

Hazardous Materials Specialist Task Force Position Description

A. Functional Description

The Hazardous Materials Specialist is responsible for performing the various hazardous materials functions for the task force during incident operations. The Hazardous Materials Specialist reports directly to the Hazardous Materials Team Manager.

B. Description of Duties

The Hazardous Materials Specialist is responsible for the following:

1. Providing an initial and ongoing survey (detection, monitoring and sampling) for, and identification of, the presence of hazardous materials at search and rescue sites
2. Proficiency with the set up and use of the decontamination system in the US&R cache
3. Directing decontamination procedures for any task force member victim, canine, or equipment
4. Performing minor mitigation operations within the scope of the Hazmat Concept of Operations (CONOPS)
5. Assisting team managers in providing information to personnel regarding chemical data and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) compatibility and capability for tactical operations
6. Documenting all related information regarding the incident
7. Adhering to all safety procedures
8. Properly utilizing the detection monitors and devices in the US&R cache
9. Demonstrating proficiency in donning and doffing all personal protective equipment in the US&R cache
10. Demonstrating proficiency in building triage and US&R marking systems
11. Working with Logistics Team personnel to establish and maintain a regular maintenance schedule for HazMat cache items as required, including calibration, battery charging, function tests and field repair
12. Performing regular assessments of the Base Camp
13. Performing regular assessments of the base of operations for hazardous conditions, such as carbon monoxide from generators, or any other contaminants
14. Establishing and maintaining a liaison with HazMat personnel from the Incident Support Team (IST) and other task forces
15. Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned during a mission

C. Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Hazardous Materials Specialists in the National US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent hazardous materials assessments and advice to task force personnel in the urban disaster environment.

Hazardous Materials Specialist Task Force Position Description (continued)

D. Required Training

The Hazardous Materials Specialist shall adhere to the following:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
2. Meet and maintain the requirements as a certified Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response
3. Meet and maintain the AHJ competencies in accordance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician
4. Complete the *FEMA US&R Hazardous Materials Specialist - Instructor-Led Training* (Course Code: 9P5531)
5. Complete the required technical rescue skill sets and additional required rope rescue skills as defined in Appendix A of this Annex

E. Recommended Training

The Hazardous Materials Specialist should complete the following:

1. *Response to Radiological/Nuclear WMD Incident Course* (Course Code: PER-354) offered by the U.S. Department of Energy Nevada National Security Site, Center for Radiological/Nuclear Training (CTOS)

NOTE: An older version of this course was titled: *Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological/Nuclear for Hazardous Materials Technician for Hazardous Materials Technician* course (Course Code: PER-241)

2. *Hazardous Materials Technologies: Sampling, Monitoring, and Detection* course (Course Code: HT PER-261) offered by the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP)

NOTE: An older version of this course was titled: *WMD Hazardous Materials Technician Training (HT) Course* (Course Code: PER-261)

3. Conduct training with the task force water purification system in the US&R Equipment cache
4. Familiarize themselves with the *US&R Operations Manual Annex B: US&R Operations in Contaminated Environment Concept of Operations (ConOps)*