NES newsflash

February 2006 Volume 1 Issue 3

contents

staff

Editorial & Production

Maria Galvez, Marketing Coordinator

Contributors

Jennifer Bailey
Dan Cole
Jim Parrish
Scott Read
Steve Reichow

Voluntary Respirator Use in the Workplace– What Are the Employer's Responsibilities?

In many workplaces, respirator use is not required, but some employees voluntarily choose to use respiratory protection. Often employees choose to wear a respirator because of bothersome odors or nuisance dust, even though air monitoring of the work indicates that employee exposures to air contaminants are below established regulatory levels. The employer may decide whether or not to allow the voluntary use of respirators in the workplace. Respirators used on a voluntary basis may be supplied by the employee or provided by the employer. While OSHA does allow the voluntary use of respirators in the workplace, the employer still shares some responsibility for the safe use of the respirator and must follow certain requirements.

OSHA requires respirators to be worn whenever such equipment is necessary to protect the health of employees. In order for respiratory use to be voluntary within a workplace, the employer must first determine that an airborne hazard does not exist in the workplace that would necessitate the mandatory use of a respirator. Determination of a potential hazard is not just based on permissible exposure limits (PELs) for airborne contaminants. In some cases, illness or injury may result from exposure to a contaminant for which there is no PEL. In these instances, respiratory protection may be necessary under the OSHA General Duty Clause.

The employer's responsibilities related to voluntary respirator use are determined by the type of respirators employees are allowed to use. If the only type of respirator voluntarily used by employees is a dust mask (also called a disposable respirator or filtering facepiece) the employer must provide the employee with the information contained in Appendix D of the Respiratory Protection Standard included in 29 CFR 1910.134. This one page document includes some general warnings and guidance regarding respirator use. The employer must also ensure that the voluntary use of the dust mask will not itself create a hazard for the employee. Conditions that may cause a dust mask to pose a hazard to employees may include use of dirty dust masks or dust masks that interfere with the employee's ability to work safely, such as interfering with sight or communication. Medical evaluations and

continued on page 4

EM-ASSIST AND NES ANNOUNCE JOINT VENTURE

EM-Assist, Inc. and Network Environmental Systems, Inc. (NES), announced a joint venture to provide environmental and health-related web-based training courses. These are areas of considerable experience for the two companies. With an extensive list of e-learning clients, EM-Assist's role is to enhance a series of training courses originally authored by NES, who has nationally-renowned expertise in clandestine laboratory and environmental, health and safety training. The team's first course has lined up is the conversion of NES' existing Hazardous Waste Operations (HAZWOP) Refresher on-line training course to an interactive online training session. The objective of the course is to provide training to employees of public and private entities working at hazardous waste sites or who respond to chemical emergencies. The joint venture has an important endeavor lined up to provide first responders, worldwide, an effective online training resource on the hazards associated with methamphetamine labs. The "Clan Lab Training" course will help law enforcement personnel to protect themselves and the public.

The courses will be available on-line, twenty-four hours a day, through EM-Assist's proprietary web-based learning portal. Jerry Bucklin, Presidents and CEO of NES, says, "EM-Assist is a proven leader in creating e-learning solutions and we are honored to be working with them to develop next generation training programs. Our collaboration leverages the flexibility that e-training provides without sacrificing the interactivity of classroom learning." Dana Curran, CEO of EM-Assist, says, "We are excited to get involved in assisting community and government agencies with the national crisis that illegal drug labs have become. NES has been doing very important work that we support whole-heartedly. We're taking NES' outstanding training content to the next level, making it interactive and focusing on instructional design. Industrial operations, Department of Defense, DEA, and other law enforcement agencies will benefit with this low-cost, accessible training approach."

EM-Assist's e-learning division, called Mindivity (www.mindivity.com), has quickly become one of the company's fastest growing business segments, providing customized training and web-based courseware for government and commercial enterprises. NES has trained thousands of law enforcement personnel to respond to clandestine, drug laboratory sites safely and effectively. By forming this joint venture, the two companies bring their outstanding capabilities together for the benefit of their customers and the community.

