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**EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS**



PRESS RELEASE

THOR is Coming to East Texas

An 80,000 pound public safety center on wheels to be brought in for 9-1-1 Telecommunicator Training

Kilgore, TX, June 1, 2011: ETCOG 9-1-1 Emergency Services will be hosting THOR - Tactical Homeland Operational Response - a two stories high, 80,000 pound, 80 foot public safety center on wheels on June 13 at a Telecommunicator training at the East Texas Police Academy in Kilgore. The inside is decked out with 9-1-1 communications consoles, flat screens and a second-floor conference room.

"This is essentially a public safety center on wheels," said Michael Lee, vice president of the emergency responder division of Intrado, a Colorado-based emergency communications company.

"THOR's presence at ETCOG's First Annual 9-1-1 Telecommunicator Training Conference affords local responders and officials the opportunity to experience the most advanced technologies in use today to support 9-1-1 and Emergency Response," says ETCOG Director of 9-1-1 Emergency Services, Carolyn Flores.

Completed in April 2010, the truck is designed largely for 9-1-1 services and communications coordination among various public safety agencies and can hold about 25 people. In the future, officials envision THOR traveling the country and being used for major planned events or responses to natural disasters.

Media are invited to photograph the exterior of THOR and to tour the truck. However; no photography is allowed inside the vehicle. For more information on the event, contact ETCOG's Public Education Trainer, Jim Ross, at 903.984.8641 x211.



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About Intrado

In business for more than 30 years, Intrado has maintained a focus and passion for saving lives and supporting the needs of public safety. Agencies and telecommunication services providers throughout the world depend on Intrado for emergency communication services and technology. Intrado's dedicated focus on emergency communications technology allows the company to continue pioneering network innovations that improve emergency response. For more information, visit www.intrado.com.

About 9-1-1 Emergency Services

The East Texas Council of Governments 9-1-1 Regional Program was formed by legislature and seeks to establish and maintain equipment, network, and database to preserve and enhance public safety and health through reliable access to emergency telecommunications services. The department is comprised of three divisions; database, GIS and administration. The regional 9-1-1 program includes: Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Marion, Panola, Rains, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood counties.

About ETCOG

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.

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