



CDP Alumnus

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

620,102 as of January 29, 2011

Feedback

The CDP wants to hear from you on how we can make this newsletter better for you. Please email suggestions to us at: newsletter_feedback@cdpemail.dhs.gov.

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Welcome to Our Inaugural Issue

Welcome to the first issue of the *CDP Alumnus*, a quarterly newsletter for Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) students, alumni, and others interested in the CDP. We started the *CDP Alumnus* to keep you up to speed on new innovations and opportunities for training through the CDP. Our goal is to provide useful information in an easily navigated format. As always, your comments and critiques are welcome and necessary in order to ensure this newsletter serves the audience in the best way possible. We also encourage you to share this newsletter with your colleagues and contacts who may be interested in the information provided.

Sections you can expect to see in the quarterly issues of the *CDP Alumnus* include:

- **Training Spotlight** This section provides additional information about the courses offered by the CDP and showcases how these courses benefit the response community.
- **Introducing** Each issue will spotlight a CDP instructor and provide information on their credentials and how they bring their knowledge and expertise to the classroom and student exercises.
- **Worth Repeating** Feedback from students on how the training they received from the CDP has impacted their community.
- **Contact Us** This section provides contact information for the CDP's regional training coordinators. You can contact your regional coordinator with any training questions.
- **Out and About** Each year the CDP attends conferences throughout the United States to reach out to prospective students and to keep in touch with former students. This section provides information for conferences the CDP will be attending for that quarter.
- **You Talked, CDP Listened** This section provides examples of how the CDP is putting your feedback into action.
- **On the Horizon** This section will keep you informed of any changes coming to the CDP.

Thank you for your continued interest in the CDP, and we look forward to your feedback.

Training Spotlight

Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents Course



Students perform decontamination procedures in the ERHM course.

After recent attempts to disrupt major cities' infrastructure, city leaders across America are questioning their own levels of preparedness during an emergency. Examples of recent attempts include the May 2010 botched attempt to discharge explosive material in New York's Times Square and the October 2010 arrest of the man accused of providing information to Al-Qaeda in support of a plan to bomb Washington, DC-area Metrorail stations.

The CDP plays a leading role in preparing cities and local response forces to protect, prevent, deter, and respond to acts of terrorism or major accidents involving hazardous materials.

According to Captain William Brown, from the Minot, ND Police Department, the Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician (ERHM) course reinforced situational awareness, identified potential hazards, and emphasized the need to communicate with other disciplines.

"First responders, especially law enforcement, need to recognize the need for enhanced training regarding first response to hazardous materials," added Brown. "Whether it is a chemical spill, train derailment, or a terrorist attack, police officers must recognize the threat is real and their role is vital to ensure any threats to the public are minimized, if not mitigated." He went on to say, "I am now better prepared proactively by recognizing potential threats, identifying available resources, and realizing the need to work collectively with other first responders in addressing methods to impact those events should they occur."

Among the many courses offered at the CDP, ERHM is a 5-day class providing students with a combination of lectures and advanced hands-on practical exercises in site and information management, responder health and safety,

hazardous materials identification, the use of advanced surveying and monitoring equipment, the selection and use of appropriate levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and decontamination procedures.

"It is a busy week of training," said Mike Aguilar, CDP Training Specialist. "But well worth the time when you consider the importance of having a well-trained hazardous materials technician in hometown America."

With the continued threat of terrorism in America, response personnel must remain vigilant and skilled with the preparedness

knowledge to protect the citizens and communities they serve. ERHM provides the necessary training to prepare response personnel to efficiently manage hazardous incidents.

ERHM (Program H)

Length: 5 day course

Possible CEUs: 4.0

Target Audience:

- Law Enforcement
- Emergency Medical Services
- Emergency Management Agency
- Fire Service
- Public Works
- Governmental Administrative
- Public Safety Communications
- Health Care
- Public Health

<http://cdp.dhs.gov/resident/erhm.html>

Not yet an alumnus of the CDP? Sign up for training and come take a class.

<http://cdp.dhs.gov>

Introducing...

Spotlight on CDP Instructional Staff



Thomas Robinson, Jr. Radiological Instructor

Experience: 22 years (Radiological)

Honors & Awards:

- U.S. Army Civilian Service Medal
- Civilian Instructor of the Year (3 times)

Motto: "Quality in training is the key to success"

Radiological Instructor Returns to His Roots at McClellan

Thomas Robinson, Jr., is the newest Radiological Instructor at the CDP. Robinson came to the CDP in 2009 and brings his extensive radiological knowledge to the Radiological Emergency Response Operations (RERO), Advanced Radiological Incident Operations (ARIO), and Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response (EHTER) courses.