About EM-Assist

Founded in 1996, EM-Assist provides program management and technical support in the areas of environmental management, e-learning, construction, and logistics. A nationally recognized company, EM-Assist's broad client list includes the Department of Defense, the International Olympic Committee and the Environmental Protection Agency. Their outstanding achievements resulted in numerous awards, including the Department of Defense, Nunn-Perry award. In 2004, Inc. Magazine added EM-Assist to their list of the top 500 fastest-growing, privately-owned companies in the country. For more information, visit www.emassist.com.

NES On The Move

Bay Area Training Facility: On The Move

Network Environmental Systems, Inc. (NES) headquartered in Folsom, California will be relocating its Bay Area training facility from Hayward to Walnut Creek, in March. The facility will be located in a newer office park, Mt. Diablo Plaza, at 2175 North California Blvd, Suite 206 Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

NES' focus on providing state of the art environmental health & safety training is now enhanced by our new training facility that is both functional and convenient. The new Walnut Creek Training Facility is suitably located near major transportation hubs, including BART. The office is one block away from the Walnut Creek BART Station, and public parking is available at the Mt. Diablo Plaza. Services such as restaurants are also just a short walk away.

NES will continue to offer its full range of training courses in the new Walnut Creek Training Facility and plan to expand our training and consulting services to surrounding areas.

Additional information about NES is available at www.networkenvironmental.com. Please contact Training Manager, Steve Reichow at 916-353-2360, if you should have any questions or concerns about the Walnut Creek Training Facility.

Ins And Outs Of Respiratory Protection

Respiratory protection is a broad subject that can be complicated and misunderstood by even the most experienced people. The importance of proper respiratory protection cannot be understated. Only a small segment of this vast subject will be covered in this article.

There are many types of particle filtering respirators. General categories include: 1) disposable particle masks; 2) half and quarter mask respirators with a reusable filter pad; 3) half or full facemasks with replaceable cartridges. Discussions in this article will include some of the fundamentals of respiratory protection, particles, and the most basic and the most widely used form of individual worker respirator protection: disposable particle mask, also called the filtering face mask.

Many activities in industry, trade, and even the home involve substances against which you need to protect yourself. Grinding, drilling, milling, as well as painting and cleaning processes may release very fine aerosols or respirable dusts. These particles, depending on the substance inhaled, can cause respiratory tract and lung irritation, which can lead to pneumonia or more serious health hazards such as organ damage or lung cancer. Individual respirators should only be used in the event that the hazard(s) cannot be eliminated through the use of engineering methods.

Fit Testing

Some fundamental information regarding respirator protection: in order to provide proper protection, users must know what contaminant(s) they are being subjected to, the level of contaminant, and the permissible exposure limit of the substance.

It is also a requirement to be trained in respirator donning/doffing and the possible signs and symptoms of overexposure. Following manufacturers' recommendations for donning respirators is very important because improper donning can cause a poor fit and subject the user to high levels of contaminants. Medical clearance may also be required to ensure that it is safe for workers to wear a respirator. Individuals must be clean-shaven and have been fit tested with the appropriate respirator within the last year.

There are two basic methods of fit testing: qualitative (QLFT) and quantitative (QNFT). QLFT methods include Irritant Smoke, BitrexTM, Saccharin, and Isoamyl Acetate. This method can be considered a pass/fail type of test. In order to pass, the user must not taste or smell any of the media used in the test. If media is detected the test is failed.

The QNFT test method has two approved testers, the Fit Test 3000 and the PortaCount. These testing devices are very sophisticated and provide a number that signifies how well the mask fits. If a test from either the QNFT or QLFT method has failed, the wearer should re-don the same mask, select a different size, or try a different brand until a successful test has been achieved. Whichever method is chosen, every user that falls under the Respiratory Protection Program must be fit tested at least annually.

Particles

Particles are the smallest solid and/or liquid substance produced from mechanical processes such as grinding, milling, crushing, and/or from thermal processes such as combustion processes, reactions, and heating metal. Merely mixing and sweeping substances or demolition and renovation work can lead to spreading of particles in the air. Particles with a size of less than 5 microns are referred to as respirable substances or fine dusts and are invisible and may penetrate the respiratory tract as far down as the alveoli.

