



Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council



# Dist VIII HazMatters

SUBJECT: 3rd Quarter *HazMatters*

The Tampa Bay LEPC met on August 1 and September 26, 2001 at the offices of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. Staff attended the, LEPC Staff and Chairs Meeting, and the State Emergency Response Commission Meeting on July 5-6, 2001 in Tallahassee.

Last quarter fiscal year training was conducted at the technician level. The LEPC partnered with the Pinellas County Hazardous Materials Team to provide a Basic Meters Course in Advanced Air Monitoring Training given to Pinellas County HAZMAT Team technicians. This training, provided by Docimo and Associates comprised three 8-hour classes, taught on three consecutive days - August 28, 29 and 30- and targeted all 100 team members. Two slots per day were also opened to other jurisdictions.

Additionally, Advanced Air-Monitoring Training from Chief Doug Wolfe and Response Technologies, Inc. in Sarasota was held at the Tampa Fire Rescue Training Facility, 116 S. 34<sup>th</sup> St., Tampa on September 4-7, 2001. A total of 35 students were registered to attend. Due to the popularity of this course, we may opt to conduct another next fiscal year.

LEPC Staff participated in planning a U.S. Coast Guard Mass Casualty Exercise conducted by the Marine Safety Office Tampa in conjunction with Carnival Cruise Lines, Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa on September 11, 2001. A number of planning meetings were conducted in July and August. The scenario involved an explosion in the engine room aboard the cruise ship with 3500 people (2000 passengers and 1500 crew) just after it had passed the Skyway Bridge entering Tampa Bay. The ship was anchored at Cut B just south of MacDill Air Force Base and the Coast Guard Cutter Appleby brought out City of Tampa firefighters and equipment to fight the fire. Casualties were evacuated to Garrison Terminal 2 for triage and transport to area hospitals, a simulated activity. Staff also attended Incident Command Training on September 5-6, 2001 held in conjunction with the exercise and required for all controllers and evaluators.

Ernie Hiers and Bill Lofgren attended the International Conference on Disaster Management, August 6-10, 2001, in Orlando. Many interesting workshops were offered in functional areas: Terrorism A, Terrorism B, Earthquake, HAZMAT, Flood, Wildfire, Tornado, Misc (civil unrest, power blackouts, school violence, etc.) This was the first of what organizers hope will become an annual conference.

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Staff participated as an observer at the Pasco County Weapons of Mass Destruction Tabletop (TTX) exercise held on September 29, 2001. A 3-hour training session was held in the morning and following lunch, the exercise was held in the Pasco County EOC. It was well attended by county/city emergency management personnel with support from the FBI.

Staff attended a propane safety seminar on August 28, 2001, sponsored by Dynegy, Inc. and held in Tampa. Lofgren also participated in several meetings this past quarter and had an opportunity to discuss the work of the Tampa Bay LEPC: Tampa Bay Spill Control meeting on July 10 and August 4, the Tampa Bay Harbor Safety Committee Meeting on August 3; and the Greater Tampa Bay Marine Advisory Committee meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Port of Tampa board room.

Staff was scheduled for participation in an audit of the Risk Management Plan for Nitram, Inc. of Hillsborough County on September 13, 2001. Audit was postponed following the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks. Followup will continue to include safety briefings.