

2009 CONNECTICUT & RHODE ISLAND CROSS-BORDER EXERCISE SERIES



TABLETOP & DEPLOYMENT DRILL



FEMA

Presented by: William Seward, III, CT Fire Academy

CRICES OVERVIEW



FEMA

- Connecticut Rhode Island Cross-Border Exercise Series (CRICES) was a cooperative project involving local, state, federal and contracted agencies with funding provided through CT-SERC, State of RI and FEMA.
- Focused on managing a multi-jurisdictional hazmat incident through a Tabletop (TTX) and Full Scale Exercise (FSE).
- Two venue sites selected.
- Funding source HMEPG \$31,000.00

CRICES OVERVIEW



FEMA

- Followed the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program Compliant supported by FEMA Region 1 Regional Exercise Support Program (Contractor Support):
 - Results in an After Action Report and Improvement Plan organized by Target Capabilities for each exercise
- Allowed for the presentation of two (2) exercises following a building block approach:
 - ***April 18, 2009: TTX/Workshop/Drill***
 - ***September 12, 2009: Full-Scale Deployment Exercise***

PURPOSE



FEMA

- The Connecticut and Rhode Island Cross Border Exercise Series will examine the areas of incident command and control for a multiple jurisdiction hazardous materials event.
- CT Department of Environmental Protection, State Emergency Response Commission and the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control were charged with TTX/FSE oversight and logistical control.
 - Funding supported through HMEPG and FEMA Region 1

SCOPE



FEMA

- On Saturday, April 18, 2009, Connecticut and Rhode Island state and local responders conducted a TTX to develop an Incident Action Plan (IAP) and Communications Plan, equipment familiarization, and discussed roles and responsibilities for supporting agencies in a multi-jurisdictional / multidisciplinary hazardous materials event.



TTX PARTICIPANTS



FEMA

CONNECTICUT

- CERRIT
- CT DHEMS
- CT State Police
- DEP
- Fire Academy
- IMT-4
- New London Fire
- Mystic Fire
- SERC
- Submarine Base Fire
- North Stonington Fire

RHODE ISLAND

- DEM
- Hope Valley HAZMAT
- RIEMA
- DOT
- Westerly
Decontamination Team

FEDERAL ASSETS

- EPA
- USCG

OBJECTIVES



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1. Develop an IAP for the first operational period in the response to a hazmat event on the Connecticut and Rhode Island State border that involves responses from multiple jurisdictions and agencies.
2. Develop a Communications Plan with a designated Communications Unit Leader (COMM-L).
3. Conduct inter-agency equipment familiarization.
4. Examine roles and responsibilities for supporting State and local departments and agencies.
5. IAP to provide direction into the next operational period.

TARGET CAPABILITIES



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- Communications
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Management
- On-Site Incident Management
- Responder Safety and Health
- Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination

TTX STRUCTURE



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- **Workshop**

- Command
- Communication



- **Practical Evolutions**

- Metering and Monitoring
- HazMat Technician Skills
- Technical Decontamination
- Responder Rescue and Decontamination



Assumptions/ Artificialities



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- The scenario was plausible, and events occurred as presented. There was no “hidden agenda”, or trick questions.
- There was no wrong answers or solutions and communications between groups was unrestricted.
- All participants received information at the same time. Participants assumed that all jurisdictions operated implementing their normal plans, procedures, and protocols.
- Weather information was provided and the event was non-criminal in nature.

SCENARIO: Industrial Facility



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- Manufactures precursor chemicals for a wide variety of industries, including photographic chemicals, corrosion inhibitors, dyes and pharmaceuticals
- Facility located in North Stonington, CT @ ¼ mi from I-95, near Connecticut/ Rhode Island border



CONDITIONS



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Saturday, April 18, 0830

- 48 Degrees, winds 10 mph from the W/ SW
- Winds expected to shift throughout day-weather fronts in the region
- Normal operating posture
- Scheduled tasks:
 - Routine Maintenance
 - Delivery of a bulk chemical



TTX INFORMATION



FEMA

- Product is being offloaded into bulk storage tank adjacent to building.
- Maintenance has begun inside: man-lift used to hoist technician up to malfunctioning ventilation stack on roof
- Chemical off-loading under supervision of driver and facility foreman. Safety representative observing ventilation maintenance.



