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Two issues for this month...

I had asked all the LEPCs if Region 6 should hold an LEPC conference this winter. Most liked the idea... most did not have the funds to come...

So we are not holding one... however, we are going to propose to the State contacts that we start conducting smaller area LEPC meetings... more details on that later...

Secondly, Region 6 just completed the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Hotzone Conference in Houston. As always, the Houston Fire Department did a wonderful job hosting the conference, along with the Houston LEPC. Several state and federal agencies work all year to ensure the conference is a success. Over 450 fire fighters and emergency managers attended this year.



Make plans to come next year... It is wonderful training  
[www.hotzone.org](http://www.hotzone.org)

**CSB Calls on Governments at All Levels to Establish OSHA Programs for Public Employees, information from the U.S. Chemical Safety Board**



Washington, DC, May 24, 2007 - The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) today urged 'governments at all levels to take steps to protect public employees from

preventable chemical accidents, including the establishment of programs incorporating mandatory OSHA standards.'

W. Merritt, speaking on behalf of the five-member Board, said, 'It is simply inequitable to afford public employees with lesser workplace protections than workers in private industry. No worker - whether employed by the city, county, state, federal government, or the private sector - should have to suffer injury or death just to earn a living.'

(continued on next page)

In written testimony submitted today for a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee hearing, CSB Chairman Carolyn

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## CSB Calls on Governments at All Levels to Establish OSHA Programs for Public Employees, *information from the U.S. Chemical Safety Board*



The hearing before the House Committee on Education and Labor Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, chaired by Rep. Lynn Woolsey (California), was entitled 'Workplace Safety: Why do Millions of Workers Remain Without OSHA Coverage?' The hearing will be web cast live from

<http://edworkforce.house.gov/>.

The Board testimony cited the CSB's investigation of a January 2006 methanol fire and explosion at a Florida municipal wastewater treatment plant that killed two public employees and seriously injured a third.

The final report and a computer-animated safety video on the explosion at the Bethune Point Wastewater Treatment Plant are available from the Board's website, [CSB.gov](http://CSB.gov), under 'Completed Investigations.'

The accident at the wastewater facility, which is owned and operated by the City of Daytona Beach, occurred when city employees using a cutting torch to dismantle a metal roof accidentally ignited vapors coming from the vent of a nearby methanol storage tank.



Flames traveled back into the storage tank through a corroded flame arrester, causing an internal explosion, multiple piping failures, and a large fire that engulfed the workers.

In its investigation report, the CSB concluded that a lack of hazard communication, inadequate safety training, and no control of hot work contributed to the accident.

Chairman Merritt said, 'This fatal accident that occurred in Florida should serve as a cautionary tale for the twenty-five other states that do not provide public employees with OSHA protections.'

This tragic accident, she added, 'underscores the potentially grave dangers facing public employees who work with dangerous chemicals without workplace safety standards.'

The CSB report noted that no Florida state laws or regulations exist to require municipalities to implement safe work practices or communicate chemical hazards to municipal employees.

Florida is one of 26 states that have not adopted plans under the 1970 Occupational Safety and Health Act to provide OSHA coverage for public employees. Florida had a safety program for public workers but it was discontinued in 2000, six years before the accident.

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The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial chemical accidents. The agency's board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate.

CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry standards, and safety management systems.

The Board does not issue citations or fines but does make safety recommendations to plants, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. Visit our website, [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov).



# Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has released an interim final rule that imposes comprehensive federal security regulations for high-risk chemical facilities.

This rule establishes risk-based performance standards for the security of our nation's chemical facilities. It requires covered chemical facilities to

- prepare Security Vulnerability Assessments, which identify facility security vulnerabilities, and to
- develop and implement Site Security Plans, which include measures that satisfy the identified risk-based performance standards.

It also allows certain covered chemical facilities, in specified circumstances, to submit Alternate Security Programs in lieu of a Security Vulnerability Assessment, Site Security Plan, or both.

Responsibility for chemical security is shared among federal, state, and local governments, as well as the private sector.

The Department of Homeland Security has issued Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards for any facility that manufactures, uses, stores, or distributes certain chemicals above a specified quantity.

Government and industry must work together to strengthen the security of America's chemical facilities, while not undercutting an important part of the nation's economy.



## Identifying Facilities Covered by the Chemical Security Regulation

Section 550 of the DHS Appropriations Act of 2007 grants the Department the authority to regulate chemical facilities that "present high levels of security risk."



Facilities that are required to complete the Top Screen will largely fall into one of three categories:

- chemical manufacturing, storage and distribution facilities;
- petroleum refineries, and
- liquefied natural gas storage (peak shaving) facilities.

Any facility that manufactured, used, stored or distributed certain chemicals above a specified quantity must complete and submit a CSAT Top-Screen.

The Department may also notify facilities - either directly or through a *Federal Register* notice - that they need to complete and submit a CSAT Top-Screen.

To determine what chemical facilities meet the Department's criteria for high-risk chemical facilities, the Department of Homeland Security developed the Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) Top Screen, an easy-to-use online questionnaire to be completed by facilities that possess or plan to possess any chemicals on Appendix A: DHS Chemicals of Interest list at or above the listed Screening Threshold Quantity (STQ).

