EMR-ISAC

Emergency Management & Response-Information Sharing & Analysis Center



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The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC).

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit <u>www.usfa.dhs.gov/</u> <u>emr-isac</u> or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

The InfoGram

Volume 13 – Issue 24

June 13, 2013

Chemical Safety Board Releases Safety DVD

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) announced production and release of a new three-disc, single-box set containing all safety videos produced to date for completed CSB accident investigations. The DVD set is free and may be ordered by filling out the <u>DVD request form</u> at the CSB Web site.

Included on Disc 3 are two videos released since distribution of the last two-volume DVD compilation:

- "<u>Deadly Contract.</u>" showing how five federal subcontractors died from an explosion during a fireworks disposal operation in Hawaii.
- "<u>Inherently Safer: The Future of Risk Reduction</u>," examining the concept of inherent safety and its application across industry.

CSB Safety Videos usually feature detailed animation sequences to show the chemical processes and sequence of events leading to dangerous explosions, fires, and releases. The videos received numerous awards and are often used in training, seminars, board presentations, and other venues as "object lessons in the consequences of inadequate process safety management."

CSB videos may be streamed and downloaded from the CSB media room.

(Source: <u>CSB</u>)

Securing the Fire Station Against Theft

As hard economic times continue, fire station break-ins and thefts are seeing an uptick. A volunteer department in Texas found their <u>apparatus had been skeletonized</u> of radiators, brass fittings, batteries, pumps, and ladders. They estimate it will take a year to recover. In the meantime, other county departments will cover their calls.

Two main issues are at stake when it comes to securing the station: loss of property by theft and continuity of operations. Theft of departmental property causes unnecessary economic burdens on the station and municipality when fire departments across the country are already seeing painful funding cuts. The need to recoup and purchase new equipment doesn't need to be added to it.

Continuity of operations for a fire department can be disrupted as easily from theft as from a natural disaster. Even a minor theft or act of vandalism strains a department.

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures. Major incidents can cause neighboring departments to struggle to cover their own area while helping cover the affected department's area as well.

An article in <u>Fire Chief Magazine</u> recommends several types of security precautions. Departments should look into good locks or alarms on doors and a written policy of what should be locked and when. In addition, areas such as offices with financial records or sleeping quarters should have different levels of security.

(Source: <u>Fire Chief Magazine</u>)

New Vehicle Borne IED Course from OBP

The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Bombing Prevention (OBP) announces the first offerings of their new Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) course. Instruction covers the VBIED threat; explosives; IEDs; vehicle inspections; and enabling participants to detect, deter, protect against, and respond to terrorist use of explosives in the United States.

This 8-hour course consists of four instructional modules and is designed for first responders and public/private security officers tasked with inspecting vehicles for contraband, explosives, or any dangerous goods. The VBIED course is part of a training package that includes the Vehicle Inspection Video and Vehicle Inspection Guide, which can both be found at in the <u>TRIPwire Library under Training</u>.

The final module concludes the course with an actual vehicle inspection in which participants demonstrate the knowledge gained in the previous modules. Participants will physically inspect for VBIEDs and are expected to respond appropriately to their discovery. Offerings and points of contact:

- June 27: Lima, OH. Contact: <u>patrick.shaw@hq.dhs.gov</u>
- June 28: Washington, DC. Contact: pedro.tavares@usss.dhs.gov
- July 10: Green Bay, WI. Contact: <u>rickbe@greenbaywi.gov</u>
- July 30: Baltimore, MD. Contact: <u>ray.hanna@dhs.gov</u>
- July 31: Annapolis, MD. Contact: <u>ray.hanna@dhs.gov</u>

(Source: <u>OBP</u>)

National Infrastructure Protection Plan Review

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) invites the public to give suggestions and comments for the rewrite of the <u>National Infrastructure Protection Plan</u> (NIPP). DHS's National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD) Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) is currently reviewing the NIPP to conform to the requirements of <u>Presidential Policy Directive 21</u>, Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience.

Comments providing the most assistance will explain the reason for recommended changes; include data, information, or authority that supports such recommendations; or links to specific sections of the NIPP. There will be an opportunity to review the revised document sometime this summer.

The original notice appearing in the <u>Federal Register</u> on June 6, 2013 provides instructions. Written comments are encouraged and will be accepted until July 8.

(Source: DHS)

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For information specifically affecting the private sector critical infrastructure contact the **National Infrastructure Coordinating Center** by phone at **202-282-9201**, or by email at **nicc@dhs.gov**.