

FEMA



CDP Alumnus

Center for Domestic Preparedness Anniston, AL

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

757,764 as of Dec. 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

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A HH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, from Dobbins Air Reserve Base, in Marietta, Ga., departs the Noble Training Facility (NTF) helipad after receiving two simulated patients during the Integrated Capstone Event (ICE). This was the first medevac used during an ICE and represents a whole-community approach to response following a disaster or other catastrophic event.

Integrated Training Enhances Learning, Increases Tempo

The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) conducted its fourth Integrated Capstone Event (ICE) in early December 2012. The ICE combines multiple courses in an end-of-course exercise, and requires students from multiple disciplines to interact, communicate, and respond to a full impact mass casualty incident.

This ICE included four courses, consisting of healthcare, fire, hazardous material, radiological specialists, and emergency medical services personnel.

“We have found that the course weeks containing an ICE are becoming popular with our responder students,” said Mike Aguilar, CDP registrar, and ICE leader. “The students notice a difference in training tempo and enjoy blending disciplines and response agencies in a legitimate exercise with multiple organizations.”

Altogether, more than 155 emergency responders from 28 states attended the training. The scenario combined students from the Emergency Medical Operations (EMO), Healthcare Leadership (HCL), Hospital Emergency Response (HERT) and Radiological Emergency Response (RERO) courses.

“The training was amazing—a great experience,” said Brian Hugo, a student with Healthcare Leadership for mass Casualty Incidents (HCL). “ICE provided a real-life scenario that brought different response organizations together. This training is out-of-the-box thinking. The majority of most training exercises are specific to one organization and do not involve other response agencies. It was an awesome event.”

The ICE is designed to replicate an actual emergency, and although some artificiality exists the CDP training staff



Emergency response personnel attending the EMO Course pull a simulated survivor to safety following a training subway collapse, during December 2012's ICE.

has successfully created a realistic crisis. Typically, each CDP class culminates with an end-of-course scenario specific to the objectives learned during the training, and many facets are notional. The ICE, however, eliminates much of this artificiality, and provides a realistic setting for the students to perform.

“This was an outstanding test of the skills we learned throughout the week,” said Mike McDonough, a student with Emergency Medical Operations for CBRNE Incidents (EMO) course. “Integrating classes is the perfect learning environment, and a huge confidence builder. This is great way to put our training together and demonstrate how multiple agencies work side by side in response and recovery.”

“Integrated Capstone Events are scheduled each quarter and combine three or more courses in a variety of response operations,” said Aguilar. “In the future we hope to hold them monthly and continue to provide



Healthcare workers in the Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents (HERT) course use a patient simulator during training. The HERT course students ensure simulated patients are properly treated and decontaminated before entering the hospital training facility.



Healthcare professionals attending the Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL) course treat a simulated patient for injuries sustained during a mock disaster. December's ICE requires students from different courses to work together during a response integrating multiple disciplines.

a variety of realistic scenarios that require decision making, and the ability to work with multiple agencies and different professions.”

The training scenario, which took place at the CDP's 124-acre training facility, included mock victims played by role players, human patient simulators and mannequins. The responders participating in the scenario treated mock patients at the scene of the incident and at the CDP's Noble Training Facility (NTF) for radiological exposure, chemical burns, and severe lacerations and broken bones.

The NTF is the only hospital facility in the country dedicated solely to training the nation's healthcare, public health and environmental health personnel for mass casualty incidents.

The training also included a subway train, involving injured passengers and a tunnel collapse. Power outages and smoky training areas also posed obstacles for the students.



Role players serve as injured survivors following a mock disaster involving the CDP's training subway. The CDP used multiple role players during the ICE, providing responder students with a more realistic scenario. The subway also incorporates smoke delivery and sound systems into training.

CDP News

FEMA Announces Selection of CDP Superintendent

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Preparedness Directorate's (NPD) and National Training and Exercise Division announced James E. Smith (Jim) as the new Superintendent for the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP). Mr. Smith reported to his new assignment December 17, 2012.

"I am extremely proud, and humbled to be among such a professional staff," said Smith. "This assignment is the highlight of my career and one I do not take lightly. The CDP has a noble mission. I am excited to be a part of it, and look forward to training emergency responders."

