



**2019 Pennsylvania Association
Of Hazardous Materials Technicians
Annual Conference
August 22 – August 25, 2019
Seven Springs Mountain Resort**

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Stag Pass

Pre-conference registration open

Thursday, August 22, 2019

7:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Stag Pass

Registration open

7:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Exhibit Hall

Breakfast

8:35 A.M. Exhibit Hall

President's Welcome, Flag Salute and Prayer

Joel Landis, President of PA Association of Hazardous Material Technicians

8:40 A.M. Exhibit Hall

Somerset County Commissioners Welcome

Somerset County President Commissioner, Gerald Walker

8:45 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Exhibit Hall

Pennsylvania Emergency Management Director, David R. Padfield (Randy), Director

Opening Comments

9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. Exhibit Hall

Opening Key Note Speaker: Silouan Green

Silouan Green graduated from Vanderbilt University with a BS in Mathematics and then accepted a commission in the United States Marine Corps. After being discharged from the Marines due to a disability from a jet crash, he began a 30,000-mile motorcycle journey to heal from trauma, that ended when he stopped to publish what became an internationally distributed, award-winning outdoors magazine, Bearfoot Magazine- Journal of Northern California Outdoors. He then developed The Ladder UPP life skills program which has been used worldwide by our military, law enforcement, veterans, first responders, and many others to

To register for the conference, go to:
www.PAHazMat.com



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process and overcome the trials and transitions of life and service. He has also published two books, “Sycamore Hill” and “Who Am I?”

Silouan is an instructor and traveling lecturer on PTSD, leadership, and peer support for the Public Agency Training Council, the largest public safety training agency in the world for law enforcement and first responders. He teaches suicide prevention for Concerns of Police Survivors nationwide.

Silouan has taught and spoken to a wide variety of organizations and groups including: Department of Homeland Security, National Association of Hostage Negotiators, Walter Reed Medical Center, Fort Bragg, the University of California, the University of Wisconsin, Indiana University, Purdue University, Fort Campbell, Camp LeJeune, the American Red Cross, the Marine Corps League, the Indiana Department of Mental Health, Mental Health America, the National Association of Mental Illness, the Veterans Administration, the National Guard, hundreds of police and sheriff’s departments, countless conventions and many other mental health and community organizations across the country

10:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. **Exhibit Hall**

Break

10:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. **Exhibit Hall**

Annual PAHMT Members Business Meeting and Elections

12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. **Slopeside Dining Room**

Lunch

1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. **Chestnut Room**

All the Tox You Forgot

Instructor: Fred Haas, Sussex County, DE EMS

Our agent research gives us information on an alphabet soup of TLVs, PELs, LDs, etc. Do we remember what these terms stand for? Even more critically, do we understand how to use this information to provide for the medical care of our team or patients? This session will review basic terms and how they apply to our response.

1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. **Hemlock Room**

HazMat Happy Hour (and a half) Session 1

Instructors: Connor Hadaway and Steve Clark, CBRNE University

Steve and Connor from CBRNEU present Hazmat Happy Hour (and a half), a varied board of mini lectures from CBRNEU's course offerings. In this class driven presentation, Steve and Connor will discuss a wide range of topics, which can impact all hazmat responders. Some of the



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topics include items such as Ammonia and Chlorine response, the problems with post fire air monitoring, as well as the issues with Pentane LEL calibration. We also take a deeper look at PIDs and flammable gas sensors, and the hidden risks of refrigerant emergencies.

Participants choose the topics and actively guide the discussion towards their specific interests or problems faced in their respective departments, making each session unique.

1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. **Snowflake Forum**

Case Study: Not Your Typical Chemical Suicide

Instructor: Frank Sullivan, Chester County Hazmat Response Team

This session will discuss a workplace chemical suicide that occurred in Chester County, PA in 2018. The presentation will follow the incident from dispatch to termination and include 911 transmissions, evidence collection, decon challenges, management of misinformation on social media, lessons in working with the medical examiner and law enforcement, and specific challenges that accompany an incident that happens in an active workplace. Other topics of discussion will include policies and procedures for sharing photos and videos with other agencies, obtaining postmortem toxicology data, and learnings from the incident hot wash. Care will be exercised to protect the confidentiality of the victim and company.

