NAEC Expo & Hurricane Irma Collide

Will the NAEC hold its 2017 convention in Orlando next week? Was the question everyone was asking until a few moments ago. Hurricane Irma’s path continued to shift east as it moved over St. Maarten and the northern islands in the Caribbean Sea, leaving a trail of destruction in its path. Though the path could be good news for Florida if the storm continues to head east, Gov. Rick Scott urged Florida residents and visitors to not focus on the exact path as it could change. He said officials are preparing for Hurricane Irma to impact the entire state. “We all have to understand this is serious and we cannot take chances,” Scott said. Still a powerful Category 5 storm with 185 mph winds, Irma is readying to move potentially leaving a trail of destruction in its path. The storm is forecasted to start impacting Florida late Sunday or early Monday, according to the National Hurricane Center. Scott activated 100 members of the Florida National Guard on Monday to be deployed across the state, and another 900 National Guard members today. All 6,000 members are to report for duty Friday when the storm could be approaching the area. As evacuations have begun in South Florida, Scott urged residents and visitors to heed instructions from local officials. The NAEC has decided to postpone the convention. New dates and additional details will follow. Our thoughts and prayers are with those that have been directly affected.

Stuck in a Willis Tower Elevator for Hours

A woman was stuck in an elevator in the Willis Tower for several hours early Thursday in the Loop. Rescue crews responded about 2:45 a.m. to the Willis Tower, 233 S. Franklin, where the woman was stuck in an elevator in a blind shaft between floors 7 and 8, according to the Chicago Fire Department. The woman, thought to be in her 60s, was removed from the elevator by 4:20 a.m., fire officials said. When the fire department responded, they were told the woman had already been in the elevator for two hours before their arrival, fire officials said. She refused medical treatment.

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