

# WETP 2002 Spring Workshop

## Bio/Chemical Remediation Breakout Session

**April 26, 2002**

**W O R K E R E D U C A T I O N & T R A I N I N G P R O G R A M**

# Consensus Points

- The definition of target audiences and their duties/responsibilities are critically important in terms of assessing accuracy and relevancy of training material. ***Start with the end in mind.***
  - NIEHS should strongly encourage federal agencies providing funding to state and local entities in the realm of bio-chemical weapons response to seek out grantees working within their jurisdictions. Grantees should also seek to build contacts with state and local agencies within their respective areas.

# Consensus Points Cont'd

- Though difficult, it is essential to keep training materials “evergreen.”
- NIEHS WETP activities should also include radiological and nuclear agents. Attention needs to be placed on these contaminants as well.



# Additional Observations

- There is widespread confusion in the implications of terms used for different groups used in the entire workforce – facility operators, first responder, second responder, skilled support personnel, remediation workers. One way to reduce this confusion is to focus on the functions of these groups of workers. 1910.120 and the NFPA publications (471,472,473) can offer useful guidance on this issue.
- We need agent, individual, public health, and monitoring and surveillance techniques in place. All are necessary!

# Observations Cont'd

- Sound curricula materials developed for a single weapon agent like anthrax can form the basis for materials developed for other biological/chemical/nuclear agents. The site specific nature of each incident and the stage of response activity will shape the content of specific curricula materials.



# Final Recommendations

- **Recommend that NIEHS WETP develop a means to gather information from Awardees and other sources (on training techniques, available resources, current activities) by the end of this fiscal year for use in FY2003.**
- **Recommend that NIEHS WETP quickly develop a mechanism to bring the highest quality of accurate, up-to-date information to all Awardees working on this issue.**

# **FIRST RESPONDER**



**CONCERNS  
AT**

**TERRORIST INCIDENTS**

# **FIRST RESPONDER**

- **MAJOR CHANGES NEEDED IN THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE SINCE 9/11**
- **RECOMMENDATIONS NEW CURRICULUM**

# MAJOR CHANGES NEEDED

- MIND SET

- TRAINING

- PPE

# MIND SET

- TERRORIST INCIDENT IS NOT A NORMAL RESPONSE
- CONFINED SPACE
- WMD ISSUES

# TRAINING

- FIRST RESPONDER / VOLUNTEERS
  1. FIRE / LAW / LAW ENFORCEMENT / HEALTH
- SKILLED SUPPORT
  1. CONSTRUCTION / LOGISTICS,  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS / HOSP
- PPE / IC

# TRAINING CONT.

- DECONTAMINATION
- HANDS ON
- RECOGNIZE & IDENTIFY
- STRESS MANAGEMENT

# PPE

- DERMAL PROTECTION

- RESIPARATORY PROTECTION

# NEW CURRICULUM

- INTERAGENCY TRAINING
- FULL SCALE / FULL DRESS SCENARIO
- UNIFIED COMMAND  
(FBI, FEMA, DOT,USCG)

# LESSON

# EARNED

- INITIAL RESPONSE
- SEARCH AND RESCUE
- INCIDENT COMMAND
- USE OF SKILLED SUPPORT PERSONNEL

== TRANSITION TO POST-EMERGENCY CLEAN UP

≠ COORDINATION OF A FEDERAL DISTRICT (MASTER DURATION SELECTION)

# **Transportation/Petro-Chemical Industry**

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Breakout Session 4

1:15-5:30pm

## **Thought Stimulators**

### 1) **What new training questions have come up after 9/11 and anthrax for Transportation/Petro-Chemical Industries?**

- Security issues
  - FBI Warnings
  - Who is responsible?
  - Plant shut down?
  - FBI wanted to know trainee personal info from Teamsters
- Requests for training
- Labels/Signs
  - Removing signs from areas in facilities
  - Truck labeling requirements maybe weakened
  - Less marking (less information available)
- How to talk about larger questions?
  - Pollution prevention
  - Substitution
  - Inherently safe operations
- Truck Security- transit and unattended
- Storage in railcars
- Definition of Risk (the big picture- daily operation vs. terrorist risk with labeling)
- Evacuation/Shelter plan in place
- ER Plan- many scenarios (how does the federal program relate to the regional plan?)
- Anthrax test strips and other biohazard monitoring methods

