FEMA

CDP Alumnus

Center for Domestic Preparedness – Anniston, Alabama

CDP Mission

The CDP develops and delivers training for emergency response providers from state, local, and tribal governments and, when appropriate, the federal government, foreign governments, and private entities.

CDP Vision

An emergency response community prepared for and capable of responding to all-hazards events.

CDP Training Tally

746,938 as of Sept. 29, 2012

Feedback

The CDP wants to hear from you. How can we make this newsletter better? Please e-mail suggestions to: newsletter_feedback@ cdpemail.dhs.gov

In This Issue

A variety of scenarios require response personnel to use detection devices that test for the presence of chemical, biological, and radiological materials during the Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT) course. The HT course is changing from 24 hours to 40 hours, adding two full days to the training.

Hazardous Materials Course Increases Hours, Improves Venue

The risk from hazardous materials incidents on the American home front is realistic. Whether an accidental or intentional, emergency response personnel require the ability to safely respond, save lives, and mitigate the event. The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) provides fully funded hazardous materials training at its resident facility located in Anniston, Ala.

The CDP will increase the training days for its popular HazMat course in late October. The Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT) course moved from 24 hours to 40 hours, adding two full days of additional content. The HT course provides students an overview of both

international and domestic threats, with a spotlight on identification and decontamination of biological, chemical, radiological, and explosive hazards.

"The new five-day HT class will give the students more opportunities to work with the instrumentation and increase the hands-on portion significantly," said Chuck Medley, chief, Training Management Branch. "The new concept will take the students through a thorough crawl, walk, and run scenario and more extensively challenge them during their final exercise."

The course also includes hazardous materials technical training for operating in an all-hazards environ-

ment and the collection of potentially contaminated crime scene evidence. The HT course presents training that incorporates advanced competencies, technologies, and tactics that focus on the specific threats associated with chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive material.

In addition to the new five-day course, the CDP recently reopened its HazMat training lanes following a six-month renovation. The updated training area boasts a modern learning environment including a sound effects system, automated smoke delivery, observation cameras, and special lighting—all managed from a central control center.

"The enhanced training area provides additional space for improved scenarios focusing on chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive response," said Medley. "In total, the new five-day HT course is more comprehensive with a focus on what responders have requested—more time

Emergency responders navigate smoky passageways and practice extracting survivors from the scene of a hazardous event involving possible chemical or biological materials.

A HazMat instructor explains procedures and techniques to detect dangerous and potentially life threatening materials when responding to a possible accident or terrorist attack.

Instructors inject lifelike sounds, smoke, and control the lighting from a central control center in the newly renovated HazMat lanes at the CDP.

to conduct practical exercises in a realistic training environment, covering critical response topics."

Students navigate dark hallways filled with smoke and search for survivors, while carefully preserving crime scene evidence. A mock post office, office area, court room, and obstacles to negotiate, creates the setting for a simulated explosion, or chemical or biological release. The scenario continues with a trip to the Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, and Radiological training facility

Realistic scenarios including a mock post office, court room, and a simulated explosion create a modern response environment.

(COBRA). The COBRA is the only facility in the nation conducting civilian training exercises in a toxic chemical agent environment, adding biological materials to

The CDP recently reopened its HazMat training lanes following a six-month renovation. The updated training area boasts a modern learning environment including a sound effects system, automated smoke delivery, observation cameras, and special lighting—all managed from a central control center.

the training scenarios earlier this year.

The CDP plays a leading role in preparing municipal, state, and local responders to prepare for and respond to manmade events or major accidents involving hazardous or toxic materials, to include mass casualties. The course is open to a wide variety of response disciplines with hazardous material qualifications; from the fire service and emergency medical services, to healthcare, law enforcement, and emergency management.

Stories From the Field

Colorado Hospital Association Prepares for Response

Written by: Deborah French, CHA, Director of Emergency Preparedness

Natural disasters and other emergency events can affect life safety in large numbers. For this reason, healthcare professionals must remain current in lifesaving skills, and even more so have the ability to respond or react competently during emergencies.

