



When every second counts...

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

## Hello, E-Plan Users and friends,

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



*Merry Christmas*  
**AND BEST WISHES  
FOR A NEW YEAR OF  
HAPPINESS, SAFETY AND PEACE**



### A New Format for the E-Plan Newsletter

We will be transmitting the monthly E-Plan Newsletter to you over the Internet in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, only.

We used to send you two copies of each monthly Newsletter – one in Word and one in PDF format. This really caused two problems –

First, we sent you the same Newsletter twice and cluttered up your “In Box”.

Second - as you may know - Microsoft Word does not handle graphics very well and the transmission and receiving of the E-Plan Newsletter in Word was cluttering up everyone's computer.

Since Adobe Acrobat PDF is a well-recognized format (and you need PDF anyway to read CHRIS Data on E-Plan), we decided to send out the E-Plan newsletter in PDF format only. If you do not already have Adobe Acrobat Reader PDF on your computer, you will need Acrobat Reader on your computer to read the E-Plan Newsletter PDF file. To get a free copy of Acrobat Reader, please go to: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> and download the latest version of Adobe Reader onto your computer.

Also, you can refer to our CyberSecurity and Emergency Preparedness Institute website at <http://csepi.utdallas.edu> to read our previous E-Plan Newsletters. You will find the E-Plan Newsletters link located under the Emergency Preparedness Center area.

### **E-Plan Outreach**

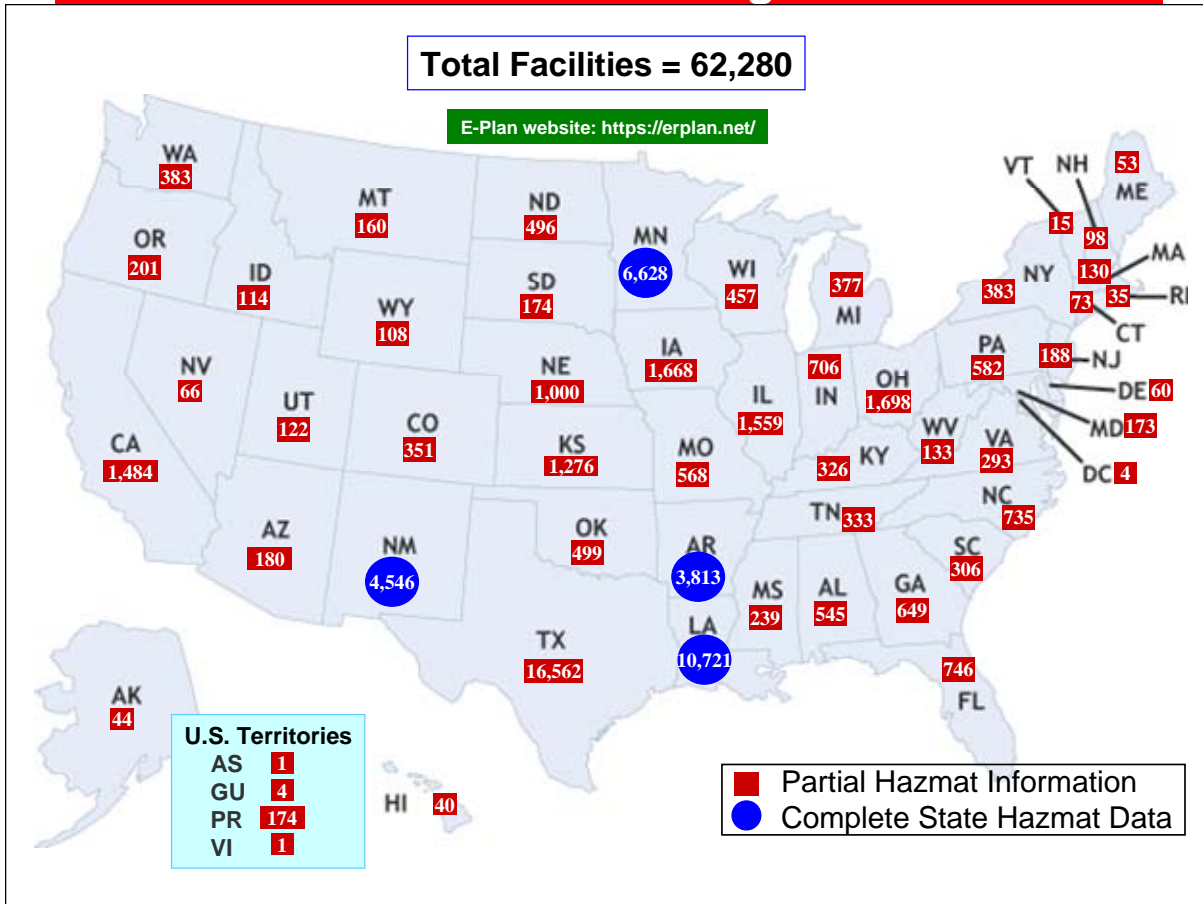
#### **E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS IN November, 2006**