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Evergreen Room**

Tabletop Training Scenarios

Instructor: Michael Krzeminski, Allegheny County Fire Academy

In this session, you will conduct a functional exercise on the tabletop. Instructor Mike Krzeminski has created an entire town of models, with everything from a basic residence, to a main street of commercial buildings, to industrial facilities, transportation infrastructure, and of course the emergency vehicles that accompany an emergency response. Just as reading the containers is important for understanding and preparing for a hazmat incident, this “city” gives responders the chance to read the incident in a compressed time and space. The processes of Incident Management in general and the 8-step process can be put to the test, practiced and discussed as the incidents play out on the tabletop. This is a highly interactive class, chairs will be available, but participants will be moving around and placing resources to respond, manage and mitigate the incident.

In this session: This scenario will involve a transportation incident occurring on a highway. There will be a number of issues that will need to be addressed. We will focus on using the 8-step process and consider recommendations that Hazmat experts can make to the emergency management staff. Traffic Management will also need to be addressed.



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1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Dogwood Room**

Hazardous Materials Incident Command Certification

OSFC Instructors: Norman Auvil, Lou Brungard, Chris Fisher, Bruce Manning and Jim Wetzel

**NOTE: This is a 3 Day Class - 1/2 Day Thursday, Full Days - Fri. & Sat.
You MUST Attend all Three Days if you select this course.**

The purpose of this program is to identify emergency service personnel who demonstrate competency in the performance requirements necessary to perform the duties of a firefighter. The NFPA 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents identifies the minimum competence for a responder at the Incident Commander level. A person certified at the Hazardous Material Incident Commander level will have demonstrated competency in the necessary knowledge and skills, to assume responsibility and make decisions relating to the management of a hazardous materials incident and shall meet the competencies at the awareness and operations level.

Jones and Bartlett, Hazardous Materials, Managing the Incident, revised fourth edition text book is required for the class. Each student is responsible for purchasing their own book prior to August 2, 2019.

Additional prerequisite of a completed ICS 300 class is required.

Sign Up for this class must be completed by **August 2, 2019**. Please follow the following link and complete the application:

<https://www.osfc.pa.gov/Certification%20Document%20Library/Hazardous%20Materials%20Incident%20Commander%20Application.pdf>

Applications must be mailed to Indiana County Public Safety Academy, 85 Haven Dr, Indiana PA, 15701 prior to the deadline date. Individuals applying for this program will be provided with course work that will be required to be completed prior to the first day of class.

2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. **Exhibit Hall**

Break

3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. **Chestnut Room**

Care in the Hot Zone

Instructor: Fred Haas, Sussex County, DE EMS

Traditionally on the HazMat scene, EMS is trained to stage at a safe distance to await the delivery of a clean patient. Is it time to revisit this paradigm? Some poisons can kill quickly. Often times, patient die from the lack of basic care techniques that could be provided during the decontamination process. While not placing any responder at risk, there is a role for the EMS



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provider who is well-trained in how to safely handle and care for patients during the decontamination process. This presentation reviews the role of the HazMat medical responder in triage, patient care, and care of the HazMat team responders.

3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. **Hemlock Room**

HazMat Happy Hour (and a half) Session 2

Instructors: Connor Hadaway and Steve Clark, CBRNE University

Steve and Connor from CBRNEU present Hazmat Happy Hour (and a half), a varied board of mini lectures from CBRNEU's course offerings. In this class driven presentation, Steve and Connor will discuss a wide range of topics, which can impact all hazmat responders. Some of the topics include items such as Ammonia and Chlorine response, the problems with post fire air monitoring, as well as the issues with Pentane LEL calibration. We also take a deeper look at PIDs and flammable gas sensors, and the hidden risks of refrigerant emergencies.

Participants choose the topics and actively guide the discussion towards their specific interests or problems faced in their respective departments, making each session unique.

