

# 2024 The Continuing Challenge:

A Flaring Class from Last Year



**The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**CONTINUING CHALLENGE**

**HazMat Emergency Response Workshop**

The Nation's Leading Hazardous Materials  
Emergency Response Workshop

**September 3-6, 2024**

at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Sacramento, California

Online registration opens

June 2024 @ [www.hazmat.org](http://www.hazmat.org)

# The Continuing Challenge Hazmat Workshop

## Moving Forward

It's that time again, The Continuing Challenge HazMat Committee would like to invite you to attend the 35th Annual HazMat Workshop. This year's Workshop will be September 3rd through the 6th, 2024.

We are excited for all of the new classes that are planned for this year's Workshop. This year's classes will include lectures, hands-on and outside demonstrations. The instructors that provide classes at our Workshop are the best in the nation.

The exhibitor space will be larger this year with forty plus exhibitors. This gives you a chance to see the latest in HazMat equipment that's available on the market today. The Workshop provides you with outstanding lunches on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday night the Workshop provides you with a buffet dinner, this gives you a chance to spend time with old friends, make new friends and network with your peers. Networking is one of the most important parts of the Workshop. This gives you a chance to get names, and phone numbers so you can stay in touch with the people that you might need information from in the future about an incident that you are involved in. The good news is the Double Tree Hotel remodel has been completed. The rooms have been updated, remodeled, and looks great.

Please plan on joining us this September for the 35th Annual Continuing Challenge Workshop in Sacramento, California. This is a high tech Workshop with a kickback attitude. We are looking forward to seeing you this September.



**Thank You  
Sacramento  
Fire  
Department**

Dennis Smith,  
Continuing Challenge  
Committee Chairperson  
Fire Chief, (Retired)  
Sacramento Fire  
Department

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# Save the Date

## for September 2025 The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual

### September 2-5, 2025

### DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Sacramento, California



# Welcome to our 2024 Workshop

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## Z814 Live Propane Fire / Propane Emergency

**Instructor Rob Scott Tuesday 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.**

The WPGA Live Fire Training school is self-contained. Certified, experienced WPGA firefighters teach the course. We bring the propane tank and all required equipment to train the local fire departments. Each course takes about three hours; this session covers propane's combustion characteristics, system safeguards, valving, and firefighting technique information. The Propane Emergency Class: Is a comprehensive training program and has been adopted by 27 state firefighter training agencies and propane marketers. It is designed to help emergency responders develop the skills necessary to manage a propane emergency in transportation or at fixed facilities.



# Workshop At-A-Glance

<b>Monday</b> September 2	<b>Tuesday</b> September 3	<b>Wednesday</b> September 4	<b>Thursday</b> September 5	<b>Friday</b> September 6
<p>Exhibitor, Instructor, &amp; Student Check in Room - Maxi's 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Check in: Exhibitor Instructor Student Room - Maxi's 6:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Check in continues after lunch</p> <p>8-hour Classes begin 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Morning Break 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>(Classes continue after lunch). Lunch is on your own.</p>	<p>Check in: Exhibitor Instructor Student Room - Maxi's 6:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Check in continues after lunch</p> <p>General Store Exhibitor Area 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Opening Ceremony</b> • <b>Keynote Speaker</b> • <b>Awards Presentation</b> Grand Ballroom 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Morning Break &amp; Exclusive Exhibitor Time</b> <b>Exhibitor Area</b> <b>9:30 a.m. - 11:30</b></p>	<p>Check in: Exhibitor Instructor Student Room - Maxi's 6:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Check in continues after lunch</p> <p><b>LAST DAY</b> General Store Exhibitor Area 7:30 a.m. - 3:30p.m.</p> <p>4-hour Classes begin 2-hour Classes begin 7:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.</p> <p><b>Exhibitor Displays Open</b> Exhibitor Area 9:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.</p> <p>Morning Break Exhibitor Area 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>4-hour Classes continue</p>	<p>Check in: Instructor Student Room - Maxi's 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>General Store - <b>Closed</b></p> <p>4-hour Classes begin 2-hour Classes begin 7:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.</p> <p>Morning Break 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>4-hour Classes continue</p>
<p><b>Lunch (on your own)</b> 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Lunch &amp; Exhibitor Showcase Grand Ballroom</b> <b>11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Lunch</b> Grand Ballroom 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Lunch</b> Grand Ballroom 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Lunch</b> Grand Ballroom 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Exhibitor, Instructor, &amp; Student Check in Room - Maxi's 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Check in: Exhibitor Instructor Student continues Room: Maxi's 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>8-hour Classes continue 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Break 2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Check in: Exhibitor Instructor Student continues Room: Maxi's 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Exhibitor Displays Exhibitor Area Open Until 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>4-hour Classes begin 2-hour Classes begin 1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Break Exhibitor Area 2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.</p> <p>4-hour Classes continue 2-hour Classes begin 3:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Wed Evening Dinner &amp; "Name that Unknown" Contest</b> <b>Grand Ballroom</b> <b>6:00 p.m.</b></p>	<p>Check in: Exhibitor Instructor Student continues Room: Maxi's 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Exhibitor Displays Exhibitor Area Open until 3:15 p.m.</b></p> <p>4-hour Classes begin 2-hour Classes begin 1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Break Exhibitor Area 2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.</p> <p>4-hour Classes continue 2-hour Classes begin 3:15 pm - 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Closing Ceremony Grand Ballroom 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</p>



# History & Exhibitor Information

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS THROUGH THE YEARS

1990	John Eversole	Chicago Fire Department
1991	Capt. Michael Callan	Wallingford Fire Department
1992	Ron Coleman	California State Fire Marshal
1993	Greg Noll	Reading Fire Department, Pennsylvania
1994	Mr. Al Smith	Law Firm of McRae, Secrest, and Fox Atlanta, Georgia
1995	Gordon Graham	California Highway Patrol
1996	Cliff Harvison	President, National Tank Truck Carriers, Inc.
1997	Commander Shane Ishiki	Commanding Officer National Strike Team, U.S. Coast Guard
1998	Robert Born	Special Agent FBI
1999	Mike Callan	Fire Training Associates
2000	Dwight Williams	Williams Fire Suppression
2001	Michael Pritchard	Motivational Speaker
2002	Phil McArdle	New York City Fire Department
2003	Harry Cusick	Philadelphia Fire Department
2004	Michael Callan	Callan and Company Response Training
2005	R. David Paulson	Director U.S. Fire Administration
2006	James Lee Witt	James Lee Witt Associates
2007	Rem Gaade	Toronto Fire Department
2008	Matt Krimsky	San Francisco Police Department
2009	Michael Callan	Callan and Company Response Training
2010	Chief Richard Brooks	Director of Emergency Services Cecil County Maryland
2011	Nick Vent	County of San Diego
2012	Harold Schapelhouman	Menlo Park Fire Protection District
2013	Mark Neveau	Federal Coordinating Officer FEMA
2014	Michael Callan	Callan and Company Response Training
2015	Timothy Butters	USDOT/Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
2016	Michael Pritchard	Motivational Speaker
2017	Jamie Hyneman	American Special Effects Expert
2018	Matt Krimsky	Cal OES, California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI)
2019	Michael Callan	Callan and Company Response Training
2020	Tina Casola	First Alarm Wellness CANCELLED DUE TO Covid-19
2021	Tina Casola	First Alarm Wellness CANCELLED DUE TO Covid-19
2022	Jeff Dill	Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance (FBHA)
2023	Robert Rezende	San Diego Fire-Rescue
2024	Mark Durno	Homeland Security Advisor U.S. EPA Region 5

### Exhibitor Index (as of 5/4/24)

908 Devices	HazTech Systems, Inc.
Advanced Entertainment Technology	IEC
Agilent Technologies	Industrial Scientific
American Integrated Services, Inc.	Ludlum Measurements
Bertin Environics	Newson Gale
Cal OES/ CSTI	Proengin Inc
CDPH	RedWave Technology
Deployed Logix	RKI Instruments, Inc.
Gasmet Technologies	Safe Environment Engineering
Hazmat Resource	Safeware Inc.

## Thank you

to all our Instructors,  
Inspectors, Responders,  
Hazmat Teams, and  
Exhibitors who help keep  
our communities safe!

## 8-Hour Classes

7:30-5:00,

Lunch is on your own

### Z801 Environmental Health (EH) Training in Emergency Response (EHTER) Awareness Level (8 hours, 8 REHS CEs)

Hoan Tan

Addresses the role of EH responders in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters.

**Intermediate. FEMA: Introduction to the Incident Command System (IS-100); Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response (IS-200); An Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) (IS-700); National Response Framework, An Introduction (IS-800)**

### Z802 Ethanol Blended Fuel Safety Seminar and Incident Management

Joel Hendelman

This course was developed to give first responders, hazmat teams, fuel transporters, bulk storage operators, ethanol production facility operators, and other safety personnel with statutory responsibilities or functional capabilities an in-depth look at the proper techniques needed when responding to and mitigating an ethanol-related emergency. The seminar achieves the following objectives: • Chemical & physical characteristics • Transportation modes • Transfer operations • Basics of foam • Suggested responder tactics & strategies • Environmental issues

**Basic. However, some additional information will be provided to the intended audience which is operations-level activities.**

### Z803 The Meter Guys Air Monitoring for First Responders "When Meters Matter"

Scott Russell, Ben Bosley, Dan Warchol

The Meter Guys When Meters Matter! Air Monitoring for Emergency Responders The Meter Guys is an innovative simultaneous hands-on lecture meter training program focused on Emergency Responders, Hazmat Personnel, and Industrial workers. This class provides students with the skills and competencies on how to properly use a Multi-Gas Meter, understand the readings, and interpret the implications of such during an emergency response. The Meter Guys program is tailored to our audience, making the information easy to grasp and comprehend, thereby meeting your training needs. There is no other hands-on meter class of this caliber. Our students will tell you so!

