



## NJSFAC Dataset Collection Solution Committee

njsfacdataset@edisonfas2.org

Dan Januseski, *Chairman*  
Al Heuser  
Jim McAllister  
Paula Weiler

### **NJSFACTs Data Collection Project Information**

The NJSFAC's Data Collection Project, known as "NJSFACTs" (New Jersey State First Aid Council Tracking System) is a web-based computer application designed to collect EMS incident data into a state-wide database for the purposes of statistical analysis, data reporting, and information communication among state and national agencies. It is the first and only project of its kind in NJ, and a major tool for advancement of EMS operations in this state.

The system is very user friendly and easy to learn, as well as being easily accessible. The following information highlights the project evolution and planned deployment:

#### HISTORY

- Although universal call sheets and data collection systems are in place in NY, PA, MD, and other parts of the U.S., NJ has no standardized EMS data collection method for BLS *OR* ALS. It has been a recurring recommendation in various committees to re-design NJ EMS for many years now.
- Back around 1998 it was felt by the E-Board at the time a state-wide reporting and data analysis method was needed for member squads to promote our contribution to the EMS community and avoid regulation by the DOH. However, the plan for a Universal Run Sheet was rejected by the squads.
- In 2002 President Steinkopf resurrected the data collection idea and appointed a Committee to draft recommendations on what types of EMS data to collect from squads. Those recommendations were adopted by the E-Board at Mid-Year 2003.
- Sept. 2003, Pres. Steinkopf creates "Data Collection Software Committee" charged with developing an effective, easy and free-to-squads method of collecting the approved EMS data. Dan Januseski is appointed Chairman.
- Fall of 2003 – work begins with a Committee of 4 (later 5) to draft program requirements, develop an RFP and solicit competitive bids for the project. Several commercial programs are evaluated.
- Spring 2004 – RFPs are distributed and bids analyzed. Simultaneously the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) project becomes published and establishes a national EMS data initiative. The Data Software Committee agrees to pursue compatibility with the initiative.
- June 2004 – Knowledge Ventures, Inc. d/b/a "PeopleForce" is selected as the winning bidder. Work begins immediately and NJSFAC is registered with NEMSIS as a partner.
- September 2004 – First working prototype of software. Marketing materials developed for Convention demo and project named "NJSFACTs" (New Jersey State First Aid Council Tracking System).
- October 2004 – Annual Convention demo of software with interactive group Q&A
- December 2004 – Selection of Beta Testers for program development
- January – February 2005 – Beta Testing Period and systems review
- PRESENT (March 2005) – Public presentations to Districts, distribution of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party compatibility tools, announcement of Training Sessions
- June through September 2005 – User and Manager training session statewide.
- **October 1, 2005 - STATEWIDE PROGRAM DEPLOYMENT**
- **January 1, 2006 – MANDATORY COMPLIANCE BY ALL COUNCIL SQUADS**



## NJSFAC Dataset Collection Solution Committee

njsfacdataset@edisonfas2.org

Dan Januseski, *Chairman*  
Al Heuser  
Jim McAllister  
Paula Weiler

### PURPOSE

- Establish a statewide data collection program for all NJ BLS agencies to use.
- Collect essential data from member (and other) squads/agencies for the purposes of:
  - Resource analysis (areas underserved/under utilized)
  - Grant funding
  - Public Relations and Promotion
  - NEMSIS reporting (National Project which NJSFAC and NJDOH have agreed to)
  - Mutual Aid Planning
  - EMS-C reporting
  - Legislative issues
  - Membership Recruitment and Retention
- Assist squads and governments in building better EMS systems

### FEATURES

- Web-based accessible from any internet-connected computer – can use at squad/work/home
- Survey-style questions in plain English; use of buttons and drop down menus
- Individual and squad accounts; multi-level users (managers, users)
- Reports generated for individual squad use
- Accepts data exported from commercial software packages (EMS Solutions, Firehouse, etc.)
- Can use to record individual calls or report monthly summary totals
- Additional features to come including Calendaring, Address book, etc.
- Online Trouble-Ticket system for reliable, speedy online help
- Global messaging and distribution of information notices
- Ability to create additional accounts for multiple members inputting information for your squad

A few last points to consider:

1. None of the beta test squads complained it tool too long to use or was too hard to understand
2. It WILL interface with existing data collection software programs
3. The # of MANDATORY fields is less than the # of OPTIONAL fields (although we would like as much info filled out as possible)
4. Keep up with the latest info by reading the *GOLD CROSS* regular and monthly supplement editions
5. Email [njsfacdataset@edisonfas2.org](mailto:njsfacdataset@edisonfas2.org) with any concerns/questions

**Thank you for participating in NJSFACTs!**