2) **What resources are available to meet these new training needs?**

- Existing Core Programs & Capacities
  - Trainers
  - Delivery mechanism
  - Organization
  - Infrastructure
  - Workplace experience across crafts
  - Access to workers
  - Curriculum- yes & no
  - Evaluation models
  - Access to resources & Organizations
  - Trained Workers (through our programs)

3) **What additional resources are needed for this training?**

- Real enforcement
- New laws (inherently safe operations)
  - Chemical use reduction
- Money
- Curriculum
- Program development
- More trainers
- Newer resources
  - Technical
  - Exercises
  - Guidelines
- Warning systems (homeland security safety levels)
- Clearinghouse
- Spanish & other languages
  - Educational material
- Good graphics
- Common Guidelines
- Expand Minimum (and/or the word Possible) Criteria

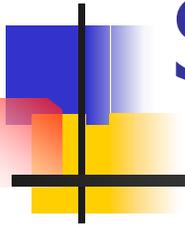
#### **4) How do we get the additional training resources?**

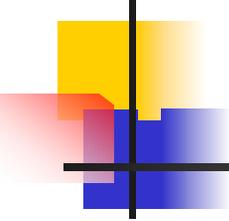
- MONEY
- Avoid single issue approach
- Broad approach
  - Comprehensive
- Contact Federal agencies
  - Homeland Security
- Web links
- Use existing staff/trainers
- Use of web training- (some may disagree, but without it many would not get trained)
- Social action (with use of computers- not much social interaction) (with use of web boards able to interact with other users)
- Clearinghouse
  - Web links
    - Homeland Security & etc. org to W.E.T.P.
  - Information Repository
- Meeting- Curriculum Development

# Breakout Group 2

## Skilled Support Personnel

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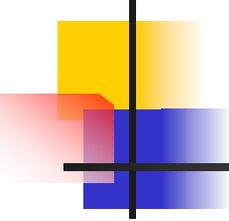




# Response to Thought Stimulator 1

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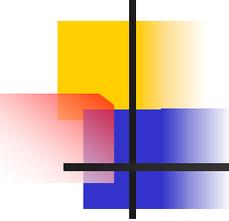
Consensus that SSP role not  
adequately defined in  
1910.120 (q)(4).



# Issues to address to improve effectiveness of SSP

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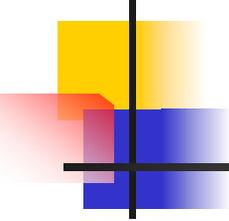
- Cross training of trades, incident command
- Transition from rescue to recovery (write-off first 24 hours)
- Role of federal government
- Site control
- Non-English speakers
- Government contract language and prequalification of bidders
- Effective site-specific plans



# Breakout Responses to Thought Stimulators (cont)

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2. Separating training for ER and post-ER workers logistically difficult. Site specific training point of differentiation.
3. HAZWOPER core training should be requisite.
4. SSP can better aid search, rescue and recovery efforts. Enhanced training topics suggested.
5. Terrorist incidents should be considered 1910.120 but may not be for political reasons.

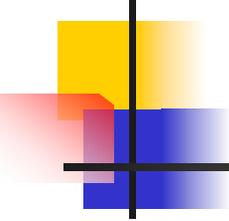


# Breakout Responses to 6

## Improving skills of instructors

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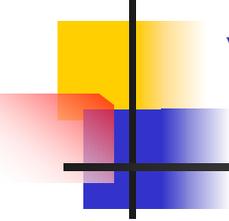
- **Instructors for incident response training should have direct experience.**
- **Should be a peer trainer with desire to teach and good skills.**
- **Latest knowledge and technologies should be available**
- **NIEHS should fast-track WMD on-line resources**
- **Military resources need to be explored.**
- **What-if scenarios should be made available**
- **Hands-on exercises critical, stand-alone CBT not appropriate**



# Bottom line training for SSPs

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- OSHA 10 (Smart Mark) essential
- 1910.120 required
- NFPA 472 Specialist training should be reviewed for relevance
- Site specific orientation