FAILURE



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- Hose line from truck to storage tank fails
- Sudden and unexpected flow of chemical
- Operators flee inside with burning eyes and respiratory difficulties
- Man-lift becomes unstable and falls over, striking inventory of products within containers.



IN-PLANT EMERGENCY



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- Safety officer assists fallen maintenance tech and they evacuate upwind; reports to facility manager who calls 911.
- Truck driver and foreman unaccounted for in building; they were overcome with sharp pungent fish-like odor and burning to eyes and skin.

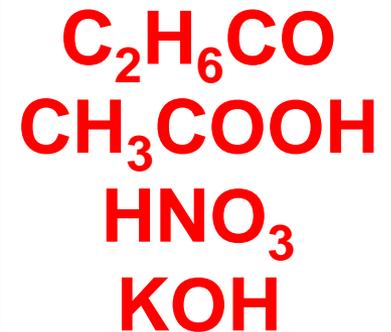


PRODUCTS



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- Plant manager indicates truck carrying 4,000 gallons of Di-methylamine.
- Spills from man-lift accident, unsure of how many containers compromised
 - Acetone in 5 gallon pails
 - Acetic Acid in 55 gallon drums
 - Nitric Acid 50% in 55 gallon drums
 - Potassium Hydroxide in 5 gallon pails on pallets



KEY FACTORS



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- Several known injuries at the plant, unknown how many workers exposed
- Leak continues from truck; may present health & environmental safety issues for community
- Damaged chemical containers have contaminated the inside of the plant



**Accident location
with plume going
from S/SW to
N/NE**

I-95



Image RIGIS

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TTX OPERATIONS



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- Participants divided into functional groups:
 - Command & Control
 - Communications
 - Hazmat Technicians

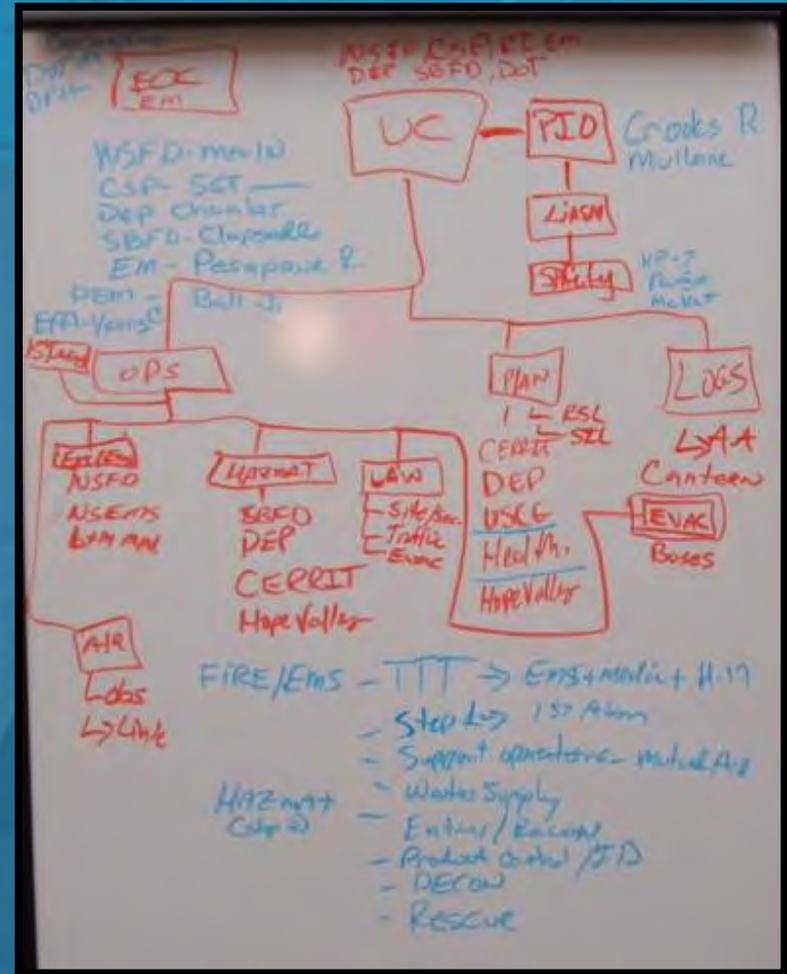


TTX OPS



FEMA

- At the completion of the TTX, an Incident Action Plan (IAP) was prepared that was executed during the next operational period (Full Scale Deployment Exercise).