As the Colorado Hospital Association's (CHA) Director of Hospital Emergency Preparedness, it is my job to work in coordination with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Office of Preparedness and Response to provide disaster planning and response training to Colorado's hospitals and health care systems under the guidance of the Federal Hospital Preparedness Program.

The resident Health Care Leadership training program offered by FEMA is a unique experience that takes book knowledge and creates "boots on the ground" understanding for hospital and health care workers in an all-hazards event. I attended training during the second week of July based on the experiences from other colleagues. The first thing you notice when you walk into the Noble Training facility is the state-of-the-art treatment area, complete with high-tech patient simulators that breathe, bleed, talk and respond to treatment; an ambulance entrance; isolation rooms for contaminated patients; computer-generated sound and visual effects; and video recording

Deborah French, the director of emergency preparedness for the Colorado Hospital Association (CHA), identified above as the operations section chief, updates other members of her team during her final exercise at the CDP. French played a pivotal role as her team managed hospital emergency operations during the training exercise. The CHA works with the state to improve healthcare emergency responses through effective all-hazards planning, coordination, and collaboration with more than 90 hospitals and preparedness partners.

capabilities.

This provides a training experience that is as close to the real thing as possible without actually experiencing a disaster or closing down a hospital to train and exercise. An added benefit to this excellent training program is that it is federally funded and provided to state, local, and tribal emergency response professionals, with the time spent at the training as the only cost.

The Health Care Leadership course lasts four days and is a combination of lectures and exercises designed to equip health care professionals with the tools they need to effectively respond to an all-hazards mass casualty event.

The Health Care Leadership training has, without a doubt, given me a strong foundation to build upon current health care preparedness programs and initiatives in the state. I encourage you and your preparedness colleagues to train together by taking advantage of CDP's specialized programs and courses.

The mission of the Colorado Hospital Association is to enhance and support hospitals in building and maintaining strong emergency preparedness and response systems through the use of training, education and coordination with other preparedness partners at the local, state, and national levels.

Keep the stories coming. If you have training feedback we want to know about it. Share your experience. Email: pao@cdpemail.dhs.gov or call (256) 847-2212.

The CDP created a rail system that uses four cars. One car features a tunnel collapse scene, while another is damaged by an improvised explosive device. The subway system requires a response by emergency personnel to triage and extricate survivors, and mitigate the scene from hazardous chemical, radiological, explosive, or biological materials.

Improved Training Venue Focuses on Subway Response

The Center for Domestic Preparedness has many enhanced training venues that support their commitment to provide critical and relevant training in specialized emergency response to modern threats. A mass-casualty incident on a bus, subway, streetcar or other modes of public transportation is one such threat. The confined space, limited visibility, concentrated victims, and unique supporting facilities associated with these transportation systems present responders with a very complex

Smoke fills the room in a railcar during a simulated subway accident at the CDP. The CDP created a subway system, complete with full size railcars, lighting, seating, and even the commercial signage common on subways.

and challenging situation and environment. Add toxic chemicals, radiological, biologic agents, or explosives and that environment becomes a nightmare. The opportunity for responders to learn and practice the skills and techniques associated with these very unique threats and demanding situations can help ensure the safety of responders and the quick and effective response to rescue survivors.

The CDP established a subway, as part of its newest training venue. The subway features four

CDP News

full size cars complete with lighting, smoke, seating, video capability, and even realistic commercial signage that is common in subways. One car is structurally damaged and contains debris and hazards associated with a tunnel collapse. Another car shows the blast and other damage from the detonation of an improvised explosive device.

A subway car displays results from a simulated tunnel collapse that will require the triage and extrication of survivors. The subway system gives training personnel the option to also include lighting malfunctions, smoke, and realistic sounds depicting the chaos expected in an actual event.

by falling concrete and threatened by simulated electrical hazards, and given the task of properly triaging survivors and transporting them to the appropriate medical personnel.