**Intermediate.**

### Z804 Back to the Basics of HazMat repair techniques

Michael Mudgett

A review of Railcar, Highway and Industrial mitigation techniques.

**Intermediate. Must be certified as a CA. State Hazardous Materials Technician or Specialist.**

### Z805 What is that? I Don't Know, Let's Sample It.

Robert Wise

Ever wondered, how do I sample that? This class is going to tell you that. This class will be a soup to nuts sampling class on all types of media from the water beneath the earth to the air in the sky and everything in between. It is brought to you by those guys at EPA who come out and cleanup the mess after a big incident and have to sampling everything to get rid of it. It will include lecture, case studies and hands-on sample exercises.

**Intermediate. Students should be 40 Hour HAZWOPER Certified or Hazmat Tech-Specialist certified. Students will have to wear level C for course. Students will be expected to provide their own respirators.**

### Z806 Get Wet. Classify, Identify and Verify using Wet Chemistry with the Hazcat Kit

Daniel Keenan, Maria Duazo, Jon Poganski

Wet Chemistry - Your best tool to assess Hazard Classifications, RCRA Waste Characteristics and determine compatibility of hazardous wastes prior to bulking. With the Hazcat Kit you can Classify, Identify and Verify Hazardous Materials. Learn a strategy to identify components of commercial formulations and mixed wastes. Attendees will use the HazCat 2.0 System. You can learn how to Hazcat in one day; and if you already know your stuff, here is an opportunity to see what is on the horizon for Field ID of unknown substances. Get a primer for the Name That Unknown Contest - All Hands-On & Fun!

**Basic.**

### Z807 Tactical Chemistry

Chris Weber

Tactical decisions at hazardous materials emergencies are heavily influenced by the released chemicals and their properties. Using NFPA 470 as the framework, we will make tactical decisions at hazardous materials incidents fall into place using chemical demonstrations, scenario-based exercises, and hands-on chemical identification exercises using a variety of air monitoring and sample identification equipment. We will examine the effect of chemical class, concentration, and complexity of mixtures on detection, identification, and product control. The class is highly interactive with students leading the direction of the class as we discuss scenarios culled from the news to illustrate the chemistry of hazmats.

**Intermediate. Hazmat Technician**

### Z808 8 Hour Hazmat Decon

JP Robles

We will be going over the fundamentals of decontamination from a hazardous material event for first responders. \* Setting up a decon corridor \* Medical monitoring \* Levels of PPE \* Rehab Areas.

**Basic.**

### Z809 PEAC Software Suite - Complete Training

C. Scott Bunning, Kristina Escalante

This hands-on workshop will educate students on how to most effectively use PEAC software platforms during incident response and planning. This class is our complete PEAC training class for new users and existing users alike. Everyone will come away with new skills. We will dive deeply into the 4 main functions of PEAC software - Technical Reference/Research, Facility Inventories, Hazard Modeling and ICS/NIMS-Incident Management. Following the class, students will likely have enough knowledge to teach their own condensed PEAC classes at their departments.

**Basic. This course is designed for new and existing users alike.**

### Z810 OSHA Disaster Site Worker 7.5 Hour Class

Gary Havner, Gilbert Wong

The Disaster Site Worker Outreach Training Program is a training program for Disaster Site Workers who provide skilled support services, (e.g. utility, demolition, debris removal, or heavy equipment operation) or site clean-up services in response to natural and man-made disasters. Specifically, it is recognized that all workers at disaster sites need to be aware of the differences between disaster sites and regular construction or demolition worksites and be able to inspect, don, and doff air-purifying respirators. Also, the program



will make management and labor aware that pre-incident training is essential for ensuring disaster site worker safety and health.]

**Basic. Prerequisites:** The class prerequisite is either an OSHA 10 in General Industry or Construction.

**Z811 Masters of Gas Detection**

Chris Wrenn

A comprehensive course in the fundamentals of handheld gas detection for use in confined space entry and HazMat. It explains why we need gas detection, a short discussion of chemical properties, how gas detectors work and an understanding of exposure limits is included. Trainees are taught to look through the “eyes” of the gas detector to better solve gas detection problems by using all the detection “angles” available to them. Detection options (tubes, O<sub>2</sub>, LEL, electrochemical, NDIR, PIDs, FIDs, MOS), sensor specifications, sampling techniques, calibration, intrinsic safety requirements and datalogging may be discussed.

**Advanced. Understanding and usage of handheld gas detectors**

**Z812 CSTI Instructor Recertification**

Vance Bennett, Dan Casner, Krystal Masalta

Are you a CSTI certified instructor who has been de-certified because you didn't teach the required 4 hours a year? If so, you can get re-certified by taking this class!

**Basic. Must have been a CSTI certified hazmat instructor.**

**Z813 HAZWOPER 8-Hour Refresher**

Kenneth R. Beutler, Michael Pixton

This course provides required annual refresher training certification for those who have completed the initial 24-Hour or 40-Hour training required to work on hazardous waste sites. The ideal audience is regulators and responders who must visit hazardous waste sites to perform contractor oversight, conduct monitoring/sampling, and other duties associated with hazardous waste work. This trainings provided in accordance with CCR 1910.120(e)(8) and equivalent state regulations. Those who complete the course will receive a certificate.

**Basic. Must have taken HAZWOPER emergency response class.**

**Z814 Live Propane Fire / Propane Emergency**

Rob Scott

The WPGA Live Fire Training school is self-contained. Certified, experienced WPGA firefighters teach the course. We bring the propane tank and all required equipment to train the local fire departments. Each course takes about three hours; this session covers propane's combustion characteristics, system safeguards, valving, and firefighting technique information. The Propane Emergency Class: Is a comprehensive training program has been adopted by 27 state firefighter training agencies and propane marketers. It is designed to help emergency responders develop the skills necessary to manage a propane emergency in transportation or at fixed facilities.

**Basic.**

**Z815 Chemical and Physical Properties and their Effects on Metering**

Robert Salvensen

In our combined class, we explore the fundamental chemical and physical properties that drive operations, revealing their tactical advantages. We simplify the often-confusing topic of metering, covering technologies like electrochemical and photoionization detection. Join us for this condensed session to gain a clear understanding of these essential concepts.

**Intermediate. HM Technician or higher**



**Shop the  
Continuing  
Challenge  
General Store**

**Hours:**  
7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Wednesday & Thursday  
Near the indoor Exhibitors

Get the latest and greatest  
**Exclusive  
Memorabilia**  
Only available at this  
year's workshop!



**Awards Nominations for 2024 are being accepted now at [hazmat.org](http://hazmat.org), under the “About Us” tab. Nominate someone you know today for that special award.**

**Our Purpose**

The specific purpose for the Continuing Challenge Hazmat Committee is to educate, encourage and promote safe inspection practices, response, intervention, mitigation and investigation of hazardous materials incidents in a manner that safeguards and protects the health and safety of the emergency responder and the general public. This purpose is achieved by conducting an annual hazardous materials conference known as the “Continuing Challenge Hazardous Materials Workshop.” The Committee is comprised of government and industry emergency response organizations promoting timely and appropriate response to hazardous materials incidents that might occur within the community.



# Wednesday Morning



## Opening Ceremonies 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Keynote Speaker Mark Durno

Mark Durno received a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. At EPA, Mark has served as an On Scene Coordinator, Supervisor, and Deputy Chief in the Emergency Response Branch of the Superfund Program in Region 5 since 1997. He currently serves as Regional Homeland Security Advisor. As part of his Homeland Security work, Mark coordinates Region 5's Continuity of Operations and Disaster Recovery programs. Mark is stationed in EPA's Westlake, Ohio office. Mark's efforts have included numerous emergency response actions to chemical and oil spills in Region 5; support to national counter-terrorism planning and exercises; and international biological response planning. Notably, Mark has worked on or coordinated major incidents, including the Capitol Hill Anthrax response in Washington, D.C; Hurricane Katrina/Rita disaster response in Louisiana; the Flint Drinking Water Incident in Michigan; and the East Palestine Train Derailment Emergency in Ohio. For his accomplishments, Mark was named EPA's National On-Scene Coordinator of the Year in 2007, received a Gold Medal for Exceptional Service in 2017, and received EPA's National Homeland Security Award in 2022.

## 9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. Break Time and Exclusive Exhibitor Time, Both Inside and Static Display Areas Outside

Please join our exhibitors as they display and demonstrate the latest and greatest equipment and techniques available.

As you know, the Exhibitors that participate at the Continuing Challenge bring the latest and greatest products to the workshop for your review. It is important that you visit with the Exhibitors so you can see, touch, and handle the products that the Challenge instructors are telling you about.



Exhibitors will be both inside and outside in the parking lot.



Don't forget to nominate that deserving person for an award. at [www.hazmat.org/about-us/awards/](http://www.hazmat.org/about-us/awards/)

## 4-Hour Classes 1:00-5:00

### W451 Practical Hazmat Chemistry for First Responders

Patrick Ryan

Regardless of experience level, team size, or equipment inventory, having a solid, deployable understanding of practical Hazmat chemistry is necessary to succeed as a Hazmat team member. Having a street-smart, practical, real-world understanding of Hazmat chemistry gives you an edge over the book-smart only crowd. Such an understanding enables you to recognize what makes instrumentation work and be able to generate actionable information using simple, rapid tests, and procedures during a Hazmat incident. You will leave this class with immediately deployable Hazmat chemistry skills to take home to your team, along with a confidence you did not have when entering.

**Basic**

### W452 Illegal Fireworks/Explosives Recognition, Enforcement and Disposal Strategies

Rich Ruelas, Robert Wise

The course will provide a working knowledge to the Haz Mat inspectors/investigators on recognizing and identifying illegal fireworks. Identify precursors to illegal firework manufacturing. Enforcement and disposal strategies following discovery of identified product.

