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# EMS/Trauma Registry Project Update

**The new Texas EMS/Trauma Registry is one step closer to coming online.** On February 8, 2011, DSHS entered into a contract to implement the new Registry with Consilience, a registry software vendor with extensive experience in registries and medical surveillance. Consilience, incorporated since 2003, is headquartered in Austin, with offices in Boston and Sydney, Australia. The Consilience product, Maven, is a modifiable off-the-shelf (MOTS) product that functions both as a case management and surveillance application. They provide a team of Registry personnel for the entire project, including requirements, use cases, configuration, testing, training, implementation and maintenance. Over the course of the next year DSHS will be working with Consilience to install, configure, test, train and implement the new Registry system. Chapters 92 and 773.113 of the Texas Health and Safety Code require health care facilities and EMS providers to submit data to DSHS, and that data will be made available to users both for system evaluation and improvement.

Choosing a vendor for the new Registry was a complex and difficult process because of the multiple requirements that needed to be satisfied. These included requirements of stakeholders, and requirements identified in a report on Health Registries prepared for the Legislature to increase efficiencies and interoperability between registries and to meet national technology standards (i.e.: HL7, HIT, etc.).

## About the Consilience product

- Can link data between EMS and hospitals
- The EMS portion will be based on NEMSIS 3.0
- The hospital portion will be based on NTDB
- Has an easy-to-use reporting tool that allows users to create their own reports without the need for IT assistance
- Can accept data one case at a time or in batch form
- Provides error checking regardless of how the data are submitted
- Has a technical architecture that meets all of the state-required technology standards
- Has a web interface and can be used by those EMS units or hospitals that do not have trauma registry software. Trauma data could be entered directly into the state database and reports can be developed by the submitting EMS provider or hospital
- Is extremely configurable so new data fields could be added overnight to address a state-wide issue, such as a disaster caused by a hurricane
- Is currently being used by New York City and Houston as well as by a number of other states for various types of disease registries

## History

The Texas EMS/Trauma Registry is a legislatively mandated program within DSHS's Prevention and Preparedness Division, Environmental Epidemiology and Disease Registries Section, responsible for collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information on EMS incidents, significant trauma and the occurrence of reportable injuries in Texas.

In 2008, DSHS began the process to replace the current EMS/Trauma Registry by conducting an assessment of stakeholder needs, best practices in other states, and the alternatives available for Texas. The assessment included system requirements for the future registry application based on business and data requirements, stakeholders' needs and expectations, and funding partner requirements. DSHS has been working closely with stakeholders on the acquisition, implementation and maintenance of a new system through the EMS/Trauma Registry Solutions Work Group (RSWG). *—John Villanacci*