3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Snowflake Forum**

Resilient Leadership - creating a culture that leads forward

Instructor: Silouan Green, Public Agency Training Council

In this workshop you will learn leadership principles and practical skills for leading a more resilient and responsive culture. Effective leadership moves people forward and develops an atmosphere of empathy and problem-solving. You will be equipped to apply these skills to yourself as well as teach them to your subordinates.

Friday, August 23, 2019

7:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Stag Pass**

Registration

7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. **Slopeside Dining Room**

Breakfast

8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. **Seasons 2 Room**

PEMA Updates

Presenter: Michael Manley, Planning Administrator, Hazardous Materials Division, Bureau of Technological Hazards, PEMA



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Michael will review and discuss the new hazardous materials directive for Pennsylvania. Michael will conduct a question and answer period for participants to interact with questions and provide comments.

8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. **Seasons 1 Room**

Case Studies in EMS HazMat Response

Instructor: Fred Haas, Sussex County, DE EMS

It doesn't have to be that leak of methyl-ethyl-death from a chemical plant to get you thinking this could be a HazMat incident. Many "routine" calls involve some type of exposure consideration. We'll review case studies and outline response and operational considerations for EMS responders of all levels.

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Evergreen Room**

Tabletop Training Scenarios

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In this session, you will conduct a functional exercise on the tabletop. Instructor Mike Krzeminski has created an entire town of models, with everything from a basic residence, to a main street of commercial buildings, to industrial facilities, transportation infrastructure, and of course the emergency vehicles that accompany an emergency response. Just as reading the containers is important for understanding and preparing for a hazmat incident, this "city" gives responders the chance to read the incident in a compressed time and space. The processes of Incident Management in general and the 8-step process can be put to the test, practiced and discussed as the incidents play out on the tabletop. This is a highly interactive class, chairs will be available, but participants will be moving around and placing resources to respond, manage and mitigate the incident.

In this session: This scenario will involve a transportation incident occurring on a railway. There will be a number of issues that will need to be addressed. We will focus on using the 8-step process and consider recommendations that Hazmat experts can make to the emergency management staff. In addition, the research capabilities and knowledge of reactivity of products will be a focus, in addition to the recognition and hazard mitigation of other mechanical and physical hazards, which are common to railway incidents will need to be addressed, beyond just the hazmat scene.

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Hemlock Room**

AEMC Grounding and Bonding Class

Instructor: Mark Gutekunst, AEMC Instruments

The AEMC Grounding and Bonding course is all about how and why to properly install and test temporary grounds, bonding to those grounds and all transfer equipment/systems. The first half



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of the class provides the technical overview and the second half is hands-on field training. All attendees will get a chance to install and test temporary grounding systems. The class will provide the attendee with the knowledge they need to safely and properly transfer hazardous materials.

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Chestnut Room**

HazMat for the one in the Hot Seat

Instructor: Nick Zamiska, Bad Day Training and Consulting

“Attention all units: Please respond to XYZ Industries for a report of an unknown gas release with one person unaccounted for.” You’re riding in the front passenger seat of the first-due rig, and dispatch advises that the regional hazmat team has an estimated arrival time of 20 minutes. Your crew arrives on scene; people are yelling for you to do something for their coworker. You take a quick look into the building through a nearby window and see a female employee moving on the floor and rapidly breathing. The bystander cell phones are recording while your crew looks to you for direction. Is your structural turnout gear and self-contained breathing apparatus the appropriate personal protective equipment for a quick rescue? Do you have essential equipment to ensure you are safe? Do you have the proper training and means to identify the hazard ahead of you?

This informative workshop is for the first-due firefighter sitting in the incident commander hot seat who may face a scenario like this. Chief officers to acting company officers will obtain the tools to ensure their crews will be safe during the initial critical moments of a hazmat run. The street-smart approach to making difficult decisions when civilian and crew members’ lives are on the line will benefit those trained in hazmat awareness to hazmat specialists.

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Seasons 5 Room**

How Drone and Sensor Technologies Assist HazMat Teams

Instructors: Paul Abbott and Tony Hallett, Unmanned Response

This session will include approximately 2 hours classroom instruction and 2 hours field demonstration. Lecture topics include platform and sensor options, operations and privacy laws, credentialing & certification, safety, personnel requirements, risk management, budgets, data management and benefits for the HazMat Team.

