

# REGION 6 LEPC Update



Steve Mason, EPA Region 6  
E-Mail: mason.steve@epa.gov

Angie Mills, Weston Solutions  
E-Mail: angie.mills@westonsolutions.com

*In this Issue:*

Community Awareness Planning Guide

EPCRA reporting for Federal Facilities

Nationwide Audit of Public Hazmat Documents

Revised HSEEP Policy and Guidance Volumes

CAMEO Chemicals

ODEQ adds CAMEO to Information Page

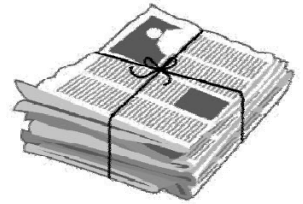
HOTZONE Conference Scholarships

CAMEO Corner

## What an Amazing Run

Believe it or not, this year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our publication of the LEPC Update from EPA Region 6.

Archives of all the past issues can be found at our LEPC webpage:  
[www.epa.gov/region6/lepc](http://www.epa.gov/region6/lepc)



We hope the Update has proved successful to your organization over the years, and we intend on continuing its publication for years to come.

-----  
We have made a tremendous push to obtain email addresses for all LEPCs within our Region, so that we can email the Update to every LEPC, instead of the expense of printing hundreds (if not thousands) of copies, mailing costs, and returns of non-existing addresses.

Keep your State Coordinator updated on any changes to your LEPC information (address, phone, chair, 24-hour phone, email)



Later this summer, EPA Headquarters will be emailing to each LEPC in the United States a chance to complete a survey on the status of your LEPC. Please take the time to complete this important initiative and provide HQ with your input on needs, what's going right, and how we can fix any existing problems.

Faithfully yours  
Steve / Angie

## Region 6 LEPC Coordinators



Arkansas	Kenny Harmon	501-730-9750	kenny.harmon@adem.state.ar.us
Louisiana	Daphne Bencaz	225-925-6113	dbencaz@dps.state.la.us
New Mexico	Ron Breland	505-476-9681	ronald.breland@state.nm.us
Oklahoma	Tom Bergman Dale Magnin	405-702-1013 405-521-2481	tom.bergman@deqmail.state.ok.us dale.magnin@dem.state.ok.us
Texas	Paula McKinney Jim Ogden	800-452-2791 512-424-5677	pmckinney@beh.tdh.state.tx.us jim.ogden@txdps.state.tx.us

# Rail Community Awareness Emergency Planning Guide

information from CSX Transportation Public Safety and Environment Department

The CSX Transportation Public Safety and Environment department provides training and emergency planning materials for emergency response agencies free of charge. On this website, you can request the following items:



## Community Awareness Emergency Planning Guide

This Guide was developed to assist emergency managers and response agency leaders with their efforts to plan for and respond to incidents involving railroad property or equipment, and is intended to augment existing plans and operating procedures. The guide is not intended to be used for individual training of responders, rather as a reference for agency decision-makers.



## Emergency Response to Railroad Incidents Self Study Guide

This Guide was developed to provide emergency responders with a training and reference document for preparing for incidents involving railroad property or equipment.



The guide contains information about safety around the railroad, preplanning and response procedures as well as equipment and personnel. The guide contains a quiz to complete and mail to CSX for grading and certificate issuance. The guide is intended to be a companion to the self study video. When ordering, request one copy per anticipated training attendee.



## Emergency Response to Railroad Incidents Self Study Video

This Video was developed to provide emergency responders with a training and reference document for preparing for incidents involving railroad property or equipment. The video contains information about safety around the railroad, incident preplanning and initial response procedures as well as railroad equipment and personnel.