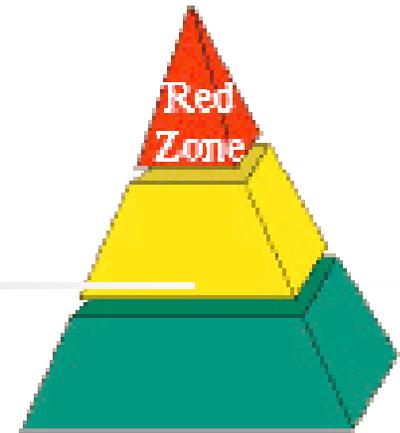


# “Wish list” of training topics

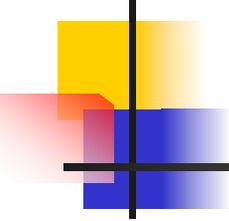
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- Confined space
- Bloodborne pathogens (Hepatitis B vac.)
- PPE
- Hazcom/ Hazard assessment
- Fire watch
- First aid/CPR (first responder AED)
- Site safety, working around heavy equipment
- Physical hazards – thermal, fatigue (shift work)
- Fall protection
- Psychological stressors

# Biochem training



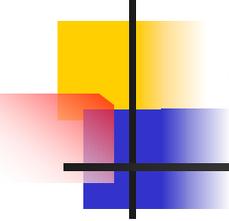
- **Special target audience**
  - Laborers
  - Carpenters
  - Mechanical trades – HVAC, plumbing, sheet metal
  - Service workers
- **Close interface with public health**
  - Syndromic surveillance
  - Chemical inventory/facilities
  - Transportation
- **Focus on hazards**
  - Rad/chem/bio
  - Remediation techniques (asbestos training useful)
  - Larger pool of trainees needed because of apprehension



# Delivery method

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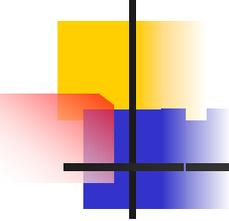
- Hazwoper instructors
- Integrate WMD modules into OSHA 10
  - Integrate within 10 hours
  - Add to complete 2 days



# Suggested Approaches for NIEHS to Provide Current Information

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- Website
- Ongoing workshops
- Designation of POC for each grantee
- Online collaboration
- Reports sent to everyone on the list
- NIEHS should do more to promote the grantee WMD capabilities



# See you in Baltimore!

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# WETP Communications: Breakout Session 5

Bruce Breslau, Marilyn Knight &  
Sharon Beard



# Sharing Lessons Learned

- ◆ Key points on DOE Lesson Learned Database/ Other Resources
- ◆ Easy Access and Data Entry
- ◆ Central Location to Get Information
- ◆ Institutionalization
- ◆ Access to Workers & Employer Involvement
- ◆ Access to Resources



# Communications

- ◆ Marketing Plan/ Outreach to Employers/ Industry Regarding WMD Disaster Plans
- ◆ Centralized Organizations/ Team Approach
- ◆ Key Trainers Contacting Industry
- ◆ Developing Model Plans
  - Guidelines for development
  - Key industry contacts
  - Clearinghouse outreach to industry



# Crisis Management (CM)

- ◆ Linkages Between WMD/ Disaster Plans
  - ID Triggers or Criteria for Deployment
  - Identify Other Networks/ Models
- ◆ Crisis Management for WTC Workers/  
Immediate Need!!!
- ◆ Stress Inoculation
- ◆ CM for NIEHS Programs/ Other Programs



# Crisis Management (CM)

- ◆ Crisis Management Interventions
  - On Site Support
  - Defusing
  - Demobilization
  - Debriefing
  - Individual
  - Follow-Up



## WETP NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

### CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WARFARE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LINKS

<http://www.osha.gov/bioterrorism/anthraxfactsheet.html>

OSHA's site on anthrax facts and additional resources for additional information on emergency operations planning and bioterrorism.

[http://www.osha-slc.gov/SLTC/journals/bioterrorism\\_biblio.html](http://www.osha-slc.gov/SLTC/journals/bioterrorism_biblio.html)

OSHA's web site for protecting the workplace against anthrax. Part of a series of factsheets on "Protecting the workplace against terrorism."