They will also be required to find the source of any contamination that may be present and mitigate that threat so law enforcement, rescue, and emergency medical services can assist survivors.

"We created the subway system based on the actual size of passenger transportation systems found in the United States," said Chuck Medley, CDP branch chief for training management. "It provides us an opportunity to present hazards that responders may encounter when responding to a mass casualty incident associated with public transportation systems. In addition to the tunnel collapse and explosion, we can also simulate potential chemical, radiological, and biological threats."

The exterior and interior of the subway cars resemble cars found in actual subways.

"The CDP develops training based on potential threats, and the threat to our cities' public transportation systems is real. This venue, while simulating a subway, also replicates the complexity of response to other public transportation modes including busses, trains, and even street cars" said Medley.

"This training will increase the edge for emergency responders to successfully respond."

Many cities in the United States operate public transportation systems like subways and their citizens are dependent on them being safe.

The CDP's new "subway" provides a convincing scene that supports the realistic and complex training necessary to determine the appropriate actions and execute the safe and effective response by emergency responders.

The CDP offers the only program in the nation featuring emergency response training exercises using chemical agents and biological materials. The CDP also operates the only hospital facility in the United States dedicated solely to preparing the healthcare, public health, and environmental health communities for mass casualty events.

During training, emergency responders will have the opportunity to enter one car breached

---

Courses that use the subway in training:
Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents
Hazard Assessment and Response Management for CBRNE Incidents
Emergency Medical Operations for CBRNE Incidents

CDP News

California Quick Reaction Force Trains in Disaster Response Preparedness

The California National Guard's Quick Reaction Force-South (QRF-S) spent the first two weeks of August training at the CDP. Each state in the U.S. and its territories is home to one or more QRFs, military units especially trained to respond to emergencies on short notice. QRFs protect critical infrastructure and also focus efforts on security threats, natural disasters, and civil disturbances in all regions. The QRFs are comprised of U.S. Army National Guard soldiers and consist of all specialties necessary to respond to state requests for emergency assistance.

"This training is very relevant to our current events," said Brig. Gen. Donald Currier, commander of the California Army National Guard. "I think the soldiers have been impressed, and I certainly have been impressed by the quality of training. It is exactly what they need to provide the confidence to respond in times of domestic or other emergency situations."

One benefit to the unit and state was the fact CDP training is fully funded for state, local, and tribal emergency responders. Nearly 120 soldiers from Southern California's 330th Military Police Company arrived in Alabama for law enforcement, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE), and other protective measures training to protect citizens and property in the event of an emergency, such as civil disturbances and chemical or biological hazards.

"Our level of effectiveness has increased," said Sgt. 1st Class Bobby Whitaker, company readiness NCO. "All state Guard units need this training. This was cost free for the unit, and saved the

Members of the California National Guard's Quick Reaction Force-South (QRF-S) secure the site of a simulated crime scene involving possible chemical or biological hazards. The QRF-S spent the first two weeks of August training at the CDP.

state of California thousands of training dollars—and our state is more prepared and mission ready."

A highlight of the training included a mass casualty triage exercise at the Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, and Radiological (COBRA) Training Facility. The COBRA training incorporated the use of toxic nerve agents, in a safe and secure environment. This training demonstrated the effectiveness of personal protective equipment and improved the soldier's confidence to operate in a contaminated environment.

"We are a huge force-multiplier because of this training," said Capt. Andrew Hanson, the company's commander. "After this training, I do not believe there is another unit [in California] that has the solid foundation for civil-disturbance and crowd-control response in a defense security environment, like the 330th."

According to the soldiers, the CDP training was diverse, versatile, and fits into all aspects of emergency response. They hope the training received provides the skills necessary to be prepared to operate in California's civil support framework.

"Compared to my military and civilian training, I can tell you that this training fits into any spectrum of law enforcement," said Spc. Ashley Jordan, a military police soldier and nine-year civilian law enforcement veteran. "It can be molded into any environment. This was an amazing educational opportunity. Regardless of what you have received in the past, this exceeds expectation. I felt ready before I came here, but I feel more empowered and confident in my abilities now."

