

# Homeland Security FACT SHEET

May 27, 2004

## Urban Areas Security Initiative Port/Mass Transit Technical Assistance Program

### Background

As part of its Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), the Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) is making available technical assistance to ports and mass transit agencies for enhancing their capacity and preparedness to respond to weapons of mass destruction (WMD) terrorist incidents. This technical assistance includes provision of an ODP Technical Assistance Team that can support the agency in the implementation of a Needs Assessment process, similar to that recently piloted by ODP with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The overall Needs Assessment process involves the implementation of the *ODP Special Needs Jurisdiction Tool Kit*, which allows port/mass transit agencies to identify and prioritize security countermeasures and emergency response capability needs based on terrorist threats and risk.

### Purpose

The purpose of the UASI Port/Mass Transit Technical Assistance Program is to:

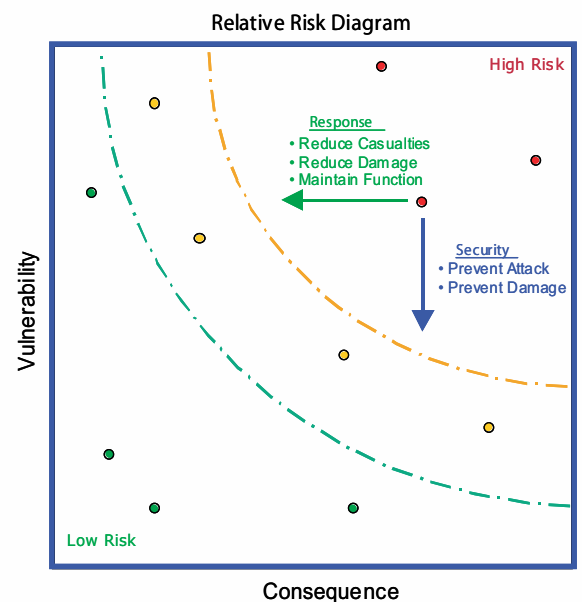
- (1) prioritize security countermeasures and emergency response capability needs based on terrorist threats and risk; and,
- (2) develop a roadmap for future port/mass transit agency funding allocations for terrorist attack risk reduction.

### Port/Mass Transit Technical Assistance

There are three primary components of the *ODP Special Needs Jurisdiction Tool Kit*:

- Risk Assessment: Evaluates the relative risk of a port/mass transit agency's critical assets to WMD attacks by terrorist groups. The evaluation of the agency's asset criticality, terrorist threat, likely attack scenarios, asset vulnerability, and terrorist attack impact result in a risk profile that provides a foundation for an evaluation of relative risk between attack scenarios for all critical assets of the port/mass transit agency.

- Response Capabilities Assessment: Assists port/mass transit agencies to assess the response capabilities needed to respond to terrorist attacks by (1) defining the desired levels of capabilities across all functional areas of response, (2) surveying existing capabilities, and (3) identifying the gaps and shortfalls between existing and desired capabilities.



- Needs Assessment. Evaluates the results of the Risk and Response Capabilities Assessments and allows agencies to prioritize security countermeasure(s) and response capability needs according to the identified risks.

As a result of applying the *ODP Special Needs Jurisdiction Tool Kit* to a port/mass transit agency, several work products will be developed, including:

- Risk Assessment Workbooks: Risk Assessment Workbooks will be produced that cover the five components of the overall Risk Assessment-Criticality Assessment, Threat Assessment,

Vulnerability Assessment, Impact Assessment and Risk Assessment. These workbooks will be interim work products and will contain discussion on the risk assessment methodology and actual results related to the port/mass transit agency. These workbooks will serve as a guide to the port/mass transit agency for future applications of the Risk Assessment.

- Final Project Report: The Final Project Report will be comprised of the Risk Assessment, Response Capabilities Assessment, and the Needs Assessment. This report will serve as the comprehensive document that includes discussion of methodology and the actual final results of implementing the *ODP Special Needs Jurisdiction Tool Kit*.

### **Port/Mass Transit Agency Responsibilities**

Implementation of the *ODP Special Needs Jurisdiction Tool Kit* will require the port/mass transit agency to provide the following information and staff participation:

- Establish working groups
- Identify important port/mass transit agency assets
- Assist the ODP Technical Assistance Team in conducting limited site visits and countermeasure inspections
- Identify current and desired response capabilities
- Participate in working group sessions and review results of sessions
- Participate in review of final risk and needs results

The ODP Technical Assistance Team recognizes that significant threat and vulnerability assessment work may have been previously performed for a port/mass transit agency. This work will be leveraged towards implementing the *ODP Special Needs Jurisdiction Tool Kit*.

### **Technical Assistance Delivery**

Port/Mass Transit Technical Assistance is available as on-site, agency-specific assistance.

### **How to Request Assistance**

Port/Mass Transit Technical Assistance available from ODP is provided without charge to a requesting port or mass transit agency. All requests for technical assistance should be submitted to the ODP Helpline at (800) 368-6498 or your ODP Preparedness Officer.

### **For More Information**

Questions concerning Port/Mass Transit Technical Assistance should be directed to the ODP Helpline at (800) 368-6498, or your ODP Preparedness Officer. Information about other technical assistance and ODP programs is also available through the ODP website at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/>