- Arkansas Environmental Federation Annual Conference Hot Springs, AR Oct. 30 to Nov. 2
- CHEMTREC, Arlington, VA, November 10

#### **E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULED**

- EPA Region III in Valley Forge, PA – December 3-6, 2006
- IAFC Hazmat Conference, Hunt Valley, MD – May 31 – June 3, 2007
- National Fire Protection Association Conference June 3-7, 2007 in Boston, MA

# E-Plan has nationwide coverage in all 50 States.



- ❖ **Number of Unique Chemicals: 21,051**
- ❖ **Number of Registered Users: 1,414**

(E-Plan statistics as of 30 November 2006)

## Forgot Your E-Plan User Account Password?



If you have an E-Plan account and have forgotten your password, please go to the E-Plan homepage at <http://erplan.net> and click on "Forgot your password? Retrieve Password."

We will send your current password to your e-mail address immediately.

## E-Plan Online Training and Registration

1. To register for an E-Plan account, go to the E-Plan homepage at <http://erplan.net> and click on the "Signup for Account" link in the Login screen.
2. To take the E-Plan online training, go to the E-Plan homepage at <http://erplan.net> and click on the "E-Plan Training and Registration" option on the left side bar.



## E-Plan Best Practices

We are beginning a new feature in the November E-Plan Newsletter that we call "E-Plan Best Practices". This feature will include the good experiences from First Responders all over the U.S. in using E-Plan for emergency response and pre-planning!

### The Use of E-Plan for Pre-Planning.

A number of Fire Departments and LEPC's are using E-Plan for their Emergency Pre-planning. We all have a pretty good idea of where the 'Hot Spots' are in our own county, such as chemical plants, refineries, rubber or plastics processing facilities, etc. But, have we ever thought a frozen food plant or a poultry processing plant as a "Hot Spot"? How about a water treatment plant or electronic chip making plant? Many of these types of facilities have huge quantities of ammonia or chlorine or hydrofluoric acid on site.

By using the "Chemical Search" function of E-Plan, the Fire Department or LEPC can quickly search out where large quantities of Hazardous Materials, (such as Chlorine, Bromine, Methyl Bromide, Ammonia, Arsine, Hydrofluoric Acid, Sulfuric Acid, solvents, Phosgene, Phosphine, etc.) are stored.

With the aid of the "Enhanced Google Map" function, the planner can see where these Hazardous materials are stored in relation to particularly sensitive facilities, such as schools and hospitals.

This is a great help in pre-planning emergency response, including the need to utilize and teach "Shelter In Place" or to plan notification and evacuation scenarios.

**If you have an "E-Plan Best Practice" that you would like to share with others, please send us your "E-Plan Best Practice" to UT Dallas's CyberSecurity & Emergency Preparedness Institute.**

**By e-mail:** [eplan@utdallas.edu](mailto:eplan@utdallas.edu)

**By fax:** 972-883-4441

**By phone:** 972-883-2631

**By mail:** The University of Texas at Dallas

Attn: E-Plan WT-11

2601 N. Floyd Road

Richardson, TX 75080

## 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 the E-Plan website at <http://erplan.net/>. Click on the "E-Plan Online Filing (Tier2)" link on the left sidebar.

Use the "Contact Us" button on the web site with your questions or comments.

## Did You Know

### IAFC Board Urges Broadband Support

At its recently concluded annual meeting in Dallas, the International Association of Fire Chiefs Board of Directors approved a resolution calling for the allocation of 30MHz of spectrum in the upper 700MHz band to be held in trust to create a nationwide public safety wireless network.