FULL SCALE EXERCISE



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- On Saturday, September 12, 2009 CT & RI state and local responders conducted a 6-hour FSE to validate the IAP and Communications Plan from the CRICES TTX and to review interagency coordination to a multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary hazmat incident.
- Hours of operations 0900-1500 hours
- HOTWASH to follow after exercise.

FSE OBJECTIVES



FEMA

- Evaluate the implementation of the IAP.
- Continue with the development of further IAP's
- Evaluate the implementation of the Communications plan.
- Assess tactical level operations implemented by hazmat technicians
- Examine roles and responsibilities by supporting agencies.

TARGET CAPABILITIES



FEMA

- Communications
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Management
- On-Site Incident Management
- Responder Safety and Health
- Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination

ACCOUNTABILITY



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- Players
- Actors
- Controllers
- Evaluators
- Observers
- Exercise Staff
 - Safety
 - Controllers
 - Medical Support



FSE PARTICIPANTS



FEMA

CONNECTICUT

- CERRIT
- CT DHEMS
- CT State Police
- DEP
- CT Fire Academy
- Region 4 IMT
- New London Fire
- Mystic Fire
- SERC
- Submarine Base Fire
- North Stonington Fire/EMD-EOC
- Groton Fire
- UCONN Fire
- Pfizer FD

RHODE ISLAND

- DEM
- Hope Valley HAZMAT
- RIEMA
- DOT
- Westerly Decontamination Team
- Westerly EMS
- Union Fire District
- North Providence FD
- Providence Canteen Unit

FEDERAL ASSETS

- USEPA
- USCG Region 1

SCENARIO



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- A multinational chemical manufacturing company located near the CT and RI border is the venue for this operational period; conditions are:
 - ***Chemical off-loading underway at plant.***
 - ***Failure of hose line occurs during process resulting in spill.***
 - ***Workers in the area are exposed to the ill effects of hazardous materials.***
 - ***7 victims are rescued and 3 remain missing in the building.***

SIM CELLS



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Waste Management SAF E1 Appendix 1 Page 5 of 5

SPILL NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE (Contingency Plan)

The shift supervisor is responsible for notification of the ES&H Manager or his alternate in the case of a chemical spill and general containment of that spill using materials on the spill cart or in spill kits located at the paint booth, loading dock, and at the maintenance man door entrance.

ROLE	CONTACT	WORK	HOME	CELL PHONE
Emergency Coordinator	Frank Canastar	599-7484	401-782-6840	860-235-3513
Alternate	Jim Stevens	599-7484	860-526-1589	860-235-3515
Alternate	Jim Babcock	599-7440	401-596-0260	

All spill control equipment is located on the Hazardous Materials Control Wagon parked at the base of the stairs below the ES&H office. Small amounts of control equipment are located at the paint booth, loading dock, and at the man door entrance nearest maintenance.

SPECIAL NOTIFICATION FOR THREAT TO OUTSIDE PERSONNEL OR IN THE ADVENT A SPILL REACHES SURFACE WATER

Spills reaching the catch basin in the front parking lot will impact surface water.

In accordance with 40 CFR 262.34(d)(5)(iv)(C), should a fire, explosion, or other release of process chemicals threaten human health outside the facility or if we have knowledge that the spill has reached surface water, then call the **National Response Center at 800-424-8802** and report the following: In addition, place a call to the **State of Connecticut SERC at (860) 424-3338** and **N. Stoughton's LEPC** (local emergency planning commission), **Bill Pederson at 535-0793** - days or **889-4892** - evenings.

