

AREA 3 REGIONAL WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM, INCORPORATED
TEAM NAME: TASK FORCE 3

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

TASK FORCE 3-SOG-R10

HAZMAT INCIDENT CONTROL ZONES

PURPOSE

To establish Hazmat Incident Control Zones.

DIRECTION AND CONTROL

Authority

These guidelines have been developed and approved by the Board of Directors. The Administrator/Treasurer shall review these procedures as needed, but not less than annually, and submit any changes to the Board of Directors for approval.

Responsibility

The Administrator/Treasurer, Membership Committee, and Training Officer of TASK FORCE 3 are responsible for implementation of these procedures.

Maintenance

These procedures shall be effective upon approval of the Board of Directors and shall remain in effect until revised or rescinded.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

It is the responsibility of the Team Leader and/or Safety Officer to ensure that safe and effective control zones are established, identified, and communicated to all personnel involved in the incident.

The activities required during response to incidents involving hazardous materials may contribute to the unwanted movement of contaminants from the site to uncontaminated areas. Response personnel and equipment may become contaminated and transfer the material into clean areas. To minimize the transfer of hazardous substances from the site the following procedures shall be used:

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HOT ZONE or EXCLUSION ZONE

The Hot Zone or Exclusion Zone, the innermost of the three control zones, is the physical area where contamination does or could occur. All people entering the Hot Zone must wear prescribed Levels of Protection. Entry and exit check points must be established and clearly identifiable at the periphery of the Hot Zone to regulate the flow of personnel and equipment into and out of the zone and to verify that the procedures established to enter and exit are followed.

1. After the hot zone is established initially by personnel at the first responder level, it may be expanded several times by the Incident Commander based on monitoring of the incident.
2. The boundary of the hot zone will be clearly identified. Whenever possible, use signs, hazard tape, or rope.
3. Reasons for entry of personnel into the hot zone where contamination is likely to

occur include: the need to evaluate and stop leaks, monitor conditions, make rescue attempts, take samples, neutralize materials, control vapors, and clean up the area.

4. Access into the hot zone is to be limited to those personnel necessary to control the incident. A log shall be maintained at the access control point to record the entry and exit time of personnel in the hot zone.
5. All personnel within the hot zone should wear level of personnel protective equipment determined necessary by the Team Leader and/or Safety Officer.
6. It is possible that different levels of personnel protective equipment are appropriate in the same area, depending on the hazards of a specific task being performed. A minimum level of protection shall be established.
7. Exit from the hot zone is to be made through the contamination reduction corridor. This is the area where personnel place contaminated tools and equipment and are decontaminated as they move into the warm zone. This corridor starts in the hot zone and ends in the warm zone.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WARM ZONE or CONTAMINATION REDUCTION ZONE

1. The Warm Zone provides a transition between the Hot Zone and the Cold Zone (third area). The Warm Zone serves as a buffer to further reduce the probability of the Cold Zone becoming contaminated or being affected by other existing hazards. It provides additional assurance that the physical transfer of contaminated substances on people, equipment, or in the air is limited through a combination of decontamination, distance between the Hot and Cold Zones, air dilution, zone restrictions, and work functions. The decontamination line is located in the Warm Zone at the boundary of the Cold Zone.
2. All personnel within the Warm Zone must wear the required Level of Protection. Personnel protective equipment is designated based on site-specific conditions and the hazards that might be encountered.
3. The boundary of the hot/warm zone will be clearly identifiable and should be marked by signs, hazard tape, or rope when possible.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLD ZONE or SUPPORT ZONE

1. The Cold Zone or Support Zone is the outermost part of the site and is considered a non-contaminated or clean area. Support equipment (command post, equipment trailer, etc.) Is located in the Cold Zone. Since normal work clothes are appropriate within this zone, potentially contaminated personnel clothing, equipment, and samples are not permitted, but are left in the Warm Zone until they are decontaminated.
2. Personnel in the cold zone may wear normal work clothes. The cold zone should be upwind of the hot zone and as far away as is practical.
3. The boundary of the warm/cold zone will be clearly identifiable and should be marked by signs, hazard tape, or rope when possible.

APPROVAL

President, A3/RWMD/HMRT, Inc.

Date

Adopted 12/2009