



When every second counts....

<http://www.utdallas.edu/research/dfepi/>

Hello, E-Plan™ Users and friends,

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



Holiday Greetings
**AND BEST WISHES
FOR A NEW YEAR OF HAPPINESS
IN A WORLD OF PEACE**

PACE survey finds many HazMat facilities are not yet adequately secure

Chemical Week reports in their November 3, 2004 issue that a survey of industrial facilities considered vulnerable to terrorist attack, conducted by PACE (Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers Union) shows that many have not done an adequate job of securing these sites. PACE sent a questionnaire to the local union president of all 189 PACE represented sites that are listed under EPA's Risk Management Plan requirements. This survey was commissioned by National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Of the 133 respondents, 125 reported that they had quantities of chemicals large enough to cause a catastrophic accident. Two thirds of the 125 sites had completed a vulnerability assessment, but less than half had taken preventative actions, the survey found. PACE reported that 40 of the reporting sites (32%) were chemical facilities. The American Chemistry Council says that the chemical industry invested more than \$800 million in plant security upgrades.

Be sure to check with your local Risk Management Plan facilities to see that management has:

1. Conducted a Vulnerability Assessment
2. Developed an Action Plan to address vulnerabilities
3. Is working on the Action Plan
4. Has a firm completion date for the Action Plan.

You can work through your local LEPC, County Emergency Services Manager or directly with the local plant management to see where your community stands.

[New USFA online course helps prepare Emergency Medical Service Responders to operate at multiple casual incidents.](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 16, 2004) - Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response, announced today a new online course designed to assist Emergency Medical Service (EMS) personnel to respond more effectively when faced with a Multiple Casualty Incident (MCI). The new independent study course, EMS Operations at Multi-Casualty Incidents is a 4-hour, web-based course that addresses preparedness planning; management of the incident; safe and efficient triage, treatment, and transportation of patients; and the de-escalation of the response. It is not intended to provide detailed steps in the care of patients.

"Hardly a day passes without reading or hearing about a multiple casualty incident occurring somewhere in the nation," said Brown. "President Bush, Secretary Ridge and I continue to ensure that all first responders continue to receive courses like this to support their efforts to protect and better serve our communities."

Upon successful completion of this course, the participant/student will be able to:

- Describe the characteristics of multiple casualty incidents.
- Describe the types and indicators of CBRNE incidents.
- Describe the steps of responding to a Multiple Casualty Incident, including preparedness, planning, triage, treatment, transportation, and incident demobilization.
- Describe the purpose of triage and how to perform it.
- Describe the purpose of decontamination and the resources required to perform it.
- Describe specialized medical treatment that can be administered to victims of CBRNE incidents.

An MCI can occur as a result of many situations, including a transportation crash, the collapse of a building or bleachers, a civil disturbance, a severe weather event, a hazardous material release, or a terrorist attack to name a few. Since September 11, 2001, EMS responders are keenly aware of the dangers of MCI's and the additional challenges presented by terrorist attacks involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive (CBRNE) agents. The course includes information on safely and effectively dealing with an MCI resulting from an attack involving a CBRNE agent.

The course can be found on USFA's Virtual Campus at: <http://www.training.fema.gov>.

Thanks to Assistant Chief Tim Butters, Fairfax City Fire Department for the "Head's Up" on this EMS technician training opportunity.

[City investigates Security Breach at Reservoir, according to KOAT, TheNewMexicoChannel.com.](#)

Albuquerque, New Mexico (November 19, 2004) - Thousands of people in Albuquerque are still without their main water supply after someone put their reservoir in jeopardy. On Thursday of last week, there was a break-in at the Escondido Reservoir; it is an act that could have contaminated the water supply. The incident has the city reassessing its security measures. City Water Resource Manager John Stomp says the city is looking into the security breach.

"Anytime we have an intrusion, we take it seriously," Stomp said. "In this case, we're pretty sure it was vandals that went into our equipment."