All varieties of particle filtering respirators are manufactured to fit into one of the nine categories of particle filtering media the National Institute of Safety and Health (NIOSH) has created. Three categories of the filter media based on its resistance to oil-based aerosols are: N-Not oil resistant, R-oil resistant, and P-oil proof. The three levels of filtering efficiency are 95 percent, 99 percent, and 99.97 percent (100). The P100 provides the greatest level of protection and the N95 provides the lowest level. Filter media remove contaminants by mechanical, electrostatic, or combination of mechanical and electrostatic methods.

Mask Shapes, Filter Material

Filtering face masks are available in shapes that include three dimensional, accordion flat fold, fold in half, and combinations of these designs. Folded masks that are individually packaged can be kept clean when taken to the workplace in pockets of work supply containers. Once at the workplace, a clean mask can be quickly donned. The elastic head straps should stretch to adjust to any head size without having to be tied in a knot to shorten them. The mask should provide a good fit and be comfortable to wear for long periods.

The filter capacity of these masks can vary widely, which results from the various types of materials used by various manufacturers. A layered filter material, if used properly, provides longer service life than a single ply material. The filter material should keep breathing resistance at an extremely low level, which will minimize much of the heat generated within the mask. Many masks are equipped with an exhalation valve that even further reduces breathing resistance and heat buildup, those being two of the most frequent objections to wearing a filtering facemask. Even the best mask cannot provide protection if the user refuses to wear it due to discomfort.

Confused About Which Training Regulations Apply To You?

Unsure about which OSHA, EPA and DOT training regulations apply to you? Network Environmental Systems, Inc. has a solution. Visit our FREE California Training Navigator at networkenvironmental.com

The California Training Navigator is a convenient, easy to use program that helps you understand the regulations that apply to your business. Located on our website this tool is yours to use at any time for **FREE**. Just answer a few questions about your operations, what you do and any equipment and chemicals that you may use and the California Training Navigator will identify the major safety and HazMat training requirements that apply to your operation and employees. It's easy to use and best of all, it's **FREE**.

Respirators *continued from page 1*

respirator fit testing are not required for employees prior to the use of dust masks. Although the use of NIOSH-approved disposable dust masks or respirators is strongly recommended, it is not a requirement when the respirator use is voluntary.

If the employer allows voluntary use of tight-fitting respirators or other respirators outside of the dust mask respirators, then the employer takes on additional responsibilities. The employer must then have a written respiratory protection program that covers the elements that could affect the health of employees who wear the respirators. The employer must ensure that the employee is medically able to use the respirator, that the respirator dose not present a health hazard to employees and must provide the employee a copy of Appendix D of the Respiratory Protection Standard. As part of ensuring that a respirator does not present a health hazard to employees, the employer may be responsible for ensuring the respirators are cleaned, maintained and stored properly, even when the respirators are supplied by the employee. To the extent that the above items may create an expense, such as the cost of a medical evaluation prior to respirator use, these costs would be covered by the employer. OSHA, though, does not require that a respirator be fit tested prior to use, if the respirator is used on a voluntary basis only in the absence of airborne hazards in the workplace.

When respirator use is mandated by an employer, the employer is responsible for implementing all of the elements of a respiratory protection program including development of a written respiratory protection program, medical evaluation of employees prior to respirator use, fit testing of respirators, annual employee training on respirator use, and proper use, cleaning, maintenance and storage of respirators. Additionally, the employer is responsible for supplying the respirators and replacement filter cartridges.

California OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard, in general, follows federal OSHA's standard. Other states may have different or additional requirements related to voluntary respirator use. Employers should check with the their state occupational safety and health agency, if applicable, regarding voluntary respirator use in the workplace.

OSHA has developed a very useful guidance document, "Questions and Answers on the Respiratory Protection Standard," which provides answers to the most frequently asked questions on respiratory protection. The document is available online at www.osha.gov/qna.pdf. For additional information regarding OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard or if you have additional questions regarding voluntary respirator use at work, feel free to contact NES' Environmental Health and Safety Department at (916) 353-2360.

