EPA/600/R-14/210 | September 2014 | www.epa.gov/nhsrc



## **REPORT ON THE**

2013 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) International Decontamination Research and Development Conference



Office of Research and Development National Homeland Security Research Center

#### **REPORT ON THE**

## **2013 U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)** INTERNATIONAL DECONTAMINATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

NATIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY RESEARCH CENTER OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27711

## DISCLAIMER

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, through its Office of Research and Development's National Homeland Security Research Center, funded and managed this effort through EP-D-09-053 with ICF International Inc. This report has been peer- and administratively reviewed and has been approved for publication as an Environmental Protection Agency document. It does not necessarily reflect the views of the Environmental Protection Agency. No official endorsement should be inferred.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Environmental Protection Agency's National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC) would like to acknowledge the keynote speaker, The Honorable Dr. Richard Danzig, at the 2013 Decontamination Conference. In addition, NHSRC would like to acknowledge the technical program speakers and poster presenters for providing the abstracts as well as the presentations published in this report. NHSRC would also like to thank ICF International for drafting the remaining portions of this conference report. Lastly, NHSRC would like to thank the following people for their review of the Executive Summary: Emily Snyder [ORD/NHSRC], Doris Betancourt [ORD/NRMRL], and Dennis Tabor [ORD/NRMRL].

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2013 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) International Decontamination Research and Development Conference brought together scientists who are conducting chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) recovery research, practitioners who are conducting remediation activities and those who set policies related to CBR decontamination. For three days at EPA's campus in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, more than 170 national and international participants representing local, state, and federal government agencies, academia, industry, and public advocacy groups viewed presentations and actively engaged in panel discussions and a poster viewing session. This diverse audience brought together experts in emergency response, decision support tools, risk communication, sampling, detection, treatment, decontamination methods, and waste management related to biological, chemical, and radiological agents to explore current issues and future directions.

This Executive Summary outlines the events and presentations of the conference. The information is organized by topic; the Plenary Session, General Sessions, and Poster Session topics are outlined first, followed by topics covered during the Concurrent Sessions. Links to more detailed information are provided.

## **Plenary Session**

Dr. Shawn Ryan, Division Director of the Decontamination and Consequence Management Division (DCMD) with EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC), Dr. Lukas Oudejans, Chairperson of the NHSRC Conference Organizing Committee, and Dr. Greg Sayles, Acting Director of NHSRC, welcomed participants to the conference and provided opening remarks. Dr. Greg Sayles introduced Mr. Lek Kadeli, the Acting Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD). Mr. Kadeli quoted EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy's First 100 Days message: "Each day my goal is to make EPA's work relevant and important to every community in the United States...everyone wants to ensure that their kids are healthy, that their communities and drinking water are safe and that their economies are strong". Mr. Kadeli recognized that these are the hallmarks of community sustainability and that's why EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment now encompasses every facet of preparing communities for the challenges ahead and strengthening their resiliency to bounce back the next time disaster strikes.

Dr. Peter Jutro (EPA) introduced the keynote speaker, the Honorable Dr. Richard J. Danzig, expert consultant to the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security and current Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Center for a New American Security. Previously, Dr. Danzig served as the 71<sup>st</sup> Secretary of the Navy (November 1998 – January 2001) and was a senior advisor to then Senator Obama on national security issues during the 2008 Presidential campaign.

Dr. Danzig underscored the importance of heroes, not only the traditional idea of leaders who step forward in a crisis, but also those who foresee the potential crisis and begin to prepare for it. As an example, the preparation for remediation following a wide area biological release is fraught with difficulties due to the unpredictable nature of such crises, including the type and amount of pathogen, the type of delivery, and the distribution of the resulting contamination. Dr. Danzig commended efforts such as the federal multi-agency Bioresponse Operational Testing and Evaluation (BOTE) study and the Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE) program and stressed the need for similar tools that the scientific community can use to provide definitive answers to policy makers based on conclusive data. Dr. Danzig also discussed the issues of time and scale, emphasizing the importance of identifying priorities, demanding more situational awareness information, and communicating clear and concise information to policy makers now to prepare an "all-hazards" response rather than waiting to respond once a crisis has already occurred. Section 2 of this report provides additional detail on the opening remarks, keynote presentation and other points raised during the plenary session.

## General Session 1 - Outcome Tabletop Exercise, Guidance, and Response

The first general session consisted of seven presentations from representatives from federal agencies of the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and Japan. The first presentation explained how the private sector in Canada can help with the assessment and remediation process following a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive (CBRNE) weapon incident. The second and third presentations given by representatives from Public Health England outlined guidance available in the United Kingdom, including Recovery Handbooks for chemical and biological incidents. These documents are not considered substitutes for specialist advice but would aid decision makers in the development of a recovery strategy.

The fourth presentation summarized ongoing research surrounding the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. The behavior of the radionuclides emitted into the environment and the appropriate treatment and disposal technologies for the radioactively contaminated waste were described. The fifth presentation showed the Hazard Mitigation Science and Technology Program for the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), which funds research to find new technologies and methods with the goal of limiting the spread of contamination, returning equipment and facilities to normal mission operation, and enabling operations at reduced levels of protection, among other goals.

The DoD presentation was followed by a presentation on the United Kingdom Government Decontamination Service. In addition to providing an overview of the agency's ongoing activities, this presentation identified efforts of developing and testing standard operating procedures in response to a wide area biological release. A discussion on the Biological Response and Recovery Science and Technology Roadmap wrapped up the first general session. This working document helps categorize key scientific gaps in the response to a biological incident, identify specific technological solutions, and prioritize research activities to enable the government to make decisions more effectively. Section 3 of this report provides additional details on these presentations and other points raised during this first general session.

## General Session 2 - Decision Support Tools

The common theme for the nine presentations in this session was to provide the conference attendees with information on available software tools that can be used as part of a structured decision-making process for response and remediation. Presenters described the tools and applications related to:

- quick urban and industrial complex (QUIC) dispersion modeling (Los Alamos National Laboratory),
- comprehensive decision support tool for agricultural security (Sandia National Laboratories and DHS)
- visual sampling plan (VSP) tool (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory),
- decision support toolset for weapons of mass destruction crisis management (US DOD Defense Threat Reduction Agency),
- utility of the tactical dynamic operational guided sampling (TAcDOGS) tool (Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory),
- decontamination strategy and technology selection tool (DeconST) (Sandia National Laboratories and US EPA),
- decision support tool for use in carcass management (Cubic Applications, Inc.),
- update of the waste estimation support tool (WEST) (US EPA), and
- interactive all-hazards waste management plan development tool (US EPA).

All tool developers participated in a one-hour panel discussion regarding the use, training, inter-connectivity, and future of these tools. Conference participants then attended demonstrations of these tools. Section 4 of this report provides additional detail on the decision support tool presentations given during this session.

## General Session 3 - Risk Communication and Systems Approach & Food Safety-Decontamination and Disposal Issues

The second day of the conference began with a general session focused on risk communication and systems approach. The importance of professional and public perception, risk communication messaging, and social media following a contamination event and subsequent decontamination and remediation was emphasized. The first presentation compared professional and public assessments of critical information needs and evaluated messages developed during previous workshops for appropriateness and effectiveness. The second presentation focused on the research need for risk communication practices during the remediation phase of a biological incident. One conclusion of that study was that emergency management personnel may benefit from including the influence of social media in their risk communication, because the social media provide a tool that is not fully utilized at this time. A third presentation on a systems approach to characterize the social environment for decontamination and resilience concluded that meeting technical clearance goals after remediation may not be enough to ensure re-occupancy and reuse of an area as social factors such as community ties and sense of place influence re-occupancy decisions. Section 5 of this report provides additional detail on these three presentations and other points raised during this third general session.

The final presentation of the third general session focused on food defense defined as efforts to prevent the intentional contamination of food products by biological, chemical, physical, or radiological agents. Lessons learned are also applicable to accidental contamination. The presentation highlighted the current research and challenges in the detection, decontamination, and disposal of contaminated food. Section 6 of this report provides additional details on this presentation.

## General Session 4 - Low Tech/Self Help

The third and final day of the conference commenced with the fourth general session highlighting low tech and self-help approaches to decontamination. The first presenter discussed laundering of radioactively contaminated materials to reduce exposure to radiation. Washing clothing was found to be effective in removal of radiological contamination with the majority of the contamination transferred to the wastewater. The second presenter reported an experimental study in which high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) vacuuming and compressed air dusting were used to remove radiological contamination from sensitive (electronic) devices such as cell phones, numerical keypads, and responder bags. Both approaches were highly effective in removing contamination although the compressed air had a tendency to spread contamination. A third presentation summarized the efficacy of sporicidal wipes and addressed the question of whether or not these wipes can be used to treat anthrax "hotspots" on nonporous surfaces. Sporicidal wipes as typically found in grocery stores showed no sporicidal activity. The final presentation in this session commented on the use of chlorine bleach solution to treat contaminated wastewater. Results showed that both pH-adjusted bleach (as per National Response team (NRT) guidelines) and diluted bleach are both highly effective for inactivation of *B. atrophaeus* spp. globigii (*Bg*), a surrogate for *B. anthracis*, in wash waters. Section 14 of this report provides additional detail on these **presentations.** 

## General Session 5 - Foreign Animal Disease Research

The fifth and final general session wrapped up the conference with a focus on foreign animal disease-related research. The first presenter reported on lessons learned from low pathogenic avian influenza outbreaks in Virginia and their relevance to an agro-terror attack or foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak. Transportation and disposal issues following a large scale FAD outbreak were the main topic of the second presentation in this session. The third presenter showed

an approach to decontaminate vehicles using a fully autonomous and portable wash tunnel. Although originally designed to be used in response to an FAD outbreak, the system could also be used during the response phase following a biological or radiological incident. The last presenter in this session described the findings from a combustion study involving disposal of contaminated livestock using a pilot-scale air curtain burner. Initial results showed no viable spores in the burner exhaust gases, indicating satisfactory combustion conditions. Section 20 of this report provides additional detail on the presentations given during this session.

Mr. Juan Reyes, Acting Associate Administrator with EPA's Office of Homeland Security and Lukas Oudejans (EPA) made final remarks, thanked the conference planning team, and dismissed the conference.

## **Poster Session**

An afternoon poster session on the second day of the conference provided a break between sessions, with 18 posters representing a range of decontamination-related issues. Topics included techniques for decontamination of various surfaces and environments, emerging technologies that allow faster and more accurate evaluation of onsite contamination and fate and transport studies of various contaminants in environmental and municipal systems. Section 11 of this report provides the abstracts of the posters presented during this session.

## **Concurrent Sessions**

The following biological, chemical and radiological agent sessions were conducted concurrently during the second and third day of the conference to allow broader coverage of topic areas. The concurrent sessions focused on various aspects of biological, chemical, and radiological contaminants and decontamination techniques, including sessions specifically covering water and wastewater management.

## **Biological Agents:**

#### Decontamination

The first of two biological agent decontamination sessions opened with a presentation on new processes for decontamination using aqueous gels and foams. Various products were described with specific mechanisms (e.g., self-drying and cracking gels or gelling foams) to decontaminate surfaces or volumes contaminated with radiological, biological, or chemical agents. Next, the results of a study assessing the efficacy of low level chlorine dioxide fumigation for anthrax decontamination in a mock office environment were presented to allow more companies that can generate low concentration chlorine dioxide to assist in remediation efforts. The next presentation explored the efficacy of methyl iodide fumigation techniques for a variety of surfaces contaminated with anthrax with a focus on remediation of irreplaceable historical artifacts. Methyl iodide was found to be more detrimental to historic pictures than methyl bromide while methyl iodide may be more appropriate for nonporous surfaces. The session concluded with a video about returning Gruinard Island, Scotland, to an environmentally acceptable state appropriate for civilian use following an anthrax biological warfare test by the British military in 1942. Section 7 of this report provides additional detail on the presentations given during this first biological agent decontamination session.