**Basic.**

### W453 Radiation Basics and lessons learned within the Chernobyl zone

Paul Christensen

Take a journey into the world of radioisotopes. We will discuss the "hot" topics concerning your response to radiological incidents within your AHJ. What instruments do you use on scene, and what limitations you might want to know. We will discuss case studies surrounding the Chernobyl explosion and the impact to the surrounding areas.

**Basic.**

### W454 Bio-101: The Basics Of Biological Agent Response & Cleanup

Shannon Serre, Mark Durno

Responding to a biological agent incident presents unique challenges to responders. This half-day course will focus on the basics of biological responses to guide you to the proper resources needed to navigate a site or emergency. Participants will be provided a review of biological science

basics, an overview of EPA authorities related to biological agent response, related case-studies, and an overview of resources available to responders. Participants will also learn about current technologies, processes, and resources associated with all phases of a cleanup which includes, but is not limited to characterization, decontamination, waste management, verification and clearance, and transition to re-occupancy.

**Basic. We will guide the participants with an intro to biology through the response basics.**

### W455 Radioactive Easter Egg Hunt - Radiological Hands-On

Carl Palladino, Evan McKenzie

This fun, hands-on workshop will focus on proper use of radiological instrumentation, interpretation of readings, conducting experiments to demonstrate nuclear radiation concepts, and simulating a radiological emergency response.

Fascinating radiological case studies will also be reviewed.

**Intermediate Basic radiation awareness class.**

## 2 Hour Classes 1:00-2:45

### W251 FBI WMD Case Studies- Dr. Larry Ford and James Malcolm

Sheldon Fung

The course provides 2 WMD case studies the FBI conducted that involved Hazmat, Public Health, Bomb Squads, the FBI's WMD team, and overseas intelligence operations.

**Basic.**

### W252 Hazmat with Intent: Terrorism & Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Response Tactics for the Emergency Services

Adam McFadden

This hazmat session will include specific highlighted learning objectives, identify key topics in the areas of Terrorism Response Procedures, CBRNE & Weapons of Mass Destruction, Review of Chemical Detection & Mitigation Equipment, Incident Command & Hazmat Safety Officer guidelines; which will also include an interactive group participation module and table-top discussions. All participants will be provided various tactical worksheets to review during this class presentation, specific to events in the areas of Hazardous Materials & CBRNE Response.

**Intermediate There are no pre-requisite's for this training program as this is an awareness and operation's based training program and curriculums.**

### W253 Blowing up can ruin your whole day (your options for detecting and measuring combustible gases)

Chris Wrenn

Combustible gases and vapors are one of the most common gaseous threats for HazMat responders. However, many responders don't fully understand how their combustible gas sensors operate and what their limitations are. This course will discuss the operation and limitations of wheatstone bridge catalytic bead LEL sensors, infrared combustible sensors, thermal conductivity combustible gas sensors, dilution fittings and even using Photoionization Detectors (PIDs) for assessing combustible environments. It will help you understand when to trust and use each technology.

**Intermediate. usage of handheld gas detectors with combustible gas sensors in them**

### W254 FTIR Gas Analyzer \_ Bringing safety to First Responder at EV incident sites & Identifying Unknown Toxic Gases

Jim Cornish

In a world increasingly powered by lithium-ion batteries (LIBs), an electrified future is undeniable in the form of electric vehicles (EVs) and energy storage systems. This surge in battery usage has introduced new risks for first responders and the community. Lithium-ion battery thermal runaway events release significant heat, fire, potential explosion and toxic gases. Toxic gases emitted include hydrogen fluoride, carbon monoxide, carbonates and various VOCs that are toxic to humans. FTIR technology provides direct and immediate measurement of all gases of interest simultaneously, which provides protection to first responders and provides a full account of hazards at the incident site.

**Intermediate.**

### W255 Field Identification of Controlled Substances - Case Studies from the Field

Jeremy VanAuker

A trend towards increasing potent synthetic and designer opioids, cathinones, cannabinoids, and other substances has affected the ability to detect and identify controlled substances in the field. Synthetic drugs tend towards higher potency, and therefore lower concentration in mixtures. This dangerous combination has fueled a significant rise in overdose deaths, highlighted in the DEA's "One Pill Can Kill" campaign. Learn how synthetic and designer drugs have fueled a trend towards counterfeit pills, a rise in lethal overdoses, and how field detection technology has evolved to keep pace with these trends.

**Basic.**



# Wednesday Afternoon (continued)

## W256 Principles of Risk Communication

Karen Riveles

Learn the basics of risk communication, informing people about potential hazards to their person, home or community, and to develop an accurate understanding of a situation and possible actions to take. Tailor a message to specific target audiences and acknowledge outrage factors to increase understanding. Learn methods of clear and concise communication about risks through the creation of messages and use of social media in a group activity.

**Basic.**

## W257 CO<sub>2</sub>, not just a global warming hazard anymore?

Chris Pfaff

This discussion will go over Carbon Dioxide in a total aspect. We will begin with the physical properties of this NON-cryogenic liquified gas. We will discuss the difficulties with identification via containers and how previous knowledge may have to be revised with this product. We will then discuss what the fire code has done to address this hazard and how this can assist first responders that may need the tools on their rig to quantify the hazard. We will close out with a discussion on how to approach and address a CO<sub>2</sub> emergency for agencies of any size.

**Basic.**

## W258 Emerging Chemical Threat – Highly Toxic Chinese-Labeled Pesticides at Marijuana Grows

Hasti Javid, Alex Efras

Regulatory staff and LE personnel are coming across illegal Chinese-labeled pesticides at marijuana grows throughout California and as of recently, in surrounding states. These illegal foreign products contain a mixture of carbamates, organophosphates, pyrethroids, fungicides, and other highly toxic pesticides that are being used as fumigants. This presentation will provide an overview of what these illegal products look like (inner/outer packaging); what they consist of; what to look out for during eradication operations; PPE and operational considerations; emergency removal/disposal options; and points of contact on who to notify if and when you come across these illicit products.

**Basic**

## W259 Misconceptions of FTIR and How It Can Enhance Incident Response

Brandon Gayl

In this course, we will discuss and debunk common misconceptions and myths of FTIR in hazardous materials incident response, demonstrate the relevance and ease of use of FTIR solid, liquid, and gas identification techniques, and identify the limitations of current detection and identification techniques to show

how new FTIR instruments are able to extend response capabilities and enhance safety. Also, we will conduct gas/vapor sampling using traditional monitors and the RedWave XplorIR with live samples to demonstrate competence in the interpretation of air monitor readings and hazard/risk assessments using the RedWave XplorIR.

**Intermediate. Understanding of basic air monitoring techniques and interpretation. Have a basic understanding of FTIR identification techniques.**

**2:45-3:15**

## Afternoon Break

in the Exhibitor Area both inside and outside

## 2-Hour Classes

**3:15 - 5:00**

### W271 Pesticide HAZCOM and DPR Guidelines for HAZMAT Response to Pesticide Exposures

Harvard Fong

Course will define pesticides and their various sub-classes, provide understanding of labels and their subsections, including toxicity categories (Signal Words) and formulations, cover basic toxicology of pesticide sub-classes, and present suggested guidelines for responding appropriately to different pesticide exposure events, both rural agricultural exposures and urban structural fumigations. Students will have a better understanding of the factors influencing the severity (and sometimes lack of severity) for pesticide exposures and the potential routes that different pesticides may or may not be able to cause exposure.

**Basic.**

### W272 You've Got Gas! (and the Vapors) - Now What?

Chris Weber

Come take a journey through incident response to gas and vapor emergencies. We'll take a close look at the behavior of chemicals in the air, how to detect their presence, what their various hazards are, and the importance of - and how to - identify them. We will look at actual incidents and use chemical samples to help us understand and plan for the real incidents we're bound to respond to.

**Basic.**

### W273 Getting the Most From Toxic Gas Sensors

Chris Wrenn

Toxic gas sensors are the workhorses for detection of various gases. These sensors are reasonable specific and accurate. This course describes how these sensors work and how their specifications may impact decision-making. It also discusses how they can be fooled by gases to which they may be cross-sensitive. For advanced users, cross-sensitivity can be advantageous particularly when cross-referenced with other technologies like colorimetric tubes and on-scene clues.

**Intermediate. Use of handheld gas detectors with toxic gas sensors in them**

### W274 Radiation Hangover

Juan Garcia, Tanya Ridgle

Caring for the public and environment following a radiation emergency.

**Basic**

### W275 Late phase recovery actions for a large-scale radiological release.

Scott Hudson, Tony Honnellio, Wagner Prioleau

This course will inform participants of the federal response actions planned by the EPA in the event of a significant radiological contamination event. Students will receive information about Protective Action Guides (PAGs), decision points, response transition, cleanup strategies, federal response organizations who respond to radiological events and how they transition from the emergency into longer-term recovery operations.

**Intermediate.**

### W276 Lithium-Ion Battery Fires: What's in the Air?

Karen Riveles, Elizabeth Marder, Danny Kwon

Learn about toxicity of emissions from thermal runaway events involving lithium-ion batteries. What is the potential for effects to your health from exposure to these chemicals? Learn where these events have occurred recently in California and who may have been exposed. Who are vulnerable individuals and populations of concern? Discuss potential strategies for exposure reduction and education.

**Basic.**





## W277 What happens when a delivery of Fluorosilicic acid (FSA) doesn't go into the storage tank

Nick Vent

Hazmat incidents happen unexpectedly. This real event occurred during a delivery and brought out problems with the Safety Data Sheet and dangerous properties of the material not pointed out by the SDS. Discussing an incident of this type in a realistic manner will have you thinking and possibly changing your processes. This incident occurred at a water treatment facility and could happen at any water treatment facility that adds fluoride to your drinking water. The incident was well controlled and everyone remained safe.

Basic.