Please go to the following web site to order your materials:

<http://csxhazmat.kor-tx.com/>



# EPCRA reporting for Federal Facilities

Information from EPA Region 6

## **Compliance with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and the Pollution Prevention Act**



Recently, President Bush issued an Executive Order (E.O.), which caused confusion on whether federal facilities would be required to continue reporting under the provisions of EPCRA. EPA has issued guidance to federal facilities, which included:

(1) EPCRA reporting. As part of managing toxic and hazardous chemicals as required by sections 2(e)(i) and 3(a)(vi) of the E.O. and meeting the reporting requirements of section 3(g) of the E.O., each agency shall continue to comply with the provisions set forth in sections 301 through 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), section 6607 of the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA),

all implementing regulations, and future amendments to these authorities, in light of applicable EPA guidance and without regard to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) or North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) delineations.

Each agency reporting under EPCRA section 313 shall do so using Internet reporting as provided in EPA's EPCRA section 313 guidance.



(2) Contractor reporting. In addition, as required in section 3(e) of the E.O., in contracts providing for contractor performance at Federal facilities, each agency shall include a requirement that the contractor provide the information needed by the Federal facility to comply with EPCRA, PPA, and the E.O.

# Nationwide Information Audit of Public Hazmat Documents Meets with Suspicion, Confusion And, Sometimes, Compliance

Information from EPA Region 6

A nationwide information audit, conducted as a prelude to Sunshine Week, found slightly more than four in 10 of the official gatekeepers willing – if wary – to provide copies of emergency response plans, which federal law makes public.



Other local officials, however, reacted to requests with confusion, outright denials and sometimes by calling police to check out the

auditors. Many weren't sure who had the authority to release the reports, or even where the documents were located.

More than a third of public officials audited refused to provide access to their local Comprehensive Emergency Response Plan – which is mandated by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 as a public document. Another 20 percent provided only partial reports. Those denials stood in stark contrast to the experience of other auditors, many of whom were offered copies of the report in either paper or disc form; 48, or 12 percent, of the 404 communities put the reports online.

The audits were conducted in early January, when reporters, civic group members, students and other volunteers visited their Local Emergency Planning Committee, which prepares the reports outlining emergency response in the event of a chemical or hazardous material accident. The 1986 law not only says the plans are public, it also requires the local officials to advertise their availability once a year.

In all, 162 news organizations participated as requestors, along with three student newspapers and eight League of Women Voters chapters. This report is built on a database of their experiences and offers a snapshot of the difficulties citizens may face when they request public information that may be considered sensitive.



The audit is a project of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the Coalition of Journalists for Open Government, the National Freedom of Information Coalition, and the Society of Environmental Journalists for Sunshine



Week 2007, March 11-17. Sunshine Week is an open

government initiative spearheaded by ASNE.

Entering its third year, the program encourages newspapers, broadcasters, online content producers, schools, libraries, civic groups and others to engage in discussions about the importance of protecting public access to government information and meetings. It is supported by a grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

Overall, there were 404 audits conducted in 37 states and Puerto Rico. The emergency response plan was provided in full to 177 requestors, or 44 percent of the total. One official in Iowa told the auditor that he was delighted to see a citizen seeking the report: "We need more awareness on what to do during an incident for the safety of everyone."

Officials around the country who denied requests, however, frequently cited national security or terrorism concerns – or even, incorrectly, the USA PATRIOT Act.

In fact, the law provides for separating any sensitive information the local responders gather in preparing the plans. Several auditors were told they were getting the document because they didn't "look like terrorists."

In all, 20 percent of auditors, or 82 requestors, received the plan only in part, and 36 percent, 145 requests, were denied.

In some cases, officials ran background checks on citizen auditors or sent police to follow them.



The highway patrol in one state even launched an all-county alert seeking more information about one requester. In several states, officials sent e-mails to colleagues in other emergency planning agencies warning of the audit.

A handful of the officials asked for the report apparently did not understand the request and did not appear eager to help. Several also were working out of their homes or businesses, although that did not necessarily hinder disclosure.

The full report can be viewed online at <http://www.sunshineweek.org/files/audit07.pdf>. It includes data charts as well as recaps of auditors' experiences.

# DHS Releases Revised HSEEP Policy and Guidance Volumes

Information from the Department of Homeland Security.