Biological agent decontamination was also covered during a second concurrent session on the following day. This session opened with a presentation of the results of research evaluating six decontamination technologies used to inactivate anthrax cells in soils. Four of the tested approaches resulted in better than 6 log reduction in both *B. anthracis* and the surrogate *B. subtilis* spores. Another study examined various chlorine dioxide formulations as a biocide

alternative to methyl bromide in the decontamination of soil. A third presentation elaborated on survival of anthrax after exposure to hot humid air as a decontamination method for sensitive equipment with no impact on the functionality. The final presentation during this session explored aerosol delivery of liquid decontaminants (oxidants, enzymes) as an aid in decontaminating complex, confined, or "hard-to-reach" spaces. Section 18 of this report provides more information about the presentations given and points raised during this session.

#### Sampling and Detection

The biological agent sampling and detection session opened with two presentations that provided results of evaluations of various vacuum sampling methods for anthrax spores. The first presentation evaluated previously identified vacuum technologies by optimizing sample processing protocols while the second presentation focused on results obtained by sampling using robot cleaners in an effort to cover larger areas with one sample that would result in lower cost and risk to the sampling personnel. This presentation was followed by a summary of findings after assessing available commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) hand-portable biodetection equipment. The session concluded with a presentation on the effects of various agents (i.e., pH-adjusted bleach, chlorine dioxide, and vaporous hydrogen peroxide) used for anthrax decontamination on the rapid viability polymerase chain reaction (RV-PCR) method of anthrax spore detection. Data showed that the RV-PCR method could allow higher throughput analysis of post-decontamination clearance samples as compared to the traditional culture-based analysis. Section 9 of this report provides more detail on these four presentations.

#### Fate and Transport

The biological agent fate and transport session kicked off with a presentation on the quantification of the reaerosolization of bacterial spores deposited on flooring (carpet and vinyl) by decontamination personnel walking across the surfaces. The next three presentations were associated with the Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE), a cooperative effort involving multiple federal agencies. The first presentation provided an overview of the SPORE initiatives and objectives. Four priority gaps were identified, namely, development of appropriate and validated air sample collection methods for reaerosolized viable and inhalable spores, determination of the degree of reaerosolization, determination of suitable surrogates or simulants, and determination of sampling and analytical methods as well as sampling strategies. This presentation was followed by a detailed description of a SPORE project focused on quantitative resuspension of anthrax spores from common surfaces. This session was wrapped up with the description of another SPORE project to evaluate suitability of *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (*Btk*) as a behaviorally representative surrogate for *B. anthracis*. Section 12 of this report provides additional details on the presentations **regarding fate and transport of biological agents**.

#### Persistence

The biological agent persistence session began by presenting the results of a large-scale sampling of soil across the U.S. for *Bacillus* sp. and *Bacillus anthracis*. Threshold values were identified as prospective investigative tools in determining whether an anthrax outbreak was 'potential' or 'probable' at any given geographic location in the contiguous United States. This presentation was followed by an assessment of the persistence of vegetative *B. anthracis* in the environment as a function of relative humidity and after ultraviolet (UV) exposure. Section 15 of this report provides additional details on these two presentations.

#### Sampling and Detection

The session on chemical agent sampling and detection began with a presentation reviewing methods used at U.S. Army chemical agent disposal facilities for decontamination, waste management, and verification techniques to allow closure of facilities and return of the facilities to public use. Near real time and/or sorbent tube monitoring was used to detect residual agent, and unventilated air monitoring was used to verify whether decontamination was effective. The presentation also discussed the events and lessons learned from the ESS Pursuit incident. The next speaker described the results of a study conducted to evaluate analytical laboratory protocols for identifying and measuring chemical warfare agents (CWAs) in environmental matrices. The speaker also discussed the shelf lives of the ultra-dilute solutions that allow EPA to handle CWAs. The third presentation introduced EPA's mobile laboratory asset, the Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification Systems (PHILIS). The presentation explained how its successful onsite analysis aided the cleanup of residential areas in Vermont. This application illustrates the dual use of these mobile assets as their mission includes the ability to analyze CWAs and toxic industrial chemicals (TICs) in environmental samples. The next presentation wrapped up the session with a description of EPA's Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) mobile laboratory containing a direct air monitoring instrument employing triple quadrupole mass spectrometry. Work on the real-time detection of CWAs will have the potential to help first responders in the event of such releases. **Section 8 of this report provides additional detail on chemical agent sampling and detection.** 

#### Fate, Persistence and Transport

The chemical agent fate, persistence, and transport session began with a presentation that focused on efforts to model and predict fate and transport processes of CWAs on surfaces following chemical contamination. Modeling efforts of laboratory experiments were successful in many cases. However, some data suggest agent transport limitations across the surface of droplets exists, leading to the conclusion that modeling and experimentation must be coupled to become more useful in prediction of the fate of CWAs. The second and last presentation in this session discussed the effects of temperature and humidity on adsorption and desorption of CWAs by activated carbon beds that informs the engineering controls required during hot air decontamination. Results for sulfur mustard and sarin indicate that breakthrough times from carbon beds are affected by temperature, but not in a consistent manner across various carbon types. Section 13 of this report provides more detail on these two presentations.

#### Decontamination

The chemical agent decontamination session kicked off with a presentation explaining the issues and potential evaluation of sampling and decontamination techniques associated with improper indoor use of pesticides to control pests (e.g., bed bugs). Three project goals were identified: develop sampling and modeling approaches to evaluate surface residues, develop surface concentration threshold values to determine if remediation is needed, and determine the efficacy of decontaminants. Challenges associated with the analysis of Lewisite during decontamination studies were discussed in a second presentation. Various analytical approaches including cool on-column gas chromatography and derivatization of Lewisite followed by gas chromatography were discussed as possible aids to determine Lewisite decontamination. The third presentation focused on the effectiveness of various textile technologies (wipes) in decontaminating skin and personal protective equipment. Wipes were evaluated against various chemical warfare agents, and the results indicate performance equal to a Fuller's Earth pad. The session closed with a presentation explaining the development of the Hazard Mitigation, Material and Equipment Restoration (HaMMER) advanced technology demonstration program, designed to advance the assessment and integration of new products into hazard mitigation. Results from this DoD program indicate that the decontamination processes and products tested can

significantly reduce remaining chemical agent hazards to well below military requirements if used in a synergistic manner. Section 17 of this report provides additional detail on these presentations relating to chemical agent decontamination.

## Radiological Agents:

#### Fate, Transport, and Decontamination

The radiological agent fate, transport and decontamination session started with a presentation exploring the fate and transport of radionuclides on common urban surfaces, followed by a presentation of an investigation of the sorption and speciation of the same radionuclides. The third presentation explained the challenges and knowledge gaps involved in applying various tested radiological decontamination technologies to urban environments. The session concluded with a presentation on humic acid-based sorbents applied to toxic substances. Section 10 of this report provides additional details of these presentations regarding radiological agents.

### Water and Waste Water Management

The first water and waste water management session began with a presentation outlining an investigation of the United Kingdom's capability to manage contaminated water in drinking water treatment facilities and sewage treatment plants. Water treatment facilities generally know what treatment processes to use; however, with many counties participating, no data harmonization occurs, hence detailed information would be required on actual capacities to identify any area at risk. An update on water decontamination activities followed, including an outline of the Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council's (CIPAC's) framework for decision makers to aid in decontamination of chemical, biological, and radiological agents from water systems. A disposal guide and preparedness tool that serves as a reference to assist water utility actions was discussed. Section 16 of this report provides additional detail on these two presentations on waste water management.

The second waste and waste water management session opened with the author presenting selected results from the US EPA Homeland Security Research Program's projects to evaluate treatment and system decontamination options for water and wastewater. Of particular interest is the design and development of a water security test bed (WSTB) to investigate chemical, biological, and radiological detectors, decontaminants, and decontamination procedures at full scale. The next presenter outlined a report released by the National Homeland Security Research Center titled "Decontamination of Drinking Water Infrastructure: A Literature Review and Summary." The same presenter also provided a more detailed description of aforementioned planned WSTB experiments. This presentation was followed by a presentation elaborating on the Irreversible Wash Aid Additive Process, which washes radioactive cesium from surfaces and renders the radionuclide environmentally immobile. The presentation on the Irreversible Wash Aid Additive Process also included results from a full scale demonstration to decontaminate a vehicle while preventing the release of contaminated water into the environment through the use of rapidly deployable barriers. The session concluded with a presentation on the fate of radionuclides deposited on various components of drinking water distribution systems. Section 19 of this report provides more detail on these presentations and other points raised during this second waste water management session.

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation/Acronym	Definition
ААНР	Aerosolized Activated Hydrogen Peroxide (project)
ABS	acrylonitrile butadiene styrene
ACB	air curtain burner
AG	agricultural
AHLC	(U.S.) Army human lethal concentration
AOP	advanced oxidation processes
APCI	atmospheric pressure chemical ionization
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
ATD	Advanced Technology Demonstration
AWARE	analyzer for wide-area restoration effectiveness
AZTD	Arizona Test Dust
Ba	B anthracis
Bø	B atronhaeus snn glohiaii
BOTE	Bioresponse Operational Testing and Evaluation
BROOM	Building Restoration Operations Optimization Model
Bt(k)	B thuring nestoration operations optimization would
°C	degree(s) Celsius
	compressed air ducting
	water dispersible chemical agent registant coating
	Chemical and Riological Defense Program
CBDP	
CBR	chemical, biological, and radiological
CBRNE	chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive
CD	chlorine dioxide
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CEA	(French Atomic Energy) and Alternatives Energies Commission
CFD	Computational Fluid Dynamics
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CFU	colony forming unit(s)
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
CIDAS	Contamination Indication/Decontamination Assurance System
CIPAC	Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council
ClO <sub>2</sub>	chlorine dioxide
cm	centimeter(s)
CM	countermeasure
СМА	Chemical Materials Activity
CMAT	(U.S. EPA OEM) Consequence Management Advisory Team
COMMANDER	(U.S. EPA's) Consequence Management and Decontamination Evaluation Room
COTS	commercial off-the-shelf
СТ	contact time
CVAA	2-chlorovinyl arsonous acid
CVAOA	2-chlorovinyl arsonic acid
CW	contaminated water
CWA	chemical warfare agent
DAT	days after treatment
DCM	dichloromethane (methylene chloride)
DCMD	Decontamination and Consequence Management Division
DeconST	decontamination strategy and technology selection tool

Abbreviation/Acronym	Definition
DHS	(U.S.) Department of Homeland Security
DHHS	(U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services
DI	deionized (water)
DOD	(U.S.) Department of Defense
DOE	(U.S.) Department of Energy
DQO	data quality objective
DST	Decision Support Tool
DTRA	(DOD) Defense Threat Reduction Agency
ECBC	Edgewood Chemical Biological Center
ECD	electron capture detection
ECIS	Electric Cell-substrate Impedance Sensing
EDTA	ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
EHS	environmental health and safety
EPA	(U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency
ERLN	(U.S. EPA's) Environmental Response Laboratory Network
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FAD	foreign animal disease
FDPP	Fukushima Daiichi (Nuclear) Power Plant
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FE	Fuller's Earth
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIFRA	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
GB	Sarin, Isopropyl methyl phosphonofluoridate
GC/MS, GCMS	gas chromatography mass spectrometer
GD	Soman, O-Pinacolyl methylphosphonofluoridate
GDS	Government Decontamination Service
GF	Cyclohexylsarin, cyclohexyl methylphosphonofluoridate
GIS	Geographical Information System
GPD	General Purpose Decontaminant
GPD-HME	General Purpose Decontaminant for Hardened Military Equipment
НА	humic acid
HaMMER	Hazard Mitigation, Material and Equipment Restoration
НЕРА	high efficiency particulate air
HD	bis(2-chloroethyl)sulfide
HLC	(U.S. EPA) human lethal concentration
HSRP	(U.S.) Homeland Security Research Program
нтн	high test hypochlorite
HVAC	heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
I-WASTE	Incident Waste Assessment and Tonnage Estimator
IC	Incident Command
ICs	interference chemicals
IDTES	Integrated Decontamination Test and Evaluation System
ISTC	International Science and Technology Center
IT	Information Technology
JBADS	Joint Biological Agent Decontamination System
JHU/APL	John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory

