



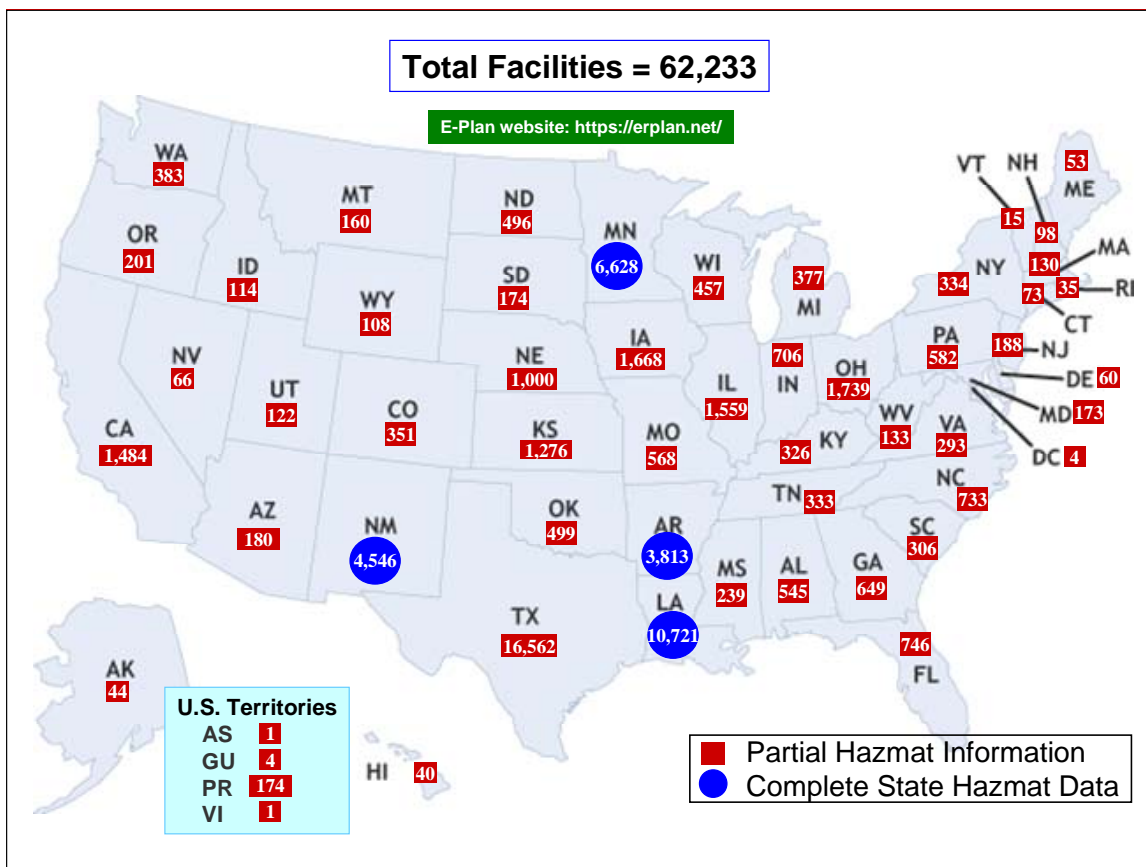
When every second counts...

Website: <http://csepi.utdallas.edu/>

Hello, E-Plan Users and friends,

This is your August, 2006 Newsletter to update you on E-Plan events and news across the country.

E-Plan has nationwide coverage in all 50 States.



Facts About First Responders

(http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/editorial/editorial_0197.xml)

- There are over 1 million firefighters in the United States, of which approximately 750,000 are volunteers.
- Local police departments have an estimated 556,000 full-time employees including about 436,000 sworn enforcement personnel.
- Sheriffs' offices reported about 291,000 full-time employees, including about 186,000 sworn personnel.
- There are over 155,000 nationally registered emergency medical technicians (EMT)

Did you know -- Three new items

E-Plan will soon have a new look and be even easier to use!