Mr. Smith began his public service career as a United States Army officer, before retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 2002. During his military career Smith served in a variety of assignments to include the U.S. Army Chemical School at the former Fort McClellan, as Corps Chemical Officer, Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) in Germany & Bosnia-Herzegovina; as the Base Support/Garrison



Jim Smith, was recently announced as the new CDP Superintendent.

Commander, Kaiserslautern, Germany; and as the Commander, Chemical Defense Training Facility (CDTF), Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Following military retirement Mr. Smith joined the private sector as the President and General Manager of the Bella Vista, Arkansas Property Owners Association, a not-for-profit corporation operating the unincorporated city with 38,000 property owners and over 20,000 city residents.

In 2009 Mr. Smith joined the federal service as a Department of the Army Civilian, and served with the U.S. Army Installation Management Command (IMCOM), as the Executive Officer for the G3 and the Chief of the Operations Center. During this period he was also responsible for establishing and leading the G34 Division (Protection, Emergency Management & Surety) and implementing mandates for Federal and Department

of Defense all-hazards Emergency Management and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear surety programs.

Following his assignment with IMCOM, Mr. Smith rejoined the private sector in 2011 and transformed a private manufacturing company to profitability, before most recently being selected as the CDP Superintendent.

"The entire FEMA team is happy to have Jim on board at the CDP," said Dr. Keith Holtermann, Director of FEMA's National Training, Education, and Exercise Division. "Jim has extensive knowledge in business, education, and emergency response. He is a good fit for the CDP, we are lucky to have him in place."

Mr. Smith graduated from the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. He earned a Master of Military Art and Science degree in Operations, Plans & Training from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1995 and a Master of Arts degree in Business and Organizational Security Management from Webster University in 2010.



Jim Smith, new CDP Superintendent, conducts an interview with local media following the announcement of his new position.



A Caesar patient simulator undergoes the decontamination process during a recent end-of-course exercise at the CDP. Unlike other patient simulators, the Caesars may come in contact with water, sand, dirt, heat, and humidity. These new systems allow emergency responders to provide complete mass casualty care from the beginning of medical treatment to the end.

Caesar Simulators Offer Complete Healthcare Training Experience

Simulating traumatic events in training is no easy task. FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) strives to be at the forefront of realistic instructional venues and recently adopted a new patient simulator called Caesar.

Using patient simulators in training is nothing new for the CDP. Patient simulation has been in use for the past five years in a variety of CDP courses. However, the new Caesars offer a significant advancement in realism—allowing responder students to triage at the casualty collection point and complete the decontamination process through the survivor's arrival and stabilization in the treatment area.

"The Caesar patient simulators allow our responders to use water and soap," said Robi Mobley, simulation specialist and manager. "Our other patient simulators cannot get wet, so we simulate that process. The Caesars are designed to simulate an average person's weight, the skin is more realistic, and the body has what feels like real bones."

The Caesars are operated wirelessly through the

use of tablet technology. They may come in contact with water, sand, dirt, heat, humidity, and can even sustain an impact. The rugged simulation system is fully posable—unlike other models that only lie flat. Other lifelike features consist of eye movement, pulse, bleeding, breathing, and speech.

"We've never been able to fully simulate a trauma during the decontamination process until now," said John Skinner, healthcare course manager. "We now can manage casualties from point of injury through the entire medical casualty care system."

The Caesars replicate vital signs and symptoms, allowing healthcare emergency responders to follow standard medical processes in a simulated contaminated environment. Previously a static mannequin, with a tag listing the patient's signs and symptoms, was used until the decontamination process was complete. Patient simulators would enter the scenario and assume the mannequin's role once the decontamination corridor was clear.

"Students think they are awesome," said Dawn

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CDP News

Caesars

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Munroe, lead simulation technician. “A large majority of our students do not

have the opportunity to train with this type of advanced technology. These simulators contribute to the learning experience and we send better trained responders home.”

Kelley Blair, who recently attended the Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents (HERT) course, says the Caesar simulators bring more realism to training.

“I like the fact the Caesar is waterproof—traditional simulators can’t get wet,” said Blair, a paramedic from Research Medical Center, in Kansas City, Mo. “These units provide more to training than can be imagined. Having to fake the decontamination process removes an essential component of the otherwise realistic learning environment.”



Gary Goodloff (Left), from the Rhode Island Medical Reserve Corps, intubates a Caesar simulator during the HERT course. The Caesars replicate vital signs and symptoms, allowing healthcare emergency responders to follow standard medical processes in a simulated contaminated environment.