## W278 How to Successfully Develop and Manage a Joint Hazardous Assessment Team (JHAT)

Robert Donivin, Michael Hammett

Captain Robert Dunivin and members of the LAFD JHAT unit in conjunction with Sargent Mike Hammett of LAPD's Hazmat Unit will discuss the JHAT concept and utilizing the a JHAT for event specific response as well as for daily hazmat calls as well as the "Big One". Student will learn how to develop the partnerships for a JHAT and define the lanes for each agency involved and the benefits the JHAT can provide to incident commanders and investigators.

Basic.

## Thursday

### 4-Hour Classes

7:30-11:30

#### T411 Lithium-Ion Batteries- More Bang for your Buck! Real World ER Challenges and lessons learned from a three day Burn Study with SD HIRT, EPA and Bomb Arson investigators.

Leon Wirschem, Robert Rezende

SD HIRT, EPA, SDFD, and Bomb Arson units learned information to help protect First Responders, protect the public and environment, help develop mitigation tactics and help ensure the safe containment, transportation and recycling or disposal of lithium-ion batteries. We put various battery sizes and chemistries to the test in a real room and conducted all sorts of air monitoring to determine chemicals present, tested exposed PPE/turnouts for contaminants, put battery containers to the test (up to 4 battery packs) and worked with the local bomb arson unit to see what happens when they go off in a real room.

Intermediate. Basic understanding of air monitoring

## 6:30pm — Grand Ballroom "Name that Unknown"

Wednesday evening following the Dinner

Show your understanding and mastery of Field Chemistry, the core of HazMat, by assembling your team and registering online NOW for the 31st year running of the "Name that Unknown" contest.

Establish your agency as top professionals in this field. Bring whatever identification methods or equipment you will need — e.g., your agencies field methods, 5 steps, HazMat IDs, Hapsites, etc. We will provide HazCat® Kits (for use during the contest) to all contestants that do not bring their own equipment. The unknowns will consist of 4 solids and 4 liquids of unmixed products.

### Assemble your team and Register NOW!

Team registration information and forms are available online at <https://www.hazmat.org>

under the About Us tab, then down to "Name That Unknown" contest page.

## Equipment Demos and Static Equipment Displays are located in the Front Parking Lot

#### T412 Get to Know Chemical Processes used in Illicit Labs

Chris Weber

Illicit labs are often complex incidents to respond to due to the presence of a variety of chemicals, glassware, equipment, and chemical processes. Hazmat responders are typically unfamiliar with these situations which increases the danger to responders and the public. We will explain how these chemical processes work and show the chemical processes in action. Students will have the opportunity to engage in recon, air monitoring, sampling, and chemical identification activities at simulated labs running active systems. Come join us to gain real world experience before you find yourself on such an incident..

Intermediate.

#### T413 MC306/DOT406 TANKER ROLLOVER RESPONSE or "What happens when they park the truck dirty side up instead of down"

Nick Vent

Class 3 Flammable liquids including Gasoline and Diesel fuel are transported daily throughout our communities. Accidents will occur and need to be handled safely to protect Life, the Environment and Property. The Hazmat teams need to understand the properties of these chemicals and how to properly respond to incidents. To do this, a familiarity with Cargo tanker construction is required. This course will primarily focus on the needs of the Hazmat team but will also be applicable to the first in Engine Companies that will get the initial dispatch. A DOT 406 tanker will be available during the class.

Basic.

#### T414 Haz Mat Command-Setting Up for Success, Avoiding Pitfalls & Leading From the Front

Daniel Talbot, Charles Tobias

The goal of the class is to provide students with real-world information concerning the management of hazardous materials incidents. The course will cover pre-incident preparation, managing the event, and avoiding common pitfalls. The points illustrated during the lecture will be reinforced during multiple case studies based on actual hazardous materials emergencies. The instructors combined have over 60 years of experience in the fire service. In addition, each instructor has managed multiple significant hazardous materials events.

Basic.

#### T415 First Due HazMat

Toby Frost, Gary Sharp

Let's concentrate on what we can do, not what we can't! This course is designed to reintroduce HazMat Operations level skills that First Due Companies can utilize to better identify, control and/or mitigate some of the most common and simple HazMat incidents. Attendees will be introduced to the "RINSED" concept and other best practices that they can bring back to their department and implement now on calls from spills and leaks to train derailments. First Due Companies will be better prepared for size up to providing high quality intel and support to the local or regional HazMat Technician Team.

Basic.

# Thursday Morning (continued)

## T416 Asbestos Exposure: Fires, Floods and the Tustin Hanger Fire- 2023

Michael Haynes

Emergency Response Professionals and Firefighters Face Exposures. We now know after every Fire, Flood or Earthquake, Emergency Responders continue to face Asbestos hazards in their line of work. An occupational group i.e. ER professionals, Firemen and Law Enforcement continue to overlook the Risk of an Asbestos Exposure, which can lead to illness. Asbestos Containing Materials or Asbestos Containing Wastes Materials are encountered at damaged buildings due to Demolitions, Fires and Construction activities, and now Structural damage from illegal Grow/Extraction operations are added to the list.

**Basic.**

## T417 Advanced Air Monitoring

Amanda Wagner

This 4-hour Advanced Air Monitoring course is designed to instruct participants about planning, designing, and implementing air monitoring instrumentation to effectively monitor for toxic environments from unplanned releases of hazardous materials and during large scale social events (marathons, sports games, dignitary visits, etc.), and for emergency response activities. This course will include discussions on available technologies, selection of appropriate direct reading instruments, proper instrument placement, instrument telemetry and remote monitoring systems, and confirmatory techniques including site clearance requirements, and case studies detailing real-life events.

**Intermediate.** Some prior knowledge of air monitoring techniques would be helpful but unnecessary.

## T418 Advanced Radiation for Emergency Response

Carl Palladino, Evan McKenzie

Your awareness and operational level radiation training may not fully prepare you for an actual radiological emergency. You will learn advanced techniques to protect responders and the public, and how to properly respond to and control a radiological emergency. Then you will apply these tools to a simulated emergency response exercise with live, highly radioactive agents-they will make your instruments scream! Bring your radiation instruments to class, if possible.

**Advanced.** 8-hours of awareness or operational radiological training

## T419 Advanced Plug and Patching

Jon Poganski, Jacob Poganski

Provide hands on training for complex, plug and patching of different containers, pipes and tanks. Provide real patching examples with props for the students to use current industry technology available to fix the leak.

**Advanced.**

## 2-Hour Classes

### 7:30-9:15

## T211 Improvised Explosive Devices-First Responder Awareness

Sheldon Fung, Nick Concolino

The class will briefly cover the types of explosions, the effects of explosions and their danger to 1st responders followed by the components of an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and the various ways they can be initiated. Numerous inert IEDs and videos will be utilized to illustrate the above. Safety guidelines for the first responder will be discussed.

**Basic.**

## T212 FIRESCOPE Hazardous Materials Subcommittee

Marcus Dunlap

Provide participants an overview of the FIRESCOPE Hazardous Materials Subcommittee and its current work products. Provide a briefing on recent products that have been approved by the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors, including the 2022 Hazardous Materials Team Typing Minimum Equipment List (MEL) and Decon Team Typing OSD.

**Basic.**

T213 is Cancelled

## T214 Maximizing Evidence Preservation for Law Enforcement at Haz Mat Scene (Arson Fire, Fatality Scene, Honey Butane Oil, Explosion Scene)

Rich Ruelas

Students will gain a working knowledge of the Dos and Don'ts of evidence preservation at complex, multi-agency and multi-disciplinary scenes. Students will gain insight into the value of evidence preservation from a law enforcement and prosecutorial perspective. Video and case study driven course.

**Basic.**

## T215 Hazmat Fires & You: Concepts to Think about During Large-Scale Flammable & Combustible Liquid Fires

Adam McFadden, Chris Pfaff

In this session, the student will increase their understanding of various firefighting and hazmat response tactics when dealing with Flammable & Combustible Liquids. This will include an overview of Incident Command Strategies for Flammable Liquid Hazmat events, the use of firefighting foam and preparation for emergency incidents in the areas of industrial and commercial firefighting. This program will cover emergency spill response, control valve leaks and shutoffs, as well as foam proportioning devices and application. We will review large diameter hose-handling fundamentals and industrial firefighting strategies throughout this class, that is crucial to handling fixed facility fire events.

**Basic.**

### 9:15 - 9:45

## Morning Break

in the Exhibitor Area and

## Static Displays

Front Parking Lot Area

## 2-Hour Classes

### 9:45-11:30

## T231 Critical Incident Stress Management

Richard Alamo

This course aims to increase awareness about the effects of critical incidents on the mental health of first responders. It helps identify occupational and personal stressors, and introduces opportunities for positive self-care. The training also aims to reduce the stigma associated with seeking help for mental health issues and reinforces the idea that asking for support is a sign of strength and not of weakness.

**Basic.**



# Thursday Morning (continued) and Afternoon

## T232 Claws, Fangs, Horns and Disease – Safely Responding When Animals are Present

Danene Birtell, Michael Ziccardi, Greg McGowan

As emergency responders we must be prepared to find quick solutions to diverse challenges, including the potential of encountering animals during a response. Responding to a hazardous material spill, you may be faced with contaminated companion animals, livestock, or wildlife. This course will provide you with the basic awareness and skills needed to safely assess the situation, identify and mitigate animal-related safety risks, and implement safe response. Through lecture and interactive activities we will introduce topics such as safe handling and capture of wildlife, animal/human disease transmission, PPE needs, and proper notification and steps to garner additional support.

**Basic.**

## T233 Water Treatment Plant Haz-Mat Emergency Response: what are the common chemical hazards and uses

David LeDuff, Gonzalo Barriga

Haz-Mat Emergency Response to a water treatment plant. What you need to know: what are the commonly used hazardous chemicals/materials at water treatment plants and how are these hazardous chemicals/materials stored and used in the treatment process. This course will discuss some of the industry's most commonly used chemicals, what they are used for in the process for water treatment and familiarize the audience with on-site treatment plant operations staff.

