

Hazardous Materials – Summary Sheet

Surviving in a world of hazardous materials

Haz-Mat at the 1st Responder Awareness Level

- You do a great deal by doing very little
- You can, at the 1st Responder Awareness Level
 - **Recognize/Identify** – detect presence of a hazardous material
 - **Protect yourself** – always your first priority
 - **Call for help** – begin notification process
 - **Secure the area** – do the most good for the most people
- Scene size up from uphill and upwind
- For small spill stay at least 100 yards away (“Rule of thumb”- entire scene is blocked by your thumb when you hold your arm out)



Hazardous Materials

- Any substance capable of harming the health, safety, and/or well being of people, property, and/or the environment
- A haz-mat incident involves a hazardous material out of its container or likely to come out of its container
- Hazardous materials can be: 1. inhaled, 2. injected, 3. ingested, or 4. absorbed.



All Haz Mat Scenes

Scenes function within the Incident Command System (ICS)

NIMS ICS is the requirement:

- There is an Incident Commander (IC)
- Only do what you have training, proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), current certification, and fitness level to do
- There is span of control (3 to 7 people per supervisor)
- Accountability, no free-lancing
- Planning (including Pre-plan LEPC)
- Check in and check out



Haz-Mat is under the authority of New Mexico State Police

- State Police HazMat trained officer = Emergency Response Officer (ERO) – Not all State Police are ERO certified
- Awareness Level 1st responder requests: response by local fire department & notification of SP ERO for all Haz Mat incidents
- State Police ERO always notified, even if they do not go directly to the scene
- By state statute State Police are in charge of all Haz Mat scenes



Delineating a Hazardous Materials Scene

- **Hot Zone:** Death and harm, 1st responders never in hot zone
- **Warm Zone:** Decontamination and access corridor
- **Cold Zone:** Command post & other support functions. This is only where the 1st Responder at the awareness level works
- Public may be evacuated or sheltered in place



Hot

Warm

Cold

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)

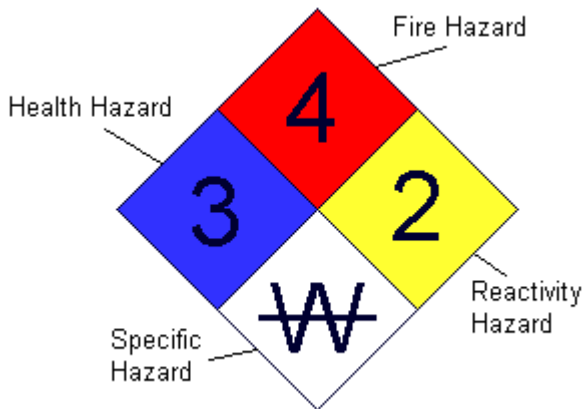
- Types: Chemical; biological; radiological & nuclear weapons; and explosive & incendiary weapons
- Can be an overt attack obvious results: Sept 11; suicide bomber
- Or covert attack; Biological/Radiological: multiple med victims seeking help hours, days, or even weeks after attack
- Secondary attacks can target EMS responders



Haz Mat Awareness Is All About Reading (BUT READ FROM A DISTANCE)

Reading the signs

Fixed Facility NFPA 704 Placards



DOT Diamonds- Planes, Trains, Trucks, Boats

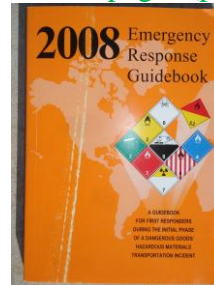


UN Hazard Classes



Reading the ERG

- Emergency Response Guidebook
- For the first 30 minutes of a scene
- White pages
- Yellow pages (4 digit numbers)
- Blue pages (names of chemicals)
- Orange pages (response guides)
- Green pages (protect & isolate distances)



Reading the Papers

- Shipping papers
- Waybill-train
- MSDS- Material Safety Data Sheets

Reading the container

- Container shapes
 - WIPP TrupactII
 - Non-pressure
 - Low pressure
 - High pressure
 - Pipelines



Reading the Scene

- Criminal/Terrorist? WMD?
- Weather?
- What mutual aid is needed?

