



WMD Radiological/Nuclear Course for HazMat Technicians PER-241

This technician-level weapons of mass destruction (WMD) course prepares the hazardous materials (HazMat) technician to respond to an incident involving a radiological or nuclear WMD, such as a Radiological Exposure Device (RED, or “Dirty Bomb”) or an Improvised Nuclear Device (IND). This course is delivered throughout the nation to jurisdictions approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency/National Preparedness Directorate (FEMA/NPD) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security State Administrative Agencies.

Course Description:

The HazMat course provides the attendees with an awareness of the fundamentals of radiation, health effects, recognition, and terrorist use of radiation and radiological material. Attendees are given hands-on experience with radiation fields while learning the basic operation of radiation detectors and dosimeters. They are taught how to use these instruments to conduct surveys of personnel, vehicles, facilities, and outdoor areas. The hands-on activities blend cognitive knowledge of radiation and instruments with survey techniques used in detecting the presence of radiation, locating radioactive material, and measuring levels of radiation and radiological contamination.¹

Attendees are taught operational considerations for working in high radiation areas, limiting responder radiation doses, and rescuing contaminated victims. Attendees form operational teams that deal with cadre-evaluated, realistic drills involving the probable terrorist use of radiological material. The course culminates with an exercise requiring attendee teams, under a unified command, to respond to a terrorist attack that has dispersed radiological material at the target facility.

Course Length: 32 hours (four 8-hour days)

¹This is a “live agent” course using actual radiological and nuclear materials. This course is designed and monitored so that attendees receive only minor radiation doses (lower than a chest X-ray or a typical round-trip airline flight across the U.S.).



Surveying an actual Radiological Exposure Device (RED) in a contaminated area during a training exercise



Rendered image of potential WMD attack

Target Audience:

The target audience includes attendees with technician-level training representing the following disciplines:

- ◇ Emergency Management
- ◇ Emergency Medical Services
- ◇ Firefighting
- ◇ Governmental Administrative
- ◇ Hazardous Materials (HazMat)
- ◇ Law Enforcement
- ◇ Medical
- ◇ Public Health
- ◇ Public Safety Communications
- ◇ Public Works
- ◇ Transportation
- ◇ Other skilled support personnel who provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations



Decontamination exercise on simulated victims of an RED.

Certificate:

A certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the course, acknowledging 3.2 continuing education units (CEUs) sponsored by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Upon request, CTOS can provide a letter verifying course completion and eligibility for CEUs.

Eligibility:

This course is primarily intended for responders trained to mission-specific Operations and Technician levels as defined by NFPA 472, "Standard competence of Responders Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents." It is the responsibility of the jurisdiction to select qualified course participants.

Prerequisites:

Attendees should be trained to the requirements of NFPA 472 Chapter 5, "Core Competencies for Operations Level Responders."

Course Delivery:

The course is delivered at the CTOS Program training facilities on the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada National Security Site.

Cost:

All training, travel, lodging, meals, and course materials are provided at no cost to eligible participants.

Enrollment Information:

In order to attend this training class, a request must be submitted to the designated U.S. Department of Homeland Security training point of contact. For the training point of contact in your area, please contact the FEMA/NPD Help Line at 800-368-6498.

For More Information, Contact CTOS at:
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