The demonstration will include flight planning and launch, scene size-up, thermal and multispectral imaging, and live streaming, as well as a discussion of emerging applications such as acquiring physical samples for testing.

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. (New class) **Seasons 4 Room**

HDES Demonstration

Instructor: Corporal Jon Cook, Hazardous Device & Explosives Section - West Pennsylvania State Police



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The Pennsylvania State Police, Hazardous Device and Explosives Section Unit (PSP HDES) provides EOD and other situational response in the Commonwealth. It can assist hazardous materials response teams with remote reconnaissance in some instances, specifically for situations downrange when an unknown substance or object in a hazardous materials scenario may be present. The members of the PSP HDES can provide guidance and assessment for preplanned events, such as a popular local air show. As we know, CBRNE and WMD situations require a vast toolbox to conduct assessments and while hazmat focuses on the CBRN, the E for explosive is an aspect that requires specialists trained in EOD and joint collaboration among many response agencies. The course and demonstration is intended to provide a familiarization of the PSP HDES and coordination with HMRT tools that may be used to render safe or provide intelligence on a CBRNE incident. Members of the PSP HDES Unit will conduct the program that is intended to be interactive and discuss how these tools can work best in a joint response for the attendees. (Tactics of the demonstration and other items presented are considered sensitive and only registered attendees will be allowed to participate in the course)

8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Dogwood Room**

Hazardous Materials Incident Command Cert

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10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. **Seasons 3 Room**

Break

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Seasons 2 Room**

Completing the Puzzle of Hazardous Materials Classification and Identification

Instructor: James Leer, Somerset VFD and Somerset County Hazmat Team

The assessment of hazardous materials requires putting pieces of a puzzle together to classify or identify the material. Detection and monitoring devices along with the six (6) identification clues play an important role in this task. A systematic scene assessment with proper selection and uses of these devices is necessary for this process. This program will cover device selection



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and application, scene assessment tips, risk-based response philosophy and a four-component process to complete the puzzle to classify or identify a material.

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Seasons 1 Room**

HazMat Mechanisms of Injury/ EMS Fireground Ops – Rehab. Smoke Inhalation, and EMS RIT

Instructor: Fred Haas, Sussex County, DE EMS

HazMat responses present an environment of uncertainty. Of primary concern is the health and safety of responders. This presentation attempts to simplify EMS tactical considerations by breaking down response by categories of potential harm based upon the UN placarding system. We'll look at medical presentation, PPE, decontamination, treatment, and protective measures.

12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. **Exhibit Hall**

Lunch

1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. **Exhibit Hall**

Vendor Area Open

2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. **Seasons 1,2,4 Rooms**

Vendor Demonstrations

5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. **Exhibit Hall**

Sponsor Dinner

7:00 P.M. **Hospitality Suite**

Motorola Sponsored Hospitality Suite Opens

Saturday, August 24, 2019

7:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Stag Pass**

Registration

7:30 A.M. to 8:30 A.M. **Exhibit Hall**

Breakfast

8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Seasons 4 Room**

Leak Mitigation Using Emergency Water Injection

Presenter: Ronald Huffman, Responder Training Enterprises

The course is designed to provide the student with the information needed to respond to a liquid propane leak involving a bulk transportation vehicle (MC331 tanker or bobtail), bulk storage (1000 gallon and larger), residential and portable tanks. Students will be taught how, when they



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could, and when it's not recommended to use water injection. Students will experience firsthand the limitations caused by system restrictions that limit flow, the importance of managing product levels and how temperature and pressure information is applied. If local regulations will allow, the students will be provided the opportunity to connect and manage multiple water injection evolutions on our live propane tank to convert a liquid propane leak to water leak and then manage the remaining product. The students will also utilize flaring as a product management option.

8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Hemlock Room

Pipeline Operations Training

Instructors: Guy Napolillo, OSFC and John Pividori, OSFC

This 1-day program will identify the key players who may respond to a pipeline emergency, primary causes of pipeline incidents, basic pipeline operations, properties of products transported via pipelines, as well as pipeline markers and the types of pipelines. Numerous scenarios are used to challenge and educate attendees.

