



When every second counts...

Hello, E-Plan™ Users,

Here is the August, 2004 Newsletter to update you on E-Plan™ happenings and news in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and around the country.



EMERGENCY READINESS CONFERENCE AND EXPO

Promoting An All Hazards Approach to Homeland Security

Produced by The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)

August 9-12, 2004

UTD Campus in Richardson, Texas

UTD Announces a Government Sector Attendee Discount!

Due to the Commitment of the Government Sector and their Contributions towards our Homeland Defense and Security, UTD is proud to offer the Government Sector Staff and Management a discount in the attendance cost for our upcoming **2004 Emergency Readiness Conference and Expo.**

Register Today!

Attendee Workshops & Certification Programs

Three Main Tracks: Disaster Medical Management, Aviation Security, HazMat/WMD

- For a full schedule listing and to register, visit: <http://som.utdallas.edu/erc>
- For directions to UTD, go to <http://www.utdallas.edu/directions.html>

Did You Know???

Corpus Christi, Texas, to Deploy Metro-Scale Wi-Fi System

Corpus Christi has hired Tropos Networks Inc. of California to build an 18.5-square-mile wireless broadband network. The city will deploy the Tropos Wi-Fi system for use by the city-owned water and gas utilities, public works departments, and public safety agencies. The public safety agencies, with more than 315 police, fire, and EMS vehicles in their collective fleet, will use Virtual Private Network (VPN) authenticated access to all of the applications (e.g., E-Plan™) currently available only in their offices.

A Letter of Support from IAFC for E-Plan™

Mr. Garry Briese, Executive Director of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), sent a letter of support from IAFC for E-Plan™ to Mr. James Staves, Director of Emergency Preparedness Center at The University of Texas at Dallas. His letter stated that the International Association of Fire Chiefs believes that E-Plan™'s structures, security management and operating principles provide a good model for delivery of federal and state agency maintained data to first responders nationwide.

Responsible Railroads Act of 2004 (Introduced in House)

There is a new bill in Congress that require information on railroad tank cars containing hazardous materials to be available to first responders; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. This bill, H.R. 4802 introduced by Rep. Marty Meehan (D-MA 5th), is named the Responsible Railroads Act of 2004. According to "Progressive Railroading" Magazine, this bill would require railroads to provide local First Responders with the location and contents of hazardous materials tank cars moving through their communities or stored on tracks in their communities. The bill also requires railroads to provide response guidance to the local First Responders through the use of "Operation Respond Institute" technology or "similar technology". E-Plan™ may very well play an important part in this proposal, if it becomes law. If you would like to read the proposed bill in its entirety, you can find it on the Internet with Yahoo or Google. Search for it by typing in "HR 4802".

ANSER Institute for Homeland Security

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has established the ANSER (Advanced National Strategies and Enabling Results) Institute for Homeland Security. This is DHS's first government Think Tank. The Institute will be run by Analytic Services of Arlington, VA. Analytic Services is a non-profit research institute that provides analysis and support services for government agencies to develop policy and security for complex threat and vulnerability assessment areas.

Password Security?

According to an Infosecurity Europe 2004 Survey of office workers at the Liverpool Street Station in England, 71% of employees in England will part with their computer password for a **candy bar!!** Hershey Bar, anyone???

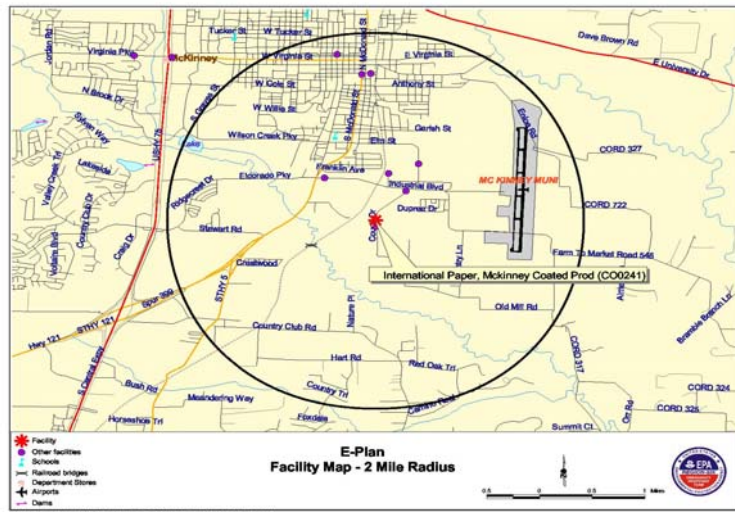
E-PLAN™ TRAINING NEWS...

- ✓ **Total number of E-Plan™ Registered Users is now 504.**
- ✓ El Paso County Texas completed E-Plan™ Training in the Fire, Police and Emergency Management departments on July 29 and 30.
- ✓ The Arkansas Department of Health and regional hospital centers around Arkansas will be trained to use E-Plan™ (including the new WMD feature) August 17 and 18.
- ✓ We are continuing our work with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Committee on E-Plan™ to offer First Responders the tool they really need – a fast, reliable Hazmat Information System. We will provide the IAFC HazMat Committee an update on E-Plan™ and its new features on August 13, 2004 at the IAFC's Fire-Rescue International Conference in New Orleans, LA.

E-PLAN™ FEATURES UP-DATE...

- ✓ **We now have 4,705 facilities and 21,053 chemicals in the E-Plan™ Database.**
- ✓ Check out the new Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) feature on E-Plan™. You can now get direct access to information on 17 Chemical Agents and 12 Biological Agents on E-Plan™. Go the blue "Links" Column on the left side of E-Plan™ Home Page (<http://erplan.net>) and click on the "WMD Information" link.

- ❖ **MAP function - For Planning Your Response:** The "map" function is now functional for more than half of the facilities in the E-Plan™ database in Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas since February, 2004. By clicking the "**Simple Facility Map**" link of one of the facilities in E-Plan™, a two-mile diameter map around that facility will appear. This map shows the important landmarks such as schools, hospitals, utilities, other facilities storing/using hazardous materials, tank farms and major roads in that neighborhood.



Try the "Map" link on your facilities in your county. You will find that this is a good tool for:

1. Checking your local Tier II records to make sure that your list of Tier II facilities agrees with your State Tier II reported facilities. It helps you to see if you have missed any Tier II facilities (or if your State Agency has!)
2. Developing Pre-Plan scenarios. You have the locations of all the sensitive facilities around Tier II facilities on the map to help with your **Emergency Pre-Planning**.

LOOK FOR E-PLAN™ AT THE...

- UTD's Emergency Readiness Conference August 9-12, 2004 in Richardson, TX
- IAFC's Fire-Rescue International Conference August 12-14, 2004 in New Orleans, LA

FEEDBACK...

- ❖ **Tell us what you think about E-Plan™** – We welcome all of your questions and suggestions about E-Plan™ System, E-Plan™ Website, and the E-Plan™ Newsletter.

Please forward **your success stories** to Jenny Wall at UTD.

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To see past issues of the E-Plan™ Newsletter, go to our web site
at http://www.utdallas.edu/research/dfepi/epc_center.htm and
click on the **“Click Here to View E-Plan Newsletters”** red box.

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Stay Safe!!

**Remember our troops fighting for our security and freedom!
Freedom is never free!!!**