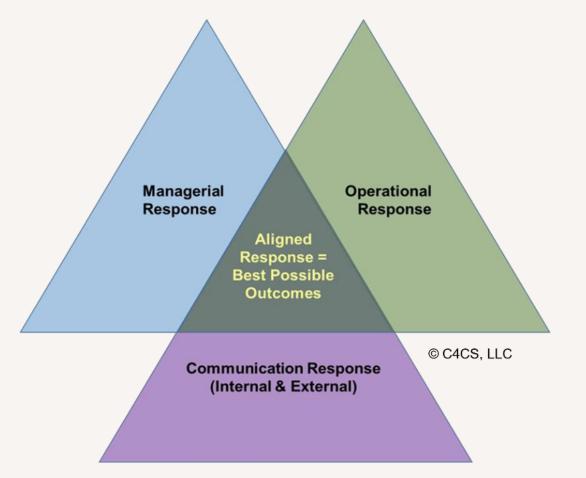
#### How to Develop an Effective Crisis Communication Plan

PRESENTED BY: Oliver S. Schmidt – President & CEO, C4CS®

#### **Crisis Response & Communication**



Oliver S. Schmidt -- How to Develop an Effective Crisis Communication Plan

## **Maximizing Crisis Readiness Is Critical**



#### **Crisis Communication Readiness**

- 1. Crisis Comms Readiness Assessment/Audit
- 2. Crisis Comms Strategy (Internal & External)
- 3. Social Media Crisis Response Strategy & Tactics
- 4. Crisis Comms Team(s) & Notification/Activation
- 5. Crisis Scenario Identification & Development
- 6. Automated Internet & Media Monitoring
- 7. Procedures & Policies (Media, One-Voice, etc.)
- 8. Designated Spokespersons & Topical Experts
- 9. Recurring Scenario-Based Crisis Comms Training10.Customized Crisis Communication Plan

# **Crisis Communication Plan Development**

- 1. Senior Management Champion & Proper Funding
- 2. Designated Project Managers (Internal & External)
- 3. Development Schedule, Milestones & Reporting
- 4. Crisis Comms Plan Must Fit Crisis Management Setup
- 5. Develop Plan Outline Based on Unique Company Needs
- 6. Funnel Readiness Deliverables into Crisis Comms Plan
- 7. Involve All Business Functions in Plan Development
- 8. Multiple Plan Reviews & Inclusion of Feedback
- 9. Plan Implementation Action Steps & Timeline
- 10. Recurring Crisis Communication Plan Exercises/Testing

#### **Crisis Communication Plan Components**

- 1. Message from President / CEO & Plan Purpose
- 2. Crisis Communication Keys & Crisis Categories
- 3. Crisis Response Triggers & Impact Assessment
- 4. Response Procedures, Policies, Strategy & Tactics
- 5. Crisis Teams, Notification/Activation, "War Room"
- 6. Communication Responsibilities, Channels, Tools
- 7. Worksheets (Fact Verification, Key Questions, etc.)
- 8. Stakeholder Analysis (Internal/External/Online)
- Message Development & Delivery ("Messaging")
  Appendices (Checklists, Templates, Evaluation, etc.)

# How Ready Is Your Company?

On a scale of 1 to 5, where is your organization in terms of Crisis Communication Plan Readiness?

- 1. We have a comprehensive plan that is regularly exercised, tested, and updated/optimized.
- 2. We have a good Crisis Communication Plan.
- 3. We have a plan that needs much improvement.
- 4. We have an outdated and insufficient plan.
- 5. We do not have a Crisis Communication Plan.

## **Crisis Communication Keys**

Timely
 Truthful
 Consistent
 Coordinated



#### Words of Wisdom

It is far better to

**Prepare and Prevent** 

than to *Repair and Repent.* 



## **Thank You**

**Oliver S. Schmidt** 

President & CEO

C4CS, LLC

schmidt@c4cs.com

O: 412.421.0433

M: 412.708.0940

https://C4CS.com

@C4CSinfo

https://www.linkedin.com/in/oliver-s-schmidt--c4cs/

Leaders in Strategic Communication and Crisis Management