Private Sector Seeks CDP Training for Response & Recovery

Recently, seven members of AT&T’s Network Disaster Recovery Team attended the Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT) course at the CDP. The AT&T associates represented different states and are fully aware of their role following a hazardous event.

AT&T demonstrates the importance that communities have the ability to sustain themselves following a disaster or hazardous event. Private businesses often times have unique skill sets that focus on infrastructure and necessary needs for communities to thrive.

Because traditional first responders can’t be everywhere during every emergency, the private sector must have the ability to protect its infrastructure. Similar to the first response community, AT&T is also committed to protecting the citizens of their cities during an emergency.

“My job is unique,” said Timothy Knezevich, special operations team leader, from Cleveland, Ohio. “As a part-time fire fighter, I bring both hazardous materials skills and telecom skills together. Thanks to this training, our team will be ready and prepared to deal with manmade and natural disasters, and keep the key



Seven members of AT&T’s Network Disaster Recovery Team attended the Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT) course at the CDP. The AT&T associates represented different states and serve important roles during a hazardous event.

critical infrastructure supported—that reason alone makes this training necessary.”

The AT&T Network Disaster Recovery Team consists of 30 members, who live in different parts of the United States. During major disaster they may deploy in support of other AT&T disaster teams, depending on the severity and manpower required. Over the years team members have faced potentially life threatening events and others that could cause severe injury, and potentially interrupt AT&T’s network.

“AT&T has created a team to deal with hazardous issues,” said Steven DiPaola, team project manager, from Morristown, N.J. “HazMat technicians respond to hazardous materials, telephone technicians focus on communication problems. The AT&T Network Disaster Recovery Team does both, and has the ability to respond, evaluate, and restore network outages.”

“The CDP has great training programs and reinforces our necessary on-the-job skills,” said Knezevich. “The instruments were challenging, but the exposure to different technologies was well worth it. This course built on previous training courses and presented new skills, with a hands-on approach. Hands down, the best way to learn, and useful to our company.”

CDP News

CDP Hosts National State Administrative Agency Training Symposium, NDPC

The Center for Domestic Preparedness recently hosted the National State Administrative Agency (NSAA) Training Symposium.

A total of 35 states and five territories were represented amounting to more than 80 attendees. State Administrative Agency's oversee and manage preparedness training for state and local response agencies.

This was the second symposium organized by the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) that provides specialized training to the nation's response force. The NDPC is a partnership of seven nationally recognized organizations that provide counter-terrorism preparedness training for first responders within the context of all hazards, including chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

"During the course of the last few days, I hope all the SAAs learned more about the resources available to the states through the NDPC, and the other FEMA training partners," said Mike King, CDP Deputy Superintendent. "Each consortium member provides unique preparedness training programs that are vital to our nation's response and recovery during a disaster, and our SAAs are the critical link for coordination, validation, and approval of the many training opportunities our state, local, and tribal first receivers and emer-



gency responders receive." State Administrative Agency (SAA) representatives, representing 35 states and five territories attended the National State Administrative Agency Training Symposium at the CDP recently. A total of 80 plus SAAs took part in the symposium organized by the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) that provides specialized training to the nation's response force. The NSAA symposium highlighted collaboration, enhanced training opportunities, and priorities to ensure the nation's level of preparedness continues to improve.

gency responders receive."

The NSAA symposium was a three-day event that highlighted collaboration, enhanced training opportunities, and training priorities to ensure the nation's level of preparedness continues to improve. NDPC members include the CDP; New Mexico Tech's Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center (EMRTC) in Socorro, N.M.; Louisiana State University's National Center for

BioMedical Research and Training (NCBRT) in Baton Rouge, La.; Texas A&M University's National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC) in College Station, Texas; Counter Terrorism Operations Support (CTOS)/The Nevada Test Site (NTS) in North Las Vegas, Nev.; University of Hawaii's National Disaster Preparedness Training Center (NDPTC) in Manoa, Hawaii; and the Transportation Technology Center, Inc. (TTCI) in Pueblo, Colorado.

In addition to providing greater insights into NDPC training, the symposium helped training representatives from each state learn about the valuable training opportunities at NDPC partner institutions, including the Emergency Management Institute, Naval Post Graduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security, Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium, and Wright State University's National Center for Medical Readiness.

