Special Operations Response to Hazardous Materials Incidents on the Highway

Presented By
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Sarasota County Fire Department
Sarasota County Fire Department
Special Operations
Assets and Capabilities

- 54 Member Type II WMD/Haz Mat Team
- State deployable under the Statewide Emergency Response Plan (SERP).
- 8 team members deployable immediately upon dispatch.
- Balance can be recalled within 20 minutes.
- Self-sustained for 72 hours.
Four Missions of Special Operations

- Hazardous Materials Response (28%)
- Heavy Vehicle Extrication (17%)
- Technical Rescue (1%)
  - Confined spaces
  - Trench / collapse
  - High angle
- Support of Department Operations (54%)
  - Structural fires
  - First response medical when others not available
Squad 8 – First Out
Squad 8 / Haz Mat Equipment

- **Four Gas Detectors-Two Types**
- **Photo and flame ionization detectors**
- **Safe Site MTX Kit**
- **Radiological detection & identification**
- **Travel IR (infrared)**
- **25 Bags Absorbent (oiliphilic/hydrophobic)**
- **150 Feet Absorbent Boom**
Squad 8 Equipment

ITX Four Gas Detector

- O2 Levels
- CO Levels
- H2S Levels
- % Flammability
- Lower Explosive Limits
Squad 8 Equipment

Safe Site MTX
- Stand Off Detection
- Multiple Detectors
- SafeCom Base Unit
- 2 Mile Data Transmission
- 4 Detector Units
Squad 8 Equipment

MSA Sirius 5 Gas Detector

- % Flammability/LEL
- Oxygen Levels
- H2S Levels
- CO Levels
- Photo ionization for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)
- Bluetooth Belt Bridge to Safe Site Units
Squad 8 Equipment

Identifinder

- Gamma Spectroscopy Instrument
- Identifies Specific Isotopes
- Internal Database
- Also Measures Dose Rate
- Computer Downloadable Data
Squad 8 Equipment

Travel IR

- Infrared Technology
- Identifies Liquids/Solids
- Extensive Chemical Library
- New Compact Model Available/Receiving in Early 2009
Fire Station 8 Supplies Cache

- 200 Gallons Class B Foam (5 gal. buckets)
- Two Additional Pallets Bagged Absorbent
- 750 Feet Additional Absorbent Boom
- Additional Overpack Drums
- Reserve Unit/Squad 9
- Tow Vehicle and Support Trailers
Haz Mat Support Trailer
Haz Mat Trailer Equipment

- Sustainment Equipment and Supplies.
- Bulk Personal Protective Equipment for Repeated Entries.
- “People Mover” (Kubota Diesel)
- Supports a “Base of Operations”
- Food, Sundries, Sleeping Supplies to Support 72 Hours.
Kubota “People Mover”
Additional Trailers
Special Operations Tow Vehicle
Initial Response to Highway Incidents

- Known or Unknown Haz Mat, Use Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)
- Command Established at All Incidents
- Command Usually at a Fixed Position
- If More Than One Jurisdiction/stakeholders Involved, Unified Command Will Be Used
The Incident Commander

- Responsible for Overall Incident Management
- Assess Incident Priorities
- Determine Strategic Goals/Tactical Objectives
- Develop Incident Action Plan
- Manage Incident Resources and Coordinate Outside Agencies
- Coordinate Overall Emergency Activities
Command Structure

Incident/Unified Command
- PIO
- I/C Aide
- Liaison
- Safety

Operations
- Fire
- Law
- EMS
- Special Ops
Tanker Accident/US 41 & 681
Command Post
Absorbent Boom Applied
Haz Mat Operations
Product Transfer/Foam Protection
Vehicle Recovery
I-75 Gasoline Tanker Fire
Vehicle Recovery
Bridge Fire Damage
Concrete Spalling Under Bridge
Thank You

Questions?

Sarasota County Special Operations Units and Personnel are
Located at 6750 Bee Ridge Road
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