We have been hard at work to upgrade E-Plan and make it even easier to use for Emergency Response, Tier II Report filing and management and Pre-Planning.

With the completion of the E-Plan Tier II Reporting beta test, we are reconfiguring the database and links to serve you better.

Searching for chemicals and facilities will be faster and easier. Each facility page will be easier to navigate and find the information you need on each chemical. It will be easier for you to find additional information on a facility, such as Google Maps, and facility-specific information, such as facility maps and emergency plans.

We will let you know soon, when the new E-Plan is available. In the meantime, you can continue to use the trusted E-Plan you were trained on.

New FEMA Chief speaks out!

In a recent interview with Janet Wilmoth, Editorial Director of "Fire chief" Magazine, the newly confirmed director of FEMA, R. David Paulison, gave his views on rebuilding FEMA. Chief Paulison formerly served a U.S. Fire Administrator and chief of the Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue Department, before assuming the reigns of FEMA.

Director Paulison listed logistics, pre-positioning of supplies, tracking of FEMA trucks and communications as top priorities this year.

In addition, FEMA has only 85% of its authorized strength of 2,400 full-time employees, so recruiting of new personnel is high on his radar screen. Some FEMA employees are part-time Disaster Assistance Employees (DAE). About 10,000 DAE's are actually working for FEMA right now. Director Paulison is very pleased to be able to hire experienced people like Chief Bill Peterson to head up FEMA Region 6 and the Emergency Manager from Pittsburgh, PA to head up the Response Branch. Admiral Harvey Johnson, USCG, is serving as Paulison's deputy director.

Paulison also stressed that individuals have a personal responsibility to prepare for disasters. The government can not take care of everything!

Director Paulison is also working on how to get temporary housing into a disaster area faster, so that the First Responders in the area have a place to stay, in addition to the victims of the disaster. For Hurricane Katrina, he used a cruise ship to house First Responders.

In conclusion, Paulison said that it is important for local fire chiefs to establish a good relationship with their local FEMA representatives to pre-plan for major disasters and understand clearly what FEMA can and cannot do. Plan now to clearly establish how supplies are to be delivered. FEMA brings supplies (water, medical supplies, MRE's (military Meals Ready to Eat) to the states and then the states and local authorities must have a plan to get them to the victims.

Nothing fancy here. It is just the hard work of getting a large organization with many parts to work together with state and local facilities to get the job done!

National Fire Prevention Week – October 8-14, 2006

National Fire Prevention week is coming up October 8-14. This year's theme is "Prevent Cooking Fires - Watch What You Heat". You can order supplies, videos and handouts (including complete Fire Prevention Week kits in a box for 100, 300 or 500 people) to promote this theme in your community by calling NFPA at 1-800-334-3555 or go on line to www.nfpacatalog.org

What Users Think of E-Plan -- *We thought you might like to hear what some E-Plan users think about E-Plan.*

Here are some excerpts from an e-mail that Marilyn Braun, Emergency Services Coordinator for Greensboro North Carolina sent to Shane Hitchcock, EPA Region 4 in Atlanta, GA.

July 19, 2006

Dear Shane,

Many years ago, EPA Region IV responded to help us supervise a long-term clean-up here in Guilford County. Since that time, you and your staff have always been available to offer guidance regarding numerous other environmental emergencies (and near emergencies) in our County. Your assistance was, without exception, impeccably organized and timely.

In-between emergencies, one of our tasks (since 1988) has been the management of SARA Title III chemical submissions. These chemical listings for the City of Greensboro businesses and industry have grown to represent over 5 billion lbs (taken at the reported maximum daily amount).

Because the information is so critical to good pre-planning and proper management is potentially life saving for our responders and the community, we have tried to harness this data many ways and with many programs. Looking back on this project, I think the most successful organization was accomplished by my counter-part in the City of High Point Fire – Barry Tilley. He supervised entering of their chemical data into the CAMEO program.