## FEMA

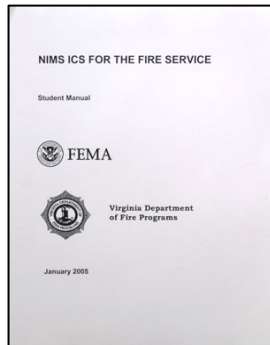
DHS announced the 2007 editions of the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Policy and Guidance Volumes I-III have been finalized and published.

HSEEP is a capabilities and performance-based exercise program that provides a standardized policy, methodology, and terminology for the design, development, conduct, and evaluation of all exercises.

The HSEEP volumes were initially developed in 2002; however, to increase the applicability and utilization of HSEEP among diverse entities, several revisions were made to the volumes over the past two years.

Revisions include:

- Incorporation of recent policies (e.g., National Incident Management System, National Response Plan, National Preparedness Goal, Universal Task List, Target Capabilities List);
- Elimination of references to DHS-specific doctrinal or grant-related requirements, such as the need for terrorism-related scenarios; and
- The order of Volumes II and III has been reversed to follow the natural progression of exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning.



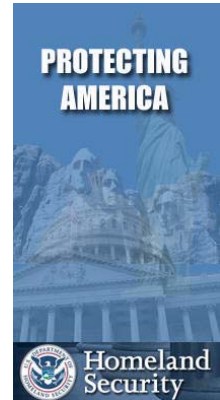
As modifications were made to the volumes, the drafts were posted on the HSEEP public website for review and comment. The draft volumes were also circulated throughout the Federal Government. Feedback was received from representatives at all levels of government.

The comments were reconciled and incorporated in order for the volumes to be more applicable to all exercises, regardless of scope, scale, scenario or sponsoring agency.

Additionally, the Deputy Secretaries across the Federal Government were briefed on the HSEEP volumes on January 26, 2007, and they approved and endorsed the HSEEP methodology.

The revised volumes articulate the HSEEP methodology in the following manner:

- HSEEP Volume I: HSEEP Overview and Exercise Program Management provides guidance for building and maintaining an effective exercise program and summarizes the planning and evaluation process described in further detail in Volumes II through IV.
- HSEEP Volume II: Exercise Planning and Conduct helps planners outline a standardized foundation, design, development, and conduct process adaptable to any type of exercise.
- HSEEP Volume III: Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning offers proven methodology, to include Exercise Evaluation Guides (EEGs), for evaluating and documenting exercises and implementing an improvement plan through a corrective action program.



The volumes can be found on the HSEEP website at <http://hseep.dhs.gov> and on the Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS.gov) system.

LLIS.gov has created a new HSEEP Resource Page which provides frequently updated HSEEP information as well as new exercise-related original content.

**Lessons Learned  
Information Sharing**  
[www.LLIS.gov](http://www.LLIS.gov)

This page also contains links to additional HSEEP-related LLIS.gov pages, such as the Exercise Planning and Program

Management page and the Corrective Action Program System page.

To share your exercise-related lessons learned and best practices, please log into LLIS.gov and click on Feedback.

# CAMEO Chemicals

Information from NOAA



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has released an on-line version of CAMEO Chemicals – an easier- to-use version of the most popular components of the CAMEO program. Find it online at <http://cameochemicals.noaa.gov/> .

The website provides access to the same CAMEO database of over 6,000 hazardous materials. The revised search engine is much faster and the new search results ranking makes finding your chemicals more straightforward.



The CAMEO Chemicals datasheets contain most of the same information you are used to seeing in CAMEO, but in an easier-to-read layout. Also, the website makes it simpler to mix chemicals and read reactivity hazard predictions. Best of all, you don't have to download or install anything, and you can bookmark frequently referenced datasheets.

## Oklahoma DEQ is adding CAMEO to their Tier2 Information Page;

information from ODEQ



Oklahoma DEQ is in process of adding a CAMEO section to their Tier 2 Information page.

The CAMEO section will feature links to NOAA and EPA, and old CAMEO Monthly Exercise sets for practice, along with several CAMEO and MARPLOT Import files...however, the Import files are useful only to Oklahomans.