The serious situation has grabbed headlines in this post-9/11 world, where terrorism and water contamination is a real threat. It is an issue the city says it continues to battle.

The security improvements the city plans to make will be kept secret so they do not give a blueprint to criminals on how to beat the system.

The Escondido Reservoir is still drained. The water is being tested for contaminants while new security systems are put in place there. When all that is finished, only then will it be refilled.

The city also says it is working with the state and federal governments to tighten security at local water facilities.

Tell us what you think about the WMD section, Map function, and new database system of E-Plan™

Send your FEEDBACK to Jenny Wall

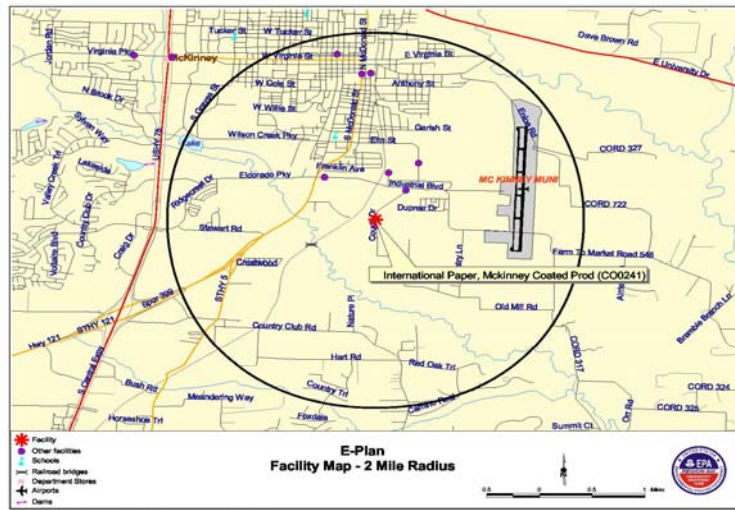
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❖ Have you checked out the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) feature on E-Plan™?

You can 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 and/or your State Agency have missed any Tier II facilities.
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**.

❖ **New E-Plan™ Servers and Database System:** E-Plan™ has been moved to new servers and database system with 100x capacity increase and significant increase in access speed.

We appreciate your comments and suggestions.

E-PLAN™ TRAINING NEWS...

- ✓ **As of November 30, 2004, E-Plan™ has 6,716 facilities and 82,515 chemicals in its database. Total number of E-Plan™ Registered Users stands at 579.**
- ✓ **E-Plan is catching on.**
 - We have requests from Tonawanda, New York (Dennis Carson) and the Nevada Department of Public Safety (Chad Hastings) to bring E-Plan™ to their states in 2005.
 - Amarillo (Potter and Randall counties) expect to be on E-Plan™ by the first of the year. Anticipated added facilities to E-Plan™ from these two counties are approximately 148.
- ✓ **E-Plan Presentations in November, 2004:**
 - At the Clean Gulf Conference in Tampa, FL, on November 16-19, the E-Plan™ booth was well attended. Much interest was shown and many questions were asked from persons outside of EPA Region 6.
 - EPA Region V SERC meeting - November 18, Indianapolis, IN
- ✓ **E-Plan™ Training:**
 - Amarillo, TX on December 14, 2004
 - El Paso, TX on January 20, 2005
 - Corsicana, TX in January, 2005
 - New Mexico in February, 2005 (depends when Tier II data is in E-Plan™ database)
 - Louisiana in February, 2005 (depends when Tier II data is in E-Plan™ database)

NEW E-PLAN™ FEATURES COMING SOON...

- Look for the new drawing tool in January 2005. Fire inspectors and individual companies will be able to draw maps and floor plans of facilities in E-Plan™ with a simple “click and drag icon” format. This will be a good tool for fire/emergency pre-planning.
- A new “search” feature will allow selected individuals to search all the facilities in their area for a specific chemical, again, as a means of doing fire/emergency preplanning.

FEEDBACK...

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

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