



# Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team Program

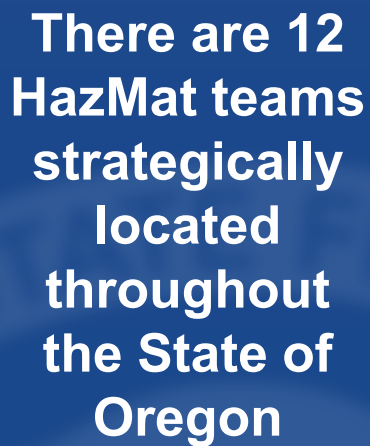
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# Mission

The mission of the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams is to protect life and the environment by responding to chemical emergencies and minimizing the dangers associated with them.





## HazMat Response Regions





# History

- In 1989 Oregon became the first state to create a statewide Regional Hazardous Materials Response system, coordinated by the Oregon Department of the State Fire Marshal.
- The teams consist primarily of career and volunteer firefighters, with some law enforcement and public works employees



# Capabilities

- Teams respond to hazardous materials emergency incidents that exceed the resources of local jurisdictions.
- Teams have received specialized training and equipment through a combination of funding through the petroleum load fee and DHS grants to prepare them for response to hazardous materials incidents, to include Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE) incident.
- Transportation and industrial accidents, hazard assessment and characterization, phone consults, Level A, B, C PPE and technical decontamination assets.



# Training

- Team members must attend and complete 160-hours of specialized training to qualify as a hazardous materials technician.
- Must complete annual refresher training and the RHMERT Task Book every 2 years.
- Technician training is standardized in Oregon:
  - Technical Equipment Operation FTIR/Raman Spec, Drager Tubes, Gas Detection Monitors, Radiation Detection Equipment
  - Rail Response Hazards and Industrial Kits: A Kit, B Kit, C Kit (Ammonia, Chlorine, High Pressure Cylinders)
  - Grounding & Bonding, Plug and Patch, Dome Clamps, Liquid Leaks and Boom Deployment
  - On Site Hazard Assessment: Cameo, PEAC WMD, Wiser, Hazmat Resources
  - 12 Training Lanes: Clandestine, industrial, transportation, multi-casualty, Rail Response, White Powder/Unknown Hazards (Allows training in multiple response positions)

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Team Program**



# When to Contact HazMat Teams:

- When the local first responder on scene determines that an incident is beyond their capability
- Any amount of radioactive materials or extremely hazardous substances
- Anytime you have questions or would like a phone consultation
- Anytime there's been exposure by the public or responders



# Team Response Options:

- Telephone consult
- On-site advisory
- On-site analysis
- Small team response
- Expanded team response
- Multiple team response



# Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team Program

- It is your responsibility to report any HazMat incidents to the State of Oregon.
- The following is exempted from this reporting requirement:
- Fuels spilled in quantities of <42 gallons from a vehicle, unless it enters a waterway or is determined to endanger public safety or the environment
- Sewage overflows



# Cost Reimbursement:

- State bills the Responsible Person
  - The Hazardous Materials Response Team, operating as a contractor to the State Fire Marshal's Office, will be generating documentation and an invoice for reimbursement of emergency response costs. This invoice will be forwarded to the State Fire Marshal's Office who, in turn, will bill the responsible person.
- No cost for phone consultation



# If You Requested a HazMat Team, they may ask of you:

- A functioning Incident Command System – HazMat will become a Branch
- Additional personnel to assist with the decon process and possibly for emergency back-up or rescue; usually a fire engine
- An ALS ambulance for the HazMat team

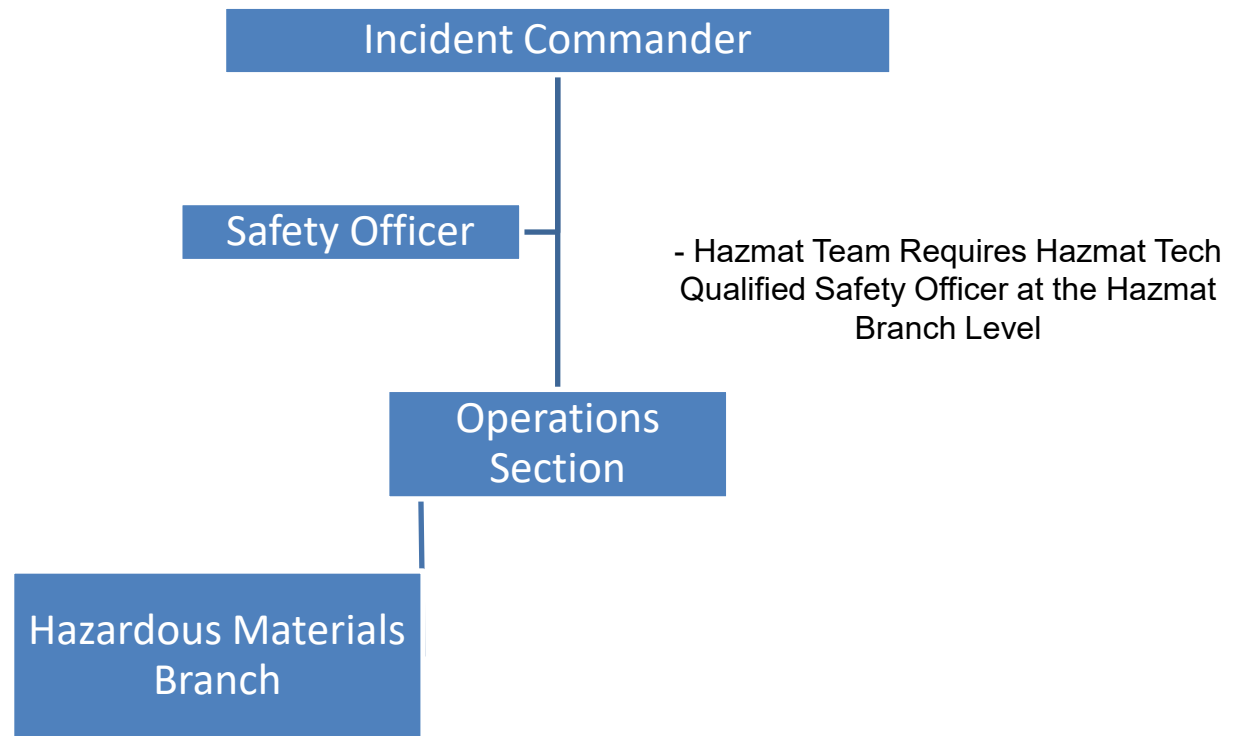


# Other Needs During the Incident:

- Access to water for decontamination
  - Engines; tenders; hydrants
- Communications
  - Radio channel/frequency being used by command
- Logistical support
  - Food; water; restrooms; fuel
- Access to local maps/access points
- Assistance with setup and takedown
- Access to local contacts and resources
  - Public Works; contractors; law enforcement; hardware stores



# The HazMat Team will not take Command of Your Scene/Incident





# HazMat Team Assessment: First Responder Actions

The HazMat Team will contact you to discuss:

- Look up known chemicals en route
- Review fire hazards
- Review health hazards
- Confirm PPE
- Set initial evacuation zone or shelter in place
- Choose fire control measures
- What guide # do you use if you have an unknown hazard?
- Discuss onsite resources available



# How to Contact a HazMat Team:

OERS: 1-800-452-0311



# Questions?