



WMD Radiological/Nuclear Course for HazMat Technicians PER-241

The 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 Dispersal Device (RDD, or "Dirty Bomb") or an Improvised Nuclear Device (IND). This course is delivered at the Nevada Test Site to jurisdictions approved by Federal Emergency Management Agency/National Preparedness Directorate (FEMA/NPD) and their Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk.

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. HazMat technicians are given hands-on experience with radiation fields while learning the basic operation of radiation detectors and dosimeters. Attendees 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.

HazMat technicians 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 evaluation exercise requiring attendee teams, under a unified command, to respond to a terrorist attack that has dispersed radiological material at the target facility. This 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.).

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



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:

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



Decontamination exercise on simulated victims of an RDD.

Certificate:

A certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the course, acknowledging 3.2 continuing education units (CEUs) through the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). A letter verifying CEUs can be provided upon request by contacting the Counter Terrorism Operations Support (CTOS) registration desk.

Eligibility:

This course is primarily intended for responders trained to the HazMat technician level. It is the responsibility of the jurisdiction to select qualified course participants.

Prerequisites:

Although not required, attendees should be State-Certified Hazardous Materials Technicians.

Course Delivery:

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

Cost:

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

Enrollment Information:

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

For More Information, Contact the Registration Desk at:
National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Site Office
Counter Terrorism Operations Support Program
P.O. Box 98521, M/S NLV126, Las Vegas, NV 89193-8521
702.295.3224 • 702.537.2639 Fax
E-mail: ctosreg@nv.doe.gov
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