CDP News

Student Identification Number Required For All FEMA Training

A new FEMA Student Identification system is being implemented to reduce the use of the Social Security Number (SSN) when applying for all FEMA training, to include CDP courses.

CDP students now obtain a FEMA Student Identification (SID) number at the web site https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/, which will be used to register for courses delivered by the CDP, the Emergency Management Institute, and the National Fire Academy. Eventually all training provided by the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) members will require a FEMA SID.

In those cases where the SSN is required (for example, for travel reimbursement), it will be collected by the training provider.

What can I expect from the new FEMA SID system?

• The system will generate and assign a unique 10-digit FEMA SID number to you when you create your account online.

• If you already have a 9-digit CDP SID number, it will automatically convert to become your FEMA SID by adding a zero as the first new digit (for example the CDP SID 123456789 will become the FEMA SID 0123456789).

• The FEMA SID number will be unique to the assigned student and used for all FEMA delivered training and eventually by members of the NDPC.

• When fully implemented, individuals applying for FEMA training will be required to provide a FEMA SID to register, enroll, and participate in any FEMA provided or sponsored training.

Which CDP Programs does this new system impact?

Resident, Non-Resident, Indirect and Academy Training Programs will need to ensure that all applicants provide a FEMA SID in advance of the training.

The CDP will collaborate with each training program to assist with this transition.

Center for Domestic Preparedness

Continuing Education Credits

The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) develops and delivers advanced training for emergency response providers, emergency managers, and other government officials from state, local, and tribal governments. The CDP is located in Anniston, Alabama and training focuses on incident management, mass casualty response, and emergency response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster. The CDP offers the only program in the nation featuring emergency response training exercises using chemical agents and non-pathogenic biological materials (COBRATF Courses). The CDP also operates the only hospital facility in the United States dedicated solely to preparing the healthcare, public health, and environmental health communities for mass casualty events related to terrorism or natural disasters. Training at the CDP campus is federally funded at no cost to state, local, and tribal emergency response professionals or their agency. For more information or to register for CDP specialized programs or courses, please visit our web site at: http://cdp.dhs.gov.

Courses Offered	IACET	Nursing ABN (1)	CME UAB (2)	POST
Hazardous Material Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT)	4.0			40
Technical Emergency Response Training for CBRNE Incidents (TERT)	3.2	32		32
Incident Command: Capabilities, Planning and Response Actions for All Hazards (IC)	2.4			24
Hands-On Training for CBRNE Incidents (HOT)	1.6	16		16
Hazard Assessment and Response Management for CBRNE Incidents (HARM)	2.4			24
Instructor Training Certification (ITC)	4.0			40
Emergency Medical Operations for CBRNE Incidents (EMO)	3.2	32		32
Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (ERHM)	4.0			40
WMD Crime Scene Management (CSM)	0.8			8
Field Force Operations (FFO)	2.4			24
Field Force Command and Planning (FFC)	2.4			24
Field Force Extrication Tactics (FFE)	2.4			24
Respiratory Protection: Program and Administration (RP)	2.4	24		24
Standardized Awareness Authorized Trainer Program (Train-the-Trainer) (SAAT)	2.4	24		24
Hazardous Materials Evidence Collection for CBRNE Incidents (HEC)	1.6			16
Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response (EHTER)	3.2	32		32
Radiological Series, Train the Trainer (RAD TtT)	3.2			32
Standardized Awareness Training (SAT)	0.8	8		8
WMD Complexities Incident Response (ICR)	0.8	8		8
Intermediate Hands on Training for CBRNE Incidents (HOT I)	0.8	8		8
Initial Law Enforcement Response to Suicide Bomb Attacks (ILERSBA)	0.8			8
Law Enforcement Protective Measures for CBRNE Incidents (8-hour) (LEPM)	0.8			8
Law Enforcement Response Actions for CBRNE Incidents (LERA)	0.8			8
Law Enforcement Protective Measures for CBRNE Incidents, Train the Trainer (LEPM TtT)	1.6			16
Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents (HERT)	2.4	24	24	24
Pandemic Planning and Preparedness (P3)	2.4	24	24	24
Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents Train the Trainer (HERT TtT)	0.8	8		8
Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL)	3.2	32	32	32
Framework for Healthcare Emergency Management (FRAME)	3.2	32	32	32
Advanced Public Information Officer: Health and Hospital Emergencies (APIOHHE)	3.2	32		32
Radiological Emergency Response Operations (RERO)	4.0	40		40
Advanced Radiological Incident Operations (ARIO)	3.2			32