<http://www.osha.gov/bioterrorism/anthrax/matrix/index.html>

"Anthrax Risk Reduction Matrix": This matrix was developed to offer basic advice and suggest protective measures that OSHA believes will reduce the risk of exposure in light of current concerns about the presence of anthrax spores in the workplace. This matrix is not intended to establish a legal standard of care with respect to anthrax spores in the workplace.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/01-6977.html>

Federal Register notice about public meeting on those respiratory standards (sponsored by SBCCOM, NIST and NIOSH).

<http://www.rris.fema.gov>

Rapid Response Info System: The RRIS is comprised of several databases. Searchable by biological, chemical, and radiological agent name, provides information on agent characteristics, signs and symptoms of exposure, protective equipment and decon, first aid, detection equipment. Also gives info about Federal response capabilities, training course, Help Line, Hotlines, and other Federal references.

<http://www.rris.fema.gov/contents.htm#chemagents>

Defense Against Toxic Weapons: biological warfare agents, planning and protection. See Countermeasures chapter in particular.

<http://www.opcw.nl/Ptshome2.htm>

An international chemical warfare web site.

<http://www.opcw.nl/chemhaz/cwagents.htm>

Page on chemical warfare agents from the Office of the Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

<http://www.opcw.nl/chemhaz/protect.htm>

Information on protection against chembio agents.

[http://ccc.apgea.army.mil/reference\\_documents/reference.asp](http://ccc.apgea.army.mil/reference_documents/reference.asp)

Appendices have list of agents, equipment to detect them, symptoms of exposure, information on decontamination and patient management, PPE equipment lists, and recipes for patient decontamination solutions.

[http://ccc.apgea.army.mil/reference\\_materials/articles/datw/index.htm](http://ccc.apgea.army.mil/reference_materials/articles/datw/index.htm)

Defense Against Toxic Weapons: biological warfare agents, planning and protection. See Countermeasures chapter in particular.



## WETP NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

<http://www.acec.or/>>

American Council of Engineering Companies

Report - "Capitol Hill Anthrax Response Activities - Lessons Learned; What Worked; What Didn't Work; Suggestions for Improvement."

<http://www.cbiac.apgea.army.mil>

DOD-sponsored Chemical and Biological Defense Information Analysis Center. Established in 1986, the CBIAC serves as the DOD focal point for information related to Chemical Warfare/Chemical and Biological Defense (CW/CBD) technology. Technical contact is at SBCCOM. Newsletters available from:

<http://www.cbiac.apgea.army.mil/awareness/newsletter/intro.html>.

<http://www.tswg.gov>

Technical Support Working Group (TSWG) is the US national forum that identifies, prioritizes, and coordinates interagency and international research and development (R&D) requirements for combating terrorism. Through the Department of Defense's Combating Terrorism Technology Support Program and funding provided by other agencies, the TSWG rapidly develops community, and addresses joint international operational requirements through cooperative R&D with major allies.

<http://www.absa.org/Bioterrorism.htm>

The American Biological Safety Association's list of bioterrorism links. They are designed for biosafety professionals to aid in emergency response efforts.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov>

CDC's bioterrorism page

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/DocumentsApp/HAN51.pdf>

CDC recommendations for protecting workers where mail is handled or processed. Includes special precautions for workers who may be exposed through inhalation.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/agentlist.asp>

CDC's list of warfare agents

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/documents/regmeetingslides/sdeitchman.pdf>

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/184449.htm>

National Institute of Justice, Guide to Selection of Detection Equipment. This NIJ Guide for emergency first responders provides information about detecting chemical agents and toxic industrial materials and selecting equipment for different applications. The commercially available products described in this report are those known to the authors as of May 2000.

[http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/terrorism/whats\\_new.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/terrorism/whats_new.htm)

Office of Justice equipment guides for emergency responders in chemical and biological contaminant situations.