Did you know the Emergency Medical Operations (EMO) course uses approximately four gallons of soap during a course. The EMO class can cut up to 120 sets of clothes during the triage portion of training. During EMO most air tanks (designed to last 60 minutes) using Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus last approximately 40 minutes, however some students are able to stretch the 60 minute bottle to last 80 minutes. The average EMO class may consume 240 bottles of water per day or up to 2,880 bottles of water during a quarter. During the summer months EMO courses may drink close to 120 cases of water.

Stories From The Field

County Administrator Prepares for Emergency Response

Submitted by Liane Richardson, County Administrator, Lane County, Ore.

I am the County Administrator for a county approximately the size of Rhode Island. With over 4,000 square miles, Lane County extends from the Pacific Ocean to the mountains, and includes dunes, wetlands, oceans, rivers, lakes, ski resorts, a large university, and a major north-south interstate. The question of a large-scale disaster, man-made or natural, is not if it will occur, but when.

I recently had the opportunity to attend resident training at the CDP, in Anniston, Alabama. As a fairly new administrator, I am attempting to immerse myself into every aspect of the services we provide. A large share of those services involve emergency response. When I learned about the training opportunities at the CDP, I jumped at the chance to attend.

As County Administrator, I have specific roles related to the overall running of a full-service county. However, I am also very interested in emergency management. I am in charge of ensuring our county continues to operate during the worst disasters possible, while at the same time responds appropriately to the disaster itself.

The CDP training, without a doubt, makes a difference in the leadership decisions I make; whether in the office, or in an emergency management situa-

tion.

This past week, I attended the Technical Emergency Response Training (TERT) course. This training allowed me to experience first-hand what would be required should a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive (CBRNE) incident occur.

I have a better understanding as to what our employees will be facing, what training and resources they

need, and what I can provide to them to ensure they respond appropriately, regardless of the situation. I appreciate the fact FEMA provides the opportunity to receive CDP training, at no cost to the jurisdiction. The training is fully funded for state, local, and tribal employees. Funding, such as this, is greatly appreciated, and a huge bonus for Lane County.

I whole-heartedly recommend that elected, appointed, and senior employees of government take this training for a better understanding of what it is their first responders do, as well as show them the benefits of CDP training. I feel more prepared, and I believe it all starts at the top. Emergency management, planning and preparedness, is very important. The more prepared Lane County can be for any type of incident, the better off we all will be.

I am better prepared thanks to my CDP training, and encourage more government leadership to attend the wonderful training environment that is the Center for Domestic Preparedness. Thank you CDP and FEMA!



Liane Richardson is a recent CDP graduate after completing the TERT course. The TERT course is multi-disciplinary and a keystone training program at the CDP. TERT provides a foundation for all emergency responders, to include government officials.



Liane Richardson (front left), Lane County, Oregon, county administrator, simulates the initial decontamination of a disaster survivor at FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), in Anniston, Ala. Richardson attended the Technical Emergency Response Training for CBRNE Incidents (TERT) course.

Keep the stories coming. If you have used CDP training during a real world event we want to know about it. You might be featured in future Stories From the Field. We will do the work. Just let us know. Email: pao@cdpemail.dhs.gov or call (256) 847-2212.

Worth Repeating

A Prime Training Site

“Training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) is a must for all professionals involved in disaster planning and response. Whether a leader in healthcare or a first responder in the field, the CDP’s intense one-week trainings are designed to simulate a very real mass casualty incident. The training forces us to make tough decisions in real-time, using real-world scenarios. This outstanding training program is definitely the premier training ground for those individuals who truly desire to sharpen their skills in the Incident Command System, as well as overall incident/disaster management response. I feel more prepared and confident today, than I did before attending the CDP’s Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents course. The CDP training allows us to become more resilient in the face of disasters.”

Claudia Marroquin-Frometa, Emergency Management Coordinator, Inglewood, Calif.

See You in 2013

“This was my second time to participate in training at the center. Both experiences were amazing. The staff from the time of registration to the completion of the event are so kind and polite. The instructors are personable, knowledgeable, and very open to questions or concerns. I loved the hands on portions. The accommodation are clean and comfortable. The food OMG is fabulous (every meal). 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. Thanks for the opportunity.”

Tina Nixon, Registered Nurse, Sacramento, Calif.

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