MANAGING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELATED TRAFFIC INCIDENTS

NHI Course 133048
Managing Traffic Incidents and Roadway Emergencies
Module 12
Learning Objectives

- Identify methods for reducing the impact of hazardous materials related incidents.
- Discuss the importance of prior training for response and maintenance personnel.
Managing Hazardous Materials Related Traffic Incidents
Reduce the Impact of a Hazmat Incident

1. Approach the scene safely – consider wind direction and other weather conditions
2. Park at a safe distance upwind or upstream
3. Assess situation – noticeable spill, leaks, pungent odors, gases, fire, containment needs
4. Notice nearby waterways
Reduce Impact - (cont'd)

5. Stop or divert traffic until situation is determined
6. Cordon off area – establish safe zone
7. **Do not enter** area where you could become victim – leave it for entry and operations
8. Notice container type and markings
9. Serve as on-scene communication point
Reduce Impact - (cont'd)

10. Determine if evacuation is needed?
11. Ensure proper agencies are notified (state, local, clean-up, etc.)
12. Establish command post ASAP
13. Establish incident command system
14. Refer to *Emergency Spill Policy* (Non-Cargo)- Fla.
Example of Hazardous Material
Training Is Mandatory!
Hazmat Training

Prior training is mandatory for Hazmat response to ensure safety and effectiveness

- Intra-agency
- Understanding each agency’s responsibilities
- Know your training level limits
- Know where to go for best information
Hazmat Training Levels

**First Responder Awareness**
- Minimum level for all responders
- Involvement is to initiate emergency response

**First Responder Operations**
- Protect persons, property, environment containment
- Recommended level for police, fire, etc.
Hazmat Training Levels - (cont'd)

**Hazardous Materials Technician**
- Will stop the release of hazardous material
- Will know how to use special equipment
- Higher level of competency

**Hazardous Materials Specialist**
- Support Technicians
- Versed on specific substances
Hazmat Training Levels - (cont'd)

**On-Scene Incident Commander**

- Assumes control of incident scene
- Must have at least Operations level training
- Must know additional command structure, local plans, decontamination, and others
- Some areas designate by law who IC will be
- The Incident Commander in unified command confers with other heads of agencies
Haz-Mat Incident Management Example

Removed 2000 Gals Diesel

Removed the rest of the fuel
Haz-Mat Clean-up Example

Caltrans Cleanup

Managing Hazardous Materials Related Traffic Incidents
Sources to Assist with Managing Hazmat Incidents

- Emergency Response Guidebook
- Local Hazmat Response Manual
- Local Department of Emergency Management
- National Emergency Numbers
Recap

- **Safety** — the number one concern of responders
- **Train** — ahead of time as a team
- Have resource manuals
- Know where to get additional information, personnel, and equipment
- Use Unified Command with representation of all agencies
- **Do not operate outside of your level of training**
Video Presentation

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Exercise

[This slide does not display; it serves as place holder while the instructor introduces and explains the exercise.]
Review Learning Objectives

- Identify methods for reducing the impact of hazardous materials related incidents.
- Discuss the importance of prior training for response and maintenance personnel.