

**EMERGING WORKPLACE HAZARDS: Creating Adaptable
and Innovative Safety and Health Training**

May 2–4, 2023 / Indianapolis, Indiana



WORKSHOP SESSION SUMMARY

POST-CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. Session Title and Presenter's Contact Information:

Workshop number and title: 74: Risk Assessment & Management During Hazmat Emergencies

Presenter (s) Name: Eric Tu

Presenter Organization: WRUC – Western Regions University Consortium / UCLA Labor

Occupational Safety & Health Program

Presenter Email: etu@irle.ucla.edu

2. Workshop Summary:

This workshop explores innovative learning approaches that can be used in virtual/hybrid trainings to enhance interaction between trainers and trainees and reinforce the importance of preparing for emergencies and managing workers' risk to hazards during emergencies. For UCLA LOSH's virtual HAZWOPER refresher training, we use a participatory exercise as a culminating activity to tie together concepts taught throughout the course and allow trainees to apply what they have learned to their occupational setting. Trainers assign trainees to breakout groups based on similar job duties and field interests. Groups are asked to think of a hazmat incident that occurred or nearly occurred in their workplace in the last several years, or one that could occur in their workplace. Trainees work collaboratively and creatively to draw sketches of their incidents, answer questions outlining their thought processes, and present their work to the rest of the class. This workshop will give participants an opportunity to engage in a version of this activity and discuss ways to adapt the activity to different training audiences.

3. Methods:

[Briefly describe the training method(s) used to deliver the presentation, the advantages and disadvantages of the approach]

The presentation was delivered via PowerPoint slides, handouts, and flipchart. Before diving into the 15-minute risk assessment and risk management exercise, participants were asked to brainstorm about a hazmat scenario that occurred in their workplace in the last few years, nearly occurred, or potentially could occur. In groups of 3-4 people, participants used anecdotal stories and/or firsthand experience of the encounter(s) to guide the discussion. Then participants were

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asked to choose a scenario from the group and draw a sketch of one occurrence and all the external factors that were in play. Ten minutes were given for the drawing component filling out the worksheet, and 5 minutes for report back, for a total of 15 minutes. A scribe and spokesperson were designated to report back.

Advantages include the layout of the roundtable for efficient group work, flipchart for observational note-taking, and ability to show short media videos to highlight various methods to present participants' work from a virtual training.

Didn't feel any disadvantages.

4. Main Points/Key Points Raised from Participants:

[Lists key points raised during the workshop by the participants resulting from the session discussion, as well as main points raised by presenter.]

Gave perspective of offering this activity on an online setting and now in-person.

- **Participants can talk freely without interruptions and audio issues.**
- **Groups can be seen and heard without any video issues.**
- **Group worksheets are easily accessible without downloading any documents.**
- **One participant used their phone, particularly ChatGPT, to ask AI to populate a scenario based on the instructions on the worksheet.**

5. References:

[Reference materials (including articles, reports, training materials, links, etc.)]

N.A.

6. Workshop Handouts/Resources:

[can be attached separately]

Attached separately.