However, no program on the market seemed to have all the features we needed. We wanted, for example, a program to accept data efficiently from industry while relating it to other risk information (Clear Air 112r, N.C. Right-to-Know). And we needed the program to be cost effective!

Imagine how exciting it was for us to discover the E-Plan Project! Here are some of the features we love about this project:

E-PLAN:

- Provides First Responders with instant information on chemicals reported by our SARA facilities. The data is immediately accessible for preplanning and response.
- Provides First Responders with health effects on 21,000 chemicals. This is useful for fixed facility response and transport. The "Chemical Search" feature allows responders to find key information on how to contain any chemical in the data base – facility related or not.
- Secures our information with internet encoding. (Nick Macchiarolo explained to us that this type of security is the same internet security system as banks use to wire money transfers.)
- Provides free on-line training. On-line registration makes it easier for us to authorize new users.
- Assists with area complaints and investigations. We can now search by chemical to determine who uses a chemical in a given geographical area.
- Makes Tier Two forms relational. Finally, regulated sites in North Carolina can submit their Tier Two Chemicals through the EPA's Tier Two Submit Program to the State Emergency Response Commission, Local Emergency Response Committees and Fire Departments using a stable and technically supported computer program. It is great to know that EPA staff is available each week day to help our industries with their Tier Two questions. It is even more advantageous that E-Plan accepts Tier Two Submit directly. I understand that, presently, E-Plan has demonstrated program stability to over 1,200 registered users in the United States. I am proud to be one of the 1,200!
- Supports all-hazard planning and response. We are just beginning to understand this use of E-Plan. We learned, for example, that in the aftermath of an event such as Hurricane Katrina, that E-Plan can be used to locate facilities and match them to "orphan" compressed gas cylinders or drums of hazardous materials.

I know there are more features I could highlight to make the point that we need to continue support for the E-Plan project. The most important reason is that this information is critical to the lives and well-being of our emergency responders and the communities they serve. This mission, helping to keep responders safe and informed, is precisely what kept us researching solutions to the best use of hundreds and hundreds of pages of chemical data would arrive at our offices each year.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Braun, Coordinator
Greensboro Emergency Management

Also, we received the following from Paula McKinney, Manager of Chemical & Product Safety Licensing Group, Texas Department of State Health Services:

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will be publishing a new rule in the Texas Register on July 24, 2006, that will require all facilities that are subject to the Texas Community Right-to-Know Acts (Texas Health & Safety Code, Chapters 505-507) to file their Tier Two Reports with DSHS in electronic Tier2 Submit format. Texas facility representatives may use either the Tier2 Submit software or the E Plan website to prepare Tier2 Submit-formatted electronic files that will be acceptable under this new rule.

The electronic files will need to be submitted to DSHS on either a floppy disk or CD, along with a check or money order for the appropriate filing fee and a completed Electronic Filing Cover Sheet form. The disk, payment, and completed Cover Sheet form should be mailed to DSHS in a disk mailer or other suitable protective envelope to ensure that the disk does not become damaged in the mail. Further information on submission of electronic files, including a link to download the free Tier2 Submit software, is available on our Tier Two Reporting Program website, which is:

www.texastiertwo.com

The Program may also be contacted via our Texas toll-free telephone number, which is 1-800-452-2791 or (512) 834-6603 (for callers outside the state of Texas).

In addition, the Tier Two Reporting Program staff will be offering free Beginner Tier2 Submit training classes in major metropolitan areas of the state. These classes will be announced on our program website in the Fall of 2006 and will run through February 2007. While the classes are free, attendees must register with the program so that we can ensure an adequate number of computers and classroom materials.

Please let me know if you need further information or have any questions.

