



E-PLAN NEWS

October, 2006

When every second counts...

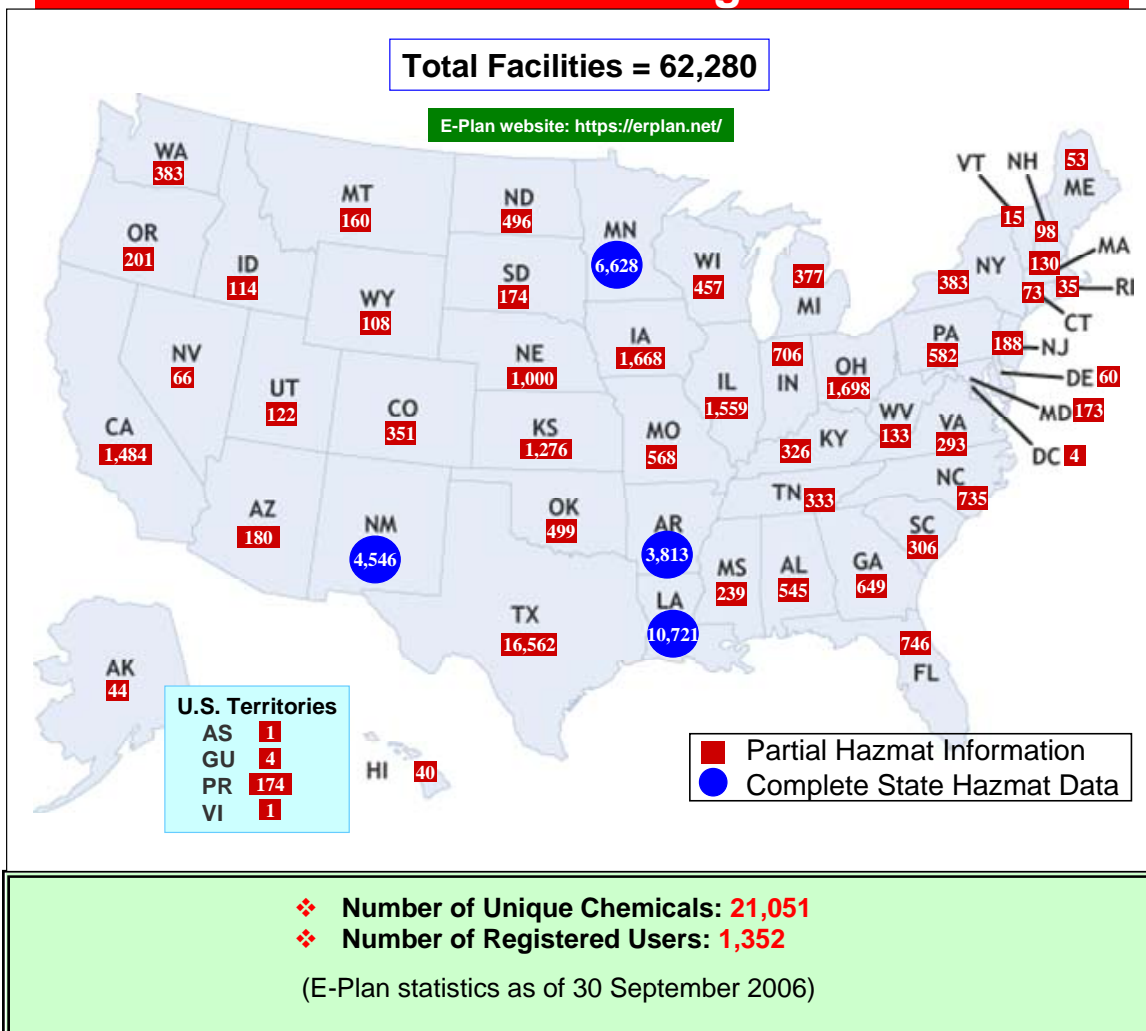
Website: <http://csepi.utdallas.edu/>

Hello, E-Plan Users and friends,

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



E-Plan has nationwide coverage in all 50 States.



Did You Know

FEMA Is Not a First Responder, Says Paulison

In April, 2006 R. David Paulison, FEMA Director emphasized that effective emergency management requires a team approach, and that FEMA is Not a First Responder. "The first response belongs in the hands of those closest to the incident, those state and local officials who are putting together the evacuation plans and shelter locations and educating their residents on when to evacuate, where to go and what to do," he said.

"We can all agree that disaster response starts at the local level. When the local government is overwhelmed, they ask the state for support, and when the state is overwhelmed, you request support from FEMA and the federal government," said Paulison. "Effective emergency management requires a team approach. This partnership needs to include all levels of government and all disciplines of emergency management and response."

"Americans want to know if we are ready for future disasters, and they are anxious and looking to us for reassurance — and that is reassurance we can give them," Paulison said.

Paulison also outlined various preparations FEMA is taking, along with goals of strengthening the federal-state partnership to expedite response and hasten recovery.

Vehicle Fires

Last year, vehicle fires killed more people than apartment fires, according to a new study by the National Fire Protection Association that called vehicle fires "a major component of the fire death problem."

