




## Hello, E-Plan Users and friends,

Welcome to your June, 2005 Newsletter to update you on E-Plan events and news in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and around the country.



### About the railroad activity going on that you need to know...



- **Railroad accidents declined to 3.98 per million train miles in 2004 compared to 4.02 per million train miles in 2003.**
- **A number of U.S. and Canadian railroads expand use of environmentally friendly "Green Goat®.** Powered by batteries that are charged by a small diesel genset, the Green Goat® is significantly quieter than diesel locomotives. It meets the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Tier 2 standards for particulate matter in exhaust emissions, which came into force in 2005. RailPower Technologies said its Green Goat®, which serves as the platform for the company's line of hybrid locomotives available in power ratings of 500-horsepower to 2,000-horsepower, reduces smog-causing oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and diesel particulates by as much as 90 per cent, compared with conventional yard locomotives. The big, lead-acid battery packs are well-protected by the locomotive frame, but in case of an incident with these new switch engines, First Responder should be aware of the large quantity of sulfuric acid and lead in the battery packs.  

- **Agency sides with railroad over D.C.'s Hazmat ban.** The U.S. Surface Transportation Board (STB) upheld a petition by CSX Railroad to prohibit the Washington, D.C. City Council from enforcing a ban on Hazmat passing within two miles of the U. S. Capitol Building. According to the STB, Washington, D.C. City Council has no authority to regulate or ban Hazmat shipments. The STB ruling has no regulatory authority, but crystallizes federal opposition to any city trying to eliminate railroad and truck Hazmat shipments through its domain. The Departments of Justice, Homeland Security and Transportation support STD's position. This should have a major effect on the U.S. District Court hearing the case. Edward Hamberger, CEO of the Association of American Railroads said that "Rerouting does not eliminate the overall risk, but merely shifts it to other communities".
- **The Federal Railway Administration (FRA) issued new standards for positive train control (PTC) systems in March, 2005.** This is the first revision to federal railroad signal and train control regulations in 21 years. PTC equipment monitors tracks and trains and can stop trains before collisions occur. New PTC systems must equal or exceed the safety levels of the systems they replace and be compatible between railroads. Railroads must also adequately train employees in the new systems.

## 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 5/31/05)

- ❖ Number of Facilities: 22,310
- ❖ Number of Unique Chemicals: 21,051
- ❖ Number of Registered Users: 923

### E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS

- Iredell County, NC, May 24, 2005
- Minnesota SERC, June 14, 2005
- Arkansas Fire Chiefs Conference, June 27, 2005 – North Little Rock
- Wichita County, Texas LEPC, July 21, 2005

### E-PLAN TRAINING

- Pasadena, Texas -Tier 2 Submit assistance
- Hickory, North Carolina, May 23-25, 2005 –120
- Baton Rouge, LA June 8, 200
- Weslaco, Texas, June 15, 2005

### LOOK FOR E-PLAN AT THE ...

- **International Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference**, June 2-5, 2005 at the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, MD ([www.IAFC.org](http://www.IAFC.org))
- **UTD Emergency Readiness Conference**, August 10-12, 2005 in Richardson, Texas (<http://som.utdallas.edu/erc2005/>)
- **IAFC Fire-Rescue International**, August 11-13, 2005 in Denver, Colorado ([www.IAFC.org](http://www.IAFC.org))
- **Fire-Rescue International Southwestern Division Annual Conference**, October 15-18, 2005 in Metairie, Louisiana (<http://www.swd-iafc.org/conferences.htm>)

### “E-Plan On-line Training” - Beta testing started in May 2005

This exclusive web-based training module allows new E-Plan users to learn how to use E-Plan in a simple, step-by-step manner at their own pace on their own computer. The training module provides a series of screen shots and explanatory text that demonstrates the various capabilities of the E-Plan system in parallel with the actual online Demo Site. The E-Plan system is easy to use so the training should take no more than 1- 2 hours and often less time than that.

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



**EMERGENCY READINESS  
CONFERENCE and EXPO 2005**

August 10 - 12, 2005 on the UTD campus in Richardson, Texas

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

**Historic Sayings with Simple Beginnings!**



In George Washington’s days, there were no cameras. A person's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are “limbs,” therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, “Okay, but it will cost you an arm and a leg.”

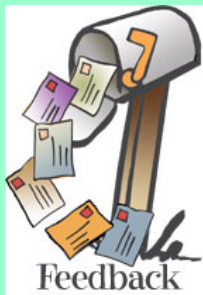
In the late 1700s, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The “head of the household” always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were

important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the “chair man.” Today in business, we use the expression or title “Chairman” or “Chairman of the Board”.

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid’s job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in “pints” and who was drinking in “quarts”, hence the term “minding your “P’s and Q’s.”

Common entertainment in Colonial America included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the “Ace of Spades.” To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren’t “playing with a full deck.”

**Tell us what you think about E-Plan**



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**Read more from previous issues at [http://csepi.utdallas.edu/epc\\_center.htm](http://csepi.utdallas.edu/epc_center.htm)**



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