8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Dogwood Room

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8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. Chestnut Room

Cryogenic Emergencies

Instructor: Nick Zamiska, Bad Day Training and Consulting

As technicians, we all recognize cryogenics for its extreme cold hazards. In addition to the cold, high pressures, asphyxiation, fire and explosion hazards can lead to a bad day. Even the slightest exposure to cryogenic liquids/gases can place first responders into an IDLH environment.



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8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. Seasons 2 Room

Dow Chemical Plant Explosion

Instructor: Jon Davine, Northampton Fire Rescue

The Joint Hazards Incident Response Team (JHIRT) is a team within the MA Department of Fire Services Hazardous Materials Response Division. This team is comprised of hazardous materials technicians trained to provide technical and/or operational assistance in conjunction with the Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad to incidents involving reactive or energetic materials that may be used, stored and or manufactured in such a manner to cause harm to the public or responders. On January 7, 2016, an explosion at the Dow Chemical Plant involving a highly pyrophoric material caused significant structural damage and personal injury to employees. The skills and expertise of this team were necessary in the assessment, strategy and mitigation of this incident over the two-day response.

8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. Wintergreen Room

Tactical Monitoring

Instructors: Joe Bartholomew & Doug Rohn, Training Solutions LLC

This is a boots-on-the-ground approach to using your monitors and meters to their full potential. A holistic approach to monitoring will be discussed. You will learn how and what to take down range the next time you go into harm's way.

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Seasons 1 Room

DAM...There is no App for that!!

Instructor: Frank Docimo, Docimo and Associates, LLC.

Thanks to smartphones and the apps made for them, emergency responders and the public they serve now have a wealth of help at their fingertips for almost any disaster scenario. They can look up the effects of toxic chemicals, brush up on first aid, find the nearest shelters or turn their phone into a flashlight. Apps filled with reference material and up-to-the-minute data can help them respond to an emergency.

Thus, it is critical important for several reasons to not become overly dependent on apps and smartphones.

The goal is to get the right information in the right hands at the right time, and order to make decisions in minutes not hours. For this reason, you need to be able to think “out of the box and on your feet” and not to become overly dependent on apps and smartphones. This session will utilize science, monitoring devices, HAZMAPS, and street smarts with Frank's ability to “Connect the Dots” during a chemical emergency.



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9:45 A.M. - 10:45 A.M. Seasons 3 Room

Break

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Seasons 2 Room

Railcar Anatomy and Response Priorities

Instructor: Brian Ramsey, Sullivan County, TN

During this lecture, we will review the anatomy of rail cars including valves, PRD's, PRV's and construction design. There will be emphasis on the importance of new DOT 117 and upcoming requirements for flammable transports. Finally, we will be reviewing a case history involving DOT 105J and direct flame impingement. We will explore the value of insulation and prevention of heat radiation and thermal conduction involved with railcars and flame impingement.

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Wintergreen Room

Thermal Imaging for Hazmat (or how to get your response out of the dark)

Instructors: Joe Bartholomew & Doug Rohn, Training Solutions LLC

Thermal imaging is an under-utilized tool in hazmat response. Learn about using your TIC to full effectiveness. This course could change your tactics and how you think about thermal imaging.

11:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. Exhibit Hall

Lunch

1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. Seasons 2 Room

ETN Incident

Instructor: Jon Davine, Northampton Fire Rescue

On the night of Super Bowl Sunday 2017, a series of explosions were reported in the new city area of Easthampton, MA. Members of the Easthampton PD and MA State Police Bomb Squad responded and found several explosive devices had detonated and they found one that was still intact. The device was examined and a search warrant was served on a storage unit nearby. Upon entry into the unit, investigators discovered a clandestine explosives lab along with body armor, stun guns and several hundred rounds of ammunition. This session will discuss the HazMat response to this lab, the sampling plan for numerous unknown chemicals and the subsequent discovery of several pounds of the homemade explosive Erythritol Tetranitrate (ETN). This was a large joint operation between the HazMat team and state police bomb squad.



