

MAJOR PROGRAM POINTS

"HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECURELY: DOT IN-DEPTH HAZMAT SECURITY TRAINING"

**For the Department of Transportation's
49 CFR 172.700 Subpart H Training Requirements**

Outline of Major Points Covered in the "DOT In-Depth HAZMAT Security Training" Course

The following outline summarizes the major points of information presented in the course on "DOT In-Depth HAZMAT Security Training". The outline can be used to survey the course before taking it on a computer, as well as to review the course when a computer is not available.

- **On February 26, 1993 a foreign terrorist cell detonates a rented van filled with a fertilizer-based explosive in the parking garage of the World Trade Center.**
 - The blast kills six people and injures more than one thousand, but fails to topple the tower.
- **On April 19, 1995 a domestic militant group detonates a truck filled with an explosive mix of fertilizer and diesel fuel outside the Alfred P. Murrah building in Oklahoma City.**
 - Sixty-eight people were killed, including nineteen children.
- **Every day millions of tons of hazardous materials are safely transported by trucks, trains, planes, ships and pipelines to facilities throughout the country.**
 - In the wrong hands, however, they can... and have... been used as weapons against us.
- **Unfortunately, it took the September 11th tragedy for the country to realize that we need to protect ourselves every day from terrorists who murder and destroy in unprecedented ways.**

- **As part of a comprehensive strategy to protect the United States from future terrorist attacks, the Department of Transportation has added a number of security requirements to its HAZMAT regulations.**
 - As part of these changes all companies that transport or cause the transportation of hazardous materials must provide security training for their employees.
- **There are two levels of HAZMAT security training required by the DOT.**
 - Security awareness training".
 - "In-depth security training".
- **"Security awareness training", must be given to all "HAZMAT employees." This includes workers who:**
 - Load.
 - Deliver.
 - Otherwise directly affect the transportation of hazardous materials.
- **This "awareness" training must do three things:**
 - Explain how terrorists might use hazardous materials to carry out an attack.
 - Help workers to recognize the signs of a security threat.
 - Teach employees how to respond to security breaches.
- **Employees must receive "in-depth security training" if their company is required by the DOT to have a written "security plan".**
- **In-depth security training ensures that employees understand the areas covered by their company's security plan, such as:**
 - Knowing the security risks in transporting specific hazardous materials.
 - Recognizing possible security threats at their facility.
 - Knowing their company's security objectives.
 - Understanding how security is managed and organized at their facility.

- **In-depth security training also focuses on how to perform specific security procedures.**
 - It spells out employees' responsibilities in the event of a security breach or attack as well.
- **This training is critical.**
 - You and your coworkers may be the first line of defense in preventing a terrorist attack.
- **Years ago terrorists tended to rely on conventional military weapons.**
 - But today, because of their availability and ability to cause major damage and inflict mass casualties, the weapons of choice are often hazardous materials.
- **To prevent hazardous materials from being used as weapons of mass destruction the Department of Transportation requires most HAZMAT shippers to create and maintain a written "security plan".**
- **Your company must have a written security plan if it ships hazardous materials that:**
 - Must be placarded.
 - Are in bulk shipping containers.
 - Are radioactive, specified explosives or extremely hazardous toxins.
- **Whether you are a dispatcher, truck driver, warehouse worker or you order hazardous materials, an important part of your job is to know the security measures that you must follow:**
 - For this reason, the DOT requires your employer to provide you with the written portions of their security plan that pertain to your job.
- **Your facility's security plan must be kept confidential.**
 - It contains detailed information that could be useful to terrorists and other criminals.

- **Never talk about the plan with "outsiders", friends or family.**
 - Be careful discussing details of the security plan with coworkers as well (part of the plan may have been shared with you on a "need-to-know" basis only).

- **To get a better understanding of potential security threats and general security objectives, let's look at how a typical HAZMAT security plan is created.**

- **The first step is to perform a security vulnerability analysis. This risk assessment of your facility and the way that hazardous materials are currently handled will:**
 - Help to pinpoint "targets of opportunity."
 - Identify security measures that need to be improved.