**Basic.**

## T234 Got Public Health in Your ICS? The Public Health Assessment Unit and Oil Spill Response

Karen Riveles, Rachel Fabian, Wesley Smith Kathleen Jennings

Learn about the Public Health Assessment Unit (PHAU) as an ICS unit in the Planning Section of an oil spill response for coordination of public health sampling, messaging, and integration of local, state, and federal public health agencies. Attendees will participate in a focused discussion as they work through a spill scenario using decision support tools for community air monitoring, water and sediment, and seafood safety to protect public health.

**Basic.**

## T235 Legal Aspects of Fire/Hazmat Response

Alan Finkelsteint

This class will provide an overview of the legal ramifications of fire department hazmat response. Among the topics covered will be environmental and workplace regulations, agencies involved, and legal rights and responsibilities. Basic legal concepts will be discussed with case studies presented as illustration.

**Basic.**

## T236 Crisis Communication - Every Responder has a Role

Michael Brogan

Emergency responses attract media coverage, and increasingly community attention and involvement. Every responder needs to be ready to engage with the media and community members.

**Basic.**

## 4-Hour Classes 1:00-5:00

## T451 Murphy's Law and Laws of Physics as They Apply to the Recovery and Transfer of Cargo Tank Loads of Hazardous Materials, Theory and Practice

Paul Horgan

A practical look at how the laws of physics, physical properties of chemicals affect the recovery methods you should select to offload hazardous materials from cargo tanks or other bulk packages. Looking at both theoretical and practical limitation of package stabilization and securement, product recovery and transfer operations. Looking beyond past just the chemical properties but into how the physical properties of the hazardous materials affect the containment, and transfer operations. Additionally looking at the mechanics of cargo tank recoveries.

**Intermediate. Open mind**

## T452 Small Spills 2.0

Mark Bridges

This Small Spills class gives HazMat Team Members and FRO's the tools to handle the smaller, more common incident types safely and effectively in a safe and efficient manner. These incidents range from odor complaints, pesticide spills, abandoned chemicals, powder calls, Stinger ops., gas leaks, and many others. Tips, tricks, and new techniques will also be shared. Students will receive a flash drive containing updated check-off lists, a HazMat Task Book, policies, procedures, videos, and HazMat related PowerPoints.

**Basic.**

## T453 Descent into Madness: Mad Chemists, Collectors and Other Eccentrics

Robert Wise

This class provides a turnkey approach to addressing chemical hoarders in the residential or commercial environment. These are the sites that have thousands of chemicals containers inside a home or storage facility. It describes the assessment, inventory and disposal process.

**Intermediate. 40 Hour HAZWOPER or Hazmat Tech-Specialist Trained.**

## T454 Hazmat By Highway – A Regulatory Deep Dive

Adam Roha

This course will go in depth on many aspects of the hazardous materials (HM) transportation requirements contained in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The information presented will provide responders a better understanding of HM communication requirements and most importantly, exceptions to the requirements. This course will mainly focus on the deciphering of shipping papers; vehicle placards and markings; and familiarization with the different types of specification packages.

**Basic.**

## T455 Improvised Nuclear Detonation Considerations

Charles Tobias, Sheldon Fung, Bill Potter

Do you know what to do to keep you safe during an Improvised Nuclear Detonation? Our response culture may injure or kill those tasked with being first on scene. California on its own for up to 72 hours, our initial response actions will determine whether we survive or become an additional casualty. This two hour presentation and discussion will introduce concepts that will give you the best chance at making life saving decisions for you and those we are sworn to protect.

**Basic.**

## T456 What is Unified Command, and how do I navigate it?

Daniel Talbot, Tim Murphy

Due to overlapping legal authorities, hazardous materials incidents are multi-agency and, depending on their location, multi-jurisdictional. Understanding the ins and outs of Unified Command can make the difference between success or failure. This course will provide instruction on when agencies should enter into Unified Command and the responsibilities of the Unified Commanders. Furthermore, this course will provide information concerning the benefits and pitfalls of Unified Command. Students will have an opportunity to write incident objectives for several multi-agency, multi-jurisdiction incidents.

**Intermediate. HMIC and ICS 300 recommended**

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[www.facebook.com/TheContinuingChallenge](http://www.facebook.com/TheContinuingChallenge)**



# Thursday Afternoon (continued)

## T457 Basic CAMEO for Planning and Response

Alan Finkelstein

This class will be a short introduction to the CAMEO Suite of programs, which are available at no charge from USEPA and NOAA. The software is usable for many types of incidents, not just hazmat. Students will see the 4 main programs in the suite, and how they might be used in different situations. Please note that students should bring their computers to class, and make sure they have admin rights to install software. Data will be provided during the class, to be used as a template for use after class is presented.

**Basic.**

## 2-Hour Classes

1:00-2:45

## T251 Marijuana Cultivation Awareness: Safety Issues for First Responders and Hazardous Materials Teams

Philip White

This instructor-led class is designed to inform hazardous materials team personnel how they can support first responders and law enforcement who encounter legal/illegal marijuana cultivation facilities while responding to emergency incidents. Because health and safety regulations have not kept pace with the legalization of marijuana cultivation, unregulated quantities of toxic chemicals used as herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, antimicrobial agents, and bio pesticides are commonly encountered at cultivation sites.

**Basic.**

## T252 Lithium-Ion Fire Investigations & Code Enforcement

Chris Pfaff

With this presentation, we will go over the code challenges to fire inspectors and firefighters in relation to Lithium-Ion battery storage in various occupancies. Chris will go over the updates to the International Fire Code, and what it means to fire investigators. We will also discuss what firefighters and hazmat technicians need to know to spread the message to the public and other agencies to ensure a full collaborative effort is made for DDR (Damaged, Defected, Recycled) batteries from inception to use to disposal/damage, and disposal.

**Basic.**

## T253 Hazmat Meters - Instrumentation and Detection Basics

Patrick Ryan

Having a practical understanding of what makes Hazmat instrumentation work is necessary to fully succeed as a Hazmat team member. Understanding how meters work and being able to generate actionable information using meters and simple, rapid tests during a Hazmat incident gives you an edge over the book-smart only crowd. What makes meters work, the limitations of commonly used meters and instruments, when they won't work, and what to do when they won't work is the focus of this class. Meters and instrumentation that will be discussed include "4-gas", PID, Raman, Infrared, Multi-threat combination meters, HPMS (908 Devices) and GC/MS.

**Basic.**

## T254 The Matrix of Detection: Putting the Pieces Together

Toby Frost

Technology! Today we have an entire suite of detection and identification tools from papers to GC/MS, and everything in between. But, how do we put them all together in the field to get our answers? In this presentation we will work our way through the matrix of tools available, leveraging their strengths and weaknesses to come to a solution. Several case studies will be used highlighting the need for overlapping technology. There is no perfect tool with all of the answers, but using what we have we can get there.

**Intermediate.**

## T255 HAZMAT Preparedness at Burning Man

Amanda Wagner, Luke Sloan

Attendees of large-scale entertainment events are often treated to large flame effects, interactive art installations, big sound demonstrations, and some attendees even contribute by building homemade structures and art pieces to demonstrate at the events. These experiences come with an array of potentially hazardous situations and substances that could pose a risk to human health and the environment. Come learn about some of the hazards encountered at one of the largest multi-day gatherings known as Burning Man including strategies for emergency management and discuss your own experiences with large-scale multi-day festivals and music events..

**Basic. Open to All Attendees**

## T256 Hazardous Communications Standard (29CFR 1910.1200) and how to teach to others

Nick Vent

The Hazard Communications standard has been updated. Say goodbye to the old 9 part MSDS and say hello to the 16 part SDS. Labels do not look the same. Pictographs are now included to make the US compatible with the rest of the world to a degree. We will go over all of the changes and I will even leave you with an electronic version you can use for your own updated HazCom Plan. OSHA does cite departments for non-compliance with the standard. Come find out if you are in compliance with the standard.

**Basic.**

2:45-3:15

## Afternoon Break

## 2-Hour Classes

3:15-5:00

## T271 Hydrogen Emergency Response Training

Todd Maas

This course will provide a basic overview of hydrogen and its use as a new fuel. It covers the safe design of systems, both gaseous and liquid, potential hazards of exposure, and a detailed review of internal incidents involving these systems along with appropriate responses to these incidents and lessons learned. There is an interactive section describing such incidents that allows audience participation in correct responses.

**Basic.**

## T272 Emerging Tech for Hazmat Teams

Chris Pfaff

During this presentation, we will discuss current and emerging technologies within the world of hazmat. From the lessons Chris has learned working with his 60-member team in Washington, we will discuss the basic history of his team in relation to training and equipment. We will then move on to some new technologies that have been recently available and emerging training formats that have grown in the past few years. We will then go over an analysis that your team may need and, more importantly, what they may NOT need.

**Basic.**

# Thursday Afternoon (continued) and Friday Morning

## T273 Hazardous Materials and the Wildland Fire Interface

Pete Jensen

This presentation and discussion is about how hazardous materials can and do become involved during wildland fire incidents. We will show real live examples and encourage sharing of other situations where a hazmat team or member has been needed to evaluate, provide advice or actions to stabilize an incident within the incident or prevent involvement. Should there be a Hazmat Specialist presence in the management team or in the Operations Section? Food for thought.

**Intermediate.**

## T274 Environmental, Hazardous Materials, Health and Safety Response to homeless encampment community cleanups.

Howard Wong, Gonzalo Barriga

What you need to know: What are some health and safety issues encountered? What are some hazardous substances hazardous materials found during cleanup operations, and how are the materials manifested and disposed of? The course will discuss some operational challenges in response to abating homeless encampments, focusing on health & safety, waste removal, and disposal.