According to "U.S. Vehicle Fire Trends and Patterns," in 2004:

- * 19% of the 1,550,500 reported fires were vehicle fires (297,000)
- * Vehicle fires killed 550 (14% of total fire deaths) and injured 1,500
- * \$1.3 billion in property damage resulted
- * Highway vehicles – cars, trucks and buses --
were involved in the majority of these fires

From 1999-2002, an estimated 270,000 highway vehicle fires were reported per year, resulting in an average of 380 civilian deaths, 1,310 civilian injuries and \$1 billion in property damage, the study reported.

On average, 31 such fires were reported every hour and one person died every day as a result of these fires.

Mechanical malfunctions are usually to blame (47% of the time), however, some 15% of these fires were intentionally set. Intentionally set vehicle fires rose 18% in 2004 over the previous year, causing \$165 million in property damage, a 25% increase.

Collisions or overturns caused only 3% of the highway vehicle fires, but 57% of the associated fire deaths.

Two-thirds of highway vehicle fires start in the engine, running gear or wheel area, but fuel tank or fuel line fires pose the highest death risk, according to the study.

Most highway vehicle fires happen in summer, with July being the peak month, followed by August and June. The fewest highway vehicle fires occur in November and December.

New E-Plan launched in August, 2006

Your existing user name and password will work for the new E-Plan (<http://erplan.net>).

From a user standpoint, you will see an easier to use E-Plan. Check out the left hand sidebar and its more user friendly arrangement of links.

In "Chemical Search" you no longer have to input "UN=..." or "CAS=...". Just the number is sufficient.

Searching for chemicals and facilities will be faster and easier. Each facility page will be easier to navigate and find the information you need on each chemical. It will be easier for you to find additional information on a facility, such as Google Maps, and facility-specific information, such as facility maps and emergency plans.

Note the top screen buttons for "Facility Information", "Contact Information", "Chemical Inventory", and "Additional Information". If the facility has added local building plans or emergency plans to E-Plan, you will find them under "Additional Information".

Check out the buttons for "Show Google Map", "Printer Friendly Version", "Download Tier2 Zip File", "Download XML", and "Download Tier II Report".

E-Plan Best Practices

In the coming months, we will begin a new feature in the E-Plan Newsletter. It will be “E-Plan Best Practices” and will include the good experiences from First Responders all over the U.S. in using E-Plan for emergency response and pre-planning.

Watch for it!

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 sidebar.



Forgot Your E-Plan User Account Password?



If you have an E-Plan account and forgot your password, 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 Outreach

E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS IN SEPTEMBER, 2006

- Harris County (Houston), Texas
- Austin, Texas Fire Department
- International Association of Fire Chiefs Hazmat Committee - September 15 in Dallas, TX during the Fire-Rescue International Conference
- Sherman (Grayson and Fannin Counties), Texas
- EPA Region 6 senior management – September 20 in Dallas, Texas
- EPA Headquarters – September 20 in Washington, D.C.
- Virginia Hazardous Materials Conference - September 27 in Virginia Beach, VA

E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS IN OCTOBER, 2006

- Buffalo, New York – Train the Trainer - October 4, 2006
- 'Hotzone Conference' in Houston, TX - October 26 - 29, 2006. E-Plan will have a booth.

E-PLAN PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULED

- EPA Region III in Valley, Forge, PA – December 3-6, 2006

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.

Welcome to Tier 2 Online Submit 2005

Tier2 Online Submit is a web based system that helps facilities electronically report Tier II information for Section 312 of the Emergency Planning Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA).

Facilities can find information about Federal Tier II requirements as well as individual State requirements at [EPA Tier II Webpage](#).

If you need help operating Tier2 Online Submit or if you need assistance submitting your Tier II information [Click here](#)

Create a New Submission

Access ID

Password

Use the “**Contact Us**” button on the web site with your questions or comments.

And Now – For our regular Humor feature:



A group of Americans were traveling by tour bus through Holland. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used.

She showed the group a lively hillside where many goats were grazing. "These" she explained "are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce milk."

She then asked, "What do you do in America with your old goats?"

A spry old gentleman answered, "They send us on bus tours!"





Will Rogers' Rules of Life

1. To get rich in the stock market, buy low and sell high. If it don't go up, don't buy it!
2. Never slap a man who's chewin' tobacco
3. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day
4. There are two theories on how to argue with a woman ... neither works
5. Never miss a good chance to shut up
6. Always drink upstream from the herd
7. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging
8. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket
9. There are three kinds of men:
 The ones that learn by reading.
 The few who learn by observation.
 The rest of us have to pee on an electric fence and find out for ourselves.
10. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment
11. If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there
12. Lettin' the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier 'n puttin' it back in.
13. After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good, he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral of this story is; When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut

Contact Us ...



Send your comments and questions and suggestions to:

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- **By fax:** 972-883-4441
- **By mail:** The University of Texas at Dallas
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Richardson, TX 75080

Read more from previous issues of the E-Plan Newsletter at
http://csepi.utdallas.edu/epc_center.htm



Freedom is Never Free



Remember our troops fighting for our security and freedom!