- **There are three main areas to look at when performing a security vulnerability analysis:**
 - Ensuring that company employees will not cause intentional, or unintentional, security breaches.
 - Looking at ways that terrorist could enter a facility to sabotage it or steal hazardous materials.
 - Analyzing how HAZMAT shipments are protected from theft, sabotage and hijacking.

- **The easiest way for a facility's security to be compromised is from the inside. Internal threats can be the most dangerous, since employees:**
 - Have knowledge of the facility's layout and security procedures.
 - May even have access to sensitive areas.

- **So it is important for all facilities that deal with hazardous materials to conduct background checks on everyone who works there, including:**

- **Additional measures that can help to prevent a security breach from within include:**
 - Conducting spot checks of personal vehicles and lockers.
 - Having visitors show identification and sign in.
 - Accompanying visitors while they are at the facility.

- **You should notify you company's management or police if you:**
 - See something suspicious.
 - Suspect that someone at your facility may be involved in criminal or terrorist activity.

- **The second step in performing a security vulnerability analysis is to create a list of all of the different hazardous materials that are stored at, and transported to and from, your facility.**
 - Include the quantities and physical state of the materials.
 - Then determine which substances could be used as "weapons of mass destruction".

- **If your company transports biological materials or infectious waste you will also need to determine if these substances could be used as weapons.**

- **Once the hazardous materials in your facility have been listed, and their potential for use as weapons has been analyzed, the next step is to look at the security measures that are currently in place.**
 - You can then determine what can be done to improve security, both at your facility and while HAZMATs are being transported.

- **In many ways protecting a facility from terrorism is much easier than protecting individual HAZMAT shipments.**
 - In facilities, barriers like fencing and walls can be used to prevent unauthorized access.

- **Frequent patrols by security guards and other employees can help to discourage people from breaking into a facility as well. Other deterrents include:**
 - Bright lights.
 - Security cameras.
 - Alarm systems.

- **It is also important to have secured gates at all access points. Gates should:**
 - Be locked when not in use.
 - Closely monitored for signs of trespassing.

- **If possible, entry to the facility should be through a single, well-guarded accessway.**
 - Parking for visitors should be outside the main perimeter of the facility.

- **Before allowing a delivery vehicle on the premises:**
 - Make sure that the shipment is expected.
 - Ask to see the vehicle operator's commercial driver's license or other photo identification.
 - Verify the driver's name and vehicle number with the company that they say they work for.
 - Make sure that shipping papers and other documentation are in order.
 - Thoroughly inspect the vehicle and its cargo.

- **Gates should be closed immediately after a vehicle passes.**
 - This prevents another vehicle from entering the facility without stopping for security clearance.

- **At "high risk" facilities, suicide attacks can be prevented through the use of:**
 - Concrete barriers.
 - Perimeter trenches.
 - Other obstacles.

- **In addition to controlling access and protecting the perimeter of a facility, it is equally important to safeguard hazardous materials by locking them inside of buildings or other secure areas.**
 - Valves on tanks and storage vats should also be locked.

- **Other facility security measures that should be considered include:**
 - Using a sign-out system for keys to restricted areas.
 - Performing frequent inspections to make sure that no one has tampered with locks or other security equipment.
- **Inventories of hazardous materials should be conducted regularly as well, to determine if there are any shortages.**
- **Hazardous materials are most vulnerable to theft and sabotage while they are being transported.**
 - But there are several things that can be done to protect them before they even "hit the road".
- **One of the best things is to establish a "crisis communication system", so that vehicle operators know how to communicate problems to:**
 - Their home terminal.
 - Emergency responders.
 - Law enforcement.
- **If hazardous materials are routinely shipped to the same facility, it's a good idea to vary the schedule and the route that the deliveries will take.**
 - This makes it more difficult for someone to plan a hijacking.
- **In general, it is better to make several smaller deliveries of hazardous materials than one large delivery.**
 - This limits the amount of material that might fall into the hands of a terrorist group.
 - It also reduces the likelihood of the substances being used as "weapons of mass destruction".
- **Shipments of highly hazardous materials, such as biological agents or explosives, may need to have guards assigned to them from an internal security force or an outside agency.**