Abbreviation/Acronym	Definition
JPM E (P)	Joint Program Manager Elimination (Provisional)
JPM P	Joint Project Manager for Protection
JSEW	Joint Sensitive Equipment Wipe
K <sub>d</sub>	distribution coefficient
kg	kilogram(s)
L	Lewisite
L-1	2-chlorovinyl dichloroarsine (Lewisite)
L-2	bis(2-chlorovinyl) chloroarsine
L-3	tris(2-chlorovinyl) arsine
LCFI	CEA Laboratory of Chemistry of Complex Fluids and Irradiation
LC/MS	liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry
LDPE	Low-density polyethylene
LR	log reduction
m	meter(s)
ug	microgram(s)
um	micrometer(s)
μM	micromolar(s)
MCL	maximum contaminant level
MDI	metered dose inhaler
MeBr	methyl bromide
MEG	(U.S. Army) military exposure guideline
mm	millimeter(s)
mM	millimolar
MS	mass spectrometry
MSW	municipal solid waste
MU	measurement uncertainty
NCDA&CS	North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
NELAC	National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference
NFC	near-field communication
NHSRC	(U.S. EPA) National Homeland Security Research Center
NIDS	Nano-Intelligent Detection System
NIES	National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NRC	(U.S.) National Research Council
NRT	National Response Team
NTC	Naval ship topcoat
OEM	(U.S. EPA) Office of Emergency Management
OP	organophosphate
ORCR	(U.S. EPA) Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery
ORD	(U.S. EPA) Office of Research and Development
OSTP	(White House) Office of Science and Technology Policy
РАН	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon
РАТН	prioritization analysis tool for all-hazards
PBST	phosphate buffer with 0.02 % Tween <sup>®</sup> 20
РСВ	polychlorinated biphenyl
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PCVD	plasma-based chemical vapor deposition
•	

Abbreviation/Acronym	Definition
PDED	(U.S. EPA) pipe decontamination experimental design
PHILIS	Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification Systems
PHE	Public Health England
PNNL	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
PPE	personal protective equipment
ppm	part(s) per million
PTFE	polytetrafluoroethylene
PVC	polyvinylchloride
qPCR	quantitative polymerase chain reaction
QUIC	quick urban & industrial complex
R&D	research and development
RDD	radiological dispersal device
RAM	(Time Critical) Removal Action Memo
RH	relative humidity
RIP	radiocesium interception potential
RRS	Rapid Return to Service
RTP	Research Triangle Park
RTSFM	radiologically tagged simulated fallout material
RV-PCR	rapid viability polymerase chain reaction
RWT	resuspension wind tunnel
S&T	(DHS) Science and Technology Directorate
SE	sensitive equipment
SHEDS	Stochastic Human Exposure and Dose Simulation
SNL	Sandia National Laboratories
SOP	standard operating procedure
SPEEDI	System for Prediction of Environmental Emergency Dose Information
SPORE	Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure
STW	sewage treatment works
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
TaCBRD	Transatlantic Collaborative Biological Resiliency Demonstration
TacDOGS	tactical dynamic operational guided sampling (tool)
TAGA	Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer
TOF	time-of-flight
TIC	toxic industrial chemical
TWG	technical working group
UC	unified command
UMT	unventilated monitoring testing
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UV	ultraviolet
VAC	vacuuming
VHP	vaporous hydrogen peroxide
VOC	volatile organic compound
VPHP	vapor-phase hydrogen peroxide
VSP	Visual Sampling Plan
VX	O-ethyl-S-(2-diisopropylaminoethyl) methylphosphonothiolate

Abbreviation/Acronym	Definition
WCIT	Water Contaminant Information Tool
WEST	Waste Estimation Support Tool
WMD	weapon of mass destruction
WMP	waste management plan
WSD	Water Security Division
WSTB	water security test bed
WTW	water treatment works
YRM	yeast reference material

## 1. Introduction

This report summarizes presentations and discussions from the "2013 U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) International Decontamination Research and Development Conference," held November 5–7, 2013 at the U.S. EPA facilities in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. The technical content of this report is based entirely on information and discussions from this conference.

The conference consisted of more than 68 speaker presentations organized into five plenary sessions and five concurrent sessions, followed by brief question-and-answer sessions. A poster session (20 posters) was held on the second day of the conference. Mr. Lek Kadeli, the Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD), opened the Plenary Session, and the Honorable Dr. Richard J. Danzig, former Secretary of the Navy and current Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Center for a New American Security, served as the keynote speaker. Approximately 160 workshop participants represented federal, state, and local government agencies and laboratories; international organizations (eight countries other than the United States); academia; and the private sector.

This report provides an overview of the Plenary Session and summarizes each presentation given during the Conference. Each presentation summary consists of the abstract as provided by the speaker and a review of the brief question-andanswer session that followed the presentation. The speakers' presentation slides, which include additional detailed information, are found in Appendix C of this report. This report is organized according to the Conference agenda by general session and by concurrent sessions related to biological, chemical, radiological decontamination, and water and waste water management as follows:

- Section 2 summarizes the Plenary Session.
- Sections 3–20 contain the abstracts and question-and-answer summaries for nearly 50 presentations given over the course of the three-day conference, as well as abstracts for the posters presented on Day 2 of the Conference. The presentations are organized according to the nine sessions included in the meeting agenda.
- Appendix A provides the meeting agenda, which lists the presentations and speakers in chronological order, as the presentations occurred during the workshop.
- Appendix B lists the workshop participants.
- Appendix C includes presentation slides for speakers who approved them for distribution.

## 2. Plenary Session

## 2.1 Opening Comments from US EPA

Dr. Shawn Ryan, Divison Director of NHSRC's Decontamination and Consequence Management Division, welcomed all conference participants and presenters to the 7<sup>th</sup> Decontamination Research and Development Conference. Dr. Ryan noted the continued growth in attendees for this conference to over 180 registrants for this conference with more than 20 participants from outside the United States. He acknowledged the contributions of the organizing committee and its chairperson, Dr. Lukas Oudejans, in organizing this conference. He then introduced Dr. Lukas Oudejans as the chairperson of the conference.

Dr. Oudejans acknowledged the contributions of the organizing committee members and provided logistical information on the conference. He then introduced Dr. Greg Sayles, Acting Director of the National Homeland Security Research Center who introduced Mr. Lek Kadeli, Acting Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Research and Development.

Mr. Kadeli mentioned that EPA Administrator McCarthy was sworn in last July [2013] and her first hundred days accomplishments report stated the goal of making EPA relevant to everyone around the world with solution-oriented research and new technologies. Whether it is sharing our expertise in cleaning up Japanese communities hard hit by their 2011 earthquake, tsunami and power plant meltdown, eliminating ricin exposures on Capitol Hill and in post office mailrooms, getting water supplies back in operation throughout the five states slammed by Hurricane Sandy last year, everyone wants to ensure that their kids are healthy, that their communities and drinking water are safe and that their economies are strong. Mr Kadeli continued to say that all these are the hallmarks of community sustainability and that's why EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment encompasses every facet of preparing communities for the challenges ahead and strengthen their resiliency to bounce back the next time a disaster strikes. He looked forward to hearing about the many research products and advances that are in the pipeline. Mr Kadeli concluded his remarks with the observation that the work being done here is relevant and important, more so now than ever before.

Dr. Greg Sayles continued the opening remarks for EPA by identifying the purpose and objective of the conference. According to Dr. Sayles, one component is for scientists from around the world to discuss our work and to bring the scientific community together with the practitioners who actually perform cleanups and take measurements in the field. One should celebrate the transfer of information from scientists to practitioners and build a community with no boundaries. He noted the large variety of people attending the conference including federal employees and many international participants. Dr. Sayles identified some of the expected highlights from this conference to be a report on Japan's research activities in environmental studies; a decision support tool demonstration session; and talks on risk communication, detection, treatment, and decontamination methods. Dr. Sayles concluded his remarks with the introduction of Dr. Peter Jutro, Deputy Director for Science and Policy for NHSRC.

Dr. Jutro introduced the keynote speaker of this year's conference, the Honorable Dr. Richard Danzig. Dr. Danzig is the Vice-Chair of the RAND Corporation Board of Trustees and serves as a consultant to the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security on biological terrorism. Dr. Danzig is currently a member of the Board of Directors for the Center for a New American Security. Previously, Dr. Danzig served as the 71<sup>st</sup> Secretary of the Navy and was a senior advisor to then Senator Obama on national security issues during the 2008 presidential election. His keynote address was entitled "Decontamination: Can You Tell Decision Makers What They Need to Know After (and Before) a CBRN Attack?"

# 2.2 Keynote Speaker - Decontamination: Can You Tell Decision Makers What They Need to Know After (and Before) a CBRN Attack?

Richard Danzig | Former Secretary of the Navy and Vice-Chair of the RAND Corporation Board of trustees

Secretary Danzig addressed conference participants from his perspective as a decision maker/policy maker with an appreciation for how researchers --scientists and engineers -- can support decision makers during and following national security incidents, those that are intentionally planned and those that are accidental. Recent events such as the Japanese/American collaboration in responding to the cascading disasters in Fukushima offer insight into various kinds of issues that arise. Secretary Danzig spoke about the nature of heroism. He offered a different view: "While American society and maybe all societies exalt leaders who take charge during a crisis, I think that it's the people who foresee a crisis, prepare for it and support those who deal with it, who are the real heroes".

Secretary Danzig identified a number of obstacles that decision makers face in preparing for a crisis:

- The unpredictability of crises. For example, when responding to an anthrax incident, there are many different strains of anthrax, modes of agent delivery, spore sizes, volumes of contaminant dispersed, etc., to consider. Beginning to think about what an incident commander should say about the nature, extent and feasibility of decontaminating anthrax following an attack depends on many variables.
- Few decision makers spend much time on preparing for crises. They may not know about health and environmental risks or vulnerable populations at risk. Information flows that that have been prepared in advance are often lost, and timelines are compressed during a crisis. Understanding critical data is often a problem for decision makers. Public intuition may go against model predictions and compound response and recovery issues, for example, as seen during the initial response to the Fukushima disaster
- Translating science into useful information for decision makers takes special skill and experience. Decision
  makers want to know what they need to do, not which uncertainties accompany the data that scientists and
  engineers have to offer. The essence of being a good scientist/engineer is to say, "We need more data, but
  here's what you can say based on what we know now and the level of uncertainty we have about our data".
  Providing an answer loaded with uncertainties to a crisis management team's question is not the most
  popular answer to give, despite that fact that the scientist or researcher may be the only person who can
  provide such insight.
- Scientists and engineers can be very helpful to decision makers by providing the best available science when disaster strikes. There are always unanswered questions about any crisis, which scientists and engineers can anticipate in advance. For example, following an anthrax attack, more insight can be derived from large-scale studies like EPA's BOTE or SPORE studies. Scientists need to understand *a priori* what would happen if anthrax were dispersed throughout a wide area or in the transit system in a major city, where anthrax spores are likely to adhere and reaerosolize. There is no consensus on these phenomena, but if there's an incident, scientists/engineers need to provide scientifically-sound data and expertise often based on inconclusive data.
- Scientists' and engineers' time, scale and resources will be limited during and following a crisis. Responders, scientists, and engineers will be swamped in a crisis. Often they are asked to do the work of 5-10 people on double- or triple-time. Anything that has been done up until that point may be valuable; anything done during the crisis has the potential to be misleading and waste precious resources. Scientists and engineers may have methodical plans for sampling a neighborhood or a subway system during field tests, but what

they need to be able to describe is how their field testing scales to a wide-area release and contamination, coming full circle in developing the response and cleanup strategies that depend on a specific scale, timeline or sampling methods. Following an anthrax incident, no one will know how much agent was released, when, under what meteorological conditions, etc. The number of people that were exposed will be unknown until responders, scientists, and engineers are called in. Although their contributions are often useful, issues and questions of decision makers will differ from the types of questions that researchers typically ask.

Secretary Danzig affirmed his belief that scientists and engineers can do excellent work when supporting decision makers before, during and following crises. The scientists and engineers need to anticipate and confront bigger issues that will arise in other, larger contexts. By participating in tabletop and preparedness exercises, the scientists and engineers can help decision makers thoughtfully prepare for and anticipate crises BEFORE they strike.