[http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT\\_Program/Response\\_Planning/response\\_planning.htm](http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT_Program/Response_Planning/response_planning.htm)

US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) web site. OEP is an office within the US Department of Health and Human Services and has the Departmental responsibility for managing and coordinating Federal health, medical, and health related social services and recovery to major emergencies and Federally declared disasters including: Natural Disasters, Technological Disasters, Major Transportation Accidents, Terrorism



## WETP NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

<http://www.slu.edu/colleges/sph/bioterrorism/>

Web site from the Center for the Study of Bioterrorism and Emerging Infections, run out of the Saint Louis University School of Public Health.

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/ertss.pdf>

FEMA document on "Emergency Response to Terrorism Self-Study," authored by the US Fire Administration and the National Fire Academy.

<http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/CID/journal/issues/v32n3/001347/001347.html>

The United States Congress directed the Department of Justice to conduct an exercise engaging key personnel in the management of mock chemical, biological, or cyberterrorist attacks. The resulting exercise was called "TOPOFF," named for its engagement of top officials of the United States government. This article offers a number of medical and public health observations and lessons discovered during the bioterrorism component of the exercise.

[http://www.anthrax.osd.mil/Flash\\_interface/default.html](http://www.anthrax.osd.mil/Flash_interface/default.html)

DOD's Official Anthrax Information web site

<http://www.nycosh.org/linktopics/biosafety.html>

NYCOSH's biosafety links, including communicable diseases, HIV, hepatitis, and tuberculosis.

[http://www.newsguild.org/gr/gr\\_display.php?storyID=493](http://www.newsguild.org/gr/gr_display.php?storyID=493)

The Newspaper Guild's article on anthrax advice. Offers advice on worker rights when dealing with a potential anthrax situation.

<http://www.hopkins-biodefense.org/>

Johns Hopkins' Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies

<http://www.hopkins-biodefense.org/lessons.html>

On June 22 - 23, 2001 The Johns Hopkins Center for Civilian Biodefense Studies, in conjunction with The Center for Strategic and International Studies, The ANSER Institute for Homeland Security, and The Oklahoma National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism, held an exercise at Andrews Air Force Base in Washington, DC entitled DARK WINTER. The first such exercise of its kind, DARK WINTER was constructed as a series of mock National Security Council (NSC) meetings in reaction to a fictional, covert smallpox attack in the US. This page discusses the lessons taken from "Dark Winter."

<http://wmdfirstresponders.com/>

This web site was created by first responders to help improve the response capabilities of emergency communications centers, EMS, fire, rescue, hazmat, law enforcement, bomb squads, SWAT, hospitals, public health, risk management, security, emergency management, public works, disaster management, American Red Cross, and other responder agencies/organizations. Through information sharing, networking, planning, and research, first responders will become better prepared to respond to and manage terrorist events involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

<http://www.1safetysource.com/links/WMD.asp>

Page of links to Weapons of Mass Destruction and Hazmat Preparedness sites

<http://www.newscientist.com/hottopics/bioterrorism/bioterrorismlinks.jsp>

New Scientist has compiled a very comprehensive list of links to articles, reports, and even government biological warfare sites.



## WETP NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

<http://www.nature.com/nature/anthrax>

Article from Nature magazine (UK) on anthrax. Includes related articles on bioterrorist threat.

[http://www.senate.gov/~frist/Issues/Issues-National\\_Defense/FightingTerrorism/Bioterrorism/bioterrorism.html](http://www.senate.gov/~frist/Issues/Issues-National_Defense/FightingTerrorism/Bioterrorism/bioterrorism.html)

Senator Frist's site includes links, information, and Congressional announcements/hearings on bioterrorism. Includes very graphic pictures of anthrax lesions.

[http://www.3M.com/occsafety/html/respirator\\_notice.html](http://www.3M.com/occsafety/html/respirator_notice.html)

3M's site: "Important Information For Individuals Concerned About Biological or Chemical Agents" has detailed information regarding their products and safe practices for proper respiratory, hearing, eye, head and face protection. They also have links to training resources.

<http://www.asse.org>

The American Society of Safety Engineers' web page.