Thanks,
Paula J. McKinney, Manager
Chemical & Product Safety Licensing Group
Regulatory Licensing Unit / Health Care Quality Section Regulatory Services
Division Texas Department of State Health Services
Telephone: (800) 452-2791, ext. 2432 (toll-free in Texas)
Alternate Telephone: (512) 834-6603, ext. 2432
Fax: (512) 834-6716
Email: paula.mckinney@dshs.state.tx.us

E-Plan Online Training and Registration



To register for E-Plan and/or take the E-Plan online training, go to the E-Plan homepage at <http://erplan.net> and click on the "E-Plan Training & Registration".

There are two Accident Scenarios in the online Training module, based on real incidents. You can compare your response actions to these accidents on E-Plan. By comparing your response actions to the actual response actions, you can sharpen your response skills and learn more about how to use E-Plan.

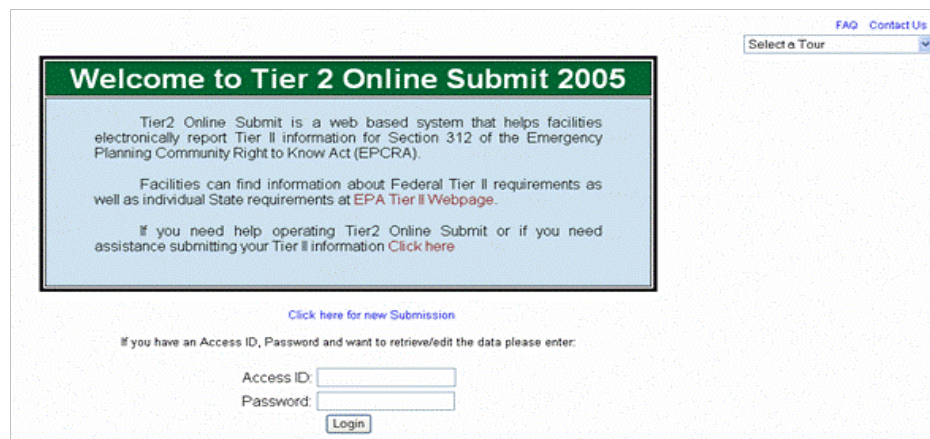
E-Plan Online Tier2 Submit.

COMPANIES - Use **E-Plan Online Tier2 Submit** if you want to save time and money and trouble filing Tier II reports and make sure they get to your local First Responders.

FIRST RESPONDERS – Do you want to always have up-to-date Tier II Reports for your facilities? Encourage your facilities to use **E-Plan Online Tier2 Submit**. This is a good reason for you or your Fire Inspector to visit your local facilities, tell them about **E-Plan Online Tier2 Submit**, and look over your pre-plans.

E-Plan is offering managers with responsibility for filing Tier II Reports for a plant or facility an online system that simplifies the process for creating the Tier II submission files. Since the system is online, there is no software to download or install! The user goes to the secure web site on E-Plan, enters their company Tier II data in a secure location that is ID and password protected. The user then creates a set of Tier II zip files that can be written to CDs or printed in hard copy and filed with the appropriate state agency.

You can get started by going to <http://erplan.net/>. This is the E-Plan web site. There may be two security alerts to get there. Say OK to the first one and Yes to the second one. The E-Plan home page will appear. Ignore the login. Click on the third line in the left-hand blue side bar, which is **Tier2 Online**. You may see another Security Alert. If so, click Yes. You have arrived at the Tier2 Online Welcome screen.



On the upper right is an FAQ link. You should review this question and answer area, since some of the answers contain tours that will help you navigate through Tier2 Online. The tours, which operate somewhat like a VCR, show you how the system works.

IMPORTANT: On the upper right of the screen, you will find the “**Contact Us**” link. Please use it to report any problems or to ask questions. We will answer your inquiry as soon as possible.

If this is your first time to use the system, click on the ‘Click here for a new Submission’. If you’ve been here before and want to review or revise your data, enter your Access ID (which you have previously recorded, somewhere) and password and the system will connect to your previously entered data.

First time users will select a Password, enter their name and e-mail address and then start the data entry process. Data is entered for **emergency contact personnel, facilities, and chemicals** in those facilities. Data can be added, edited, or deleted later by returning and using the Access ID and Password.