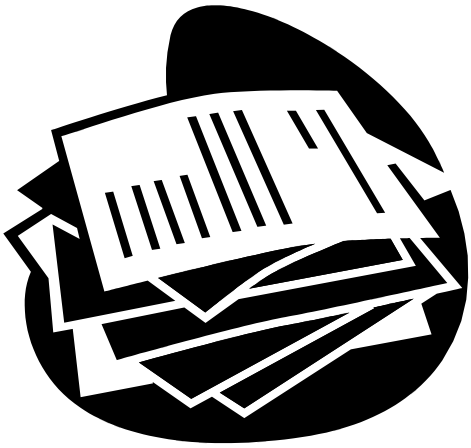
Hazardous Wastes of Concern Regulations Now Affect Generators

Senate Bill 489 was adopted in 2002 in response to security concerns following the September 11, 2001 attacks. The intent was to increase security of Hazardous Wastes of Concern that could be used to harm the public in a terrorist or other criminal act. Original legislation, which became effective July 10, 2003 implemented new requirements for transporters and treatment, storage, and disposal facilities that handle these wastes. Since generators were inadvertently omitted in the permanent emergency regulations, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has revised them.

So what is a hazardous waste of concern (HWC)? Hazardous waste described on the Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest with one of the following hazard divisions within the U.S. DOT proper shipping description;

- An explosive material, hazard division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3, as defined in 49 CFR Section 173.50
- A poisonous material, hazard division 6.1, packing group I or II, as defined in 49 CFR section 173.132; or
- A poisonous gas, hazard division 2.3, as defined in 49 CFR section 173.115.

The new requirements, effective January 26, 2006, found in Title 22, California Code of Regulations section 66262.44 (b), requires generators to immediately attempt to locate or otherwise reconcile missing HWC. Missing HWC is defined as lost, stolen, or disappeared. The generator must contact DTSC by phone (1-800-69-TOXIC) within 24 hours of discovering a missing HWC, unless the problem is resolved in that time. The generator is also then required to submit a written report to DTSC within five days after HWC was determined to be missing.



The generator should be prepared to provide their name, EPA ID number, the U.S. DOT shipping description, number of containers or total volume, potential locations or transportation routes. When reporting, the generator must also describe efforts taken to locate the missing HWC. DTSC also expects disclosure from generators indicating they handle HWC as part of the existing annual verification process.

Reporting is required when the missing HWC represents either a reportable quantity or a reportable difference in type. Reportable quantities for bulk waste are variations greater than 3 percent in weight or volume. For containerized waste any variation in piece count, such as one drum missing from truckload or accumulation area. Reportable differences in type are obvious differences that can be discovered by observation or inspection of the physical properties, or waste analysis (e.g., solids substituted for liquids or waste solvents rather than oils).

Links to the complete HWC emergency regulations and the list of HWC can be found at www.dtsc.ca.gov

New Disposal Guidelines for Universal Wastes

The state of California is introducing new disposal guidelines for Universal Wastes. Standards will be enforced starting February 8, 2006. Universal Wastes include:

Common Batteries
Flourescent Tubes and Bulbs
Other Mercury Containing Lamps
Thermostats
Electronic Devices
Electrical Switches and Relays
Pilot Light Sensors
Mercury Gauges
Mercury Added Novelties
Mercury Thermometers
Non-Empty Aerosol Cans that Contain Hazardous Materials
(Cans that are marked Toxic or Flammable)

Disposing of these wastes in the garbage can lead to health hazards to human, animals and the environment. Many local agencies have programs designed to properly handle contaminated items. Most businesses are already restricted from disposing of Universal Wastes with regular trash; however, some small businesses and households were exempt for batteries, flourscent tubes/bulbs and electronic devices. until this February. After February 8, 2006 it will be illegal for all businesses and households to put any type of Universal Wastes in your regular trash or recycle containers.

T-SHIRT BLOWOUT!!!

$10 each

T-shirt HazMat Logo
white and black
HazMat Logo
"HazMat Emergency Response Team" on front,
16 DOT placards on back.
Available in sizes M-XL

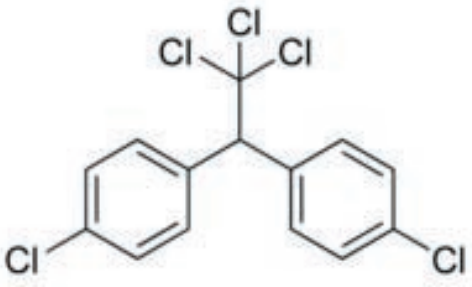
T-shirt Hazardous Waste
white or black
Multi-Colored Drum
"Hazardous Waste Training Can Save Your Assets" on front,
16 DOT placards on back.
Available in sizes M-XL

To order call
916.353.2360
or visit
networkenvironmental.com

The History of DDT

DDT (dischlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) was first produced in 1874 by German chemist Othmar Ziedler, but he did not suggest any actual use for it. Sixty years later, Paul Muller duplicated the procedure and discovered the chemical's insecticidal potential. For this, he received the Nobel Prize in 1948.