**Basic.**

## T275 Data-Driven Emergency Response

Solana Foo

During an emergency response there are a lot of moving parts. Keeping everyone on the same page is essential. Online dashboards, web maps, and visualization tools provide a central location for viewing operational data. They can share real-time progress metrics and field data, promote worker safety, and get managers important information for planning. In this course we'll share how we've applied these tools in large-scale wildfire responses, train derailments, battery fires and mercury responses. We'll cover the entire workflow—from collecting data in the field to sharing it on internal and external dashboards and viewers. No prior knowledge of technology needed.

**Basic.**

## T276 Respiratory Protection Standard-What it is and How to Comply

Nick Vent

This course addresses general respiratory hazards, i.e. air purifying vs. atmosphere supplying, and how to determine which is appropriate to use. Discussion includes the revised federal/state respiratory standard and an update on revisions to 29 CFR, 1910.134. Letters of interpretation from OSHA providing clarification and a fill-in-the-blank respiratory protection program both available to participants will ensure compliance. We will discuss how to get your facility into compliance if you are not sure how.

**Basic. Best suited for those that are responsible for their department or companies Respiratory Protection Programs**

## F413 Risk Based Response to CNG Vehicles- The Bomb In Your Back Yard

Christopher Gould

CNG fuel cylinders contain over 24 times the pressure LPG cylinders contain and have unique construction features that cause them to explode during fire suppression activities sending shrapnel up to 3,900 feet away when traditional tactics are used. These vehicles have many inherent hazards which make them dangerous to work around. Without warning these vehicles can engulf civilians and responders in a high pressure ball of flame often leaving fully pressurized damaged or weakened cylinders behind that require depressurizing. Attendees will be taught how to identify these hazards, safely mitigate fires, rescue victims, and depressurize the remaining damaged cylinders.

**Advanced**

## Friday 4-Hour Classes 7:30- 11:30

### F411 History of Illegal Drug Labs and Current Manufacturing Trends

Brian Escamilla, Jackie Long

This course provides a broad historical review of Drug Labs in the United States and California specifically. The emphasis is placed on chemicals used, manufacturing methods, hazards that are presented to agency personnel and current trends in illegal manufacturing. The handout provided includes the text and pictures provided during the presentation.

**Basic**

### F412 Large Incident Case Studies

Robert Wise, Mark Durno, Dr. Ben Castellana, Fernando Florez

This course will consist of case studies of three large incidents: the Palestine Train Derailment, The Tustin Hangar Fire and the 1-10 Overpass Fire.

**Basic.**

### F414 Mercury Response and Cleanup

Robert Wise, Chris Myers

This course will provide a turnkey approach to responding to spills involving mercury. It will take the students from discovery through assessment to cleanup and the ultimate disposal of the waste. The course will cover topics such as mercury chemistry and toxicology, assessment and cleanup tactics, health and safety, instrumentation, community and media relations, and post cleanup cost recovery.

**Intermediate. Students must be trained to the 40 hour HAZWOPER standard or Hazmat Tech or Hazmat Specialist standards.**

### F415 Nuclear Bombs - Consequences, Preparedness, and Response

Carl Palladino, Tony Honnellio

A terrorist detonates a nuclear weapon on American soil; one of our nation's greatest fears. The devastating effects will likely overwhelm local, state, and federal response agencies. Is your agency prepared for this horrific event? Learn about the consequences of a nuclear detonation—a dramatic and sobering discussion. We will also provide you with preparedness and response recommendations.

**Basic.**





# Friday Morning (continued)

## F416 Continuing Challenge – Nuclear: Station Blackout – An Insider’s Perspective on Extreme Crisis Leadership during the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster

Chuck Casto

This seminar extracts leadership lessons from the leaders’ personal stories (primarily unpublished) during the Fukushima nuclear crisis. The Fukushima operators felt the uncertainty in their feet - We will pursue how the Fukushima leaders couldn’t merely persuade the operators to stay at the facility throughout unfathomable conditions. You will learn how they had to build trust by developing a common understanding. You will be exposed to the actual crisis conditions with challenges on how you would react. Then, you will learn how the Fukushima leaders reacted and discuss the leadership lessons for extreme crises.

**Advanced.**

## F417 Hands-on With Hybrid Decon

Frank Roberts

You need hands-on when doing Hybrid Decon. Opening kits, using REAL WORLD equipment, and testing procedures and techniques is the best way to understand how decon can suck less. This session is designed to immerse attendees into decon operations and implementation of kits and technologies driving decision making during our worst days of responding. Having an all-hazard, user friendly, and cost-effective approach to decontamination of HazMat and CBRNe missions reduces time in the suit, minimizes training needs and keeps money in the bank. Hands On with Hybrid Decon is ready to burn the bridge with antiquated techniques and labor-intensive processes.

**Intermediate. Hazmat Tech is Recommended**

## F418 Stump the Chump

Rob Wise

This course will be a panel discussion where experienced hazmat responders from various response fields include municipal, County, State, Federal and private response entities will make up a panel to take questions from the audience on a variety of topics in the hazardous materials response and cleanup field. Our job as the panel will be to answer all questions and your job as the audience will be to stump the panel. Prizes will be offered for those who can stump the panel, although this is highly doubtful, because we are hazmat gods!

**Basic. Interest in stumping the old guys!**

## F419 HazMat Officer- Strategies and Tactics- Are you Ready?

Toby Frost, Gary Sharp

From the initial IAP to Site Safety plan and everything in between, a lot has to happen quickly. HazMat Officers need to develop a quick, street-level, incident action plan (IAP) for small to large HazMat incidents. Topics include gaining situational awareness, analyzing the incident, setting incident priorities, establishing response objectives, recommending a strategy to the IC, and selecting tactics. From the initial IAP, to research, through successive IAPs you will have the battle board, forms, and tools to make it successful, and the practice to make them work with a simple repeatable process. Are you ready for the next one?

**Intermediate. The presentation is intended for those that could, or have filled the role of HazMat Officer**

## 2 hour Classes 7:30- 9:15

### F211 How DTSC Emergency Response Supports Local Agencies.

Brian Abeel, Patricia Cortez

This course will cover the various ways that the Department of Toxic Substances Control Emergency Response Unit assists local agencies in removing chemicals from Off-Highway abandonments, Illegal Drug Labs, and Disasters. Incident examples of assistance to local agencies will be presented.

**Basic.**

### F212 Lithium-ion Battery Fires & the “STATIC” Cleanup Phase

Ernie Hernandez, Nestor Montano

This course will recap several high-energy lithium-ion battery incidents in Los Angeles County and describe the corresponding efforts with de-energization, DOT packaging, and disposal. This course will also provide an overview of air monitoring techniques, safety procedures and fire response agency coordination.

**Basic.**



## F213 Analyzing a HazMat Incident: The Process, Problems, and Avoiding Traps

William Miller

Effective and safe HazMat/WMD response requires the ability to accurately evaluate data, assess hazards and formulate a plan. In this class, students will examine and explore the analysis process as it applies to HM/WMD response. Emphasis will focus on avoiding biases and traps that are too often part of this human endeavor. Unrecognized and unaccounted for, these traps (e.g. misuse of narratives, undetected and ignored data, silent experts, discounting non-conforming data, over simplification) can lead to dangerous black swan events. The instructor will use the response to an actual HazMat incident to illustrate the analysis process and its traps.

**Basic.**

## F214 Leveraging Your Hazmat Team Experience in the Promotional Process

Philip White

This instructor-led course is designed to inform hazardous materials team personnel seeking to promote to higher positions of responsibility in their organizations how they can leverage their hazardous materials team training and experience in the promotional process. Members of hazardous materials teams whether in the public or private service are provided unique opportunities to develop important leadership knowledge and skills used by front line supervisors, mid-management, and executives such as the fire chief. Examples include problem identification, the making of assessments, technical research, action planning, decision making.

**Basic.**

## F215 Introduction to Monitoring and Instrumentation

Robert Wise, Phil Solinski

This class will provide an overview of the strategy, tactics and types of monitoring instrumentation available to hazmat responders. It will provide a look at the differences between air monitoring and air sampling; interpretation of data; tactics for uses of air monitors; and descriptions and uses of instrumentation for chemical identification, assessment of soil and air monitoring.

**Basic.**



# Friday Morning (continued)

## F216 Outclassing Emerging Threats with Emerging Technology

Jeremy VanAuker

Explore the realm of emerging threats such as fourth generation agents (FGAs) and pharmaceutical-based agents (PBAs), which pose severe risks for chemical attacks. Following the Salisbury FGA incident in 2018, the US Department of Health and Human Services underscored the urgent need for improved detection capabilities. Delve into the evolution of chemical agents and learn how handheld mass spectrometry addresses detection challenges. This technology utilizes targeted libraries for precise threat identification and classification algorithms for newly synthesized agents. Engage in hands-on exercises to understand scenarios like trace residue detection and post-event decontamination verification.

**Basic.**

## F217 Research-So Much to Do, So Little Time!

Alan Finkelstein

This session will demonstrate computer-based research capabilities using a variety of free and proprietary software, both currently available and in development. There will also be a discussion on integration of software research with other modalities.

**Basic.**

**9:15 - 9:45**

**Morning Break**

**2-Hour Classes**

**9:45-11:30**

## F231 Pipeline Safety- Identification, emergency response, and how to ensure public safety

Jim Hosler

Pipeline Emergencies is designed to help fire service, industry emergency responders, regulatory agency personnel to be introduced to the knowledge and skills necessary to manage a pipeline incident safely and effectively. It is based upon nationally recognized engineering practices, recommended operating practices, and training programs.

**Basic.**

## F232 HM Response Case Studies - Mercaptan Incidents

Ernie Hernandez, Harmik Bazik, Arsenio Hernandez

This course will recap several mercaptan releases in Los Angeles County and describe air monitoring techniques, safety procedures and DOT packaging, and disposal issues.

**Basic.**

## F233 Hazmat Urban Legends

Vance Bennett

Was that alligator in the sewer really a mutant caused by exposure to methyl-ethyl-diforsuranol? Find out the answers to this and other mysteries as we skewer conventional wisdom and expose outright prevarication in this light-hearted look at what "everyone knows".