In concluding his remarks, Secretary Danzig offered his view that responding to decision maker needs during and following a crisis will understandably pull some scientists and engineers out of their comfort zone(s). He said, "Don't lose sight of the valuable contribution you can make, exploit your talents and available resources and then use them in ways that decision makers will value long-term. This will always be a good investment of your time and resources; it will also make decision makers appreciate what you do."

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: There is a daily problem of trying to explain complex issues in bottom line language. As scientists and engineers, our brains are suited for detailed analysis. Others are attuned to interpersonal relations and communications. Their brains work differently. How do we pull ourselves out of our natural way of thinking?
- A: It is very helpful to talk to others and explain to others. Anytime you can find people who don't know what you are talking about and you can distill it for them is good practice. When constructing something based on fine grained analysis, you write a paper that constructed a building and left the scaffolding in place. They only need to see the building; they don't need the scaffolding. There is a need to distill information even though it requires scrapping some of the detailed scientific evidence. But you are capable of doing that. The reality is that policy makers have to have a rudimentary understanding and one can teach it to them in a way they can handle. I do think it's doable though it is a central challenge.
- Q: You mentioned big solutions to practical problems, including your comments about Fukushima that how the public reacts is a big unknown. Besides public response and psychology, what other uncontrolled complexities may arise that we cannot account for?
- A: Several aspects come to mind: 1. A delayed notification of an event. BioWatch reports come in 24-36 hours after an event, and a lot happens in that interval. 2. Problems associated with indoor and residual issues like reclamation or tall buildings. 3. The need to minimize economic impact; as an example, how quickly can you get the stock market back online? 4. Implications of mandatory evacuations; it would be difficult to evacuate major cities. 5. Political figures will think about things that you won't think about that have longer term consequences. In Japan, huge decontamination efforts are driven by psychology and are logically difficult to defend. 6. The psychology of residents wanting to leave as well as people wanting to return and restore their lives; people are motivated by economic needs and the desire to return to their environment. 7. People don't trust the government for advice and rely on local doctors, neighbors, etc., so they get multiple sources of information. If a debate hasn't arrived at a consensus in an event, then the effect is going to be whatever the effects are physically, and they are amplified psychologically.
- Q: In a broader lesson that you put forward, you said the essence is surprise and our inability to deal with it or to do research more applicable to surprise.

- A: One needs to develop capabilities and needs to put a high premium on flexibility. One needs to adopt something closer to an "all hazards" response. We need to push for broad capabilities and test them against the events that arise and don't optimize against a particular scenario.
- Q: Constraints in the scientific communication are also about institutional constraints; what are some things that can remove some of these obstacles in the communication that you are talking about?
- A: The diagnosis is correct, but the tendency is to make structural changes to solve the problem and in a very high fraction of the time, this approach doesn't succeed. My standpoint is work with what you've got
- Q: I'm fascinated by the concept of plausible insight; I've been a researcher and a first responder. People who work for me want to be trained in procedures and are afraid of giving the wrong answer. How do we draw those people out so that they are unafraid to offer that insight and be "heroes"?
- A: I have two instincts: Put them in real-world situations as often as possible. They will grow accustomed by practice to those tough decisions. A second alternative is to create as vivid a sense of that as you can. Real exercises are best, but the next best is a close re-creation.
- Q: You have a vast experience. The policy makers and political leaders also have learned things. When it comes to risk tolerance, what kind of message do they have to bring to the table? We would like to have some kind of peace of mind that we will give bottom line answers, but how much of that message will actually get through to the political figures?
- A: The general view is that policy makers will tolerate zero risk on any problem they are presented; that they could eradicate that risk; but over time they come to accept the background risk. We see that with water standards and air pollution we accept a certain level of imperfection; but cleaning up after anthrax exposure is a zero tolerance policy; my view is that over time we mature and it takes time and education.
- Q: Do you have thoughts about how we can get a mindset to get more budget money for consequence management activities? We spend billions of dollars in protection and millions in consequence management, but the last decade has seen three major events that weren't the fault of the protection side.
- A: I agree with your thought but I do think it's reasonable to assert that all three of those could have been averted with a more manmade protection investment; there is a case for making investments of that kind; everything is obvious once you know the answer. Your thought is retrospective because we can't predict which consequences we need to be prepared for. An all-hazards approach is good investment. We need to generalize capability as much as possible, which prepares us for the unpredictable and makes for a much stronger budget case. We can learn things about evacuation, we can learn things about Fukushima; the basic point that we need to invest more heavily is correct.

### 3. General Session 1 Outcome Tabletop Exercise, Guidance, and Response Moderated by Hiba Ernst and Richard Rupert

# The Role of the Private Sector in the Assessment and Remediation of Areas Impacted by a CBRNE Incident

P.G. Lambert, M. Goldthorp, K. Volchek, **C.E. Brown (Presenter)** | *Emergencies Science & Technology Section, Environment Canada* 

F. Scaffidi, K. Corriveau | *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Directorate, Transport Canada* Norman Yanofsky | *Centre for Security Science, Defence R&D Canada* 

#### Abstract

In the past decade, Environment Canada, Transport Canada, Defence Research and Development Canada's Centre for Security Science have undertaken projects to improve Canada's resilience to potential CBRNE events. Recently, these organizations developed and delivered a tabletop exercise in Hamilton, Ontario. The exercise examined the role of private industry during the response to a CBRNE event involving emergency services from all levels of government. An overview of the exercise including a discussion of some of the lessons learned will be presented. The exercise was part of a larger program with the objective of integrating private sector capabilities in all aspects of response to a CBRNE event.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Did you exercise any notifications or communications and how can industry help with communicating about the incident with the public?
- A: There were mock releases of information in the exercise, but we did not actually notify the public. If it had been real, we would have notified the public. I think industry is ready and we read about their capabilities. It is important for us to understand their experience. We need to allow them to help us.
- Q: Had this event happened in an agricultural community, would the Canadian Food Inspection Agency be involved?
- A: They were not involved in this specific incident only Agrium, they are involved with the production of ammonium.
- Q: Do you have plans if this happened in an agricultural community?
- A: Yes, it is something we would like to address in future exercises.

U.K. Recovery Guidance and Advice for the Remediation of the Environment Following a Chemical Incident (The U.K. Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents) S. Wyke (Presenter), N. Brooke, A.V. Nisbet, R. Duarte-Davidson | *Public Health England, Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards* 

#### Abstract

#### What is the Chemical Recovery Handbook?

Public Health England (PHE) in collaboration with, and support from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Food Standards Agency, Home Office, Northern Ireland Environment Agency and Scottish Government has now published the UK Recovery Handbook for Radiation Incidents<sup>1</sup> and the UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents<sup>2</sup>.

The UK Chemical Recovery Handbook includes guidance and advice on the recovery and remediation of the environment in the post-accident (post-acute) phase and focusses on environmental clean-up methods. The Handbook provides a framework for developing and selecting an effective recovery strategy following a chemical incident, and contains a compendium of practicable, evidence based recovery options for Inhabited Areas, Food Production Systems and Water Environments<sup>1,2</sup>. The Handbook recommends a number of recovery options (remediation techniques), which have the primary aim to reduce exposure from the consumption of contaminated foodstuffs and water, or from exposure to contaminated surfaces in an inhabited area via dermal or inhalation of re-suspended material. A secondary objective is to provide reassurance to consumers and people living in contaminated areas about their levels of exposure. Recovery options can be implemented at different phases of the response, beginning just after the incident and continuing for the days, weeks, months or even years after the incident.

The UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents is a technical guidance document, containing well-focused and broadly applicable state-of-the-art information on scientific, technical and societal aspects relevant to recovery and remediation of contaminated environments. The Handbook has been developed to ensure that guidance and advice is robust and practicable, based on an evaluation of the evidence base<sup>3</sup>.

The Handbook can also be used to generate awareness amongst emergency planners and those who might deal with the aftermath of a chemical incident, and promote constructive dialogue between all stakeholders tasked with recovery following a chemical incident.

#### What next?

The UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents is being developed as part of a three-year project (2012 – 2015) by Public Health England, and will apply to areas or environments that have been contaminated by accidental or deliberate biological releases and environmental contamination.

Public Health England are also developing a chemical and radiation recovery decision support tool, in collaboration with UK Government Departments and Agencies. It is envisaged that the decision support tool will assist users navigating through the radiation<sup>1</sup> and chemical<sup>2</sup> recovery handbooks and provide a consistent methodology to compare remediation techniques and a framework for documenting the parameters, assumptions and information used to reach the decision on how to remediate the affected environment following a chemical or radiation incident.

#### References

1. NISBET, A.F. et al. UK Recovery Handbooks for Radiation Incidents: 2009. HPA-RPD-064. Available from Health Protection Agency, UK.

2. WYKE-SANDERS, S. et al. The UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents. Available from the Health Protection Agency, UK.

3. WYKE-SANDERS S. et al. Evaluating the evidence base for recovery, remediation and decontamination methods – The UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents. Chemical Hazards and Poisons Report; 2012: 21: 35-37.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- C: I would suggest to not rely too much on an electronic version in case things go wrong.
- A: The recovery handbooks will still be available to print off and keep as hardcopies (PDFs of the recovery handbooks are accessible from <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/recovery-remediation-and-environmental-decontamination">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/recovery-remediation-and-environmental-decontamination</a>). The decision-support tool is essentially an add-on to help people navigate through the steps in developing a recovery strategy.

**Cleaning up Afterwards. The UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents** Thomas Pottage, Emma Goode, Sara Speight, **Allan Bennett (Presenter)** | *Public Health England Porton* Stacey Wyke-Sanders | *Centre for Radiation, Chemicals and Environmental Hazards, Public Health England* 

#### Abstract

Incidents involving biological agents can result in outbreaks of human infection and may also lead to contamination of the environment. This contamination may cause restrictions and access controls to the environment (i.e. farm, school, hospital or water supply) until the contamination is dealt with and the environment declared safe to use or re-enter. A project has been undertaken by the Health Protection Agency to develop a biological recovery handbook as a decision making framework tool technical guidance for local authorities and others involved in the clean-up and recovery phase following a biological incident or infectious agent outbreak (both naturally occurring and through intentional release). This project follows on and uses some of the tools and methodologies developed by the UK Recovery Handbook for Radiation Incidents (v3, 2009) and the UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents (2012).

The UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents project has begun with an extensive literature review of the environmental persistence of a range of microorganisms and their resistance/susceptibility to chemical and physical decontamination techniques. These reviews will inform the technical guidance, decision-aiding framework, checklists and recovery option data sheets that are being developed as part of the UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents. Following the approach taken for the radiation recovery handbook, different environments (food production systems, inhabited areas and water management systems) will be addressed separately and stakeholder groups convened to comment on the practicability of the recovery options will

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be obtained as part of the literature review, but the project also involves a retrospective questionnaire study (online survey followed up by a telephone interview) to capture experience from incidents that are not well reported, and will be collated and distilled into the recovery options database.

It is envisaged that the UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents will facilitate decision makers' access to expert opinion and scientific advice by presenting this information in an easy to use decision-aiding framework format, and will also enable the decisions made during the recovery process to be documented (i.e. why were decisions made to implement various clean-up techniques). The UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents will be an openly available free to download document from the project's website <a href="http://www.hpa.org.uk/ProductsServices/ResearchAndTesting/BiosafetyUnit/RecoveryHandbookForBiologicalIncidents/">http://www.hpa.org.uk/ProductsServices/ResearchAndTesting/BiosafetyUnit/RecoveryHandbookForBiologicalIncidents/</a> Publication is expected in 2015 and will also be useful for training and preparedness activities.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: In your handbook, have you learned how to prioritize samples?
- A: We are not doing this as part of the project; however, there is a project in the UK looking at this. My organization will be processing clinical samples as a priority. Sometimes, you get to a situation where the diagnosis will be done on a symptomatic basis. It is important to do both clinical and environmental sampling.
- Q: You were mentioning that there were weeks to months before you could clean up the garage. Was there a political reason? In the future, do you think you have processes in place?
- A: I think yes. The problem with a naturally occurring incident is that we think we should just clean it up one way. For example, for anthrax, we used chlorine dioxide. In addition, there was potential for prosecuting the people who made the drums, so there was a lot of antagonism. You are decontaminating a house where people live, and they do not think it needs to be decontaminated. In London, we just used the bleach and it was much quicker (1-2 weeks).
- Q: One of your slides showed a matrix of disinfection methods versus different agents, and a lot of the data was not available. Is there a plan to fill in any of those boxes? Is there hope they will be research projects in academia, or is the government going to address that?
- A: I hope it will bring awareness. It also highlights the needs for surrogates.