DDT has been effective in controlling mankind's worst insect pest, including lice, fleas, and mosquitoes. This was of enormous importance for human health because at least 80 percent of the human infectious disease worldwide is arthropod borne. Hundreds of millions have died from malaria, yellow fever, typhus, dengue plague, encephalitis, leishmaniasis, filariasis, and many other diseases. In the 14th century bubonic plague (transmitted by fleas) killed a fourth of the people in Europe and two-thirds of those in the British Isles. Yellow fever killed millions before it was found to be transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes. It infected British troops in the Louisiana



Territory in 1741, killing 20,000 of the 27,000 soldiers. In 1802, French troops arrived there but departed after 29,000 of the 33,000 soldiers died of yellow fever. More than 100 epidemics of typhus ravaged civilizations in Europe and Asia, with mortality rates as high as 70 percent. But by far the greatest killer has been malaria, transmitted by Anopheles mosquitoes.

In 1945 the goal of eradicating this scourge appeared to be achievable, thanks to DDT. By 1959, the U.S., Europe, portions of the Soviet Union, Chile, and several Caribbean islands were nearly malaria free. In 1970 the national Academy of Sciences stated: "To only a few chemicals does man owe as great a debt as to DDT. In little more than two decades DDT has prevented 500 million human deaths due to malaria that would have otherwise have been inevitable."

Today, however after the U.S. ban on DDT, there is a global malaria burden of 300 to 500 million cases and 1 to 2.5 million deaths annually, most among young children. Malaria kills an African child every 30 seconds.

Many South American countries suffered more than 90 percent increase in malaria rates after halting DDT use, but Ecuador used DDT again and enjoyed a 61 percent reduction in malaria.

The 8th Annual California Unified Program Agency Training Conference

The 8th annual California Unified Program Agency (CUPA) Training Conference was held at The Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport in Burlingame from February 6th – 9th, 2006. The theme of this year's conference is "Golden Opportunities" inspired by the Golden Gate Bridge. The four-day event included over sixty classes, meetings, and panel discussions in addition to the opening ceremonies. More than fifty exhibitors and sponsors were involved in the conference including two days of vendor exhibition.

The conference began on Monday with training sessions in the six basic training tracks: HazMat, Hazardous Waste, Tanks, Risk Management, Administrative & Management and Enforcement. This first day of training included an 8 hour HAZWOPER refresher and the Underground Storage Tank (UST) compliance inspection training which both required pre-registration and were well attended.

On Tuesday morning the official opening ceremonies got underway with the presentation of the color guard and pledge of allegiance led by the Menlo Park Fire Protection District. Following the pledge Don Johnson, Assistant Secretary of Cal/EPA, provided the opening comments. Mr. Johnson praised the past efforts of all those involved, and discussed the need for more training both locally and regionally beyond that provided at the annual conference.

Valerie Toney, President of the CUPA Forum, then provided an update on the Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs), introduction of the CUPA Forum board members, and announced the year's awards. The awards for outstanding CUPA agency were, Orange County Environmental Health Department received Bronze, Sacramento County Environmental Management Department received Silver, and San Diego County Environmental health received Gold.

Tuesday's first keynote speaker was Dr. Alan Lloyd, Secretary of Cal/EPA. Dr. Lloyd spoke on the governor's environmental action plan, which is to include increased funding for improved enforcement initiatives. Dr. Lloyd also informed the group that a Science Steering committee has been assembled to evaluate climate-based changes, such as greenhouse gases and report to the governor.

The second keynote speaker was Mr. Tom May, Author and motivational speaker. Mr. May was the first keynote speaker in the conference's eight years that was not an environmental professional. Mr. May referred to himself not as a motivational speaker but rather an inspirational speaker. He believes that the only person capable of motivating an individual is the individual themselves. Mr. May spoke not of time management, but of event management and the two types of events in all our lives, those we can control and those we cannot control.