<http://www.nsc.org>

National Safety Council web site

<http://www.aiha.org>

American Industrial Hygiene Association

<http://www.acoem.org>

American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. Includes new section on emergency preparedness and disaster response at: <http://www.acoem.org/member/disaster.htm>

<http://www.safetyequipment.org>

International Safety Equipment Association web site lists PPE manufacturers and related web sites. Includes new CDC recommendations for protecting workers from anthrax exposure through protective equipment.

[http://www.who.int/emc/deliberate\\_epi.html](http://www.who.int/emc/deliberate_epi.html)

Responding to the Deliberate Use of Biological Agents and Chemicals as Weapons: The World Health Organization (WHO) provides several resources at this site, including frequently asked questions about the use of biological agents and chemicals as weapons and fact sheets about anthrax and smallpox.

<http://ccc.apgea.army.mil/links.htm>

Army Chemical Casualty Care division links

<http://www.nalc.org/depart/safety/action.html>

National Association of Letter Carriers' Safety and Health web site gives a response to anthrax threats.

<http://www.usamriid.army.mil/links/bdr.htm>

Links from the US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases

<http://www.tswg.gov/tswg/community/GAOReportsonTerrorism.htm>

Links to a page of GAO reports on Terrorism.



## WETP NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

### Hospital/Medical Orientation

<http://www.biomedtraining.org/proginfo.htm>

Biological & Chemical Warfare and Terrorism: Medical Issues and Response - Broadcast Sponsored by The US Army Medical Command and the Department of Veterans Affairs' Emergency Management Strategic Healthcare Group, this live, interactive, three-day satellite broadcast November 28, 29, & 30 will educate health professionals about the proper medical response in the event of an intentional biological or chemical agent release. Experts from the US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), the US Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD), and other organizations present this program.

<http://nejm.org/specialnotice>

The New England Journal of Medicine is publishing several articles on anthrax early (they will appear in the November 29 issue of the Journal) and is providing access to other relevant articles. New information will continue to be posted at this site from the Journal and from the online version of Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine.

<http://pubs.ama-assn.org/bioterr.html>

The Journal of the American Medical Association is publishing several articles on anthrax early at their web site (they will publish in the November 28 issue of JAMA) and is providing free access to other articles on bioterrorism from JAMA and the Archives journals.

<http://chemdef.apgea.army.mil/education/instruct.html>

A textbook of military medicine for chemical warfare.

<http://ccc.apgea.army.mil>

Provides videos, CBT, etc. for medical management of WMD incidents

<http://www.nbc-med.org/others/default.html>

Video training from Office of Surgeon General on NBC. Also lists courses offered.

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fedguide/ch3-10.htm>

National Fire Academy Emergency Response to Terrorism curriculum.

<http://www.fema.gov/emi/cert/mtrls.htm>

Community Emergency Response training materials from FEMA.

<http://www.emergency.com/cbwlesn1.htm>

Emergency Response and Research Institute

<http://www.acponline.org/bioterro/index.html>

American College of Physicians' extensive site on health risks relating to bioterrorism.

### Training

[http://www.rris.fema.gov/compendium\\_wmd\\_aug\\_2000.pdf](http://www.rris.fema.gov/compendium_wmd_aug_2000.pdf)

Compendium of courses offered by the Federal Government

<http://ccc.apgea.army.mil>

Provides videos, CBT, etc., for medical management of WMD incidents.



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<http://www.nbc-med.org/others/default.html>

Video training from the Office of Surgeon General

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fedguide/ch3-10.htm>

National Fire Academy Emergency Response to Terrorism curriculum.

<http://www.fema.gov/EMI/cert/mtrls.htm>

Community Emergency Response training materials from FEMA.

<http://www.fema.gov/EMI/g310wmd.htm>

FEMA course in terrorism consequence management.

<http://www.emergency.com/cbwlesn1.htm>

Emergency Response and Research Institute. Response to Chemical/Biological Terrorist Incidents.

[www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

The United States Postal Service's official site on mail security, offering specific instructions on dealing with an mailroom anthrax threat. Details separate instructions for those who sort and open mail, and for managers and trainers.

### State and Local Preparedness

<http://www.co.arlington.va.us/emergency/>

Arlington County: After-Action Report on the Response to the September 11 Terrorist Attack on the Pentagon

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/osldps>

DOJ's Office for State and Local Domestic Preparedness Support (OSLDPS) is the program office responsible for enhancing the capacity of state and local jurisdictions to respond to, and mitigate the consequences of, incidents of domestic terrorism. Includes information on training and technical assistance, and equipment acquisition grants.