**Basic.**

## F234 The Path Forward: How Hazardous Materials Team Members Can Provide a Useful Service as Consultants

Philip White

This instructor-led course is designed to inform hazardous materials team personnel seeking to work as consultants what they need to do to be successful. Members of hazardous materials teams whether in the public or private service are provided unique opportunities to develop important environmental health and safety knowledge and skills sought after by private industry, government, and the military. In this course attendees will learn how to prepare to become recognized as a subject matter expert and a successful consultant on environmental health and safety issues.

**Basic.**

## F235 Emerging Zoonotic Diseases and the First Responder

Gail Obeso

Today's global, highly mobile society creates a unique opportunity for rapid introduction or re-introduction of zoonotic diseases to our communities. First responders in close contact with impacted populations are especially at risk. Traditional first responders—firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical service providers, USAR teams, public health workers, hospital healthcare providers—are not well trained to recognize the direct or indirect associations between animal health outcomes and human health. Come join the discussion on steps to protect responders and the community they serve.

**Basic.**

## F236 Transitional Area Monitoring for Modern Airborne Threats

Jeremy VanAuker

Traditional area monitors, while effective for VOCs, TICs, and gamma radiation, struggle to name more dangerous threats like CWAs and PBAs. Remote monitoring for CWA detectors is scarce, and aerosolized threats pose identification challenges. New technologies like the MX908 Beacon offer a leap forward, enabling remote operation and prolonged data viewing. This advancement enhances area monitoring, specifically for detecting and identifying vapor and aerosol CWAs and PBAs, addressing the limitations of traditional monitors.

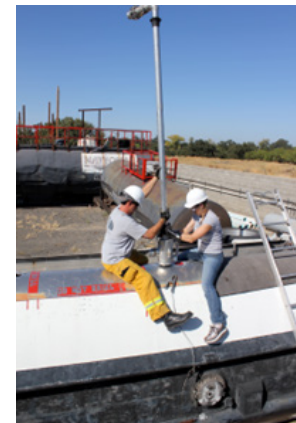
**Basic.**

## F237 Hazmat and the Fire Code-Good Friends

Alan Finkelstein

This presentation will explore ways that your local fire code can be used to help plan for and respond to hazmat incidents.

**Basic.**



Friday Lunch & Closing Ceremonies:  
Grand Ballroom 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m.

Time to thank all of you for being with us this year for our 35th Annual HazMat Workshop

# More from the past

## Award Winners

Awards Nominations for 2024 are now being accepted at [www.hazmat.org](http://www.hazmat.org). Under the “About Us” tab, click on “Awards”, where you can nominate someone you know for a deserving award!

### The William J Patterson

#### Lifetime Achievement Award

2022 – James Tate  
2021 Workshop Virtual, No Awards  
2020 Workshop Cancelled, Covid-19  
2019 - Charles Tobias Jr.  
2018 - Daniel Keenan  
2017 - Jack Fry  
2016 - Sonny Maguire  
2015 - Rob Born, Rich Martyn, Nick Vent  
2014 - Lt. Col. Michael Sather, 95th CST WMD  
2013 - Vicky Furnish  
2012 - Kelly Seitz, Santa Clara County FD  
2011 - James Zeigler, PhD  
2010 - Hildebrand & Noll Associates  
2009 - Paul Deis  
2008 - Michael Rohde  
2007 - Michael Brady  
2006 -  
2005 - John R. Gustafson  
2004 - Dale Foster  
2003 - John Maleta  
2002 - Jim O'Dommell  
2001 - Dean Dysart  
2000 - Gerald Gray  
1999 - Jan Dunbar

### The Leo K. Najarian

#### Responder of the Year Award

2022 – Emergency Response Section USEPA Region IX  
2021 Workshop Virtual, No Awards  
2020 Workshop Cancelled, Covid-19  
2019 - San Diego Regional HIRT  
San Diego County HIRT and San Diego Fire Department HIRT  
2018 - Dino Beitz  
2017  
2016- Michael Horn  
2015  
2014 - Todd Thalhamer  
2013 - West, Texas Fire Department  
2012 - Global Diving & Salvage, Inc.; Kyle Watson, Salvage Manager  
2011 - San Bruno Fire & Police Departments  
2010  
2009 - Jeff Carmen  
2008 - Charles Tobias  
2007 - Carter Davis  
2006 - United States Coast Guard  
2005 - Los Angeles Police Department HazMat Unit  
2004  
2003 - Tom Bass  
2002 - Arlington County Virginia Fire  
2001 - Richard Martyn  
2000 - Sonoma Valley HazMat Team  
1999

### The James H. Meidl

#### Instructor of the Year Award

2022  
2021 Workshop Virtual, No Awards  
2020 Workshop Cancelled, Covid-19  
2019 - Julian Valenzuela  
2018 - Todd Burton  
2017 - Brad Haldeman  
2016 - Randall “RW” Jones  
2015 - Christopher Wrenn  
2014 - Jim Tate  
2013 - Bill Wennhold  
2012 - David Ofwono, First On Compliance  
2011 - Paul Henlin  
2010 - Robert Hill  
2009 - Nick Vent  
2008 - Jack Fry  
2007 - Daniel K. Law  
2006 - H. Dieter Heinz, PhD  
2005 - Paul Deis  
2004 - Jeff Paullus  
2003 - Matthew Krinsky  
2002 - Charlie Wright  
2001 - Michael Callan  
2000 - John Bowen  
1999 - Maria Duazo & Dan Keenan

### The Continuing Challenge

#### Medal of Valor

2002 - FDNY Hazardous Materials Unit

#### Special Recognition

2010 - Tracy Gidel

### The Robert P. Turkington

#### Innovation and Technology Award

2022  
2021 Workshop Virtual, No Awards  
2020 Workshop Cancelled, Covid-19  
2019 - The HazMat Guys; Bobby Salvesen and Mike Manaco  
2018  
2017- Safe Environment Engineering  
2016 - Cal OES Fire & Rescue Branch Hazmat Section  
2015 - Alex Kass  
2014  
2013 - Edwards & Cromwell Spill Control  
2012 - Jerry Apodaca, Sacramento FD  
2011  
2010 - HazMat IQ, LLC  
2009  
2008  
2007 - The Cameo Team of NOAA & USEPA  
2006  
2005 - San Diego County Department of Environmental Health  
2004  
2003  
2002 - Johnathan Hall & LAPD HazMat Environmental Crimes Unit  
2001  
2000 - Carl Garbarino & Clyde Lansing  
1999 - Tim Capehart

Follow us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/TheContinuingChallenge](http://www.facebook.com/TheContinuingChallenge)



# Instructor Index

## LEAD INSTRUCTORS

Name .....	Course number
Brian Abeel.....	F211
Richard Alamo.....	T231
Vance Bennett.....	Z812, F233
Kenneth R. (Ken) Beutler.....	Z813
Danene Birtell.....	T232
Mark Bridges.....	T452
Michael Brogan.....	T236
C Scott Bunning.....	Z808
Chuck Casto.....	F416
Paul Christensen.....	W454
Jim Cornish.....	W254
Robert Dunivin.....	W278
Marcus Dunlap.....	T272
Brian Escamilla.....	T457, F411
Alan Finkelstein....	T457, T235, F237, F217
Harvard Fong.....	W271
Solana Foo.....	T276
Toby Frost.....	T255, T415, F419
Sheldon Fung.....	W251, T211
Juan Garcia.....	W274
Brandon Gayle.....	W259
Christopher Gould.....	F413
Gary Havner.....	Z809
M Haynes.....	T416

## LEAD INSTRUCTORS

Name .....	Course number
Joel Hendelman.....	Z802
Ernie Hernandez.....	F212, F232
Paul Horgan.....	T451
Jim Hosler.....	F231
Scott Hudson.....	W275
Hasti Javid.....	W258
Pete Jensen.....	T273
Daniel Keenan.....	Z805
David LeDuff.....	T233
Todd Maas.....	T271
Adam McFadden.....	W252, T215
Sharon McIntyre.....	W452, T414, T454
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Chris Pfaff.....	T273, T253, W257
Jon Poganski.....	T419
Karen Riveles.....	W276, W256, T234
Frank Roberts.....	F417
JP Robles.....	Z807
Adam Roha.....	T454
Rich Ruelas.....	W453, T214

## LEAD INSTRUCTORS

Name .....	Course number
Scott Russell.....	Z803
Patrick A Ryan,.....	W451, T254
Robert Salvensen.....	Z815
Rob Scott.....	Z814
Shannon Serre.....	W455
Daniel Talbot.....	T456, T414
Hoa Tan.....	Z801
Charles Tobias.....	T455
Jeremy VanAuker.....	F216, F236, W255
Nick Vent.....	W277, T257, T277, T413
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Chris Weber.....	Z806, T412, W272
Philip White.....	T251, F214, F234
Leon Wirschem.....	T411
Robert Wise.....	F215
Robert Wise.....	F412
Robert Wise.....	F414
Robert Wise.....	F418
Robert Wise.....	T453
Robert Wise.....	Z805
Howard Wong.....	T275
Chris Wrenn.....	Z810, W253, W273

## CO-INSTRUCTORS

Name .....	Course number
Deborah Anderson.....	Z801
Gonzalo Barriga.....	T274, T233
Harmik Bazik.....	F232
Ben Bosley.....	Z803
Dan Casner.....	Z812
Dr. Ben Castellana.....	F412
Nick Concolino.....	T211
Patricia Cortez.....	F217
Natalia Deardorff.....	Z801
Maria Duazo.....	Z805
Mark Durno.....	W455, F412
Alex Efros.....	W258
Kristina Escalante.....	Z808
Brian Escamilla.....	F411
Rachel Fabian.....	T234
Fernando Florez.....	F412

## CO-INSTRUCTORS

Name .....	Course number
Sheldon Fung.....	T455
Michael Hammett.....	W278
Arsenio Hernandez.....	F231
Tony Honnellio.....	W275, F415
Thaddeus Hunt.....	Z801
Kathleen Jennings.....	T234
Danny Kwon.....	W276
Jackie Long.....	F411
Elizabeth Marder.....	W276
Krystal Masalta.....	Z812
Greg McGowan.....	T232
Evan McKenzie.....	W455, T418
Nestor Montano.....	F212
Tim Murphy.....	T414
Chris Myers.....	F414
Chris Pfaff.....	T215

## CO-INSTRUCTORS

Name .....	Course number
Jacob Poganski.....	T420
Jon Poganski.....	Z805
Bill Potter.....	T455
Wagnus Prioleau.....	W274
Robert Rezende.....	T411
Tanya Ridgle.....	W274
Karen Riveles.....	W255
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Wesley Smith.....	T234
Phil Solinski.....	F215
Chuck Tobias.....	F418, T455
Dan Warchol.....	Z803
Gilbert Wong.....	Z809
Michael Ziccardi.....	T232



# Workshop Registration Information

## EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPENS online at: [www.hazmat.org](http://www.hazmat.org)

June 2024

COST IS \$700

## LATE REGISTRATION BEGINS: August 15, 2024

COST INCREASES TO \$800

Due to limited space,  
be sure to register right away.