### Research Activities of the Japan National Institute of Environmental Studies on Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant Accident

Noriuki Suzuki (Presenter) | Center for Environmental Risk Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies Shoji Nakayama | Center for Environmental Health Sciences, National Institute for Environmental Studies Nagahisa Hirayama | Center for Material Cycles and Waste Management Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies

#### Abstract

The Japan National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) reacted quickly to the disastrous earthquake and tsunami event on 11 March 2011 that resulted in the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDPP) incident. We have conducted a variety of research on waste management; air/water quality monitoring including radioactive and non-radioactive contaminants; and fate modeling of radioactive substances released from the FDPP. In this presentation, our research on environmental fate and transport of the radionuclides released from FDPP and radioactive contaminated waste management will be presented. Fate and transport research aims to predict long-term trend and distribution of radioactive nuclides in the terrestrial and aquatic environment as well as in living organisms; build a sound model to estimate long-term general population exposure dose; and contribute to better understanding of the impacts on human, wildlife and ecosystem health. Multimedia fate models are being developed to cover atmospheric, oceanic, and terrestrial environments. Active field measurements have been conducted to characterize sources and movement of radioactive nuclides. New techniques to effectively analyze dissolved cesium, strontium, and iodine 129 are developed. A human exposure model has revealed that external

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exposure is a major source for the human total dose. An oxidative stress marker was found in wild mice. The waste management studies are to accumulate the knowledge of treatment and disposal technologies; set technical standards; and promote safe and effective waste management. The best technologies for radioactive waste incineration and landfill have been studied. Our Institute has been committed to conduct further research in Fukushima. The research will focus on not only the understanding of the current situation but also on the recreation of the original and more resilient communities and the preparation for future disasters.

There were no questions for this presenter.

# Hazard Mitigation Science and Technology Program for the DoD Chemical and Biological Defense Program (CBDP)

Charles Bass (Presenter), Glenn Lawson, Revell Phillips, Mark Morgan | Defense Threat Reduction Agency

#### No slides were made available for inclusion.

#### Abstract

Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) manages science and technology investments for the DoD Chemical and Biological Defense Program with a mission to expand our knowledge of threat agents and transition technologies into joint acquisition programs. Hazard Mitigation, a major sub-program area, funds research to find new technologies and methods with the goal to save lives, limit the spread of contamination, return equipment to normal mission operation and enable operations at reduced levels of protection. The research portfolio spans a range between near-term, mature technologies to far-term, higher risk research. Projects are directed at eight efforts:

1. Support joint programs for the fielding of equipment decontamination: General Purpose Decontaminant (GPD), Joint Sensitive Equipment Wipe (JSEW), and Contamination Indication/Decontamination Assurance System (CIDAS)

2. Develop a "Dial-a-Decon" technology that allows adjustments at the point-of-use based on agent type, material substrate, and environmental conditions

3. Support a USAF demonstration: Joint Biological Agent Decontamination System (JBADS) which is based on hot, humid air and focused on large airframes

4. Develop enzyme-based formulations for chemical decontamination of sensitive equipment

5. Facilitate the development of improved, easy to decontaminate coatings

6. Develop and demonstrate novel, low-logistical burden approaches to wide-area decontamination of *B. anthracis* spores

7. Improve decontamination processes for decontamination of personnel and mass casualties

8. Develop processes for safe repatriation of chemically and biologically contaminated human remains

These efforts are integrated with current and planned acquisition programs to address capability shortfalls identified by the services. Research takes place at DoD service laboratories, private industry, and academia. DTRA provides a critical link by managing these efforts to ensure that needed capabilities are delivered to the warfighter.

Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: With the strippable coating, is it possible to put it on the vehicle before it enters?
- A: Yes, that is the idea. It is short-lived and needs to be reapplied every year, or you need to have a process to do it before the equipment deploys.
- Q: Are paints hostile to microbes growing on them?

• A: We have not been that successful with chemicals. We have been more successful with biologicals. We worked with DARPA to get one log destruction of the spores. Coatings are primarily there for corrosion control.

#### The U.K. Government Decontamination Service (GDS) Sara Casey | GDS, United Kingdom

#### Abstract

The Government Decontamination Service (GDS) is a cross-government service, offering advice, guidance and practical support both during, and in preparing for a CBRN or major HAZMAT incident. GDS utilise a broad base of private and public sector capability and capacity to create a robust and operationally ready CBRN Recovery Service. This is underpinned by a programme of work, including applied research and development, carefully aligned to UK Government requirements that focuses on capability assurance, gap analysis and the closure of capability gaps.

A brief overview will be given of the work carried out by GDS over the last 12 months, which will include 1) procurement of the new GDS framework suppliers 2) the methods used to assure the framework suppliers have the required capability during CBRN recovery, 3) an introduction to the research and development programme 4) collaborative work with academia, UK Government Agencies and Departments, plus future planned collaboration with the US EPA and DHS and 5) other future work.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: What about indoor decontamination?
- A: The daily business of companies we used is indoor decontamination. Throwing an outdoors decontamination at them was designed to test responders. They changed their methods to address this.
- Q: During an event, would you let them pursue the decontamination of their choice become the standard operating procedure?
- A: No, unless we thought that would be effective; we would not let them run rampant.
- Q: How did you contaminate the indoor setting?
- A: Aerosolized Bacillus atrophaeus.
- Q: After you did it, how did you measure it? Did you measure uniformity?
- A: The area was sprayed and left overnight and was sampled the next day; we do not have results yet.

#### Biological Response and Recovery Science and Technology Roadmap Brooke Pearson | *Cubic Applications, Inc.*

#### Abstract

A catastrophic biological incident could threaten the Nation's human, animal, plant, environmental, and economic health, as well as America's national security. Such an event would demand swift and effective responses in order to minimize loss of life and other adverse consequences or, in the case of suspected criminal activity or terrorism, to prevent additional attacks.

Standing ready to respond to a biological incident requires ongoing data and information collection, data integration and scientific analysis, evidence-based review, strategic decision making, and continuous coordination across government and with nongovernmental partners. In addition, an effective response and recovery process requires the coordination of data and capabilities from several sectors—such as public health, law enforcement, waste management, infrastructure management, transportation, and more.

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) released a *Biological Incident Response and Recovery Science and Technology Roadmap* to help ensure that decision makers and first responders are equipped with the information and tools needed to effectively respond to and recover from a biological

incident—whether naturally occurring (such as an influenza pandemic), accidental (such as a laboratory spill), or intentional (such as a bioterror attack).

The *Roadmap* aims to strengthen these processes by categorizing key scientific gaps, identifying specific technological solutions, and prioritizing research activities to enable government—at all levels—to make decisions more effectively. Key near-term R&D priorities and objectives outlined in the Roadmap include:

- Develop reliable estimates of risk of exposure for a multitude of environments, matrices, and conditions associated with wide-area release scenarios;
- Develop reliable estimates of risk to humans, animals, and plants through various exposure and transmission routes;
- Evaluate population infection prevention measures (e.g., quarantine, isolation, and social distancing) used to reduce incident impact and develop a strong scientific basis for recommending these measures; and
- Apply insights from risk-communication research to guide dissemination of appropriate messages to decision makers, first responders, and others.

The *Roadmap* was developed by the interagency Biological Response and Recovery Science and Technology Working Group under the National Science and Technology Council's Committee on Homeland and National Security, and complements the *National Biosurveillance Science and Technology Roadmap* that was published in June 2013.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

## 4. General Session 2 Decision Support Tools

Moderated by Leroy Mickelsen and Timothy Boe

# Utilization of the QUIC Urban T&D Modeling System for Pre-Planning, Sensor Siting, and Post-Event Analysis of CBR Dispersal Events

Michael Brown | Los Alamos National Laboratory, Systems Analysis & Surveillance Group

#### Abstract

The Quick Urban & Industrial Complex (QUIC) dispersion modeling system rapidly computes 3D wind, concentration, and deposition fields around building complexes. Chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) agent dispersion can be computed on building to neighborhood scales in tens of seconds to tens of minutes. It is used to provide vulnerability assessments, realistic training scenarios and tabletop exercise support, post-event clean up analysis, optimal sensor siting for special events, and wind fields in a real-time response system. QUIC is composed of a wind model, a random-walk transport and dispersion model, and a graphical user interface. It has unique algorithms to account for radiological dispersal device (RDD) detonations, dense gas toxic industrial chemical dispersion, chemical weapon releases, and dry and wet biological agent sources in cities. QUIC accounts for topography, buoyancy, droplet evaporation, 2 phase droplet-vapor mixtures, multi-particle size distributions, gravitational settling, infiltration into buildings, and deposition onto buildings and trees. The model includes a US day-night population database that is linked to different health effects models (e.g., toxic load, AEGL's) to quickly compute casualties. Recently, the code has been modified to include a CONTAM exporter to provide outdoor plume concentration and building pressure time series at inlets around buildings in order for CONTAM to compute concentrations within buildings. In this presentation we will give a brief overview of the QUIC model capabilities, some example applications focused on bio and rad agent deposition, comparisons between flat-earth and building-aware plume calculations, and model evaluation studies.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Did you test for resolution?
- A: We do tests of different resolution. We can get good results at 5 m horizontal resolution and a few meters vertical.
- Q: Can you mention the crude building infiltration scheme and how that could aid in prioritizing resources for sampling indoors?
- A: We have a building infiltration scheme. Every single building in the code has an infiltration parameter (leakiness of HVAC or other filtration systems). It takes concentrations around the building, takes leakiness factor, to get a crude estimate of concentration indoors. We do not account for the walls inside. We can link up to the CONTAM model from NIST that can account for this.

A Comprehensive Decision Support Tool for Agricultural Security **Robert Knowlton (Presenter)**, Mark Tucker, Mark Kinnan, Brad Melton, James Davies | Sandia National Laboratories Lori Miller | U.S. Department of Homeland Security

#### Abstract

The threat of an infectious Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) outbreak, such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), poses significant economic consequences to the United States (US) food production industry. FMD can infect clovenhooved animals, such as cattle, swine, sheep, and goats, as well as deer. There has not been an outbreak of FMD in the US since 1929. More recently, there have been outbreaks in other countries that have caused billions of dollars in cleanup costs and economic devastation. Even though FMD is not transmitted to humans, infected livestock cannot be used in or as food products. International trade would also be negatively affected. It could take considerable time, about a year and a half, to certify a country to be free of infected livestock before international trade could resume. Therefore, a decision support system that can be used to evaluate alternative response and recovery operations is desired. Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) is developing a comprehensive decision support tool to analyze response and recovery actions from an FAD outbreak. The FAD tool is a module of SNL's Prioritization Analysis Tool for All-Hazards/Analyzer for Wide Area Restoration Effectiveness (PATH/AWARE), which was developed for use on potential wide-area biological, chemical or radiological releases. The tool allows a user to manage resources and estimate costs and timelines for response and recovery actions. The tool has a built-in database and an embedded Geographical Information System (GIS), which allows the user to display and input spatial information. The FAD module accounts for processes such as vaccination, depopulation, rendering, incineration, composting, burial, and decontamination. The FAD module also codifies some tools developed by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) within the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). These tools include a checklist, a Disposal Decision Tree, and a Disposal Options Matrix. A case study will be presented to illustrate the functionality of the tool and its usefulness in the decision making process.

# Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

#### Toward Feasible Sampling Plans Landon Sego | Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

#### Abstract

Since the anthrax events of 2001 and subsequent responses, there has been considerable discussion regarding the best approach for developing defensible sampling strategies. In particular, the merits of "judgmental" and "probabilistic" have received close attention. Yet, too often the two strategies are portrayed as being at odds with each other—and the phrase "judgmental versus probabilistic" is frequently used when describing the challenge of developing sampling strategies. We advocate the importance of both judgmental and probabilistic

sampling in creating rigorous, yet feasible, sampling designs. We explore the purpose of judgmental sampling, probabilistic sampling, and the power of combining the two. We discuss how these combined strategies can be used to 1) discover contamination, 2) characterize the location and extent of contamination, and 3) clear remediated (or unaffected) areas for reoccupation.

All relevant information should be used when developing sampling plans. Ideally, sampling strategies should leverage knowledge about the spatial distribution of the contaminant, agent fate, the interaction of the agent with various surface types, the efficacy of decontamination techniques, etc. We refer to this as the "lines of evidence" approach, which will lead to sampling designs that require fewer samples than would otherwise be needed to achieve the desired sampling objectives. In addition to these concepts, we will illustrate how these techniques have been (or will be) incorporated into Visual Sample Plan (VSP), a freely available software tool for the design of environmental sampling plans and analysis of sampling data.

Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

Decision Support Toolset for Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Crisis Management Brooke Pearson (Presenter), William Ginley, Ryan Madden | Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

#### Abstract

The Transatlantic Collaborative Biological Resiliency Demonstration (TaCBRD) is an Advanced Technology Demonstration (ATD) focused on remediating the effects of a wide-area biological event on a population center. The TaCBRD ATD through a series of workshops has identified some key concepts and tools that will assist the recovery teams in recovering from an attack. The information technology tools span the concepts of biosurveillance, detection, sampling, decontamination and assessment. Many of these tools were developed independently from each other and are being unified in a common architecture known as TaCBoaRD so they can interoperate. TaCBoaRD is not an acronym; it is a concept for sharing biological recovery information utilizing sharepoint technology.

The TaCBRD ATD utilizing TaCBoaRD will provide recovery organizations with tools organized as portlets. Each tool or portlet performs a specific mission during the timeline of pre-attack through trans-attack to post-attack. TaCBoaRD provides a central location to plan, monitor and execute recovery functions with status updates.

TaCBoaRD portlets will be transitioned to other chemical biological defense program efforts such as the Biosurveillance Portal and Installation Protection Integration Platform.

Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

Tactical Dynamic Operational Guided Sampling (TacDOGS) Tool for the TransAtlantic Collaborative Biological Resiliency Demonstration (TaCBRD) Program

**Dan Dutrow (Presenter)**, Sean Kinahan, Scott Stanchfield, Suma Subbarao, Philip Koshute, Alex Proescher | *The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory* 

#### Abstract

The Tactical Dynamic Operational Guided Sampling (TacDOGS) tool is a software product being developed by John Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU/APL) in support of the Transatlantic Collaborative Biological Resiliency Demonstration (TaCBRD) program to provide guidance for the development and execution of sampling plans in context of a wide-area outdoor biological release. At each level of the command structure, the commander may utilize TacDOGS to organize available assets to maximize their operational utility. Sampling after a large-scale wide-area biological release requires an extraordinary amount of time, coordination, and cost.

Depending on the scenario and phase of the response, sampling objectives will vary. These objectives form the basis for selecting sampling methods, collection instruments, sampling schedules, analysis methods, and interpretation of results. The sampling plan of action depends on the biological threats and release properties. The TacDOGS tool will offer increased situational awareness of the factors to consider in selecting sampling missions to meet objectives. The tool optimizes the selection of material and equipment available through multiple response assets based on the current sampling capabilities and detection sensitivities of expected contamination. This optimization process increases the capability to assign response assets to missions, while providing the end user with an understanding of the limitations inherent in the chosen sampling and analysis methods. Information related to sample planning and collection is gathered through the use of Android devices and NFC communication to record, transfer, and track sampling related data. Matching capabilities to suspected contamination concentrations also increases the potential to detect that contamination. The TacDOGS application uses judgment and the outputs of physics-based modeling to guide dynamic assessment of results and potential movement of contamination during the course of response.

# Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

Decon ST: Decontamination Strategy and Technology Selection Tool D. Edwards (Presenter), J. Freutel, L. Yang, P. Krauter\* | Sandia National Laboratories (\*retired) S. Ryan, P. Lemieux, L. Mickelsen | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### Abstract

In order to support decision-making to select decontamination options for specific contaminated buildings following a biological contamination incident, Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) have built a decontamination strategy and technology selection tool (DeconST). The DeconST addresses contamination of a building with *Bacillus anthracis* spores, but is expandable to address other agents.

The DeconST takes user input of building type, size, sampling frequency, and information regarding ambient weather conditions, and provides relevant information on facility-specific decontamination methods and associated waste implications. The DeconST provides a comparison of the relative costs, efficacy and associated destructiveness and waste generated by each of the candidate decontamination technologies. The cost comparison includes the costs of the decontamination process itself (including incident command, characterization and clearance sampling and analysis, decontamination, and long-term monitoring) plus the costs associated with managing the waste generated by the technologies on the structural and interior materials and contents of the facility (including the costs for removing, decontaminating, disposing of, and replacing all materials and contents damaged and/or not decontaminated by the technologies with published efficacy data. Building demolition is also included for comparison purposes.

The DeconST is intended to be used by a technical working group (TWG) functioning under a Unified Command (UC) to provide recommendations to the Incident Command (IC) on decontamination technologies appropriate to a given building. The DeconST, which runs as an MS Excel 2010 spreadsheet, is not an expert system, meaning that it does not tell the IC/UC what technology to use, but rather it presents a series of options and recommendations, with color-coded estimates of likelihood of success of decontamination, cost implications, and waste estimates. The DeconST tool's outputs, including tables of waste composition, cost distribution charts, and other information that would justify recommendations, are provided as detailed reports suitable for inclusion in the records of the IC/UC.

# Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

#### Carcass Management Decision Support Tools Brooke Pearson (Presenter), Wayne Einfeld, Stacey Tyler, Emilie Hill | *Cubic Applications, Inc.*

#### Abstract

In 2011, US livestock receipts accounted for 44% (\$166 billion) of total farm receipts. Each year, US animal agriculture contributes approximately 26 billion pounds of beef, 23 billion pounds of pork, and 38 billion pounds of poultry to the food supply. These products are derived from animals that are vulnerable to death due to accidental disease, severe weather, or an act of bioterrorism. While livestock producers are accustomed to handling routine mortalities, high numbers of livestock deaths in a disaster situation pose daunting challenges. If not met quickly and effectively, carcass management issues can result in devastating economic losses as well as long-term public health and environmental issues.

Decision makers within the emergency response community are often unfamiliar with the unique concerns of the livestock industry and may be faced with little familiarity of carcass disposal options and the unique challenges they pose. For example, unlined on-site burial may be a valid option for small numbers of animals, but large numbers of buried carcasses can create contaminated leachate, which could infiltrate groundwater resources and create a public health risk. Additionally, not all disposal methods are suitable for every disease agent. A high-level decision support tool with accompanying checklist and training modules can assist in the rapid determination of which disposal option best meets the user's needs.

A simple spreadsheet-based tool has been developed to allow users to quickly narrow down their disposal options by answering just five simple questions. By defining the nature of the event (viral, bacterial, spore, prion, chemical, radiological or natural disaster), the tool eliminates unsuitable disposal options based on disease agent considerations for environmental and public health factors. The tool also calculates the time to depopulate, the resource capacity ratio (e.g., adequacy of land and transport), the estimated time to complete disposal, and the estimated cost for the entire disposal operation. The results of these calculations allow users to quickly narrow the number of suitable disposal options. The user is then directed to disposal checklists that can be used to further narrow down the top disposal options. Finally, users are directed to on-line training courses, which provide detailed information about the planning and operational requirements of each possible disposal option.

This suite of tools is designed for use by emergency response personnel who may possess little knowledge in this area. The user can efficiently rule out unsuitable options for a scenario-specific solution requiring carcass disposal. The tools allow for rapid, effective, and justifiable decisions about carcass management to be made. Rapid response, made possible by this suite of tools, is vital to minimizing livestock losses, economic impacts, and public health hazards.

# Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

Waste Estimation Support Tool: An Overview, Updates, and Demonstration Timothy Boe (Presenter) | Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Paul Lemieux | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Colin Hayes | Eastern Research Group, Inc.

#### Abstract

As a result of ongoing research efforts, the EPA's Homeland Security Research Program (HSRP) has developed the Waste Estimation Support Tool (WEST) for estimating the potential volume and radioactivity levels of waste generated by a radiological incident and subsequent decontamination efforts. The HSRP is continuing to support and further develop the WEST to addressing the evolving needs of its partners. Upcoming updates will feature an occupancy based infrastructure scheme, universal building stock capabilities, occupancy based infrastructure scheme, improved GIS functionality, embedded report and graph generation, and an intuitive scenario

management interface. This presentation will feature an overview of the WEST, planned updates, and a live demonstration.

Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

#### Interactive All Hazards Waste Management Plan Development Tool Anna Tschursin | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery, Materials Recovery and Waste Management Division, Waste Characterization Branch

#### Abstract

Many manmade and natural incidents have the potential to produce significant amounts of waste. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) believes that communities should have a waste management plan (WMP) that addresses everything from natural disasters and foreign animal disease outbreaks to chemical spills and nuclear incidents to terrorist attacks involving conventional, chemical, radiological, or biological means. These homeland security incidents can create more waste than a community typically manages on a regular basis, as well as waste streams a community does not normally handle. Past experience has shown that communities with comprehensive and well-coordinated WMPs recover more quickly and at less cost from these incidents, making these communities more resilient. Unfortunately, planning for waste management during large-scale homeland security incidents has been identified as a major capability gap in overall Homeland Security Response and Recovery Preparedness.

To assist emergency managers, planners, and responders in the public and private sectors in creating or updating a comprehensive plan for managing waste generated from manmade and natural incidents, the ORCR Materials Recovery and Waste Management Division, in collaboration with Regions 3 and 5, the Office of Homeland Security and The National Homeland Security Research Center, has been researching the potential development of an interactive on-line waste management planning tool intended to provide step by step advice on creating a comprehensive pre-incident WMP. This tool would provide a framework to help managers, planners, and responders initiate plan development, providing variable degrees of assistance from providing a simple outline of plan contents, to creating customizable language, to provide an adaptable format for drafting the plan itself but, in addition, is envisioned to provide users with the ability to view plans developed and shared by other users, as well as links to other resources such as fact sheets, databases, and integration with other online tools such as I-WASTE. EPA has developed the initial contents for the tool, solicited input from Regional and State representatives, and is now identifying IT platforms, which would allow for the features envisioned, resources permitting.

Questions for presenter were postponed until Panel Discussion at the conclusion of the Decision Support Tool Session.

#### Panel Discussion

Michael Brown | Los Alamos National Laboratory Robert Knowlton | Sandia National Laboratories Landon Sego | Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Brooke Pearson | Cubic Applications, Inc. Dan Dutrow | John Hopkins University APL Donna Edwards | Sandia National Laboratories Timothy Boe | Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Anna Tschursin | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
### Notes

Question 1 to the panel:

Every decision support tool (DST) discussed here today addresses some form of need or problem. When designing your DSTs, how are you collaborating with your customers to ensure you meet their needs?

Summary of the responses from panel:

- Training sessions not only serve as a venue to familiarize end-users with DSTs, but also allow end-users to provide feedback.
- Consider collaborating with partners through an interactive process, such as a stakeholder working group, in order to promote input.
- Developers tend to wait until DSTs are nearly finished before requesting feedback. Preliminary tech demos push developers to release DSTs early on, which allows stakeholders to review and address issues during the development process.
- The user base in which a DST was intended may broaden over time. This is especially evident as DSTs progress based on expanding needs (e.g., all hazards approach), depending its intended or unintended application.
- Some end-users may not be receptive to a particular DST due to limitations in policy or financial restraints.
- End-users need to be patient with developers and vice versa.

Question 2 to the panel:

Static software is dead software and becomes useless over time if not continuously updated. How do we change the funding model?