1. Our name and address;
2. Our EPA ID Number (CTD002559441);
3. Date and time of the incident;
4. Type of incident (eg spill or fire);
5. Quantity and type of hazardous waste involved in the incident;
6. Extent of injuries, if any;
7. Estimated quantity and disposition of recovered materials, if any.

FSE OPERATIONS



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- Prior to commencement a, exercise briefing was held for all participants.



SAFETY & HEALTH



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- In compliance with OSHA regulations, all hazmat technicians participated in medical surveillance.



COMMUNICATIONS



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- The CRICES FSE examined the capability of CT and RI units to communicate effectively with each other.



INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN		Incident Name	Date/Time Prepared	Operational Period (Date/Time)							
		CRICES Full Scale Exercise	Thurs, 23 April 09, 1115	Sat, 12 Sept 09, 0600-1600							
TA	Function	Channel Name/Unit/Role Name	Assignment	RA Freq.	RA to RA	RA Time	TA Freq.	TA to TA	To Time	Mode	Remarks
1	Command	ITAC2D / STAC92D	Command	887.0125 W	156.7	887.0125 W	156.7	A	Direct / TA / Simplex		
2	Command	ITAC2R / STAC92R	Command	887.0125 W	156.7	822.0125 W	156.7	A	Repeater (If Needed)		
3	Support	STOCS-4 (RSP)	Gen Staff	456.8825 N	156.7	456.8825 N	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
4	Support	STOCS-5 (RSP)	Gen Staff	456.8825 N	156.7	456.8825 N	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
5	Operations	ITAC2D / STAC92D	Operations	887.0125 W	156.7	887.0125 W	156.7	A	Direct / TA / Simplex		
6	Operations	ITAC2R / STAC92R	Operations	887.0125 W	156.7	822.0125 W	156.7	A	Repeater (If Needed)		
7	Tactical	STOCS-1 (RSP)	HazMat	858.3875 W	156.7	858.3875 W	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
8	Tactical	STOCS-1 (RSP)	HazMat	456.4825 N	156.7	456.4825 N	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
9	Tactical	STOCS-2 (RSP)	HazMat	154.4825 N	156.7	154.4825 N	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
10	EMS	STOCS-2 (RSP)	Rehab	858.7125 W	156.7	858.7125 W	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
11	EMS	STOCS-2 (RSP)	Rehab	458.7125 N	156.7	458.7125 N	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
12	EMS	STOCS-3 (RSP)	Rehab	158.7375 N	156.7	158.7375 N	156.7	A	STOCS Gateway (over 500)		
13	Law Enforcement	ITAC1D / STAC91D	Traffic	898.5125 W	156.7	898.5125 W	156.7	A	Direct / TA / Simplex		
14	Law Enforcement	ITAC1R / STAC91R	Traffic	898.5125 W	156.7	821.5125 W	156.7	A	Repeater (If Needed)		
15	Staging	ITAC3D / STAC93D	CT/RI	887.5125 W	156.7	887.5125 W	156.7	A	Direct / TA / Simplex		
16	Staging	ITAC3R / STAC93R	CT/RI	887.5125 W	156.7	822.5125 W	156.7	A	Repeater (If Needed)		
17	DEMSG-4	Region 4 High VHF	EOCLiason	153.9650 N	162.2	153.9650 N	162.2	A	Direct / TA / Simplex		
18											
19											
20											

Prepared By: Communications Unit
 Incident Location: Incident 1-807-NY-1117, North Stonington, New London County, Connecticut
 Date: 11 October 2008
 The communication table for Responding Units in above four digits after the decimal place, followed by either "W" or "N" depending on whether the frequency is narrow or wide band. Mode refers to either "A" or "D" indicating analog or digital (e.g. Project 25 or "P" indicating spread mode). All channels are simplex unless programmed in a control station, mobile or portable mode. Repeater and base stations must be programmed with the RA and TA reversed.
 10/20/08 10:00

**CRICES Cross Border Exercise
 Interoperability Communications Plan**

Command & Operations ITAC-2
Staging Area CT/RI ITAC-3
Law Enforcement ITAC-1
Tactical – HazMat STOCS-1
EMS – Rehab STOCS-2
Support – General Staff STOCS-5

INTEROPERABILITY



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INCIDENT MANAGEMENT



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- The IAP cited the implementation of a unified command (NIMS) structure in both TTX and FSE.



