

"Training tools for an increasingly complex and dangerous job"



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"Response to Anthrax Threats"

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About anthrax

Anthrax is a biological agent which typically infects warm-blooded animals such as cattle, sheep, goats, and camels. Humans may be infected if they are exposed to the hides of diseased animals, eat contaminated meat, or inhale spores. Unless they are treated quickly, victims often die.

Harmful anthrax spores may be manufactured and stored. Lately the threat of anthrax contamination has been used by those seeking to disrupt activities at a location. Most anthrax scares are hoaxes, however local emergency personnel must prepare to deal with such threats with a calm, measured response to prevent widespread panic among the population.

About the program

It is important that the response to an anthrax threat be in proportion to the level of danger at the incident scene. "Response to Anthrax Threats" focuses on letter or packages that claim to contain anthrax. Illustrating guidelines from the National Defense Preparedness Office, a consortium of federal agencies, the program outlines the five common scenarios requiring an anthrax response:

- A threat is made by telephone or other means, but no package is discovered
- An unopened letter or package is discovered that claims to contain anthrax
- A package is opened that claims to contain anthrax, but no suspicious material is included
- A package or letter is opened that claims to contain anthrax, and a suspicious substance is found

- A suspicious substance is found, but no threat has been made.

Appropriate response procedures for each scenario are described.

"Response to Anthrax Threats" stresses that every anthrax incident must be treated as a crime scene, regardless of whether anthrax is actually involved. It explains the role of local law enforcement and the FBI, and provides guidelines for calling in the fire department, hazmat team, and local health officials.

The program tells how to manage victims who may have become contaminated by the product and describes the symptoms of infection for three types of exposure: inhalation, ingestion and cutaneous. It stresses that anthrax is not a contagious disease, and shows why spores are unlikely to cause harm beyond the immediate site of exposure.

Other topics covered by the program include use of hazmat protocols, decontamination, managing evidence, protective clothing for responders, dealing with the 'worried well,' and clean-up. 25 minutes.

About the technical committee

Emergency Film Group programs are created with the assistance of leaders in emergency response training. Technical committee members for "Response to Anthrax Threats" include the following authorities:

- **Tom Abbott**, Chief, Tempe (AZ) Fire Dept. Tom has been a member of the Tempe Fire Dept. since 1975, where he currently manages the Departments' Special Operations Section.

- **Rem Gaade**, Gaade & Associates, Toronto, Ont. Former Chief of Hazardous Materials and Special Operations, Fire Fighting Division of the Toronto Fire Department. Rem has 35 years of fire service experience. He was chairman of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs' HazMat committee and is a member of the Standing Committee on

Hazardous Materials and Activities of the National Fire Code of Canada.

- **Rick Emery**, Emery & Associates, Vernon Hills, IL. Richard served over 23 years in the fire service as EMS Coordinator, Training Officer, Bomb & Arson Team Coordinator, Hazardous Materials Officer, Shift Commander and Acting Fire Chief. He is a Subject Matter Expert for the Department of Defense Domestic Preparedness training program.

- **William Patrick**, Biological Warfare Consultant. With 48 years of experience in the field of biological warfare, Mr. Patrick was one of the leading scientists in the early U.S. offensive biological weapons program. Since retiring from government service in 1986, he has worked as a consultant to the U.S. government and private organizations.

- **Glen Rudner**, Regional Hazardous Materials Response Officer, Virginia Department of Emergency Services, Dumfries, VA. Glen served previously with the Alexandria (VA) Fire and EMS Department as a Hazmat Specialist.

About the filmmakers

Gordon Massingham, director. For over 25 years one of the world's leading creators of emergency response training. Winner of more than 130 national and international awards.

Michael Cataldo, assistant director on many EFG projects as well as production designer, actor and art director.

About the Emergency Film Group

Emergency Film Group, a division of the Detrick Lawrence Corp., was established to distribute quality training films for emergency response and right to know education. Firmly committed to accuracy, EFG uses the best qualified advisors and production crews to ensure that programs are not only exciting to watch, but are also accurate in every detail.

EFG's worldwide list of customers range from the largest petrochemical companies, to government agencies, to small town fire departments. Every film comes with EFG's 30-day money-back guarantee if the customer is not satisfied. For a free color catalog describing all programs available from the Emergency Film Group, please call the toll-free number below.

Pricing information for Response to Anthrax Threats

Video/DVD plus wallet cards

VHS-\$450 DVD-\$450

Rental-\$150 Preview-\$20

Other standards and formats available - please call for prices. Shipping & handling extra unless order is prepaid (US only). Prices are in US currency

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