IACET - International Association for Continuing Education and Training
ABN - Alabama Board of Nursing
CME - Continuing Medical Education
UAB - University of Alabama Birmingham
CECBEMS - Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services
NEHA - National Environmental Health Association
POST - Police Officer Standards and Training
CBRNE - Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive

(1) Nurses only
(2) Physicians and additional Allied Health fields may be able to apply for these CME's

• **POST**: courses are approved according to the state.
• **CECBEMS**: approves EMO courses for 32 credits.
• **NEHA, CA Environmental Health Specialists Only:** P3 (24 credits), FRAME (32 credits), EHTER (32 credits) & TERT (32 credits)
• **NEHA**: EHTER (3.2 credits, all states)

Worth Repeating

A Remarkable Accomplishment

"I completed the TERT program this week and, as a result, I have a problem. I don't know who to thank! It was a wonderful training experience. [Your] people handled every aspect of the processing, logistics, and exercises with skill and efficiency. The instructors were merely superb. They presented relevant information on serious subjects with intelligence and a great deal of humor. Further, they managed to "embrace" a very diverse group; distill often complex information into simple terms; generate and maintain enthusiasm; satisfy individual needs; and unify the group."

Geno Paesano, Paramedic, Rocky Hill, Conn.

Great Experience From Start to Finish

"This was my second time to participate in training at the Center. Both experiences were amazing. The instructors are personable, knowledgeable, and very open to questions or concerns. I loved the hands on portion. I will be attending every year possible with co-workers. The information obtained in the course was helpful in the planning and implementation to our own disaster preparedness program. "

Tina Nixon, Registered Nurse, Sacramento, Calif.

Maximum Hands-On

"I enjoyed learning the advanced techniques. This is above and beyond because of the tools and experience provided. We've learned a lot. The training isn't based on classroom education it's based on experience."
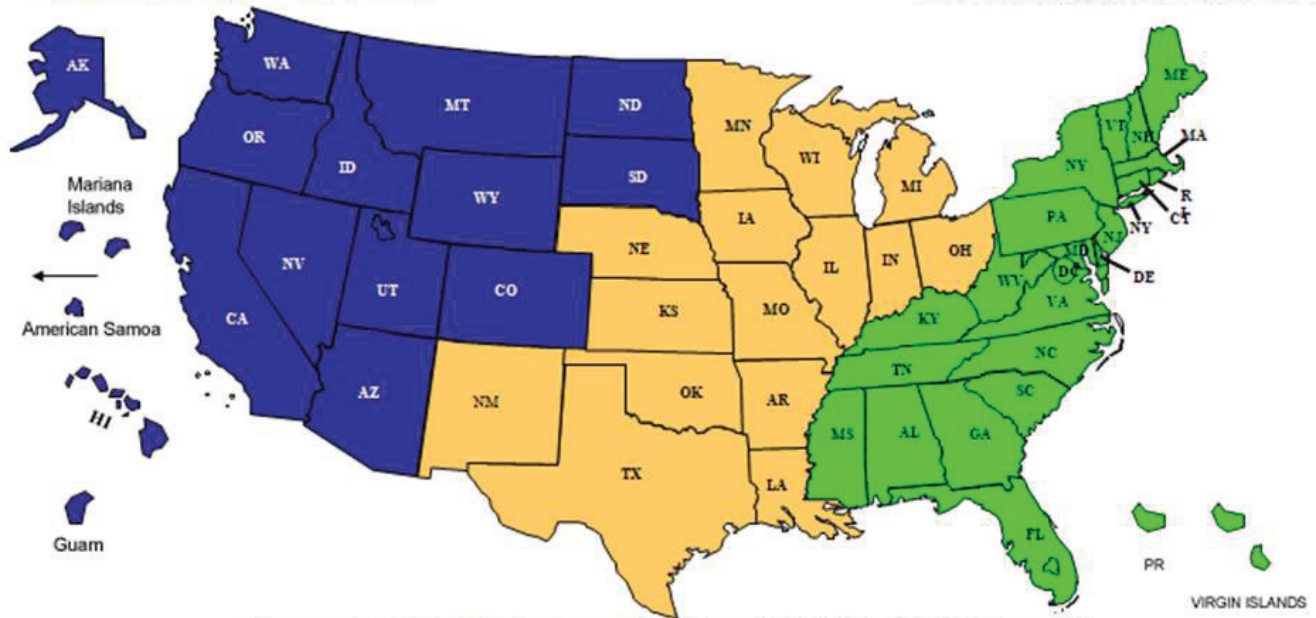
Michael Esparza, U.S. Army National Guard, Ontario, Cali.