- **If your facility uses other companies to transport hazardous materials:**
 - Check the security measures that they have in place.
 - Make sure that they have performed background checks on their employees.
- **The way that hazardous materials are protected during transportation will largely depend on how they are shipped. However, you should always be especially aware of:**
 - "Last minute" shipments that require rush processing.
 - Shipments that are going to unfamiliar customers or suspicious destinations.
- **If you have any concerns about a shipment, tell your supervisor.**
- **Once HAZMAT shipments are en route they become easy targets for sabotage, theft and hijacking unless there are security measures in place to protect them.**
- **Since HAZMAT shipments that are sent by truck are especially easy targets, let's look at how to secure these loads.**
 - Many of these principles will apply to other forms of transportation as well.
- **If you are a HAZMAT trucker you will need to be extra cautious, especially when you are working alone.**
 - Always perform a pre-trip inspection.
 - Check to see that the load and the doors on your trailer are secured properly and locked.
 - Install "security seals" on trailer doors so that you can easily see if anybody tries to tamper with your load.

- **If you make regular deliveries to the same facility:**
 - Choose routes that are as short as possible.
 - Try to vary the roads that you take.
 - Travel on major roadways when you can.
 - But avoid going through tunnels, over bridges and past heavily populated areas.

- **Check in with your dispatcher frequently.**
 - Inform them of any delays or detours that you have to take.
 - But don't talk about your loads or give details about your route over CB radios or cellphones, since terrorists may be eavesdropping.

- **Many HAZMAT shippers use satellite positioning technology to monitor the location of their vehicles.**
 - This can alert a dispatcher to a hijacking.
 - It also gives law enforcement agencies invaluable assistance in finding a stolen vehicle.

- **When transporting hazardous materials you should avoid stopping for breaks.**
 - If you must stop, select locations on well-traveled roads.
 - If you are stopping at night make sure that you park in a well-lit area.
 - Lock your vehicle whenever you leave it.

- **While you are stopped keep an eye on your vehicle.**
 - And remember, "Loose lips create terrorists tips!" (so don't talk about what you are carrying or where you are heading).

- **Check your vehicle after each stop to make sure nothing has been tampered with.**
 - But don't let anyone sneak up on you.
 - If a stranger does approach, calmly walk to a well-lit area where there are other people around.

- **You should also avoid layovers.**
 - Use two drivers when possible, so you don't have to stop for the night.

- **When you are on the move, keep an eye out for vehicles that may be following you.**
 - If you think that you are being followed call 911 immediately and give your location.
 - Stay off back roads.
 - Give yourself room to maneuver so that you can't be "sandwiched" between other vehicles.
- **If you are involved in unloading hazardous substances you should verify that the materials you are receiving have not been tampered with in any way.**
- **Make sure that shipping papers are in order. If you find anything unusual:**
 - Verify the driver's identity.
 - Check with your supervisor.
- **Look for signs of tampering with locks and valves.**
 - Also check to make sure that containers have not been damaged or opened.
- **If a container is damaged in any way refuse it.**
 - Report any evidence of tampering or theft to your management as well, so that they can contact law enforcement.
- **Once a shipment has been unloaded, close warehouse doors immediately.**
 - Remember, keeping terrorists "locked out" is one of the simplest ways to protect HAZMATs throughout the transportation process.
- **By keeping the hazardous materials that you deal with out of the hands of terrorists, you are disarming them of the weapons that they need to carry out their plots.**

***** SUMMARY *****

- **Understand your company's security objectives.**
- **Know your role and responsibilities in implementing your facility's HAZMAT security plan.**
- **Look for signs of terrorist activity.**
 - Report anything suspicious to law enforcement.
- **Remember, "Loose lips create terrorists tips!"**
 - So don't talk about your company's security plan or the hazardous materials that you handle.
- **Make sure that HAZMATs are secured at all times.**
- **Use delivery routes that minimize opportunities for theft, hijacking or sabotage.**
- **Maintain contact with vehicle operators while shipments are on the road.**
- **Terrorists will try to use hazardous materials to strike at us again.**
- **But by following your facility's security plan, and reporting suspicious situations, you can help to protect yourself, your company and your country from terrorist attacks!**