

Chapter 9C—Hazardous Materials

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Chapter 9C

Hazardous Materials

INTRODUCTION

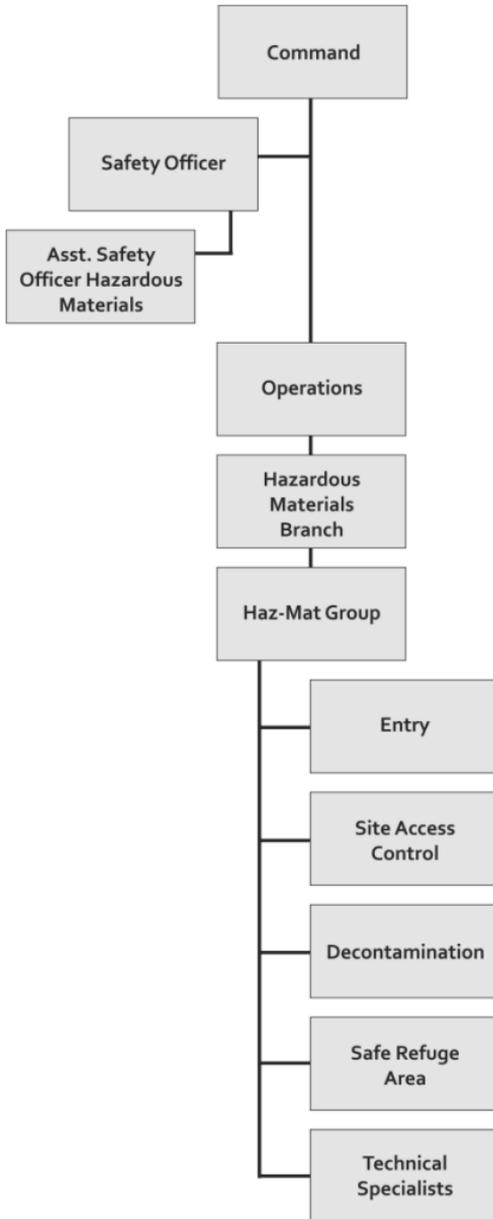
The Hazardous Materials organizational module is designed to provide an organizational structure that will provide necessary supervision and control for the essential functions required at virtually all hazardous materials incidents. The Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor will direct the primary functions, and one of the functional leaders or the Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor will supervise all resources that have a direct involvement with the hazardous material.

A hazardous materials incident will bring together a greater number and a wider variety of agencies than any other single incident your agency will face. It is assumed that all hazardous materials incidents will be managed under Unified Command principles because in virtually all cases fire, law enforcement, and public health will have some statutory functional responsibility for incident mitigation.

Depending on incident factors, several other agencies will respond to a hazardous materials incident. The best method of ensuring effective information flow and coordination between the responding agencies at the scene of a multi-agency incident is to establish a Unified Command Post and the use of Unified Command (see Chapter 3 on Unified Command).

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Figure 14 – Hazardous Materials Branch Structure



Not all positions will be required on every incident. Complexity, mission, and size of incident will dictate positions used.

Position Checklists

Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor: The Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor reports to the Operations Section Chief. The Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor is responsible for the implementation of the phases of the Incident Action Plan dealing with the Hazardous Materials Group operations and directs the overall operations of the Hazardous Materials Group. See *Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide* (January 7, 2011)

Entry Leader: The Entry Leader is responsible for the overall entry operations of assigned personnel within the Exclusion Zone. See *Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide* (January 7, 2011).

Decontamination Leader: The Decontamination Leader is responsible for the operations of the decontamination element, providing decontamination as required by the Incident Action Plan. See *Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide* (January 7, 2011).

Site Access Control Leader: The Site Access Control Leader is responsible for the control of the movement of all people and equipment through appropriate access routes at the hazard site and ensures that contaminants are controlled and records are maintained. See *Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide* (January 7, 2011).

Assistant Safety Officer–Hazardous Materials: Reports to the Incident Safety Officer and coordinates with the Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor (or Hazardous Materials Branch Director if activated). The Assistant Safety Officer-Hazardous Materials coordinates safety related activities directly relating to the Hazardous Materials Group operations as mandated by 29 CFR part 1910.120 and applicable State and local laws. This position advises the Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor (or Hazardous Materials Branch Director) on all aspects of health and safety and has the authority to stop or prevent unsafe acts. It is mandatory that an Assistant Safety Officer-Hazardous Materials be appointed at all hazardous materials incidents. In a multi-activity incident, the Assistant Safety Officer-Hazardous Materials does not act as the Safety Officer for the overall incident. See *Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide* (January 7, 2011)

Technical Specialist–Hazardous Materials Reference: This position provides technical information and assistance to the Hazardous Materials Group using various reference sources such as computer databases, technical journals, CHEMTREC, and phone contact with facility representatives. The Technical Specialist-Hazardous Materials Reference may provide product identification using hazardous categorization tests and/or any other means of identifying unknown materials. See *Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide* (January 7, 2011).

Safe Refuge Area Manager: The Safe Refuge Area Manager is responsible for evaluating and prioritizing victims for treatment, collecting information from the victims, and preventing the spread of contamination by these victims. See *Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide* (January 7, 2011)

Assisting Agencies

Law Enforcement: The local law enforcement agency will respond to most Hazardous Materials incidents. Depending on incident factors, law enforcement may be a partner in Unified Command or may participate as an assisting agency. Some functional responsibilities that may be handled by law enforcement are:

- a. Isolate the incident area.
- b. Manage crowd control.
- c. Manage traffic control.
- d. Manage scene security.
- e. Manage public protective action.
- f. Provide scene management for on-highway incidents.
- g. Manage criminal investigations.

Environmental Response Agencies: In most cases, the local or State environmental response agency will be at the scene as a partner in Unified Command. Some functional responsibilities that may be handled by environmental health agencies are:

- a. Determine the identity and nature of the Hazardous Materials.
- b. Establish the criteria for clean-up and disposal of the Hazardous Materials.
- c. Declare the site safe for re-entry by the public.
- d. Provide the medical history of exposed individuals.
- e. Monitor the environment.
- f. Supervise the clean-up of the site.
- g. Enforce various laws and acts.
- h. Determine legal responsibility.
- i. Provide technical advice.
- j. Approve funding for the clean-up.

Figure 15 – Hazardous Materials Resource Types and Minimum Standards

Resource	Components	Types			
		I	II	III	IV
Hazardous Materials Resource	Incident Types	Known release of a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive agent [WMD Chem/Bio]	Release of a Known or Unknown chemical or potential WMD Chem/Bio agent.	Release of a Known or Unknown Chemical.	None, only serves to supplement a Type II or III team with manpower.
	Manning	60 multi-discipline personnel. Combination of two Type II teams, CST team, DEP's ERT team, and specially trained personnel	15 personnel All personnel being trained to the level of hazardous materials technician.	7 personnel All personnel being trained to the level of hazardous materials technician.	7 personnel All personnel being trained to the level of hazardous materials technician.
	Capability	Incidents involving a known release of a CBRNE agent requiring analytical capability, technical decontamination, down range entry or evidentiary capabilities which exceed the capabilities of the Type II Resource	Presumptive testing for CBRNE (Chem/Bio) agents and technical decon in addition to Type III capabilities.	The presumptive testing and identification of chemical substances using a variety of sources to be able to identify associated chemical and physical properties. Sources may include printed and electronic reference resources, safety data sheets, field-testing kits, specific chemical testing kits, chemical testing strips, data derived from detection devices, and air-monitoring sources.	None

Refer to Florida Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide (January 7, 2011) for detailed reference.