After entering your Tier II data, you can create the files you need to send to your state. **Note that Tier2 Online does NOT make the filing for you with the state at this time.** If we have enough interest, we may add online state filing at a later date. For now, you must create the files and then send them to the state by an appropriate means to meet the statutory filing requirement of your state.

If you already have your Tier 2 data in zip files, you can simply upload the zip files to create your record in the system.

IMPORTANT: On completing your first data entry you are assigned an Access ID. You must enter this Access ID and the password you chose to access your data records. Please write down your Access ID number. You will need it each time you access your data.

Note that the data you enter in this database is available to your First Responders via the E-Plan system. Please keep the data current so that your First Responders will have the correct information when they need it.

Use the “**Contact Us**” button on the web site with your questions or comments.

E-Plan Statistics and Outreach

E-PLAN STATISTICS (as of July 31, 2006)

- ❖ Number of Facilities: **62,233**
- ❖ Number of Unique Chemicals: **21,051**
- ❖ Number of Registered Users: **1,291**

E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS LAST MONTH

- Chemical Safety Hazards Investigation Board in Washington, D.C. – July 20, 2006
- North Carolina RRT and Hazmat Committee of the NC SERC in Raleigh, NC – July 20, 2006
- Department of Homeland Security - Washington, DC – July 21, 2006

E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULED

- Santa Fe, NM Emergency Managers and other selected personnel throughout New Mexico August 8, 2006 at the National Guard Training Center
- City of Austin Fire Department, September 12, 2006 in Austin, TX
- International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Fire-Rescue International Conference in Dallas, TX - September 14-16 - Hazmat Committee
- E-Plan presentation for the Virginia Hazardous Materials conference on September 25-29 in Virginia Beach, Virginia
- Erie County, New York Train the Trainer session at the end of September
- Sherman, TX - Fire Chiefs and Emergency Managers in Grayson County and Fannin County

Forgot Your E-Plan's User Account Password.



If you have an E-Plan account and forgot your password, contact us

by email: jenny.wall@utdallas.edu

or

call us at **972-883-2631**

We will provide you your current password.

And Now, Our Humor Moment!

Three ministers died and went to Heaven. When they arrived at the Pearly Gates, Saint Peter informed them that renovation work was in progress and their rooms wouldn't be ready for a couple of weeks.

Saint Peter said, "I am going to have to send you back to earth for a few weeks. What would you like to be when I send you back?"

The first minister said, "St. Peter, I always liked to fish. Can you send me back to Earth as a whale, so I can swim the oceans and just observe the fish?" "Done" Saint Peter said and the first minister was gone!

The second minister said that he liked to bird watch. "Could I be an eagle and soar over the mountains and look at the other birds?" "Done" Saint Peter said and the second minister was gone!

The third minister looked around and saw nobody was near, so he whispered in Saint Peter's ear "Although I am a minister, I have always had a secret desire to be a stud!" "Done" Saint Peter said and the third minister was gone!

Some weeks later, the Angel Gabriel came to Saint Peter to tell him the rooms were done and the ministers could move in.

Saint Peter said, "I think we have a problem. I know where the first minister is and can bring him back in a second. He is a whale swimming off the coast of California. The second minister is soaring over the Rocky Mountains and will be easy to bring back. But the third guy is a 2 by 4 in a condo in Florida and I can't find him!"

Contact Us ...



Send your comments and questions and suggestions to:

- **By e-mail:** jenny.wall@utdallas.edu
- **By phone:** 972-883-2631
- **By fax:** 972-883-4441
- **By mail:** University of Texas at Dallas
CyberSecurity & Emergency Preparedness Institute
Attn: E-Plan
P.O. Box 830688 WT-11
Richardson, TX 75083-0688

**Read more from previous issues of the E-Plan Newsletter at
http://csepi.utdallas.edu/epc_center.htm**

Freedom is Never Free



Remember our troops fighting for our security and freedom!

