



ISR Matrix

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RESPONSE AUSTRALIA EMAGAZINE

The lights were off. I could faintly see the shadows moving quickly. The annoying loud music made it difficult to concentrate on what was happening, and I wondered how the shadows themselves were able to concentrate. As my eyes adjusted, the shadows gained some substance, and I watched one dark form throw a series of punches at another. The punches were hard enough for me to wince slightly. Even with boxing gloves on, I knew no police or military defensive-tactics (DT) instructor would allow that amount of force to be used in training.

With the darkness reducing student's vision, the loud (and really bad) music distracting further, strobing torchlight was added. This was a serious training serial.

The defending dark form instantly protected his head with the 'helmet', practiced hundreds of times over the past two days. Within seconds he had moved in and taken control of the attacker and had him on the ground, ready to be handcuffed.

But there was no time to stop. The situational awareness training was working, and the second attacker was quickly identified and actually used to block the third attacker.

And on it went.

I leaned over to instructor Dave Pauli, regional representative for ISR Matrix International – "Do the students normally progress to this level so quickly?"

Without stopping his strobing, Dave said they were usually faster.

I didn't know what to say. I was impressed with the skills that could be taught so quickly, and trained at 100 per cent realism and power. Even after being marked 'competent' in contemporary Australian police and military defensive-tactics training, there was no way on earth I or my fellow operators would have been able to perform to this standard. And to do so without suffering injury? Hell no!

ISR Matrix is "A dynamic, full-spectrum integrated system of subject control and personal protection that thrives naturally throughout use-of-force continuums and mission-specific modes of operation used by both sworn and non-sworn professionals world wide" according to the ISR Matrix web site.

Dave Pauli, who runs ISR Matrix Australia Asia Pacific, and has both a law-enforcement and military background, has already taught a number of ISR courses in Australia.

ISR stands for intercept, stabilise, resolve.

For those of us who have been trained in contemporary police and military DT/OST skills, ISR is a breath of fresh air.

AIIMS – incident management

The Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) provides a single management structure that facilitates the bringing together of all re-sources, from one or several organisations, to work cooperatively and cohesively in resolving an incident.

This module introduced the AIIMS framework and highlighted how it could be best used in a multi-agency response to a major critical incident affecting law enforcement, military or security personnel.

Pro-Com Consulting – tactical adaptive communication

The Pro-Com Consulting session provided an insight into the adaptive-communication process – a process using a system known as REAL – that teaches officers to talk naturally while thinking tactically, to develop their own style delivered within a set of professional communication boundaries and based on the elements of adaptability, awareness, strategy and delivery. The system provides a consistent approach and caters to everything from PR and traffic stops through to negotiation. Pro-Com staff have years of field experience and been involved in the resolution of hundreds of police negotiations.

The Tactical Edge

Tactical Week Australia, held in Brisbane from 12 to 21 March, was the result of the collaborative efforts of a range of specialist tactical-training providers for 10 days of leading-edge operational and industry skills training, demonstrations, lectures and discussions.

There was also a concurrent, two-day Tactical Gear Expo showcasing a wide range of industry equipment and gear, with two large blocks of time dedicated to the expo scheduled into the program. This aspect alone was described by one exhibitor as being "better than a whole week at Land Warfare Conference."

Tactical Week Australia (TWA) was pitched at law-enforcement and military training specialists and tactical operators as well as corrections,

customs and government- and private-security professionals.

TWA consisted of a range of training providers who had extensive experience in delivering specialist training to elite units domestically and internationally.

One of the major training components of TWA was ISR Matrix, a form of subject control that teaches escalating use-of-force techniques appropriate to the tactical situation, but without relying on the pain-resistance techniques taught to most police recruits that can be dangerous to both the subject and the practitioner – and to the outcome of any subsequent court case.

The ISR component of Tactical Week Australia covered two phases, being three days at the start, plus the final two days of the 10-day TWA.

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