Over the four days of training more than ninety speakers from Local, State and Federal agencies and industry participated in more than sixty training sessions or panel discussions. The vendor exhibit days not only provided contractors and consultants the chance to exhibit their services but also allowed many of the State and local agencies the opportunity to share informational exhibits. The California Air Resources Board, Department of Toxic Substance Control, Governors Office of Emergency Services, State Water Resources Control Board, and U.S. EPA Region IX all had booths during the vendor exhibition on Wednesday and Thursday.

For those who missed the conference but want to benefit from the information presented, many of the sessions were videotaped. The CUPA Forum board expects to make a number of the sessions available for download from their website including power point presentations and printed handouts. Information about the conference and access to the presentation information can be found at www.calcupa.net. Mark your calendars early for next years training conference. The 9th Annual CUPA Training Conference is scheduled for February 5th – 8th, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency Orange County

Angels Needed!!!

Each year *NES* and its employees have been involved in the "Holiday Angel Program" for the Children's Receiving Home of Sacramento. The Children's Receiving Home is the only temporary emergency shelter for abused and neglected children between the ages of 2-17. These children have been abused, molested, neglected, abandoned, or have families who are otherwise unable to provide for them. Each year we have increased the total donations collected by employees and even added "Piggy Banks" in our training facility to collect donations from our students. This year we were able to collect $570 from employees and students, plus a *NES* match of $570 for a total of $1,140. NES is proud to be a part of such a great cause and will continue to support this program and hopefully make a difference for these children. Throughout the year please look for our piggy banks and help children who just need an angel.

SOME OSHA SIGN REQUIREMENTS

OSHA is not specific as to sign design for danger, caution, and safety instruction signs except for purpose and colors. When complying with OSHA regulations, it is important to check under the specific sign requirement with which you are trying to comply.

OSHA also requires that signs be designed with rounded or blunt corners and must be free from sharp edges, burrs, splinters or other sharp projections. The ends or heads of fastening devices cannot be located as to create a hazard.

OSHA has specific requirements for marking physical hazards:

1. Red shall be the basic color used to mark:
   a. Fire protection equipment and apparatus;
   b. Safety cans or other portable containers of flammable liquids, excluding shipping containers. These shall be painted red with some additional clearly visible identification either in the form of a yellow band around the can or the name of the contents conspicuously stenciled or painted on the can (should also be labeled in accordance with 29 CFR Title 8 Section 5194).
   c. Stop, emergency stop bars, hazardous machines, stop buttons and other electrical switches used for emergency stopping.
2. Yellow shall be the basic color for designating caution and for marking physical hazards, such as striking against, stumbling, falling, and getting caught in-between.

The size of the sign, height and width of the letters, and viewing distances are all defined by ANSI Z535.2-2002. Minimum letter height for other words on the sign shall be one unit of height for every 300 units of safe viewing distance (1" height for every 12.5 feet safe viewing distance) OSHA does not have specifications like these for signs, and refers to the ANSI standard regarding these technicalities.

Cal OSHA has specific requirements for the following:

2-Acetylaminofluorene
T8§5208

Cadmium
T8§5209

Electric Wiring
T8§3320

Acrylonitrile
T8§5213

bis-Chloromethyl ether
T8§5189

Ethyleneimine
T8§5189

4-Aminodiphenyl
T8§5189

Coke oven emissions
T8§5211

Exit
T8§3216

Asbestos
T8§5208

Confined Space
T8§5157-58

Hazard Communications
T8§2199

Benzene
T8§5218

DBCP - 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane
T8§5212

Ionizing Radiation
T8§5075

Benzidine
T8§5189

3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine
T8§5189

Lead
T8§5198

Biological Hazards
T8§3340/3341

4-Dimethylamino azobenzene
2T8§5189

Manlift
T8§3650

Bloodborne Pathogens
T8§5193

Dip Tanks
T8§5433

Methyl chloromethyl ether
T8§5209

alpha-Napthylamine
T8§5189

beta Napthylamine
T8§5189

4 Nitrobiphenyl
T8§5189

N-Nitrosodiumethylamine
T8§5189

Piping systems, Oxygen-fuel
T8§3221

Spray finish
T8§5153

Vehicles, slow-moving
T8§6250

Vinyl Chloride
T8§5210

Frequently Asked Training Questions

Question: It has been over a year since I have had an Annual 8-hour HAZWOP Refresher, is my certificate still valid?