Registration fees include:

- Workshop
- Lunch: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
- Dinner: Wednesday only

Payments MUST accompany registration.

## Meals

Lunch Wednesday Thursday and Friday, and dinner on Wednesday are included in the cost of registration. Join the rest of the attendees at these meals for an opportunity to network with emergency responders from around the world.

## On-Site Check-In Room -- Maxi's

Check in to receive workshop materials, class schedule/location, and additional information:

Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>  
3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>  
6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
(closed for lunch 11:00-1:00)

Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
(closed for lunch 11:00-1:00)

Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
(closed for lunch 11:00-1:00)

Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.



## REHS Continuing Education Contact Hours available

REHS Contact Hours are available at no charge.

Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) contact hours are available for all classes through California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

Be sure to speak to our REHS/CDPH coordinator during on-site check-in to get registered for your REHS contact hours.

All Continuing Challenge courses count since hazmat is one of the subjects for REHS.

**During registration packet pickup, those seeking REHS contact hours must check in with the REHS/CDPH representative who will provide further instructions.**

An estimate of REHS hours will be available during your initial check-in with the REHS/CDPH Coordinator. At the conclusion of the workshop, proof of attendance cards from the instructors of each class must be submitted to the REHS/CDPH Coordinator for the certification process.

There will be no charge for the REHS Certificate.

If you have any questions please feel free to email Ginger Hilton at [Ginger.Hilton@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Ginger.Hilton@cdph.ca.gov)

## Registration Questions?

E-mail [info@hazmat.org](mailto:info@hazmat.org) or  
call (916) 433-1688

Why should you create a Member Profile?

It's easy and quick and will help you stay up-to-date about the Continuing Challenge. You will need a member profile to submit forms online at this site.

NOTE: We never sell, give away, or distribute our mailing list in any form.

## Cancellation & Refund Policy

Registration fees will be refunded (less a \$100 processing and administrative fee) for written cancellation requests postmarked no later than August 10th.

- Refunds will not be issued for cancellations made or postmarked after August 10th.
- Refunds will not be issued for workshop no-shows.
- If you are unable to attend and wish to send a substitute you may do so at no extra charge if you provide substitute name and contact information via email at [info@hazmat.org](mailto:info@hazmat.org) prior to August 17, 2024. After that date, substitute must appear in person at the workshop and request the change.

Please note that if you do not cancel and do not attend, you are still responsible for payment.





# Continuing Challenge HazMat Workshop Crew



2014



2014



2010 CCC Crew



2012 Continuing Challenge Committee



THE CONTINUING CHALLENGE  
COMMITTEE & STAFF  
SEPT. 2009



2009



# Awards & Photo Contest

Awards Nominations for 2024 are now being accepted at [www.hazmat.org](http://www.hazmat.org). Under the “About Us” tab, click on “Awards”, where you can nominate someone you know for a deserving award!

Robert P. Turkington  
**Innovation and  
Technology**  
Sponsored by  
Bauer & Associates

James H. Meidl  
**Instructor of  
the Year**  
Co-Sponsored by  
California Specialized  
Training Institute  
& California State  
Fire Marshal

Continuing Challenge  
**Medal  
of  
Valor**

Sponsored by  
The Continuing  
Challenge  
Committee

William J. Patterson  
**Lifetime  
Achievement**  
Sponsored by  
Sacramento Fire  
Department

Leo K. Najarian  
**Responder of  
the Year**  
Sponsored by  
California State Fire  
Fighters Association

## The Continuing Challenge HazMat Photography Contest

**Enter Our HazMat Photography Contest for a chance to win...**

Enter your photo online at [www.hazmat.org](http://www.hazmat.org). Under the “About Us” tab you will click on the “Photo Contest” tab where you will find all the contest rules and be able to enter your photo and information about your photo.





# Lodging Information



## The DoubleTree by Hilton Sacramento is our Host Hotel

The address of the DoubleTree by Hilton Sacramento is below. The Fairfield Inn Sacramento Cal-Expo-Marriott and the Hilton Sacramento Arden West Hotel are our overflow hotels.

Host hotel  
DoubleTree  
by Hilton  
Sacramento  
2001 Point West Way  
(916) 929-8855  
or 800-686-3775

Overflow hotel  
Fairfield Inn  
Sacramento  
Cal Expo-  
Marriott  
1781 Tribute Rd  
(916) 920-5300  
or 800-321-2211

Overflow hotel  
Hilton  
Sacramento  
Arden West  
Hotel  
2200 Harvard St  
(916) 922-4700

The host hotel for the Continuing Challenge is the DoubleTree by Hilton, Sacramento, California. The Continuing Challenge HazMat room rates are: Single \$145 // Double \$145

For internet reservations, use our [www.hazmat.org](http://www.hazmat.org) website, and go under the workshop tab, then down to lodging there is a link for the DoubleTree. This link will give you the discounted room rate.

Telephone Reservations may be made by calling The DoubleTree by Hilton (916) 929-8855 for the front desk or toll free at (800) 686-3775. Ask for the HazMat "Continuing Challenge" group rate "CDTHAZ".

These Workshop rates will be available until all available rooms are reserved, but no later than August 6<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Please note: Generally the hotel is sold out 60 days in advance.

Make your reservations now!

The Continuing Challenge Workshop Committee would like to thank all of the great instructors for the best Hazmat training you can receive anywhere.



Thank you for attending the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Continuing Challenge HazMat Workshop. Your continued support makes it possible to provide high quality training!

**We are Looking forward to seeing you in 2025**

**Save the Date:  
September 2-5, 2025**



Continuing Challenge  
c/o Don Braziel  
11097 Grenache Way  
Elk Grove, CA 95624

These courses are designed  
for all individuals in the hazmat  
industry.

Our Purpose: The specific purpose for the Committee is to educate, encourage and promote safe inspection practices, response, intervention, mitigation and investigation of hazardous materials incidents in a manner that safeguards and protects the health and safety of the emergency responder and the general public. This purpose is achieved by conducting an annual hazardous materials conference known as the "Continuing Challenge Hazardous Materials Workshop." The Committee is comprised of government and industry emergency response organizations promoting timely and appropriate response to hazardous materials incidents that might occur within the community.

## The Continuing Challenge Workshop Committee

Dennis Smith, Chair

California Conservation Corps  
Melinda Allen

California Department of  
Corrections & Rehabilitation Fire

California Department of Fish and Wildlife,  
Office of Spill Prevention and Response  
Jim McCall  
Trisha Taniguchi

California Department of  
Public Health  
Ginger Hilton,  
Juan Garcia  
Willy Jenkins (Retired)

California Department of Transportation  
George Avila

California Environmental  
Protection Agency (CalEPA)  
Jason Boetzer,  
John Elkins,  
Paul Penn (Retired),  
Kristi Placencia

CalEPA California  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Trevor Anderson,  
Alan Ito (Retired),  
Nancy McGee,  
Ivan Rodriguez  
Cal EPA Office of  
Environmental Health Hazard Assessment,  
(OEHHA)  
Karen Riveles,  
Wes Smith

California Governor's Office of Emergency  
Services (Cal OES)

Cal OES, California Specialized  
Training Institute (CSTI)  
Mike Mudgett,  
James Tate,  
Paul Andrews

Cal OES, Fire, Rescue & Hazmat Division  
Brian Mancebo,  
Charles Tobias  
Ibrahim Koroma

Cal OES, Law Branch  
Sheldon Fung

California State  
Firefighters' Association  
Bob Hamilton

California Highway Patrol (CHP)  
Robert (Joey) Daniels,  
Reid Erickson,  
Benjamin Minick

Enmagine  
Paul Penn

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)  
Sheldon Fung (Retired)

Hazmat Transportation Consultant  
Paul Horgan

Honolulu Fire  
Dean Randall, (Retired),  
Wes Tonyama (Retired)

Office of Homeland Security  
State of Hawaii Department of Defense  
Sonny Maguire

Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM),  
State Fire Training  
Kris Rose

Sacramento County Environmental  
Management Department  
Heather Tanner,  
Ryon Artz

Sacramento Fire Department  
Jerry Apodaca, (Retired),  
Don Braziel, (Retired),  
Andy Ramos,  
Doug Ross,  
Dennis Smith, (Retired)  
Diana Yates (Retired)

San Diego Fire-Rescue Department  
Robert Rezende

United States Department of Homeland  
Security (DHS), Federal Emergency  
Management Agency, Region IX  
John Woytak

United States Environmental Protection  
Agency  
Greg Bazley,  
Rob Wise