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/coursecatalog.pdf>

USDOJ's Office of Domestic Preparedness guide to "Enhancing State and Local Capabilities to Respond to Incidents of Terrorism." The guide catalogues state and local resources—training courses, videos, and technical assistance—that focus on preparedness in the event of a terrorist incident.

<http://odp.ncjrs.org/>

As part of the US Department of Justice, the Office for Domestic Preparedness Information Clearinghouse is a virtual library of information and resources on domestic preparedness, counterterrorism, and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) issues. Its goal is to enhance the capacity and preparedness of state and local jurisdictions to respond to WMD domestic terrorism incidents through the use of abstracts, publications, videos, articles, templates, models, samples, and links to other sites.

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/189724.pdf>

USDOJ's Guide for the Selection of Chemical and Biological Decontamination Equipment for Emergency First Responders. This document, part of a series of guides on chemical and biological defense equipment, is distributed by NIST, the Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLEs), and the National Institute of Justice.



## WETP NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

[http://odp.ncjrs.org/content/NewsLetters/Current/Newsletter4\\_11172001.pdf](http://odp.ncjrs.org/content/NewsLetters/Current/Newsletter4_11172001.pdf)

USDOJ's Office of Domestic Preparedness Resource newsletter. Highlights programs, events, publications and resources related to domestic preparedness for emergency first responders.

<http://www.va.gov/wmd/agenda.htm>

Information on Department of Veterans Affairs 2002 conference on Weapons of Mass Destruction.

<http://www.fema.gov/pte/pte052101.htm>

FEMA terrorist incident planning guide (link within press release).

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/planning>

CDC list of planning information. Provides links to more information.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/standlocal>

CDC page of state and local contacts for biological warfare preparedness.

[http://www.oep.dhhs.gov/CT\\_program/response\\_planning/response\\_planning.html](http://www.oep.dhhs.gov/CT_program/response_planning/response_planning.html)

DHHS Metropolitan Medical Response System Field Operations Guide

<http://www.apic.org/educ/readinow.html>

Bioterrorism Readiness Plan: A Template for Healthcare Facilities. The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), offers this plan to serve as a reference document and initial template to facilitate preparation of bioterrorism readiness plans for individual institutions. The plan outlines the steps necessary for responding to the biological agents most likely to be employed in any future biological attack: smallpox, botulism toxin, anthrax, and plague.

[http://www.ksffa.com/wmd\\_and\\_emergency\\_management\\_web.htm](http://www.ksffa.com/wmd_and_emergency_management_web.htm)

From Kansas State Firefighters Association. There are many state pages like this.

### National Preparedness

<http://www.fema.gov/r-n-r/conplan/forword.htm>

FEMA link to US Government Concept of Operations Plan (CONPLAN). The CONPLAN outlines an organized and unified capability for a timely, coordinated response by Federal agencies to a terrorist threat or act. It establishes conceptual guidance for assessing and monitoring a developing threat, notifying appropriate Federal, State and local agencies of the nature of the threat, and deploying the requisite advisory and technical resources to assist the Lead Federal Agency (LFA) in facilitating interdepartmental coordination of crisis and consequence management activities.

<http://www.ndms.dhhs.gov/>

US Department of Health and Human Services—Office of Emergency Preparedness

**LEARNING FROM DISASTERS:  
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION PREPAREDNESS THROUGH WORKER TRAINING**

**NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program**

**April 25-26, 2002  
Nashville, TN**

**SUMMARY OF LESSONS LEARNED INITIATIVES**

Since September 11, 2001, our nation has been forced to take a closer look at how we respond to federal disasters, how we protect the health and safety of the workers and volunteers who do respond to these emergencies, and how to better prepare ourselves in the event of future disasters.