Summary of responses from panel:

- Once completed, allocating funding to support DSTs can be a formidable task and often requires some form of perpetual investment for the DST to remain operational.
- The metaphor, "Cadillac vs. Hyundai" was used to distinguish between high-end DSTs (e.g., dispersion model) versus low-end DSTs (e.g., Excel spreadsheet). High-end DSTs often require periodic investments in order to remain relevant. Low-end DSTs, on the other hand, do not. The option of a high-end or low-end really depends on the problem at hand.
- Release updates on a *pro re nata* basis; a critical update is likely a worthwhile investment.
- Consider enabling reach-back by some sort of funding mechanism. The United Kingdom (UK) has set a good precedent by retaining contractors until the need arises.

### Question 3 to the panel:

Very seldom do we get out in the field and respond to a modeled threat. These DSTs are great resources, but there is a real world. How flexible are these tools? How easy will it be for software engineers to improve upon them in the future?

Summary of responses from the panel:

- Create technical working groups composed of power users who regularly interact with the DST. These groups often expand applications beyond their original intention.
- Tools geared towards an all-hazards approach are easier to sustain rather than those addressing a specific need. Conceptual models currently do not address every foreseeable disaster. Efforts should focus more on risk versus probability. Risks with high probability that are likely to invoke secondary hazards should be the primary focus (e.g., Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster).
- Consider using software development environments that allow developers to push updates to the end-user.

• Over time, if DSTs are not routinely updated, customers run the risk of brain drain (e.g., initial developers relocated or require time to re-acclimate with code).

#### Question 4 to the panel:

Each DST presented here today represents a different phase or process in emergency response. Moving forward, how can we holistically connect these tools so they are more efficient, yet cost effective?

Summary of responses from the panel:

- Typically not possible to integrate software that wasn't intended to do so. DSTs can, however, share outputs via a common file scheme (i.e., text file), or have extensions or components that interact with each other.
- Using an open source development model promotes universal access and common standards. By utilizing open source, DSTs can be enhanced or integrated when the need arises with little or no support from outside sources.
- EPA has limited resources to manage DSTs and recommends they be relocated to a sustainable yet efficient home. An example of this is the EPA's GeoPlatform, which houses a variety of applications under one roof.
- A DST shouldn't be developed to address a specific need. Instead, DSTs should be modular by design, allowing them to expand functionality based on a need. Doing so would save the agency both time and money.

5. General Session 3 Risk Communication and Systems Approach Moderated by Brendan Doyle

## Professional and Public Perceptions of Information Needs During a Drinking Water Contamination Event

Scott Minamyer, **Cynthia Yund (Presenter)** | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

Richard Tardiff | Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

#### Abstract

A critical need has been identified for the development of methodologies to effectively communicate risks associated with water security emergencies. The EPA sponsored three workshops in 2005 and 2006 to prepare messages for such emergencies. Messages were developed through the cooperative efforts of experts from water agencies, public health, emergency response, law enforcement, as well as experts in risk communication.

This current investigation was a follow up to the former workshops to conduct formative research to: (1) compare professional and public assessments of critical information needs; and (2) evaluate messages developed during the above-mentioned workshops for appropriateness and effectiveness. A hypothetical contamination scenario of a municipal water supply was presented for discussion. The purpose was to identify the layperson's perception of relevant risk, so professionals can be prepared to supply critical information and dispel misconceptions.

Information was collected by means of personal interviews with water-sector professionals followed by focus groups comprised of water consumers in Boston, Massachusetts; Charlotte, North Carolina; Chicago, Illinois, and San Diego, California. Professionals began by providing a list of questions addressing what questions they thought the public would have during a drinking water contamination incident. The initial scenario was intentionally non-specific. Later they were asked to add issues that would arise if the incident were known to be intentional, such as a terrorist attack. Members of the public were presented the same scenario and generated a list of questions related to information they would most need during the water contamination incident.

Responses from both groups were very similar and can be categorized into the following themes:

- Who is affected
- Exposure Issues
- Uses of Tap Water
- Alternate Sources of Water
- Consumer Personal Actions
- Response and Recovery

The priorities for professionals were event control, remediation, and public health protection. For the public, priorities were personal safety and individual action. Research findings can be used as a critical crisis communication planning resource for responders, utility managers, and public information officers to prepare appropriate information for delivery to the public during a water emergency.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: What kind of response have you had from the water utility industry? How do they view this study and are they refining their risk communication messages?
- A: I hope they are. We had 1700 people attend the webinar, which gives you a sense of how utilities will use the tool. We have partnerships that will help promote our tool, and it is moving forward.
- Q: What was the public response toward the need for specific information, e.g., nature of the problem?
- A: They wanted specifics but only of what you knew. The public wanted honesty that you did not know all of the answers and they could tell if you were trying to fudge. The individual community level is where we need to work.
- Q: How do you think this translates to natural disasters?
- A: The questions in this tool are very general, e.g., where do I get a supply? Do I boil the water? When do I get to normal? It is very applicable.

# Perceptions of Risk Communication Messages During a Long-Term Biological Remediation

**Charlena Bowling (Presenter)**, Cynthia Yund | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency David Malet | University of Mebourne Mark Korbitz | Otero Junior College Jody Carrillo | Pueblo County/City Health Department

#### Abstract

Risk communicators need to involve stakeholders and the public throughout all stages of an environmental contamination event. It is important to explain the magnitude and severity of risks associated with such an event. Effective communication strategies to ensure public trust must reflect the needs of broad, diversified audiences consisting of greatly varied educational levels and technical knowledge while addressing security concerns. In 2011, EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC), in conjunction with the Pueblo City/County Health Department of Colorado, began a three-year study of effective risk communication practices during the remediation phase of a biological event. The objective of this research effort is to determine the preferred mechanism of message delivery that make it more likely that risk communications will be trustworthy and understood by target audiences.

Phase 1 of the study has been completed. A panel of 43 federal, state, and local emergency response professionals and other public officials provided responses to 17 mock risk communication messages, distributed via email over a six month long scenario, that describe the remediation of a major bioterrorist attack. Phase 1 findings suggest that (1) local policy- and decision makers use readily available information and make assumptions that high level agencies will assume clean up responsibilities; (2) panel members expect cleanup to

"zero" residual risk; (3) more positive emotions emerged as the scenario progressed and neared the end; and (4) panel members indicated that the public would be informed of activities and information via hotlines, websites, and social media – even though social media generally could not be accessed from these agency workplaces and many of the participating agencies were not using social media at the time of this study.

This presentation will describe results from the Phase 1 study. The data indicate emergency management personnel do not have uniform preparedness capabilities to respond to all aspects of a significant bioterrorist attack. Recommendations confirm the need for state and local emergency response personnel to work together on response activities. While social media may offer a tool to expedite risk communication messaging, it appears that many of these agencies are not fully capitalizing on such a methodology. State and local level homeland security planners need to be more involved in lessons learned from terrorist events and exercises similar to those at the at the Federal level. The findings from this research will yield data useful to public health officials and communicators on the mechanism of message delivery and content, and provide insight into improving the reception to risk communication messages by the public, especially during the remediation phase of an event, given the time lag between response and recovery.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: You have stressed not alarming people and the importance of preparation of messages, but what is more challenging is that situations are extremely dynamic. There tends to be a lot of agreement about what to do. The media think this is boring and want people who will wreak havoc. Have you figured out what the strategy is for being quickly adaptive to other people's messaging?
- A: I think it all goes out to preparation. You cannot prepare for everything, but any preparations will help you. If you know the conflicting messages are going to be there, you should be ready to answer them.
- Q: When I see simple messages released, my initial reaction is skepticism that they are placating the public. Have you considered a dual form of messaging with one simple, concise messaging and a link with data and technical detail?
- A: I think that has been used, e.g., BP oil spill. That is a good approach and makes sense to have an opportunity for those interested to see the data that supports the messaging.
- Q: You were mentioning key words to monitor. Which ones are those and which ones should we avoid?
- A: The keywords were participant suggestions. Avoid strong words like terrorism. We did not touch as much on those in this study.
- Q: Do you have plans to monitor social media to see how the public responds?
- A: Yes and no. Not ORD, but EPA's Office of Public Affairs has this job. This is a huge area of research.
- Q: You anticipated tailoring your message to monitoring. Did you discover anything in this phase?
- A: This is more applicable to Phase two. I mentioned that we had another study going on with University of Kentucky. Their Phase 2 is looking at small pockets of minority groups and those findings will be out next year.

# A Systems Approach to Characterizing the Social Environment for Decontamination and Resilience

Keely Maxwell | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### Abstract

After a natural disaster, technological accident, or terrorist attack, the EPA utilizes scientific analysis and technical criteria to assess risk and remediate contaminated environments. In order to make sure that decontamination supports community resilience, it is necessary to develop a systems approach to characterizing the social environment of the affected community. This research utilizes a coupled human-natural systems approach to identify the social system variables that influence risk and resilience. For example, we often think of vulnerability, or susceptibility to hazard risk, as determined by health or environmental factors. Yet vulnerability is also conditioned by social factors such as poverty and household composition. This research draws upon case studies

of recent incidents to demonstrate how these system variables affect the social and environmental outcomes of decontamination. These variables come into play throughout the decontamination process. After Hurricane Katrina, sediment sampling for contaminants in Orleans Parish produced a wealth of chemical data, but this information may not have served residents' clean-up needs. Amerithrax risk assessment did not ameliorate postal workers' perceptions of risk. Nor did it take their local environmental knowledge into account, which might have reduced the incident's costs. Remediation after the Fukushima disaster faces significant technical challenges. It also faces significant social challenges, including a lack of trust in institutions. Meeting technical clearance goals after remediation may not be enough to ensure re-occupancy and reuse of an area. Community ties and sense of place influence a family's re-occupancy decisions. Re-occupancy also depends on whether the remediated area is able to meet critical community functions such as education and commerce. Waste disposal decisions require attention to environmental justice. This presentation discusses indicators and lessons learned that will help practitioners avoid unintended consequences of decontamination efforts, reduce barriers to effective interventions, and prioritize resilience strategies.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Is there a line where we can involve the public too much?
- A: Definitely. There were things the public was demanding that were not feasible or not under the jurisdiction. There is a line, but it is hard to draw a hard and fast one.
- Q: What are the practical implications for risk communicators?
- A: Risk communication needs to happen before an event and how to facilitate people's basic knowledge before the event. Not everybody knows that his or her water is not sterile. Risk communication needs to explicitly understand the values of the public.
- Q: As a responder, I see a lack of empathy in the response community and local governments. How can this information improve that?
- A: A shift in perception of people from victims to people who can bring valuable assets to bring to the table, e.g., environmental knowledge.

## 6. General Session 3 Food Safety - Decontamination and Disposal Issues Moderated by Lukas Oudejans

# Intentional Contamination of Food: Detection, Decontamination, and Disposal Research and Needs

Nicholas Bauer (Presenter), Kim Green | Food Safety and Inspection Service

#### Abstract

Terrorist organizations have expressed interest in and knowledge of methods to attack the food supply in the U.S. Independent actors intent on doing harm, such as disgruntled employees, have proven capable of causing significant economic and public health impacts. Furthermore, intentional adulteration of food for economic gain is common, and illustrates the vulnerability of the food supply to intentional contamination.

Intentional contamination of the food supply presents numerous challenges for detection, decontamination, and disposal. In the event of an attack, or even the threat of an attack, suspect product would need to be identified, managed, tested, treated, and disposed of. The food processing facilities and infrastructure, such as transportation equipment, storage facilities, and retail stores, would similarly need to be tested and decontaminated. Even a medium-size meat-processing establishment produces 1 million pounds of product per week, which could be shipped to 50 states and international customers within days of manufacture. Therefore,

intentional contamination of the food supply could necessitate a massive and geographically widespread treatment, disposal, and decontamination effort.

USDA has helped to fund research to address some of these challenges for some high-toxicity chemical agents, including development of analytical methods for food matrices, determination of oral toxicity and stability in food matrices, and evaluation of potential decontamination technologies. This presentation will briefly summarize this completed research, and highlight data gaps. The presentation will also address USDA needs regarding additional research and discuss agency capabilities, roles, and responsibilities during response to an intentional contamination event.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: How involved would you get in telling people that food is safe? If it is FMD affected beef and we go for a vaccine approach. It is no risk to human health. We have been talking about that messaging amongst ourselves.
- A: There is going to be a question of which food is safe. We have not set up the communications that have been talked about in the risk communication presentations. In the case of FMD, it is a little further along than an intentional contamination of the food supply.
- Q: You mentioned toxicity testing of different threat agents. Do you have any information on how heating food agents in a food matrix would affect stability?
- A: Yes, we have looked at stability of agents and storage and cooking.