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1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. **Chestnut Room**

In search of the next generation hazmat instructor

Instructors: Joe Bartholomew & Doug Rohn, Training Solutions LLC

So, you are interested in becoming a hazmat instructor. This session will teach you how to take things to the next level, through education, networking, and becoming a classroom leader.

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Wintergreen Room**

Spill Response Strategies and Tactics

Instructor: Nick Zamiska, Bad Day Training and Consulting

The transportation of flammable liquids and drilling products is on the rise with the increase of oil and gas exploration. With this increase comes the additional potential for Hazmat related spills. This one-day course is designed for emergency response personnel who are expected to take an offensive role in containing/confining spills that occur on roadways, in drainage systems, on the ground and in navigable waterways. This course is based on NFPA 472 and OSHA 1910.120 standards.

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Seasons 1 Room**

Physical & Chemical Properties for Risk Based Response

Instructor: Brian Ramsey, Sullivan County, TN

Participants will witness the dynamic tendencies of hazardous materials brought to life through physical and chemical properties demonstrations. During this lecture flash point, flammable range, boiling point, vapor pressure, auto ignition temperature, molecular weight, vapor density, and solubility will be demonstrated. This lecture will also demonstrate the properties of liquefied compressed gasses as well as cryogenics. These high-energy, fast-paced demonstrations will leave the audience/students with a keen awareness of the street-smart chemistry of hazardous materials and how to apply physical and chemical properties to risk-based emergency response!

2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. **Seasons 3 Room**

Break

3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. **Seasons 2 Room**

Minutes not Hours

Instructor: Frank Docimo, Docimo and Associates, LLC.

The effective control of a chemical incident is based on YOUR understanding of the physical and chemical properties of the product or agent. Responders cannot begin to deal with a hazardous materials incident without a basic knowledge of street chemistry. This does not make the first responder a chemist; however, they must be aware of how the enemy will behave in order to effectively address a hazardous material incident.



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Using the Docimo Model Role and Frank Docimo's unique MAPPING technique contained on each map will enable ALL first responders to easily and readily comprehend the basic aspects of how a chemical will act.

The behavior of a chemical and the sequential events of a hazardous materials incident are crucial to dealing with the incident in a safe and effective manner.

Utilizing the information contained in HAZMAPS911 may save your life.

3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. **Chestnut Room**

When Things Go Bad

Instructors: Joe Bartholomew & Doug Rohn, Training Solutions LLC

This presentation is geared for the worst-case scenarios that could arise in a hazmat response. Students will learn techniques and tactics for self-rescue, rapid intervention, and maintaining suit integrity.

6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. **Alpine Room**

Responder Training Enterprises, LLC. Sponsored Dinner

8:00 P.M. **Hospitality Suite**

Motorola Sponsored Hospitality Suite Opens

Sunday, August 25, 2019

8:00 A.M. -9:30 A.M. **Alpine Room**

Breakfast

9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. **Alpine Room**

Closing Session – Comments / Keynote

Presenter: Jon Davine, Northampton Fire Rescue

This presentation will discuss the need for and the development of a partnership between HAZMAT Technicians and Bomb Technicians as it relates to hazardous response. The current threat requires more resources than one specialty unit can normally provide. This has resulted in lack of efficiency and many times safety due to operating outside of our lanes and lack of appropriate resources. The Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad and the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services State HAZMAT team realizing these short comings and having a large number of incidents involving a multitude of threats formed a not only the first of its kind Joint Hazards Incident Response Team, but an entire program and process to include selection, training, technology, responsibilities, and of course interoperability. The Joint Hazards Incident Response Team (JHIRT) is a team within the MA Department of Fire Services Hazardous



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Materials Response Division. This team is comprised of hazardous materials technicians trained to provide technical and/or operational assistance in conjunction with the Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad to incidents involving reactive or energetic materials that may be used, stored and or manufactured in such a manner to cause harm to the public or responders. The skills and expertise of this team are necessary in the assessment, strategy and mitigation of these types of incidents.