The following information summarizes WETP's plans for future activities and suggestions to help improve the protection of worker health and safety at future federal disaster sites. The hope is to provide appropriate training for future disaster workers and to help develop plans for assuring worker health and safety protection at federally declared disaster sites based upon the existing WETP training grant programs. The WETP intends to:

1. Develop a nation-wide cadre of well-trained environmental response workers to ensure that we are prepared to respond to future terrorist attacks. This training will be initiated during FY 2002 and patterned after the successful Hazardous Waste Worker Training Program (HWWTP) that provided Hazardous Waste Worker certification to thousands of workers who are now available to work safely on existing or new hazardous waste sites.
2. Establish a coordinated federal disaster response training program that focuses on health and safety and environmental courses. The training should include, at a minimum, emergency response, hazard communication, hazard recognition (WMD-specific), personal protection equipment and respiratory protection, radiation protection, OSHA 10, and first aid/CPR training. This training should be considered as in addition to the core HAZWOPER training requirements.
3. Develop training modules on various biological/chemical agents that can be incorporated into Hazardous Waste Refresher courses or can stand along as part of a large WMD training program. Chemical/biological agents that are being considered for inclusion in a training program include the following: smallpox, botulism, plague, tularemia, mustard gas, phosgene, choking agents, and the nerve gas sarin.
4. Develop a national registry of trained and pre-certified skilled construction support personnel in relevant crafts for immediate response to national disasters or possible catastrophic terrorist attacks. This will allow rapid contact and deployment of SSP anywhere in the country, wherever and whenever terrorists

strike again. The program will build upon the existing infrastructure of the NIEHS WETP for hazardous waste cleanup and emergency response.

5. Provide cross training on rescue work for those workers who participate in immediate terrorism response activities but are not emergency personnel. Construction workers had to work beside fire fighters and other rescue workers on the WTC site. Providing the construction workers with more familiarity on rescue techniques and procedures would be helpful. The construction workers would not be doing rescue work, but a better understanding of rescue procedures would help them to do the construction tasks (i.e., cutting through steel debris) in a safer manner. Likewise, emergency response personnel should understand construction work practices and safety requirements.
6. Modify existing hazardous waste refresher course modules to cover the issues raised in emergency response to terrorist attacks and the remediation and cleanup of WMD locations. NIEHS will work with existing construction apprenticeship programs to develop craft specific terrorism response training that includes dealing with anthrax and chemical releases, with special emphasis on weaponized microbials.
7. Develop specifically for workers in the petrochemical industry, a likely target for attack, an awareness and operations level program that will prepare in-plant workers to react quickly to limit damage at the plant and to protect themselves, their fellow workers and the general public. In addition, consideration will be given to developing a training program for industry workers who may be called into service in the event of a terrorist attack on the facility as "Specialized Personnel" (1910.120(q)(5)) in support of emergency response actions.
8. Develop a pool of trained workers with the capability of remediating buildings contaminated with biohazards such as anthrax, small pox, etc. The training must prepare these workers for environments that will be extremely hazardous and teach them appropriate work practices, use of personal protection equipment, and effective decontamination procedures. A train-the-trainer program to train instructors to teach the biological/chemical hazard remediation course(s) would also be required.
9. Translate health and safety training materials into workers' native languages and conduct courses in these languages. Many environmental remediation workers who have been involved in WTC response do not speak English as their native language and some do not speak English at all. These non-English speaking workers will be doing remediation and construction activities on future disaster sites and they need to clearly understand all related health and safety issues.
10. Develop a course for transportation employers and transportation workers that will address security issues related to the transportation of hazardous and radiological materials. Topics that should be addressed include load securement, preventive measures to reduce the risk of truck hijacking, employee identification requirements, and licensing to transport these materials, as well as working on

WMD sites during the emergency response phase as SSP (1910.120(q)(4)) and also during the cleanup phase.

11. Provide peer support training for environmental cleanup for any large-scale terrorist or disaster response incident. A "critical incident stress management" orientation/awareness course will be developed which will be a requirement for any worker who is involved in a WMD-type cleanup operation. This course will provide information and training for environmental health and safety workers in order to enhance workers' understanding of the impact of disasters, provide support for peers who are at high risk for psychological trauma and minimize the short and long-term effects of psychological trauma on workers and their families. It is clear that there is still an urgent need for this type of training at the WTC site now and well into the future.