, laboratory, and pharmacy services are available as well as a complete communications infrastructure. This facility can be fully operational within 30 - 60 minutes after arriving on the scene of a disaster.

An integrated canopy system can be mounted on the patient care trailer to provide an enclosed admitting area. This enclosure can hold an additional 100 beds for minor ambulatory care. The canopy and all the equipment and supplies are stored in the second tractor-trailer. The second trailer also serves as rest quarters for personnel when the equipment and supplies are removed from this trailer.

100 Bed Tent structure Mobile Hospital Component

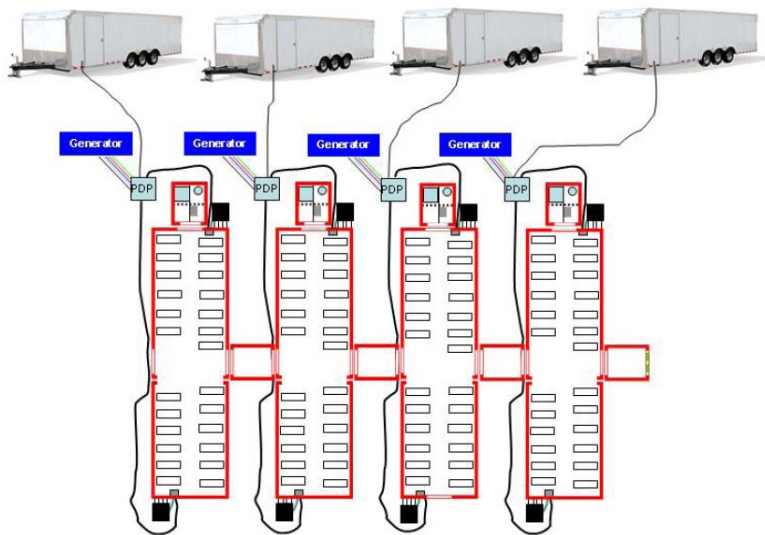
This facility is comprised of four 25-bed tent modules. Each module is fully equipped with a heating and air-conditioning system, an electrical power distribution system with generator, folding patient cots and treatment beds, sanitation facilities, and a refrigerator. All the tent components and equipment are stored in a trailer with a tow vehicle. Each trailer is self-contained and can be deployed independently of the other trailers. The tent mobile hospital is scalable and can be deployed as a 25-bed, 50-bed, or 100-bed facility, depending on the size of the incident. The State of California is also purchasing mobile hospital resources (three 200 bed tent structures) that are interoperable with the structure that LAC is purchasing.

For more information about the mobile hospital, please contact Roel Amara at (323) 890-7522.



This picture is from a set-up demonstration of the tent structure mobile hospital.

8-shelter Package



Schematic of the 100-bed facility.



Image of tractor-trailers