



# E-PLAN NEWS

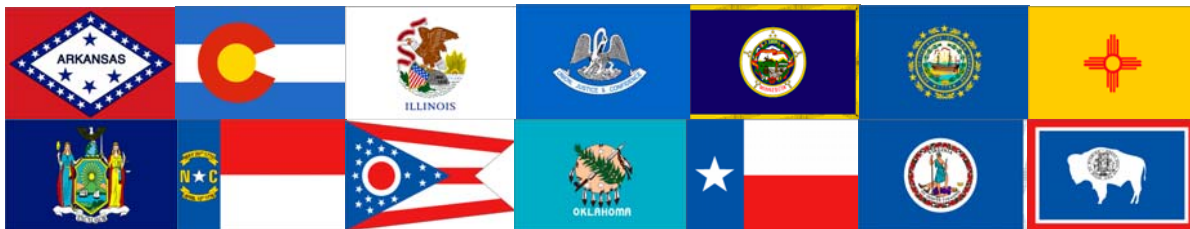
August, 2005

When every second counts....

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

## Hello, E-Plan Users and friends,

Welcome to your August, 2005 Newsletter to update you on E-Plan events and news in Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia, Wyoming, and around the country.



# E-PLAN SITES

- All counties
- Some counties



Produced by the UTD School of Management and The CyberSecurity and Emergency Preparedness Institute

## EMERGENCY READINESS CONFERENCE and EXPO

# 2005

October 24 - 26, 2005 at the Plano Center in Plano, Texas

<http://som.utdallas.edu/erc2005/>

**Did you know** - that Chicago and Baltimore have tried to copycat Washington, D.C.'s attempt to ban railroad Hazmat shipments through their cities. The cities are concerned that hazardous materials railcars can be used by terrorists as weapons. Details are as follows:

**CHICAGO PROPOSES HAZMAT TRANSPORTATION BAN** – A joint hearing of the Chicago Health and Transportation & Public Way Committees was held Monday, June 27, at 9:30 am to discuss a proposal to prohibit any hazardous chemical to be transported by rail within the city of Chicago. The Chemical Industry Council of Illinois, the Chlorine Chemistry Council and ACC are working to oppose the measure with the railroads and other industry stakeholders.

**BALTIMORE COPYCATS D.C. HAZMAT BAN** – Legislation identical to that recently passed in the District of Columbia to restrict shipments of hazardous materials has been introduced in the Baltimore City Council. The bill (05-0069), which was introduced March 14 with support of the entire Council, requires a permit to transport certain quantities of hazardous materials in or through the city of Baltimore and provides misdemeanor penalties for violations. Representatives of CSX, the Maryland Industrial Technology Alliance and ACC will convene soon to formulate a strategy on this measure.

Based on the Surface Transportation Board's ruling staying the Washington, D.C. hazmat ban and vigorous opposition from CSX Transportation, the American Chemistry Council, Chlorine Chemistry Council and the American Association of Railroads, it is unlikely that Chicago's and Baltimore's ordinances will stand.

On the surface, it sounds like a good idea to ban hazardous chemical rail shipments through large cities, but such a ban is just another example of NIMBY – Not In My Back Yard! Such bans ignore these facts:

1. Many hazardous chemicals are actually used within a city. For example, chlorine is the chemical of choice for water and waste water disinfection. If rail car shipments are banned, chlorine must be brought in to town by ISO containers, ton cylinders or tank truck- a much more vulnerable cargo container that will be subject to more leaks because of all the connections and disconnections required.
2. The same logic applies to many other chemicals brought into a city.
3. Re-routing hazardous material rail car shipments around a city simply moves the problem from an area that can be more easily monitored and secured (security cameras, fencing and physical patrols in railroad yards and city railroad tracks) to an area much harder to monitor and secure - tracks out in the boondocks that are far more vulnerable to people with nefarious intentions.
4. Hazardous material railroad cars are some of the most robust transportation containers available for these materials. They routinely survive serious train wrecks.
5. The railroad industry has a very good safety record in transporting hazardous materials.
6. The alternatives are not any better. The truth is that our modern life depends on chemicals, many of which can be hazardous when released uncontrollably.