Answer: Cal OSHA requires individuals who have completed an initial 24- or 40-hour HAZWOP course to comply with Title 8 CCR 5192(e)(3)(A,B,C) and to complete a 8-hour Refresher course within one year from the date of the original certificate or within one-year from the date of the refresher certificate. However Cal OSHA does grant a one-year grace period for individuals who fail to receive an 8-hour Refresher course within a year from the date on the original certificate or the date on the refresher certificate, but during this one year grace period individuals are not permitted to work at a hazardous waste site. If a individual fails to complete a 8-hour Refresher course within two years of the date on the original certificate or the date on the refresher certificate they will be required to repeat the initial 24-or 40-hour HAZWOP training program.

Question: If I have received OSHA 40-hour HAZWOP training am I certified as an emergency responder under OSHA?

Answer: The OSHA 40-hour HAZWOP training is specifically for general site workers who work at hazardous waste sites, and does not qualify personnel as emergency responders. It's the "HAZWOP" in HAZWOPER (hazardous waste operations and emergency response). OSHA has a different set of training requirements for emergency responders outlined in Title 8 CCR 5192(q) as opposed to the training requirements for general site workers found in Title 8 CCR 5192(e). (i.e. the "ER" in HAZWOPER) Training that is required is based on the role that personnel will take in response to a release and consist of five different levels of training: 1) First Responder Awareness (responsible for notification of the release to the proper authorities), 2) First Responder Operations (take defensive measures to protect people, property, and the environment), 3) Hazardous Materials Technician (will contain and stop the release), 4) Hazardous Materials Specialist (support HazMat Techs and have specific knowledge of material they are handling), 5) Incident Commanders (assume control of the incident scene).

Question: If I have been issued a respirator by my employer, but am only required to wear it occasionally do I still need an annual fit test?

Answer: Yes. Per Title 8 CCR 5144(f)(2) employers must ensure that employees using respirators are fit tested prior to initial use of the respirator, whenever a different respirator is used by the employee, and at least yearly thereafter.

Question: Are all employees who work at a hazardous waste site required to receive HAZWOP training?

Answer: No. Employees who work at a hazardous waste site but 1) work exclusively within uncontaminated areas of the hazardous waste site, 2) do not enter areas where hazardous waste may exist, stored or processed, or 3) not exposed or potentially exposed to health or safety hazards related to hazardous waste operations are not required to be trained under the HAZWOP training standards found in Title 8 CCR 5192(e)(3)(A,B,C).

NES is always looking to add qualified people to our team

Environmental Health and Safety
Staff level environmental professional with compliance experience, BS desired.

Industrial Hygienist with 3-10 years of experience. Candidate must be a self starter with leadership skills and proven technical writing abilities, versed in IAQ investigations, EH&S program development and training.

Clan Lab
OSHA Programs Trainer, Candidate must be motivated, personable and articulate. The ability to explain technical concepts to nontechnical people is a must. Background in chemistry, biology, public health or related degree required. Candidates will perform all levels of OSHA compliance training including instruction for law enforcement agencies around the country.

OSHA
Hazmat Trainer, 2-year degree required, 4-year desired, OSHA/EPA/DOT, conversant in regulations, excellent presentation skills, computer literate, travel required, benefits, salary DOE, EOE.

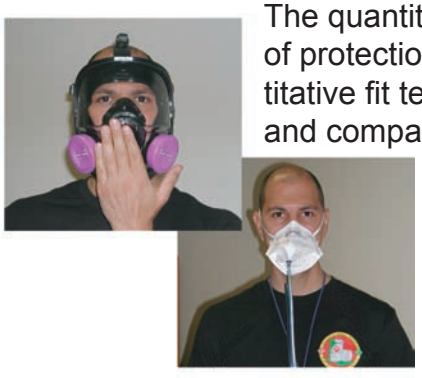
Please e-mail resumes to: SMartincek
smartincek@networkenvironmental.com
or fax to SMartincek at (916) 353-2375.

Have You Been Tested?

