FiSAC | Fire Safety Asia Conference Singapore 2014

Fire Safety & Emergency Management: The Way Forward

Paul Baxter, Chief Executive and National Commander
New Zealand Fire Service

"The Christchurch Earthquakes – What We Learned"

New Zealand / NZFS

FiSAC

4.5 Million
population

1 national service

5 regions



Background

- Public sector reforms – 1990s
  - Industrial action
  - Reduction in funding
  - Failure to properly resource
- 2001 – new Chief Executive (and mandate)
  - New infrastructure and training
  - Fleet strategy
- USAR teams established in Auckland, Palmerston North and Christchurch

Where are we?

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What are we?

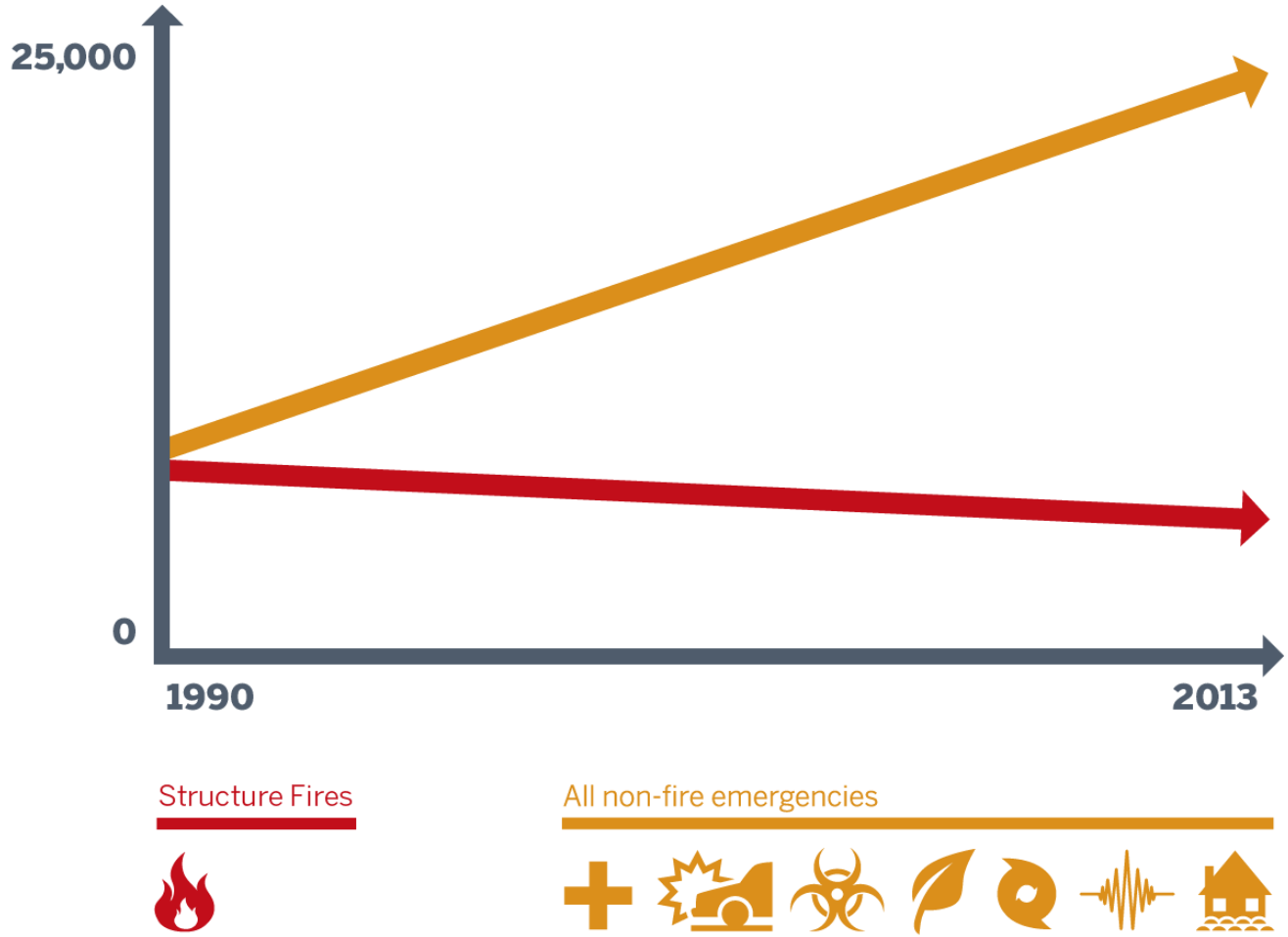


1,700 Career Firefighters

8,300 Urban Volunteers

3,500 Rural Volunteers

What we do



Natural disasters



OF NON-FIRE CALLOUTS ARE
NATURAL DISASTERS