Currently, anyone can go to the Tier 2 Information page <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/CSDnew/saratitleiii/tierii.htm> and download the December 2006 CAMEO Exercise.

The December Exercise provides instructions on a method to display ALOHA Threats Zones on Google Earth Aerial Photos.

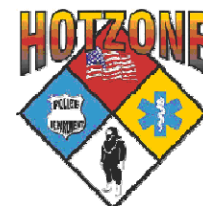
It's impressive for many folks to see those ALOHA footprints accurately shown on a nice, clear aerial photo.



## 2007 HOTZONE Conference Is Accepting Scholarship Applications

Information from the HOTZONE Conference

October 18 – 21, 2007 is the dates scheduled for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual HOTZONE, in Houston Texas. HOTZONE 2007 is now accepting scholarship applications which apply toward the registration fee and hotel costs. The application, as well as all other logistical information, may be found on-line at [www.hotzone.org](http://www.hotzone.org).



We have a great conference planned for this year so please submit your application and join us!

The type of classes held last year included:

Improvised Explosive Devices  
Special Ops: Where Is EMS?  
Tactical Use Of Detection Devices  
Computer Based Training Focus Group  
Booms, K-Booms & KFB's  
Hurricane Preparedness & Response  
Shelter From The Storm  
Predicting Behavior At A HazMat Event  
Responding To Utility Emergencies  
Near-Sighted NIMS  
HazMat Toxicology  
Pipeline Emergencies

Working With The FBI HazMat Response Unit  
Tantrums In The Street  
Highway Cargo Tank Damage Assessments  
How To Apply What The Meter Is Telling You  
Is Your Team Ready To Enter The Hot Zone?  
Countermeasures: Is Your Dispersant Approved?  
WMD Clandestine Lab Entry Ops  
The New CAMEO, a Tool For Every Responder  
Specific Training for the Ops-Plus Responder  
Railcar Safety  
Leak Control Measures

Emergency Response to Terrorist Bombings  
Suicide Bomber Prevention  
Protective Clothing For A Terrorist Event  
Thermo-Man Demonstration (DuPont)  
HazMat Response & Heat Stress  
New White Powder Sampling Protocol  
The New NFPA 472: How Does It Affect You?  
Grounding & Bonding: Are You Doing It Right?  
Avian Flu: Rumors, Truths & Realities  
Handling LPG Propellant Emergencies  
HazMat Response Around The World  
Decon-If You Want It Done Keep It Simple

# CAMEO CORNER

## EPA Region 6

1445 Ross Ave.  
Dallas, TX 75202

Phone: (214) 665-2276

FAX: (214) 665-2278

### EMAIL

Mason.Steve@epa.gov

Angie.mills@weston  
solutions.com

We're on the Web!  
See us at:

[www.epa.gov/region6/lepc](http://www.epa.gov/region6/lepc)

### CAMEO Search:

What has 72 in its CAS#, has brownish crystals, is an EPCRA EHS chemical, and exposure causes pinpoint pupils?

### ALOHA Exercise:



For planning purposes

At 4:57 am on April 18, 2004, a train derailed as it passed near the downtown area of Wichita Falls, Texas (an urban area with enclosed office buildings). A railcar, containing 25,000 gallons of Isovaleraldehyde, ruptured during the accident.

The wind is 14 mph out of the Northeast with a clear sky. The measurement height is 3 meters. The temperature is 61 degrees F with 21% humidity and no inversion.

The chemical released, creating a 200 foot puddle that is burning (pool fire) due to the heat from the friction when the brakes were applied.

What is the distance of the red thermal radiation level of concern?

### ANSWERS:

1. Coumaphos
2. 137 yards



## Emergency Numbers for Spill Reporting in Region 6

Arkansas Dept. of Emergency Management  
Louisiana State Police  
New Mexico State Police  
Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality  
Texas Environmental Hotline

800-322-4012  
877-925-6595  
505-827-9126  
800-522-0206  
800-832-8224

\*\*\*\*\*

National Response Center  
EPA Region 6  
CHEMTREC

800-424-8802  
877-372-7745  
800-424-9300