The Department of Homeland Security does not currently plan to regulate railroad facilities that are used to store in rail cars large quantities of chemicals or materials on the DHS chemical of interest list and does not request that railroads complete the CSAT Top Screen.

Likewise, the Department has no intention at this time of requiring long-haul natural gas pipelines to complete the CSAT Top Screen; however, chemical facilities otherwise covered by this regulation and with a pipeline within their boundaries must identify the pipeline as an asset and address it, as appropriate, in the Site Security Plan.

## Response Sheets- Thanks to Wisconsin Chapter of the IAAI:



Response sheets are available at the Wisconsin Chapter of the IAAI (International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc.) <http://www.wiiaai.com/news.htm>

A Suspicious Letter/Package Response Sheet has recently been added to the list of field guide response sheets.

See Field Response Guides for Clandestine Drug Labs, Bottle Bombs, Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), VBIEDs and OPSEC for Public Safety.

These are designed to be "bubba proof", two-sided, print off, laminated and placed in go-bags, response vehicles and command vehicles.

Best of all you can not beat the price. Please share with any interested staff/ agencies/ teams just give credit where credit is due!

Designed to help any first responder (EMS, Fire, Law Enforcement, etc.) with minimum training in the first 15-30 minutes of an incident.

These are all Version 1 DRAFTS. Work is being done to produce cleaned up and updated versions over the next few months.

These sheets were reviewed by Clandestine Drug Lab Team members and Hazardous Device Team members.

Questions? Connect with August Vernon at [fdtac@yahoo.com](mailto:fdtac@yahoo.com)

## CAMEO CORNER

### CAMEO Search:

What chemical has 59 in its CAS#, is a CERCLA chemical, and has a health hazard of delirium?

### ALOHA Exercise:

At 2:13 am on November 4, 2005, a 500 pound vertical gas cylinder of Diborane ruptured in the city of Stillwater, Oklahoma.

The entire contents of the tank were released (direct release). The buildings in the path of the cloud are single storied with sheltered surroundings.

The wind is out of the Northwest at 7 mph with a partly cloudy sky. The temperature is 42 degrees Fahrenheit with 38% humidity and no inversion.



What was the downwind distance of the AEGL-2 footprint?

### ANSWERS:

- Safrole
- 1.9 miles

## EPA Releases List of High-Volume Chemicals:

The EPA has released the first set of Hazard Characterizations on 101 High Production Volume (HPV) chemicals.

These characterizations are based on EPA's scientific review of the screening-level hazard, or toxicity, data that was submitted by the U.S. chemical industry through EPA's HPV Challenge Program or other information previously collected by the agency.



The HPV Challenge Program challenged companies to provide the public with basic health and safety data on chemicals that are manufactured in excess of a million pounds a year.

The hazard characterizations include a summary of the data submitted, EPA's evaluation of the quality and completeness of the data, and an assessment of the potential hazards that a chemical or chemical category may pose.

EPA will combine this information with human and environmental exposure information collected from EPA's Inventory Update Reporting to develop a risk characterization and, based on that review, determine if additional action is needed to ensure the safety of the HPV chemicals' manufacture and use.

The agency intends to use this approach to assess risks and identify and take needed action on 3000 HPV chemicals by 2012. This was one of the elements of the North American chemical cooperation commitment announced by the U.S., Canada and Mexico at the Security and Prosperity Partnership North American Leaders' Summit in Canada in August.

For additional information on this announcement, visit the HPV Challenge Program Web site at [www.epa.gov/hpv](http://www.epa.gov/hpv). EPA will continue to prepare and periodically post additional HPV chemical hazard characterizations as they are developed. The agency also intends to post risk characterizations on chemicals when they are developed and completed, beginning later this year.

Review the first set of hazard characterizations:

[http://iaspub.epa.gov/opptppv/hpv\\_hc\\_characterization.get\\_report](http://iaspub.epa.gov/opptppv/hpv_hc_characterization.get_report)

Further information on EPA's plans for reviewing HPV chemical data:

<http://www.epa.gov/chemrtk/index.htm>

View all news releases related to pesticides and toxic chemicals

[http://service.govdelivery.com/service/edition.html?code=USA-EPA\\_24&format=Web&email\\_type=bulletin](http://service.govdelivery.com/service/edition.html?code=USA-EPA_24&format=Web&email_type=bulletin)



## Emergency Numbers for Spill Reporting in Region 6

Arkansas Dept. of Emergency Management

800-322-4012

Louisiana State Police

877-925-6595

New Mexico State Police

505-827-9126

Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality

800-522-0206

Texas Environmental Hotline

800-832-8224

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National Response Center

800-424-8802

EPA Region 6

877-372-7745

CHEMTREC

800-424-9300

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1445 Ross Ave.  
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We're on the Web!  
See us at:

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

## Does this Make Sense ?

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, then

Electricians can be delighted  
Musicians denoted  
Cowboys deranged  
Models deposed  
Tree surgeons debarked  
Dry cleaners depressed  
Salesmen can be decommissioned  
Barristers debriefed  
Magicians disillusioned  
Guides detoured

Computer scientists deprogrammed  
Organ donors delivered  
Ecologists denatured  
Entomologists debugged  
Teachers declassified  
Students degraded and detested  
Strippers denuded  
Judges disrobed  
Secretaries defiled  
Gardeners deflowered