Contact Us

Western Region
David Hall
1-866-213-9548
halld@cdpemail.dhs.gov
FEMA Regions 8,9,10

CDP Region Map

Eastern Region
Tom Tidwell
1-866-213-9546
tidwellt@cdpemail.dhs.gov
FEMA Regions 1, 2, 3, 4

Central Region
Dan Cody
1-866-213-9547
codyd@cdpemail.dhs.gov
FEMA Regions 5, 6, 7

Federal, Private Sector and International
Dan Cody
1-866-213-9547
codyd@cdpemail.dhs.gov

Out and About

Below is an abbreviated schedule of conferences the CDP will attend through February 2013. Please stop by and see us if you are attending one of these conferences. Spread the word to your colleagues.

Conference	Dates	Location
Emergency Medical Services World Expo	Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2012	New Orleans, La.
Texas Emergency Medical Services Conference 2012	Nov. 11-13, 2012	Austin, Texas
NSAA Symposium	Dec. 10-14, 2012	Anniston, Ala.
Fire Rescue East 2013	Jan. 25-26, 2013	Daytona Beach, Fla.
Firehouse World	Feb. 20-21, 2013	San Diego, Calif.

On the Horizon

CDP Uses Virtual Technology Outside Classroom

The CDP is testing a Virtual Desktop Interface (VDI) computer system in select dorm rooms for students.

The VDI project is a cost savings measure using small computer systems called Thin Clients. Currently students are provided computers located in convenient common areas, and are allowed to search the Internet and process correspondence for training

Student living quarters will contain computer systems called Thin Clients. These systems are centrally controlled by a unique server that stores information for multiple computers.

and personal use. However, desktop systems are becoming obsolete as more energy efficient and cost effective technologies emerge.

According to Scott Johnston, assistant director of infrastructure support, recent trends in information technology processes suggest a more centralized management approach.

"By incorporating Thin Client computers and centralized management, costs are reduced as a result of efficiencies gained by better malware control, and automated operating system and software patching," said Johnston.

The individual Thin Client computer systems in each dorm room do not contain an Operating System (OS), as the OS, memory, and other soft-

ware are stored on a central server. The only computer items found in dorm rooms are the monitor, keyboard, and network device, which reduces the requirements for physical security controls.

"The systems are more cost effective, and offer a central location for control and configuration," said Bruce Ellison, IT systems analyst. "Basically, each week after the students graduate, our computer technicians can access the server, wipe the system, and restore the desktops on each computer. This process reduces the number of technicians we need and expensive desktops."

The CDP is piloting Thin Clients in two dormitories, and on average each can house 75 emergency responder students. Ultimately, Thin Clients will be considered for use in all six dorms operated by the CDP.

"Although we expect to save money in software purchases and maintenance, this use of technology provides more convenience for the students," said Ellison.