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# DAYTON, OHIO REGIONAL HAZ-MAT RESPONSE TEAM NEWSLETTER

September 2006

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## Safety

It is imperative that we constantly address safety issues at our scenes. The safety of our crews and the public must be at the top of our priority list, and it must be addressed at each and every incident. The use of an Incident Management System and the creation and staffing of a Safety Officer position is mandated by OSHA 1910.120. More importantly we should have a SO because we are genuinely concerned about each other's safety.

Starting in this month's *Newsletter* we will address a different safety issue. This month is vehicle stabilization.

Stabilizing a vehicle must always be considered, even if it is sitting upright on its wheels. The vehicle on its wheels must be secured from moving—are the brakes set and locked? Whether a truck or a rail car, the brakes must be applied and actions taken to prevent the vehicle or car from rolling away or being moved by the train. Any vehicle or object, (i.e., portable tank) that is sitting at a critical angle or just looks unstable must be stabilized prior to working under, on or around it. Stabilization of a tanker with 80,000 pounds of product is much different than stabilizing the 2-ton family Mini Van using step-chocks. What may appear to be a stable situation may change drastically when the liquid is transferred to another container, changing the balance point and center of gravity. You must constantly reevaluate the situation and make adjustments as necessary.

## Training

### September Training

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending our September all day Haz Mat Technician refresher training. This 8-hour workshop is designed to expand the responders' knowledge base in the selection and practical application of personal protective equipment. Additionally, this course covers tactics and strategies necessary to survive an in-suit emergency, and requires students to complete a confidence course and other exercises during the training. The training itself is a combination of multi-media classroom training and hands-on exercises.

Entering the Hot Zone will always be a physical and mental challenge, to say the least. However, challenges and stress can be minimized with knowledge, confidence and practical experience. Challenges encountered during the confidence course will include addressing cargo tank leaks, rebuilding valves, and overcoming physical restrictions.

Mark your calendar now to attend on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup>. These sessions will **start at 0800 hours** not 0900 hours as usual.

Please bring an SCBA with a full bottle if possible.

September training will be held at Dayton Fire Training Center on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> from **0800-1700** hours each day. There will not be any Thursday evening training this month.

## **2006 Training Schedule**

### **September 21-22-23**

#### **0800-1700 hours**

All day Tech. Refresher

No Thursday Evening Training

### **October 19-20-21**

0900-1200 hours

October 19

1830-2130 hours

### **November 16-17-18**

#### **CAMEO review**

0900-1200 hours

November 16

1830-2130 hours

### **December**

No Training