



## COBRA RELEASE NOTES

# COBRA NEW FEATURES AND ENHANCEMENTS V4.4.3.6 DRAFT, MARCH 2018

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## Table of Contents

General Enhancements.....	3
New – Landing Page.....	3
New – Online Help .....	3
New – Logbook Tool .....	3
New – Emergency Management Plans management tool.....	4
New – Facilities and Critical Infrastructure Database.....	4
New – Chemical Storage Sites.....	4
New – Evacuation Centers / Shelters.....	5
New – Hospitals .....	5
New – Online Spreadsheets/Checklists .....	5
New – Web Map Services .....	6
New – Systemwide Search Screen .....	6
New – Point of Contact database .....	6
New – Jurisdictions .....	6
New – Exercise Management Tool .....	6
New – Drone support.....	7
Enhanced - Incident List.....	7
Enhanced - Creating a new incident .....	7
Enhanced - Incident Header Area (top of screen) .....	7
Enhanced - Incident Home Screen.....	7
Enhanced - Incident Timeline .....	8
Enhanced - Incident Sharing .....	8

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Enhanced - Dashboards .....	8
Enhanced - Sensor Integration.....	8
Enhanced - Position Log.....	8
Enhanced - Significant Events Log .....	8
Enhanced – Map .....	9
Enhanced - Plume Manager.....	10
Enhanced – Organizations .....	10
Enhanced - User Information.....	10
Enhanced – Administration.....	10
Enhanced – Third Party Integration .....	11

This document provides a brief overview of new features and enhancements to the COBRA System v.4.4.3.6. As with all releases, not all customers desire all features. While we provide new features and enhancements to customers maintaining their COBRA maintenance agreement, customers do not have to accept all new tools. COBRA’s modularity of design allows customers to pick and choose the tools that they deploy to their users in order to simplify their deployments and concentrate on the tools most applicable to their mission.

Below is a summary of the new tools and enhancements in the next version of COBRA:

## General Enhancements

1. New – COBRA now supports multiple languages. Currently, the system is fully translated into French, Dutch, and German. It also has translation files ready and started for Arabic, Turkish, Japanese, and British English
2. New - Date formats and units of measure are customized to the client's location including UTC and military time
3. New - MGRS (Military Grid Reference System) support is now available to most screens, increasing compatibility with military systems
4. User Interface improvements are added throughout the system

## New – Landing Page

1. Shows a quick look at recent incidents and a total number of incidents
2. Shows new Emergency Management planning tools including:
  - a. Emergency Management Plans
  - b. Emergency Management Points of Contact
  - c. Critical Facilities and Infrastructure
  - d. Exercises

## New – Online Help

1. New online, context-sensitive help system
2. Searchable and enhanced table of contents
3. Opens automatically to the relevant help page based on the user's location in COBRA when help button is pressed

## New – Logbook Tool

1. For organizations that don't want Position Logs automatically linked to the ICS positions, a new logbook tool allows users to manually create logbooks that are unrelated to positions.
2. Configurable access allows creating restricted access / increases security logbooks by username where other users will not be able to access or see entries in the logbook tool, map, or incident timeline.
3. Logbook entries now support an additional 'Entry Type' field to categorize entries. Types are configurable by the COBRA organization administrator.

## **New – Emergency Management Plans management tool**

1. Storing plans by Plan Type / Incident Category across multiple organizations
2. Includes workflow for plan approval status
3. Plans include sharing, share restrictions, expiration date, approval date, approval authority, approver, submitter, creation date, attachments, title, description, and notes
4. Submitter, Approval Authority, and Approver are live links to contact data; as users or contacts update their POC information, the plan is automatically updated with their information and stays up to date
5. Admin level and View Only levels available allowing for limited access restrictions to plan information
6. Additional alerting sections available which provide points of contact that need to be informed when the EM plan is activated. These are also live links to contact data so are always up to date.

## **New – Facilities and Critical Infrastructure Database**

1. Database of Facilities and Critical Infrastructure allows users to store critical planning and response information for facilities
2. All facilities are mappable during an incident
3. For each facility, information is stored including name, organization, point of contact, category and subcategory (categories and subcategories can be customized by the organization COBRA Admin), emergency phone number, fax, email, website, sharing restriction, description, location and address
4. Facility tags, category, subcategory, name, and location can be searched and filtered

## **New – Chemical Storage Sites**

1. Facilities can be categorized as chemical storage locations
2. Provides an additional chemical storage card, which outlines quantities, chemical types, processing activities, accident scenarios, occupancy on site, impact on personnel and the environment, onsite emergency response capabilities (including fire, hazmat, rescue, medical, transportation) and extensive POC information including emergency POC, corporate POCs, security, medical, fire, PIO, public safety liaison, etc.

