

Chapter 12 – Hazardous Material Spills/Waste Operations

1. General

- a. Workers responding to a hazardous materials/hazardous substances (HAZMAT) or hazardous waste (HAZWASTE) spill or emergency and workers performing hazardous waste operations may be exposed to physical, chemical and/or biological hazards during performance of their duties.
- b. Most HAZMAT and HAZWASTE spill response operations outside of established hazardous waste sites are conducted in accordance with site-specific written emergency action plans. References 12-1, 12-2 and 12-3 provide guidance and requirements concerning emergency action plans.
- c. Spill responses and normal operations involving hazardous waste storage, treatment and disposal within established hazardous waste sites will follow written safety and health plans and written emergency response plans, as specified in references 12-2 and 12-3. Reference 12-4 also provides additional regulatory guidance on hazardous waste sites.

2. Industrial Hygiene Support

- a. The majority of the HAZMAT and HAZWASTE spill responses are handled by specially-trained and equipped workers or HAZMAT Response Teams following specific response procedures and protocols where the need for industrial hygiene (IH) support during the actual spill response would be minimal. However, response to large or dangerous spills may require IH support at the spill site. In these instances, IH typically provides technical assistance and consultation as requested by the designated environmental manager, site safety and health supervisor or incident commander.
- b. Standard IH work practices, as outlined by reference 12-5 and other chapters in this manual, which may be used when providing IH support include:
 - (1) Performing preliminary evaluation of written emergency action plans, safety and health plans and emergency response plans.
 - (2) Conducting health hazard assessments and health risk assessments.
 - (3) Determine the need for engineering controls.
 - (4) Identifying appropriate personal protective equipment.
 - (5) Recommending work practice or administrative controls.
 - (6) Providing Occupational Safety and Health or Hazard Communication training.
 - (7) Performing workplace and personnel monitoring.

3. Training

- a. If the requested IH support involves assisting with or providing training other than Hazard Communication training, then the IH must be certified as a trainer following the requirements specified in references 12-2, 12-3 and 12-6.



- b. If the requested IH support requires the IH to physically enter an established hazardous waste site, then the IH must receive the proper training, including Hazardous Waste Operator (HAZWOPER) training, as specified in references 12-2, 12-3 and 12-6, prior to entering the hazardous waste site.

4. References

- 12-1. Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1910.38 (29 CFR 1910.38) – Emergency Action Plans <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910>
- 12-2. Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1910.120 (29 CFR 1910.120) – Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910>
- 12-3. Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1926.65 (29 CFR 1926.65) – Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926>
- 12-4. Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 260 through 273 (40 CFR 260 - 273) – Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) <https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations>
- 12-5. Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) Instruction 5100.23 (latest revision) – Navy Occupational Safety and Health Program Manual <https://doni.documentservices.dla.mil/default.aspx>
- 12-6. Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) Instruction 5090.1 (latest revision) – Navy Environmental Readiness Program Manual <https://doni.documentservices.dla.mil/default.aspx>