As First Responders, we can encourage better tracking and monitoring of Hazmat shipments and increased security of city rail yards and tracks. The bottom line, however is that the citizens still depend on the First Responders to be there to protect them when "the wheels fall off". Knowledge, training and equipment are still the First Responder's best tools.

## E-Plan Online Training & Registration



To register for E-Plan and take the training, go to the E-Plan home page at <http://erplan.net> and click on the E-Plan Training & Registration button.

If you have any problems with the E-Plan online registration or training process, please contact us [jenny.wall@utdallas.edu](mailto:jenny.wall@utdallas.edu) or 972-883-2631.



## E-Plan Users Group and Bulletin Board

Several E-Plan users have asked, “How can E-Plan users share ideas and information?” and “How can we get together?” E-Plan Bulletin Board will be available soon. Watch this Newsletter for more details.

**Good News!!!** The first E-Plan Users Group meeting will be at the UTD Emergency Response Conference on October 24-26, 2005.

## E-Plan was in the March, 2005 issue of Fire Chief Magazine



The comprehensive article on E-Plan starts on page 62 of the March issue of “Fire Chief” Magazine. The story traces the humble beginnings of E-Plan in 1998 by EPA Region 6 and traces its evolution into the slick, sophisticated “point and click” tool for First Responders that it is today.

If you would like to read the article on line, go to [http://firechief.com/mag/firefighting\\_point\\_click030105/](http://firechief.com/mag/firefighting_point_click030105/)

If you would like to have a hard copy of the article, please call 972-883-2631 or email [jenny.wall@utdallas.edu](mailto:jenny.wall@utdallas.edu).

### E-PLAN STATISTICS (as of July 31, 2005)

- ❖ **Number of Facilities:** 28,324
- ❖ **Number of Unique Chemicals:** 21,051
- ❖ **Number of Registered Users:** 993

### E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS

- Wichita Falls, Texas LEPC, July 21, 2005
- Buffalo (Tonawanda), NY August 17, 2005

### E-PLAN TRAINING

- Buffalo (Tonawanda), NY August 17, 2005
- Mesquite, Texas, August 29, 2005



### LOOK FOR When every second counts ... AT THE ...

- **OEMA**, August 23-26, 2005 at the Southern Hills Marriott in Tulsa, OK (<http://www.ok.gov/oem/>)
- **Fire-Rescue International Southwestern Division Annual Conference**, October 15-18, 2005 in Metairie, Louisiana (<http://www.swd-iafc.org/conferences.htm>)
- **UTD Emergency Readiness Conference**, October 24-26, 2005 at the Plano Center in Plano, Texas (<http://som.utdallas.edu/erc2005/>)



Gladys Dunn was new in town and decided to visit the church nearest to her new apartment. She appreciated the pretty sanctuary and the music by the choir, but the sermon went on and on. Worse, it wasn't very interesting. Glancing around, she saw many in the congregation nodding off. Finally it was over. After the service, she turned to a still sleepy-looking man next to her, extended her hand to introduce herself, and said, "I'm Gladys Dunn."

He replied, "You and me both!"



How one changes in 30 years?

Things that were popular in 1975 vs. things that are popular in 2005:



1975: Passing the drivers' test  
2005: Passing the vision test

1975: Acid rock  
2005: Acid reflux

1975: Hoping for a BMW  
2005: Hoping for a BM

1975: Seeds and stems  
2005: Roughage

1975: Long hair  
2005: Longing for hair

1975: Going to a new, hip joint  
2005: Receiving a new hip joint

1975: Rolling Stones  
2005: Kidney Stones

1975: Screw the system  
2005: Upgrade the system

1975: Disco  
2005: Costco

1975: Whatever  
2005: Depends

1975: KEG  
2005: EKG

## Tell us what you think about E-Plan



- **By e-mail:** [jenny.wall@utdallas.edu](mailto:jenny.wall@utdallas.edu)
- **By phone:** 972-883-2631
- **By mail:** UTD's CyberSecurity & Emergency Preparedness Institute  
Attn: Jenny Wall  
P.O. Box 830688 MS EC-34  
Richardson, TX 75083-0688

Read more from previous issues of the E-Plan Newsletter at  
[http://csepi.utdallas.edu/epc\\_center.htm](http://csepi.utdallas.edu/epc_center.htm)



**Remember our troops fighting for our security and freedom!!!**