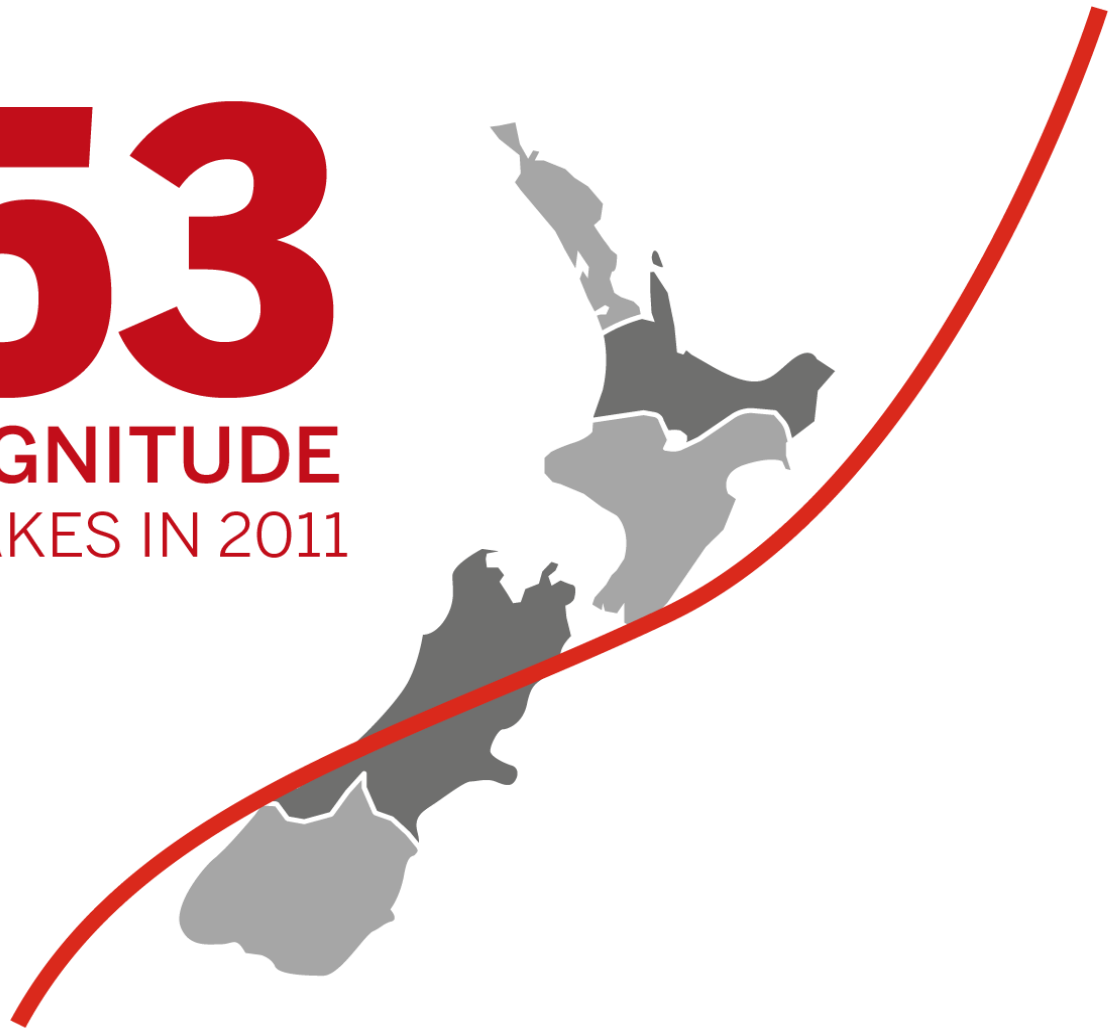
Background

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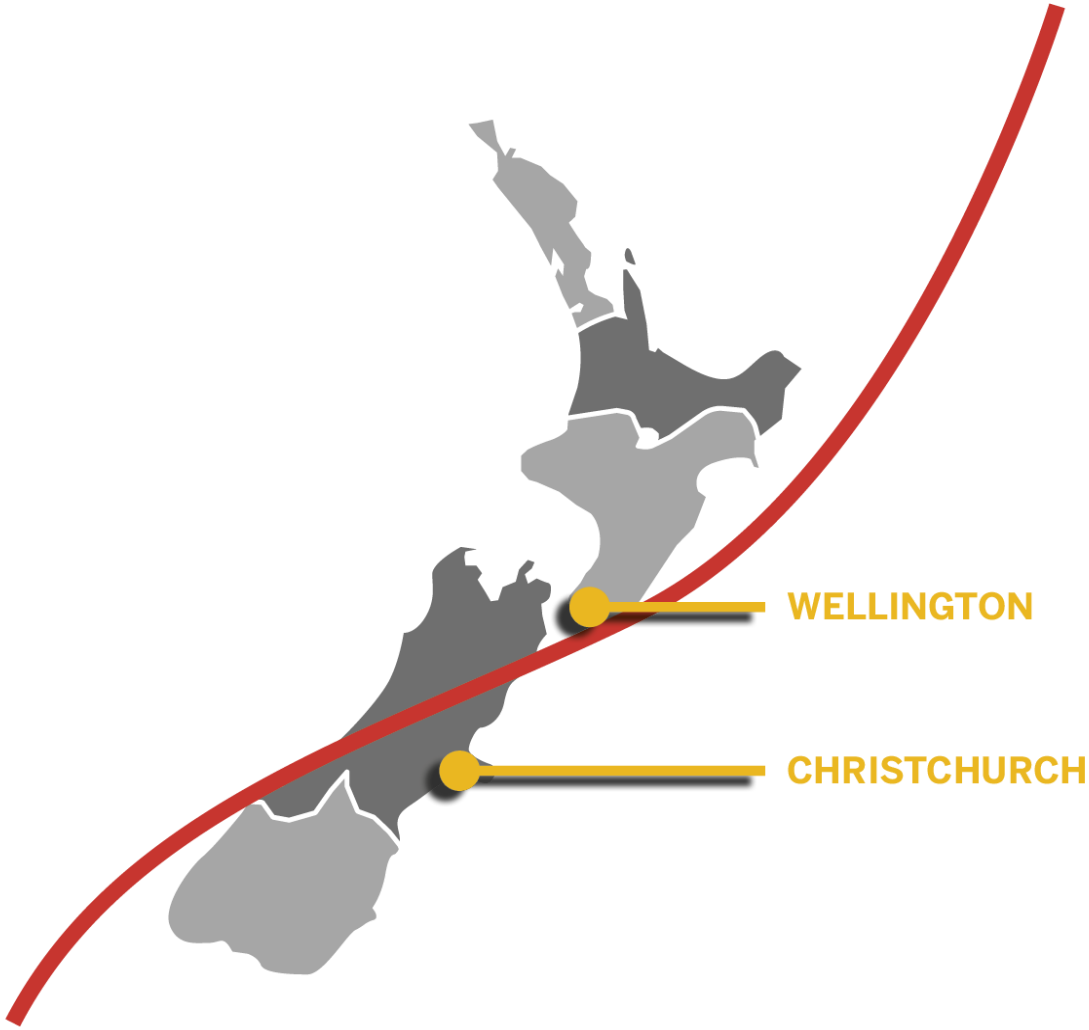
653

4.0+ MAGNITUDE

EARTHQUAKES IN 2011



Wellington / Christchurch



Earthquake #1

7.1

MAGNITUDE

4 SEPTEMBER 2010



Earthquake #2

6.3

MAGNITUDE

22 FEBRUARY 2011

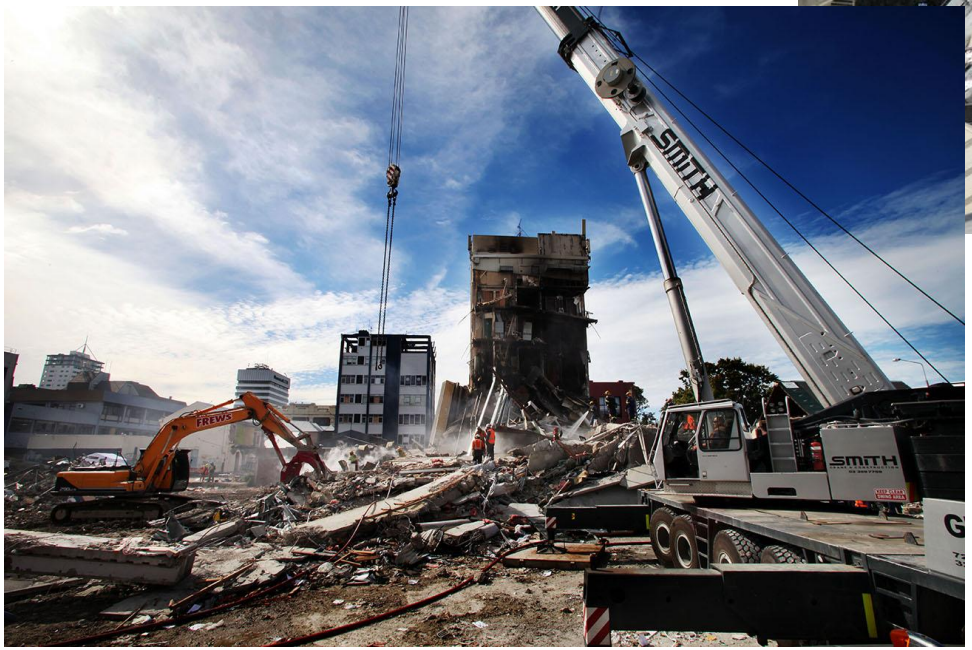


Earthquake #2



Main collapses





Response



Saving lives



Saving lives (cont.)