The proposed 30MHz is in addition to and adjacent to the 24MHz of spectrum that the Federal Communications Commission already has allocated to public safety and that Congress has directed incumbent television operators to vacate by February 2009.

On Oct. 30 the FCC opened a 30-day comment period on a petition by Cyren Call Communications. The Cyren Call proposal calls for allocation of a 30MHz block from the planned auction of 700MHz spectrum to be prioritized and managed for use by public safety. The license for the nationwide block would be granted to a single licensee to be called the Public Safety Broadband Trust. The proposal is available at [www.cyrencall.com](http://www.cyrencall.com).

Written comments may be sent directly to Chairman Kevin J. Martin at the FCC: 445 12th S., SW, Washington, D.C., 20554. Refer to Docket No. RM-11348 in the Matter of Reallocation of 30MHz Spectrum (747-762/777-792 MHz) From Commercial Use. Comments may also be filed electronically by going to this FCC Web site and following the submission instructions. The proceeding number is RM-11348.

### USFA Offers New Web-Based ICS Courses

Nov 17, 2006

The U.S. Fire Administration has announced it will be making available online two new Incident Command System review courses through the National Emergency Training Center Virtual Campus. These new scenario-based courses offer a review of fundamental ICS concepts and principles for students preparing to take intermediate- or advanced-level ICS training, or for those simply wishing a refresher in ICS.

"The U.S. Fire Administration continues to move forward in our efforts to ensure the nation's first responders have available to them the most current ICS body of knowledge," said Acting U.S. Fire Administrator Charlie Dickinson in an IAFC press release. "Our firefighters and first responders face numerous challenges in their communities, and these courses further ensure the effectiveness and safety of our response and recovery responsibilities."

The new ICS courses being offered are Fundamentals Review for ICS 300 (Q-464) and Fundamentals Review for ICS 400 (Q-465). The courses can be used as pre-course modules or as remedial training for the classroom versions of ICS 300 and ICS 400, but they do not alone meet the training requirements for ICS 300 and ICS 400. For more information on the courses, visit the USFA Web site or the NETC Virtual Campus.



Please notify us if you find **any errors in your area's data:**

- **By e-mail:** [eplan@utdallas.edu](mailto:eplan@utdallas.edu)
- **By phone:** 972-883-2631
- **By fax:** 972-883-4441
- **By mail:** The University of Texas at Dallas  
CyberSecurity & Emergency Preparedness Institute  
Attn: E-Plan WT-11  
2601 N. Floyd Road  
Richardson, TX 75080

## A Christmas Poem – author unknown

The embers glowed softly and in their dim light,  
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.  
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,  
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.  
Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,  
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.  
The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,  
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,  
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.  
In perfect contentment, or so it would seem,  
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.  
The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,  
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.  
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know,  
Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.

My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,  
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.  
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,  
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.  
A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,  
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.  
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,  
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.

"What are you doing?" I asked without fear,  
"Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!  
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,  
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"  
For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,  
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts,  
To the window that danced with a warm fire's light;  
Then he sighed and he said, "It's really all right."

"I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night.  
It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,  
That separates you from the darkest of times.

Christmas will be coming soon and credit is due to our U.S. service men and women for our being able to celebrate these festivities. Let's try in this small way to pay a tiny bit of what we owe. Make people stop and think of our heroes, living and dead, who sacrificed themselves for us.

No one had to ask or beg or implore me,  
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.  
My Gramps died at 'Pearl on a day in December,"  
Then he sighed, "That's a Christmas  
My Grandmother always remembers."

"My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam ,  
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.  
I've not seen my own son in more than a while,  
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile."

Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,  
The red, white, and blue...an American flag.  
"I can live through the cold and the being alone,  
Away from my family, my house, and my home."

"I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,  
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.  
I can carry the weight of killing another,  
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother  
Who stand at the front against any and all,  
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall.  
So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright for  
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right."

"But isn't there something I can do, at the least,  
Give you some money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?  
It seems all too little for all that you've done,  
For being away from your wife and your son."

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,  
"Just tell us you love us, and never forget  
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,  
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.  
For when we come home, either standing or dead,  
To know you remember we fought and we bled  
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,  
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us."

## Contact Us ...



Send your comments and questions and suggestions to:

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Read more from previous issues of the E-Plan Newsletter at  
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**Freedom is Never Free**  
**Remember our troops fighting for our security and freedom!**