Robinson retired from the U.S. Army Chemical School at Fort McClellan, AL, in November 1995 as a Radiological Instructor and Subject Matter Expert. After retirement, Robinson took a position as the Computer Database Manager for the Military Police School's JANUS War Fighter Simulations Center. In July 1997, he accepted a position as Senior Radiological Instructor for the Edwin R. Bradley Radiological Laboratories (ERBRL) at the U.S. Army Chemical School. In this position he trained emergency responders in radiation safety for all branches of the military and the U.S. Coast Guard. In April 1999, Robinson was appointed the Acting Director of the ERBRL and was charged with relocating laboratory and training operations for the school during its move to Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

During his tenure as Acting Director, he supervised the restructuring of the U.S. Army Depleted Uranium Training Program, as well as headed the development of the Soldier's Manual of Common Tasks section on depleted uranium.

Robinson was awarded the U.S. Army Civilian Service Medal for his role in the Depleted Uranium Training Program and was selected as Civilian Instructor of the Year twice for the U.S. Army Chemical School and once for the U.S. Army MANUVER Support Center at Fort Leonard Wood. Robinson moved back to Alabama in 2004 and worked at the Anniston Chemical Disposal Facility until last year when he joined the CDP instructional staff.

For the past 28 years, Robinson has also run Windy City Productions, a DJ and entertainment service. While Fort McClellan was still operating as a military base, his business was the primary entertainment contractor for the non-commissioned officer's (NCO) club. Now, he mainly provides his services on a volunteer basis for fundraising events for domestic violence prevention, as well as providing sound equipment for local Veteran's Day and Christmas parades.

At the CDP, Robinson brings his knowledge and experience into the classroom to train students in the concepts, equipment, and procedures they will need to safely and effectively respond to radiological incidents. "I enjoy passing on my knowledge to students," Robinson said when asked what he enjoyed most about working at the CDP. "The more information I can give to them, the safer they will be if they must respond to a radiological incident."

Did You Know?

The CDP campus includes 48 buildings, 900,000 square feet, and 124 acres.

Worth Repeating

Hazard Assessment and Response Management for CBRNE Incidents (HARM)

Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL)

“I have now been at the CDP approximately eight times. I have NEVER had a bad experience there. The staff are the ultimate professionals and go beyond the norm to aid responders and point us in the right direction. I have found a ready font of information and I look forward to going each and every time. I regularly speak to other groups regarding the CDP and recommend the Center for training. Keep up the good work!”

Kristjan Rahe
Captain, Mecklenburg Sheriff's Office
North Carolina

“Our hospital just participated in a regional full-scale drill. I cannot fully explain what an incredible impact the Healthcare Leadership training made. Our ability to apply leadership and manage the event was effective. The most frequent comment I heard was, ‘Boy, am I glad I went to Anniston! This all makes sense now.’ Thank you CDP!!!”

Barb Jensen
Emergency Preparedness Program Manager
Washington

Contact Us

Region Map

Western Region
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AK, WA, OR, ID, MT, ND, MN, WI, MI, NY, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI, DE, PA, NJ, NY, CT, RI, DE, VA, WV, MD, DC, VA, NC, SC, TN, KY, OH, IN, IL, IA, MO, KS, NE, SD, WY, CO, UT, NV, AZ, NM, OK, TX, AR, LA, MS, AL, GA, FL, HI, Mariana Islands, American Samoa, VIRGIN ISLANDS, PR

Out and About

Below is the schedule of conferences the CDP will be attending from January to March 2011. Please stop by and see us if you are attending one of these conferences. And don't forget to bring a friend!

Conference	Dates	Location
National Association of EMS Physicians Annual Meeting	Jan 13-14, 2011	Bonita Springs, FL
Fire-Rescue East	Jan 21-22, 2011	Daytona Beach, FL
Emergency Nurses Association Leadership Conference	Feb 18-19, 2011	Portland, OR
Public Health Preparedness Summit	Feb 23-24, 2011	Atlanta, GA
Firehouse World	Feb 28-Mar 2, 2011	San Diego, CA
Emergency Medical Services Today	Mar 3-5, 2011	Baltimore, MD
Fire Department Instructors Conference	Mar 24-26, 2011	Indianapolis, IN

You Talked, CDP Listened

The CDP reviews student surveys and feedback from each course in order to continually improve our training. Many of the things we implement come from this feedback. Here's just one example of how our students spoke and the CDP listened:

Students requested ICS forms be made available on the CDP website. You can now download any ICS form from http://cdp.dhs.gov/resident/ics_forms.html.

On the Horizon

The CDP is continuously identifying ways to improve training, our website, and student registration systems. Here are some changes we've made at the CDP.

- Our CDP website has been reorganized to provide a better experience for students. The updated website provides information on the recommended courses by response discipline, as well as by curriculum tracks. The goal of this reorganization is to help students select the training that is relevant for them.
- The CDP Training Administration System (CTAS) is now hosting downloadable student manuals. Currently, the Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT), Radiological Emergency Response Operations (RERO), Pandemic Planning and Preparedness (P3), Introduction to ICS (ICS 100), and ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents (ICS 200) courses have student manuals available. Additional student manuals for our other courses will soon be added.

To unsubscribe from the *CDP Alumnus*, please e-mail newsletter_optout@cdpemail.dhs.gov.