International help



Lessons learned

- Internal inquiries into both earthquakes:
- Independent inquiry into 2nd earthquake response (the Pilling Review)
- Coronial inquiry outcomes following CTV building collapse and rescue efforts

The Pilling Review



Incident command and control



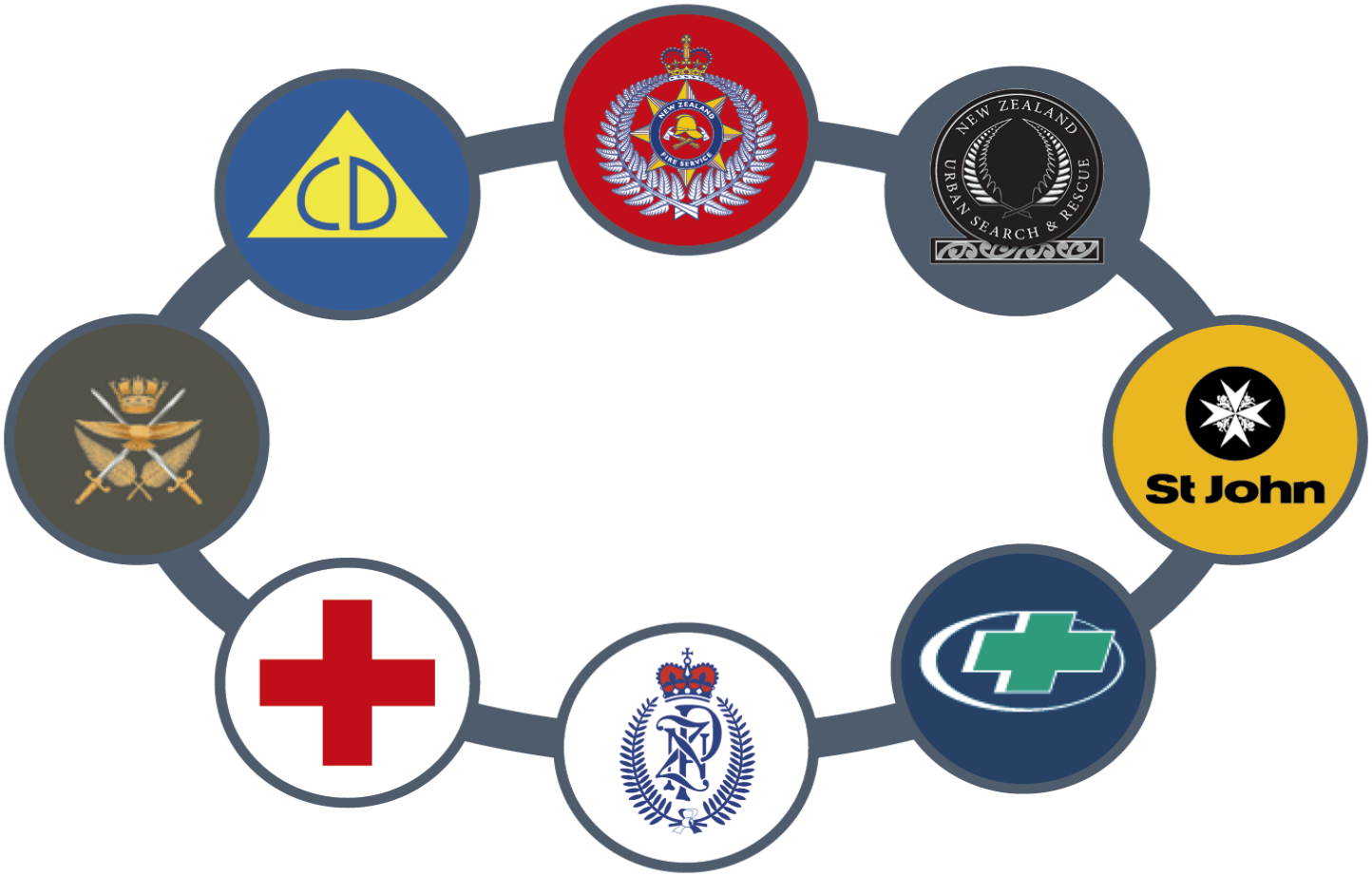
Emergency services inter-operability

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Emergency services inter-operability

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Leadership / management



Integrated risk management

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Industrial / employee relations



National Response Plan



National standard for operations centres

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Welfare support



Post earthquake changes



Conclusion

