



**Cover photo:** During the state of Vermont’s disaster response exercise Vigilant Guard in July, first responders and emergency managers from across the state assembled at the Department of Public Safety’s simulated emergency management centre where they were positioned according to agency role, facilitating communication among personnel used to working together on more routine state business. *Photo: State of Vermont Department of Public Safety*

**Inset photos:**  
ISAF;  
SIG SAUER Germany GmbH;  
Italian Navy

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Uta Schwichtenberg

**Mönch Verlagsgesellschaft mbH:**  
Christine-Demmer-Str. 7,  
53474 Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler, Germany  
E-Mail: ssi@moench-group.com  
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**Chief Executive Officer:** Volker Schwichtenberg  
**Director:** Uta Schwichtenberg  
**Deputy Managing Director:** Christa André  
**Cover and Layout:** Daniel Faßbender, www.df-kreativ.de

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