STATE & FEDERAL ASSETS



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MITIGATION



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DECON OPS



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- Technical and emergency decontamination areas were established
- Teams rescued “unconscious victims.”



PUBLIC INFORMATION



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- The CT State Police served as the focal point for providing information to the media.
- Command staff held regular briefings and disseminated information for public broadcast.



EXERCISE HOTWASH



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AAR/IP REPORTS



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Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)
Draft After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) Connecticut and Rhode Island
Cross-Border Exercise Series (CRICES)

CONNECTICUT AND RHODE ISLAND CROSS-BORDER EXERCISE SERIES (CRICES) TABLETOP EXERCISE

April 18, 2009

DRAFT AFTER-ACTION REPORT/IMPROVEMENT PLAN

June 2009

DRAFT

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) Connecticut and Rhode Island Cross-Border
Exercise Series (CRICES) Full-Scale Exercise

CONNECTICUT AND RHODE ISLAND CROSS-BORDER EXERCISE SERIES (CRICES) FULL-SCALE EXERCISE

September 12, 2009

AFTER-ACTION REPORT/
IMPROVEMENT PLAN

NOVEMBER 2009

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

STRENGTHS



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- Responders from RI and CT efficiently and effectively developed an IAP from the next operational period.
- Hazmat teams from each state were well trained, equipped and responded to scenarios with confidence.
- Responders have sufficient communication capabilities to enable interoperability between units.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT



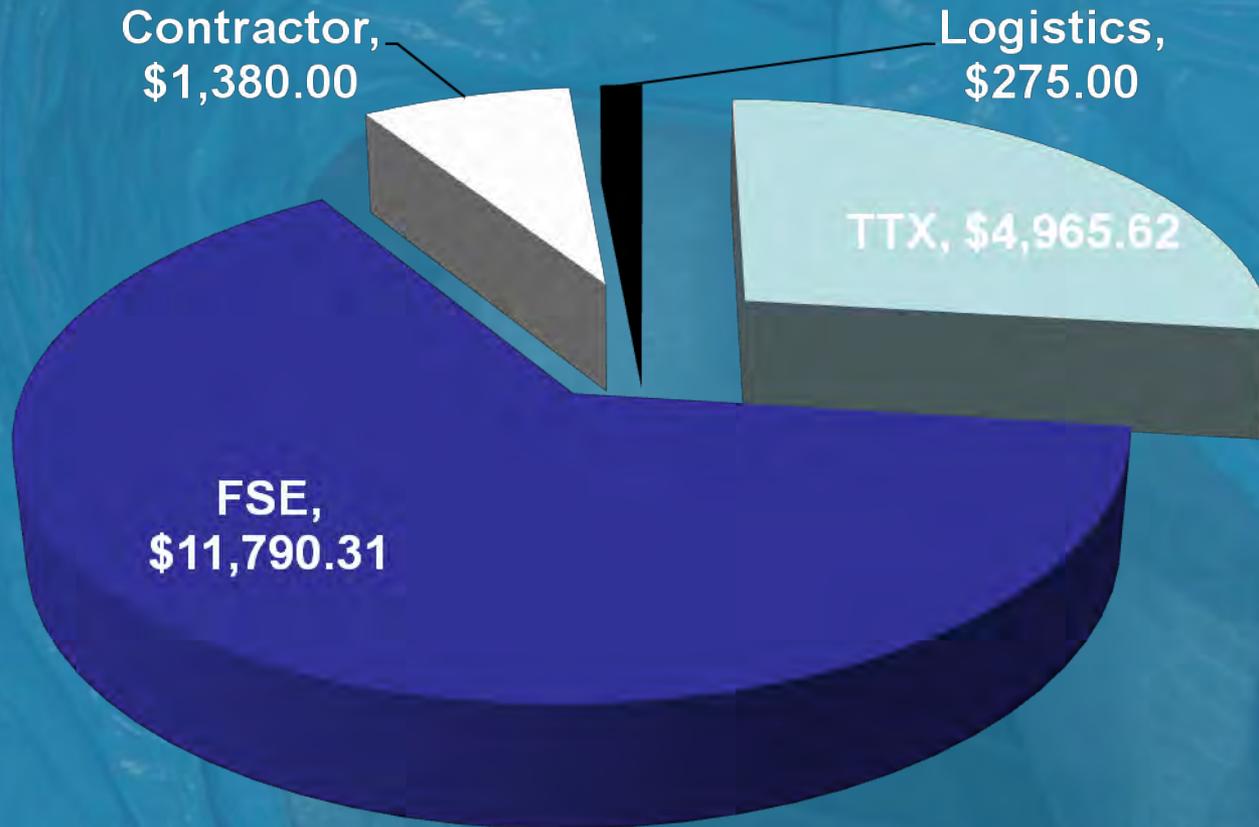
FEMA

- Hazmat teams should become more familiar with technical equipment used during an integrated response.
- Multi-jurisdictional hazmat teams would benefit from additional training with regards to operations in the decontamination zone.
- Joint training exercises among command staff would enhance operational effectiveness between partners.
- Need to improve WebEOC operations

EXERCISE BUDGET



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Note: The funds identified above do not include components that were funded and coordinated through other agencies or via contracts.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



FEMA



National Security: One Community At A Time

CRA, Inc. of Alexandria, VA served as the primary CRICES project managers. Funding for these services were managed by FEMA Region 1 and the State of Rhode Island Office of Emergency Management.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



FEMA

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
After-Action Report/Improvement Plan Connecticut and Rhode Island Cross-Border
(AAR/IP) Exercise Series (CRICES) Full-Scale Exercise

Exercise Planning Team

Name	Agency	Telephone	E-mail
Nick Mullane	1st Selectman N.S	535-2877 x12	selectman@northstoningtonct.gov
Anthony Manfredi	CERRIT	860-572-7567	anthony.manfredi@mfd-ct.org
Richard Crooks	CSP	860-848-6503	troope.msgt@po.state.ct.us
Gary Ruggiero	CT DEMHS	860-256-0841	gary.ruggiero@ct.gov
Danilo Torres	CT DEP	860-424-3338	danilo.torres@ct.gov
Gerard P. Goudreau	CT SERC	203-265-8205	ggoudreau@ulbrich.com
Anthony Scalora	DEMHS	860-537-7560	anthony.scalora@po.state.ct.us
Roy Shafer	Deputy EM Montville	860-848-1175	eshafer@montville-ct.org
Jim Gaffey	EPA	617-918-1753	gaffey.jim@epa.gov
Jeff Williams	Groton EM Mgt	860-441-6757	jwilliams@town.groton.ct.us
Joe Sastre	Groton EM Mgt	860-441-6775	jsastre@town.groton.ct.us
Nick Delia	Groton/CT-IMT 4	860-445-2456	delian@yurservice.com
Ronald Samul	New London FD	860-447-5291	rsamul@ci.new-london.ct.us
Les Shull	RESF-4	860-941-5982	lshull9160@abl.com
Jim Ball	RIDEM	401-222-1360	james.ball@dem.ri.gov
Tom Campbell	RIDEM	401-222-1360	thomas.campbell@dem.ri.gov
Robert Pesapane	RIEMA	401-641-8285	robert.pesapane@us.army.mil
Bill Seward	SERC/CT Fire Academy	203-627-0630	whseward@aol.com
Kevin D. Quinn	Union Fire District	401-255-5927	chief5@unionfiredistrict.com
Al Hoffman	USCG	203-468-4438	albert.a.hoffman@uscg.mil
Engrid Elso	USCG	203-468-4458	engrid.a.else@uscg.mil
Nick Stenhouse	Westerly Fire Decon	401-474-6884	nsten@cox.net

CRICES EXERCISE PLANNING TEAM

CONCLUSION



FEMA

- Sustained multi-jurisdictional, multi-discipline exercise participation, as demonstrated through the CRICES project, will continue to prepare first responders to effectively manage unique and complex operations.
- Exercise results should be used by planners to improve the development and execution of future exercises and forecast the needs and requirements for mitigating hazardous material incidents.