Now Offering. . .
Qualitative & Quantitative Fit Testing Services

With over 18 years of experience in the environmental health and safety (EH&S) field, Network Environmental Systems, Inc. (*NES*) is a solution oriented leader in the environmental industry. Our EH&S professionals are dedicated to help clients with their Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Respiratory Protection Program Standard Compliance. *NES* now offers the convenience of both qualitative and quantitative fit testing.

Qualitative fit testing is a pass/fail test designed to assess the adequacy of a respirator fit and relies on the individual's response to a test agent such as banana oil or saccharin. Qualitative fit testing only ensures that a respirator can be used within the limitations of their Assigned Protection Factors (APF): Filtering Facepiece APF of 5, Half-Mask APF of 10 and Full-Facepiece APF of 50.



The quantitative fit test actually measures the level of protection using the TSI PortaCount. The quantitative fit test determines a fit factor by measuring and comparing concentrations of a challenge agent inside and outside the respirator. The quantitative fit test provides you protection fit factors 10 times greater than that of the qualitative fit test benefiting your employees with a higher level of assurance.

Annual respirator fit testing and training is mandated by OSHA for employees required to use respiratory protection equipment. Qualitative fit testing is provided to our HAZWOPER students. Quantitative fit Testing can be provided for a fee. Those interested in receiving fit testing may schedule an appointment by calling *NES* at 916-353-2360. Please contact us for pricing, volume discounts and on-site fit testing.

Upcoming Training Schedule

NES would like to announce its upcoming training course schedule for February, March & April.

March

Course	Date	Location	Price
HAZWOP (40-hr.)	March 6-10	Folsom, CA	$699
	March 27-31	Walnut Creek, CA	$699
HAZWOP (24-hr.)	March 6-8	Folsom, CA	$499
	March 27-29	Walnut Creek, CA	$499
HAZWOP Supp. (16-hr.)	March 9-10	Folsom, CA	$329
	March 30-31	Walnut Creek, CA	$329
HAZWOP Annual Refresher (8-hr.)	March 15, 29	Folsom, CA	$199
	March 8, 22	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
Supervisors of HazWaste Workers (8-hr.)	March 23	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
Emergency Response FRO (8-hr.)	March 20	Folsom, CA	$199
Emergency Response (24-hr.)	March 20-22	Folsom, CA	$499
Incident Command (8-hr.)	March 23	Folsom, CA	$199
Designated UST Operator (8-hr.)	March 17	Folsom, CA	$249

April

HAZWOP (40-hr.)	April 3-7	Folsom, CA	$699
	April 24-28	Walnut Creek, CA	$699
HAZWOP (24-hr.)	April 3-5	Folsom, CA	$499
	April 24-26	Walnut Creek, CA	$499
HAZWOP Supp. (16-hr.)	April 6-7	Folsom, CA	$329
	April 27-28	Walnut Creek, CA	$329
HAZWOP Annual Refresher (8-hr.)	April 12, 26	Folsom, CA	$199
	April 19	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
HazWaste Technician (8-hr.)	April 13	Folsom, CA	$199
Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest (8-hr.)	April 12	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
US DOT HazMat Employee (8-hr.)	April 5	Walnut Creek, CA	$239
US DOT HazMat Refresher/Update (8-hr.)	April 5	Walnut Creek, CA	$199

May

HAZWOP (40-hr.)	May 1-5	Folsom, CA	$699
	May 22-26	Walnut Creek, CA	$699
HAZWOP (24-hr.)	May 1-3	Folsom, CA	$499
	May 22-24	Walnut Creek, CA	$499
HAZWOP Supp. (16-hr.)	May 4-5	Folsom, CA	$329
	May 25-26	Walnut Creek, CA	$329
HAZWOP Annual Refresher (8-hr.)	May 9, 24	Folsom, CA	$199
	May 10	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
Emergency Response FRO (8-hr.)	May 15	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
Emergency Response (24-hr.)	May 15-17	Walnut Creek, CA	$499
Emergency Response Refresher (8-hr.)	May 11	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
Incident Command (8-hr.)	May 18	Walnut Creek, CA	$199
Basic HazWaste (Bus.Plan) (8-hr.)	May 17	Folsom, CA	$169
Fundamentals of HazWaste Mgmt (24-hr.)	May 10-11	Folsom, CA	$499
Hazardous Waste Generator Refresher (8-hr.)	May 12	Folsom, CA	$199