



When every second counts...

Hello, E-Plan™ Users,



Happy New Year and best wishes and good health to you and yours in 2004!

Here is your January, 2004 Newsletter to update you on E-Plan™ happenings and news in Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and around the country.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- ❖ Even after all the improvements to site security undertaken after 9/11, it is still easy for someone with bad intentions to illegally enter a Chemical Plant or Refinery! Such individuals, whether terrorists or disgruntled employees, can enter easily in a number of ways.
- ❖ **“60 Minutes”** correspondent Steve Kroft and Pittsburgh Tribune–Review newspaper reporter Carl Prine were able to stroll into a Pittsburgh, PA chemical plant unchallenged.
 - Prine reported on **“60 Minutes”** “I found almost non-existent security in a lot of places”, after visiting 60 plants all over the country in Chicago, Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Houston.
- ❖ As First Responders, what can we do?
 1. Closely investigate the security plans of all your Tier II facilities.
 2. Challenge Tier II Facility Managers to conduct exercises, testing facility security after hours and at night.
 3. Use E-Plan™ in pre-planning scenarios for accidental **and** deliberate chemical releases.
 4. Share your good ideas and experiences with other First responders through this E-Plan™ Newsletter!

LOOK FOR E-PLAN™ AT THE...

- **International Spills Conference** May 6-10, 2004, San Antonio, TX

RECENT E-PLAN™ TRAINING NEWS...

- ❖ **Total number of E-Plan™ Registered Users is now 386.**
- ❖ Arkansas TRANSCAER (TRANSPORTATION Community Awareness and Emergency Response) will provide E-Plan™ training throughout the state of Arkansas for the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management. Arkansas TRANSCAER is a volunteer organization of transporters, spill responders, government agencies, Arkansas Environmental Federation, and manufacturers that deal with Hazardous Materials. In December, 2003 and January, 2004, the TRANSCAER Board is developing the system to train First Responders in Arkansas.
- ❖ The Arkansas State Police will be scheduling E-Plan™ training in the first quarter of 2004.
- ❖ E-Plan™ will be introduced to the El Paso, Texas Emergency Management personnel and Fire Fighters on January 7, 2004 at the Main El Paso Fire Station training room. Many thanks to Chief Ramondo Resendez, Training Director for El Paso County for inviting Jack Stark and Jim Staves to show El Paso County how to implement E-Plan™.
- ❖ Jack Stark will be introducing E-Plan™ to Orange County, Texas on January 14, 2004. Thanks to Deputy Chief Ken Kreger, Emergency Management Coordinator for Orange County, Texas for arranging this meeting to implement E-Plan™ in Orange, Texas.

E-PLAN™ FEATURES UP-DATE...

We now have **4,705** facilities and **21,088** chemicals in the E-Plan™ Database.

- ❖ **MAP function - For Planning Your Response:** The “map” function has been tested and will be functional for most facilities in the E-Plan™ database in Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas in February. By clicking the map link of one of these facilities, a two-mile radius map around that facility will appear. This map shows the important landmarks such as schools, hospitals, and major roads in that neighborhood.
- ❖ Encrypted CDs with a facility sort option are available for counties and LEPC’s that prefer this particular format. The data on the CD can only be accessed with a proper, secured **password**, which will be different from the one you use on <http://erplan.net>.
- ❖ You can practice with E-Plan™ at the demo site by logging on at <http://erplan.net>. Log on with the User ID of “Demo-IM” and use “training” as your password. Then type in one of the fictitious company names, “IGNO” or “ISSPEC” or “DISTILL” or just the letter a, c, e or i in the “Search” box and then hit “Enter”. (The company names contain these letters. You can do the same thing when you are looking up a real company name, also. Just list part of the name and select the company you are looking for out of the choices E-Plan™ gives you). You can practice using E-Plan™ with your home or office computer on these fictitious companies.

Even if you do not have a user name and password, you can use the **Demo Site** in the event of a **transportation emergency** to access information on a Hazardous Chemical. Log on to the Demo Site (as indicated above) and go to the blue sidebar to the left of the screen. Click on the “Chemical Search” button. Now you can search for information on a hazardous material by name or UN number. If you use the UN number, be sure to use an “=” sign as in “UN=1203”, as explained in the directions on the screen. Don’t use a dash or a space, just the “=” sign.

HELPFUL HINTS

Encourage your local companies to put Emergency Plans, Risk Management Plans and facility/building maps on E-Plan™. If the companies have questions about security of such data, ask them to contact **Jim Staves**, Director of The University of Texas at Dallas's Emergency Preparedness Center at 972-883-2874. He will explain, in detail, how their data is protected.

E-PLAN™ SUCCESS STORY

Corpus Christi, Texas – On the afternoon of October 28, 2003, the City of Corpus Christi experienced a major sulfur release from a local refinery. A large, visible cloud of sulfur “as large as a couple of hot air balloons” was released. The LEPC Director accessed E-Plan™ from his office. He got information on sulfur and local weather conditions. This information was relayed to the First Responders in the field for planning and for issuing a “Shelter in Place” warning.

Contributed by District Chief Michael Hernandez, Corpus Christi Fire Department (mhernandez@cctexas.com)

FEEDBACK...

- ❖ **Success stories** – We want to share your E-Plan™ success with others! Send us your stories on how you use E-Plan™ or other E-Plan™ success stories or for inclusion in the future newsletters. Send us your stories on how you pre-plan with E-Plan™ or what you are doing with your local Tier II facilities on Site Security.
- ❖ **Tell us what you think about E-Plan™** – We welcome all of your questions and suggestions about E-Plan™ System, E-Plan™ Website, and the E-Plan™ Newsletter.
 - What do you think of the new “Map” feature on E-Plan™?
 - Is this Newsletter helpful and interesting to you?

Please forward your success stories, comments, questions, or suggestions to **Jenny Wall**.

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