## **New – Evacuation Centers / Shelters**

1. Shelter information card outlines general, day, and night capacities for general population as well as toddler, pre-school, elderly, handicapped, and pet capacities for special/vulnerable populations
2. Includes information on transport accessibility to note what types of vehicles, train or other public transportation, and helicopter access exists (includes parking capacity)
3. Describes the building in terms of number of floors, sides, access points, manning, airtightness or overpressure capabilities, accessibility, fire suppression, and more. Includes specifics on HVAC, power, telecommunications, sanitation, work space, kitchens, medical facilities, and security systems.
4. Includes complete POC information, activation procedures, and supplementary information during activation

## **New – Hospitals**

1. Facilities can be categorized as a Hospital
2. Provides general information about the hospital as well as POC information for bed reservation, numbers for Mass Casualty Incident casualty reception including capacity for Adult ICU, Pediatric ICU, Neo Natal ICU, General Surgery, Emergency Department, Standard Isolation, Negative Flow Isolation, Operating Rooms, and Burn Beds
3. Provides an updated interface for hospitals to update current availability versus total capacity
4. Provides a quick search tool for responders to search for a specific number of beds or other capacities within the incident's location, allowing them to rapidly find enough beds of the correct type closest to the incident's location
5. Provides a master list of all hospitals and search capabilities across bed types

## **New – Online Spreadsheets/Checklists**

1. The Spreadsheet/Checklist tool allows admins to add their own checklists into COBRA or create their own checklists inside the COBRA system.
2. When an incident is created the spreadsheet becomes available and accessible for users to access during an incident.

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## **New – Web Map Services**

1. Web Map Service (WMS) allows for live web map feeds to display directly in the COBRA map.
2. WMS layers display information such as Nexrad radar, live flooding feeds, and other weather-related information in real time.

## **New – Systemwide Search Screen**

1. Allow users to search the COBRA system for organizations, points of contact, users, and facilities / critical infrastructure rapidly, with links between data for rapid analysis and use during an incident

## **New – Point of Contact database**

1. Allow COBRA users to enter emergency points of contact outside of their response agency providing a capability to register critical infrastructure points of contact, at risk facility points of contact, and emergency management professionals outside of their organization

## **New – Jurisdictions**

1. Allow agencies with multiple components, state level users, or national level users to group their response agencies or response components into jurisdictions for more rapid incident sharing as well as control over sharing of map data, EM plans, facilities, exercises, and incidents by jurisdiction

## **New – Exercise Management Tool**

1. Module designed specifically to manage exercises
2. Provides a list and calendar view of all exercises
3. Custom exercise types (FSE, TTX, etc.) can be configured by the administrator
4. Stores and reports information on each exercise, including name, description, type, FEMA region, scenario category, exercise level, exercise POC(s), dates of all exercise planning and conduct sessions
5. Stores exercise sponsors, participants, and exercise planning and conduct documentation
6. Links to COBRA live exercise conduct sessions to provide a data collector notes, attachments, simcell activities, exercise maps, plumes, and more

## **New – Drone support**

1. Drone imagery can be inserted into the COBRA incident map as an updated aerial layer between the base map and incident information and sketches, providing a way to quickly update the aerial view of an incident site
2. Still drone images and video can be inserted into the COBRA incident report
3. 3D models of the incident site can be constructed and inserted into the COBRA incident
4. Live sensor feeds including chemical and radiological detection can be tracked from the drone platform in real time in a COBRA incident map and in the Sensor tool

## **Enhanced - Incident List**

1. New - Multiple incidents can be loaded for monitoring in a single screen
2. New - Export to CSV and export to PDF capabilities added to the incident list grid
3. New - Calendar View of the incident list provides an easy way to look for an incident based on dates

## **Enhanced - Creating a new incident**

1. New incident fields for easier categorizing of incidents
2. Improved layout
3. Can be configured to automatically share incidents with other organizations using COBRA (if desired)
  - a. Automatic geo-location analysis identifies organizations with a jurisdiction that overlaps with the incident location allowing for faster notification of incident creation

## **Enhanced - Incident Header Area (top of screen)**

1. New - Weather Icon with tooltip showing current weather that is linked to online weather feeds
2. New - Context-sensitive online help system
3. New - System bandwidth / connectivity indicator that ensure real-time refreshed data

## **Enhanced - Incident Home Screen**

1. New - Embedded grid view of incident timeline
  - a. Exportable to CSV and PDF
  - b. Sortable and searchable with links to tools logged within the timeline



2. New - Tooltips on user names listed
  - a. Hyperlinked to a new user info page, which provides full user information in read-only view

### **Enhanced - Incident Timeline**

1. Improved timeline entries with the ability to add more description text
2. Linked / clickable user names for more user information

### **Enhanced - Incident Sharing**

1. Enhanced incident sharing screen includes a map and search functions to find other organizations who use COBRA
2. Allows grouping of organizations by jurisdiction and sharing to a jurisdiction
3. Provides each organization with their distance from the incident through embedded geo-processing
4. Allows read-only sharing or full sharing

### **Enhanced - Dashboards**

1. Enhanced look and feel
2. New small cards view provides a more organized layout without losing tool access

### **Enhanced - Sensor Integration**

1. Support for Drone sensors with real time tracking of drone location and onboard sensor data (e.g.: radiation sensor)
2. Support for new COBRA Tracker for portable battery or USB-powered asset tracking

### **Enhanced - Position Log**

1. Logbook entries now support an additional 'Entry Type' field to categorize entries. Types are configurable by the COBRA organization administrator.

### **Enhanced - Significant Events Log**

1. Logbook entries now support an additional 'Entry Type' field to categorize entries. Types are configurable by the COBRA organization administrator.

## Enhanced – Map

1. New – Open Street Maps base map is now available
2. New – Measurement tool allows users to quickly measure distances along a multi-segment line, with angle measurements between line segments. Users can also measure areas.
3. New – Support for Drone imagery, allowing users to fly a drone over an affected area and import a new base map layer consisting of drone aerial images geo-rectified to the incident site.
4. Sketch editing allows users to move previously placed sketches, edit colors, titles, descriptions, and more
5. New sketching tools available including 30 degree segments, circles, multiple concentric circles / evacuation areas, and evacuation zones
6. New Background Map Layer Support
  - a. Allow administrators to import ESRI SHP files, KML, and Geoljson map files, create custom symbology (coloring, thickness, opacity, icons), map categorizing, and tagging data
  - b. Allow users to quickly load background map layers from the COBRA library. Includes a wizard for searching data as well as filtering by tags, categories, and type.
  - c. Allow users to geo-process a map layer upon import to select a sub-set of the data for import within a certain distance of the incident or a custom location set by the user
  - d. Allow users to import facilities in their COBRA critical infrastructure database
  - e. Allow users to preview the new map layer before adding it to the map
7. Support for custom base maps from 3<sup>rd</sup> party systems
8. Friendlier map layer table of contents with edit and delete buttons built in
9. Friendlier popups for map data with quick links to the edit screen in COBRA for each incident entry (e.g.: link to jump into editing or viewing a damage report from the map)

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## Enhanced - Plume Manager

1. Added support for SAFER plumes

## Enhanced – Organizations

1. Organizations now include their geographic area of responsibility, category, sub category, emergency phone number, routine phone number, email, fax, website, jurisdiction, and address
2. Organization admins can invite users to register an account with an automated email link, which provides a workflow approval process during the user registration process
3. Organizations can upload a custom logo
4. Organizations can be archived before deletion and later recovered if re-activated in the system
5. Settings can be imported from another organization or from templates on the COBRA server

## Enhanced - User Information

1. Increased and practical password security
2. Additional roles for users in the COBRA system such as ‘contact only’ or ‘data administrator’
3. Additional user information including department, gender, EM function, and specialty trainings
4. Additional POC fields including support for two work sections and two home sections, with each section enhanced to include address, skype, twitter, and Facebook information, and the user’s backup POC
5. Enhanced user search capability

## Enhanced – Administration

1. Bulk Import tools for quickly loading users, contacts, facilities, and more
2. Enhanced Map Data importing to support new formats, categorization, tagging of map data
3. Menu customization support through the administration menu
4. New administration screens for all new tools (critical infrastructure / facilities, exercises, EM plans, shelters, chemical storage sites, etc.)

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5. System-wide notification tool allows admins to post system messages to the COBRA system (maintenance, updates to plans or databases, etc.)
  6. Enhanced security settings controls over logbooks

### **Enhanced – Third Party Integration**

1. The COBRA open API (Application Programmer's Interface) is enhanced to provide even more complete support for third party integration
2. New Swagger.io OAS (OpenAPI Specification) provides better documentation and faster third-party integration