## 7. Concurrent Sessions 1 Biological Agent Decontamination Moderated by Shawn Ryan

## Smart Aqueous Gels and Foams for RB Decontamination

**Dr. S. Faure (Presenter)**, Dr. F. Goettmann | *CEA, DEN Nuclear Energy Division, DTCD/SPDE/LCFI, Laboratoire de Chimie des Fluides Complexes et d'Irradiation* 

Dr. V. Tanchou | CEA, DSV Life Science Division, IBEB/SBTN/LDCAE Dr. C. Bossuet | CEA, DAM Military Applications Division, DSNP

#### Abstract

To face the future challenges in the field of RB solids decontamination, the Laboratory of Chemistry of Complex Fluids and Irradiation (LCFI) from the French Atomic Energy and Alternatives Energies Commission (CEA) is developing new processes for decontamination of solids. These new techniques are secure and easily deployable by end users and strongly reduce the cost, the secondary wastes production and the workers exposure.

We have focused in the last past years on the use of two soft matter states to develop new patented decontamination processes: aqueous gels and foams. The major objectives of our studies are:

- To formulate smart complex fluids, aqueous gels and foams, that do not damage the surface of the materials (soft homogeneous corrosion) and transfer or inactivate rapidly the contaminants into the complex fluid phase
- To obtain less generated secondary liquid effluent or avoid liquid effluent (self drying and cracking gels)
- To enhance the efficiency of the decontamination technique by adding surfactants, chelatants and or particles.

The proposed lecture will give an overview of these two ways to decontaminate a solid surface.

The major applications and results obtained on real RB decontamination operations will be presented for each process.

For R decontamination gels, a new generation of mineral gels –ie silica colloidal suspensions- called "self drying and cracking gels" were world patented [1,2] The advantages of the process are considerable because these gel formulations are obtained from mineral materials in order to avoid non stable organic compounds. They can be sprayed like paints to obtain a thin film (500  $\mu$ m) on the surface using a pump system at low (2-7 bars) or high (10-30 bars) pressure. The gel film dries in a few hours at room temperatures and the decontamination reaction stops. The drying forms cracks on the gel film that lead to millimetric solid pellets easily recovered by vacuum cleaning or by brushing. For B decontamination we developed more recently dedicated vacuumable gel formulations to reach a biocide effectiveness on Bacillus thuringiensis spores (a surrogate of anthrax) [3]. From the academic point of view, we will see that the adsorption density of additives surfactants or polymers on these colloids could have both significant effects on the rheological, drying and cracking properties of the gel.

For RB decontamination foams, an approach using polymers and/or particles in water is defended to generate high life time stable foams that are able to decontaminate huge and complex shape materials in a static way, such as rooms, tanks, tubes, galleries [4,5]. The static way is original: the facility to decontaminate is filled with foam that wets all the surfaces to treat and drains freely for several hours. The drained liquid containing the R contaminants or the killed B contaminants could be treated by classical liquid effluents treatment. We will show how we could modify the drainage kinetic i.e. the liquid flow rate between the foam bubbles using biodegradable yield stress polymers or colloidal hydrophilic fumed silica aggregates [6, 7].

[1] S. Faure, B. Fournel, P. Fuentes and Y. Lallot., *Method for treating a surface with a treating gel and treating gel*. World Patent WO 03/008529, 2003.

[2] S. Faure, P. Fuentes and Y. Lallot. *Vacuumable gel for decontaminating surfaces and use thereof*, World Patent WO 07/039598, 2007.

[3] F. Cuer and S. Faure. Biological decontamination gel, and method for decontaminating surfaces using said gel. World Patent WO 12/001046, 2012.

[4] Faure S., Fournel B., Fuentes P. (2004). *Composition, foam, and method for surface decontamination*. World patent WO2004/00846

[5] Guignot S and Faure S. Decontamination foams containing particles, French Patent n° FR 07 53286, 2007

[6] C. Dame, C. Fritz, O. Pitois, S. Faure, "Relations between physicochemical properties and instability of decontamination foams", Colloid and Surfaces A : Physicochem. Eng. Aspects, 2005, n° 282, 65-74

[7] S. Guignot, S. Faure, M. Vignes-Adler, O. Pitois "Liquid and particle in foamed suspensions" Chemical Engineering Science, Volume 65, Issue 8, 15 April 2010, Pages 2579-2585

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

# Anthrax Decontamination of a Mock Office Using Low Level Chlorine Dioxide Fumigation

**Matthew Clayton (Presenter)**, Abderrahmane Touati, Nicole Griffin-Gatchalian | *ARCADIS, Inc.* Joseph Wood, Michael Worth Calfee, Shawn Ryan | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* 

#### Abstract

In the event of a large urban release of *Bacillus anthracis* spores, extensive resources would be required in the recovery effort. Chlorine dioxide (ClO<sub>2</sub>) fumigation would most likely be utilized in such efforts, since it has been demonstrated in the laboratory and at full-scale to be an effective decontaminant at levels of 1,000-3,000 parts per million (PPM). However, it is believed there may be only a few contractors in the US capable of fumigating large buildings at these high levels.

The present study was conducted to assess decontamination efficacy of  $ClO_2$  fumigation at relatively low concentrations but longer contact times. Demonstration of successful decontamination with  $ClO_2$  gas at low

concentrations would allow for a greater number of vendors to participate in remediation efforts following a large anthrax spore release. That is, vendors with technologies that produce  $CIO_2$ , but perhaps at relatively lower generation rates, would still be able to meet and maintain these lower target fumigation concentrations within a large building.

All ClO<sub>2</sub> fumigation tests were conducted in EPA's Consequence Management and Decontamination Evaluation Room, or COMMANDER. COMMANDER is a stainless steel-lined chamber built specifically for decontamination testing, with internal dimensions of approximately 11 ft wide, 8 ft deep, and 9 ft high. It includes an airlock and exterior steel shell. Temperature, relative humidity (RH), and other parameters are controlled and monitored. All tests were conducted at lab ambient temperature and 75% RH.

To facilitate a realistic decontamination challenge, a mock office was built (including carpet, drop ceiling, painted drywall) and furnished within COMMANDER. The mock office also included a laminated desk, an office chair, a file cabinet, pin cushion screen, books/catalogues, and a computer with monitor and keyboard.

*Bacillus atrophaeus* was used as the *B. anthracis* surrogate, and disseminated in powder form using a fluidized bed aerosol generator, to achieve a target loading of 10<sup>5</sup> to 10<sup>7</sup> colony forming units (CFU) per square foot.

 $CIO_2$  was generated using a ClorDiSys Model GMP, which includes a photometric detector for continuous measurement of  $CIO_2$ .  $CIO_2$  levels within the chamber were also measured using a wet chemistry method, and ranged from 100 to 1000 PPM.

The general sequence of events for each test was as follows:

- 1. "Reset" the mock office by fumigating with hydrogen peroxide vapor.
- 2. Sample the mock office to determine background levels of any residual viable spores.
- 3. Disseminate spores.
- 4. Sample surfaces to determine the initial levels of spores.
- 5. Monitor temperature and establish 75% RH.
- 6. Charge chamber with ClO<sub>2</sub> to achieve the target concentration.
- 7. Maintain target ClO<sub>2</sub> concentration and RH for desired contact time.
- 8. Aerate chamber.
- 9. Conduct post-fumigation sampling.

Bacterial spore samples were recovered from surfaces in the office using wipes, swabs, or hand-held HEPA vacuums (sock sampler). Other assays included the use of reference measurement coupons and bio-aerosol collection cassettes. Spores were extracted from collection media, serially diluted and plated, incubated, and then colonies counted.

The decontamination results for the more than ten chamber tests that were conducted in the study will be presented at the conference.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Did you try to repeat the low-level concentration fumigations a number of times to see if the efficiency increased?
- A: We had a couple of goals. One was to maximize decontamination efficacy. We did a number of low level chlorine dioxide fumigations.
- Q: Did you extend the time? When does it become asymptotic? When do you stop killing spores?
- A: We did a 24-hour test. We did not see a good correlation with extra time.
- C: As you drop below 70 % RH, ClO<sub>2</sub> fumigation becomes much less effective. There has been some effort to go to 4000 ppm, lower relative humidity, and longer contact time.
- Q: Did you see a relationship between reductions based on commercial biological indicators compared to the disseminated spores?

- A: The biological indicators we used were much less resistant to fumigation. I think we got no growth.
- Q: What was your extraction method from your swipes? Did you use multiple preparations of your spores? Why was *B atrophaeus* that does not have an exosporium used?
- A: PBST extraction method for wipes and vacuum socks. For chlorine dioxide fumigation, *B. atrophaeus* has been used as a surrogate for years.
- Q: Your lab has done a lot of studies with ClO<sub>2</sub>. 9000 ppm-hours was effective. It looks like you have achieved the same efficacy at a much lower value. Why do you think there is a difference between this study and other previous studies?
- C: There was work by Shawn Ryan [NHSRC] that concluded that contact time was important. We explored that in a glove box (small-scale) and showed great effectiveness with low ppm levels and longer contact times. The point was to do the test more realistically at a larger scale to see if a longer contact time would be more effective.

### Methyl Iodide Fumigation of Bacillus Anthracis Spores

Mark Sutton (Presenter), Staci R. Kane, Jessica R. Wollard | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

#### Abstract

Fumigation techniques such as chlorine dioxide, vaporous hydrogen peroxide and paraformaldehyde used to decontaminate items, rooms and buildings following contamination with Bacillus anthracis spores are often incompatible with materials found in a variety of buildings. This results in necessary removal of a variety of organic or electrical materials before fumigation to increase efficacy and minimize both material damage and waste volume. Alternative fumigation with methyl bromide is subject to strict international regulation and requires a crisis exemption from the EPA. Methyl iodide fumigation offers excellent efficacy at both room temperature and elevated temperature.

Bacillus anthracis Sterne spores applied to stainless steel were subjected to methyl iodide fumigation at room temperature and at 55°C. Additionally, spore fumigation on concrete was performed at 55°C. Efficacy was measured on a log-scale with a 6-log reduction in colony forming units being considered successful. Efficacies greater than 6 orders of magnitude were obtained after just 1 hour at 55°C and after 12 hours at room temperature for stainless steel samples. No detrimental effects were observed on glassware or PTFE O-rings. Additional studies will be directed towards assessing the effect of methyl iodide on sensitive or valuable materials such as electronic equipment, fabric, artwork and documents.

This work was performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344. LLNL-ABS-617953.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Do you know how methyl bromide and methyl iodide compare in terms of ozone level depletion?
- A: I do not. There is an EPA document that talked about it. A reference is in the report on this subject.
- Q: You mentioned a study at 55 °C. Is it possible to raise the temperature of a building to this level?
- A: DTRA was interested in fumigating an aircraft, so they said this was a reasonable temperature. It is doable in a military vehicle, maybe not in a building. We have shown it is effective after 12 hours at lower temperatures.

### Gruinard Island Returns to Civil Use

Stephen Hibbs | Defense Science & Technology Laboratory

#### Video presentation; no slides were made available for inclusion in report.

No abstract was provided.

### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Was there any residual contamination from the formaldehyde treatment?
- A: The decontamination of the Island was carried out in the summer of 1986. Soil samples were taken three
  months following this process, and a very small area of low contamination remained where an aerial bomb
  containing anthrax had been dropped. This area was re-treated in the autumn and soil cores taken the following
  spring. All soil samples were split into two halves and were analysed by ourselves at DSTL and also
  by independent assessors at the Central Veterinary Laboratory at Weybridge.
- Q: Do you have any cases of human infection during the entire process?
- A: No cases at all during the original trials or the decontamination process.
- Q: What is happening with the island today? We would have expected a larger area of contamination.
- A: The whole Island was assessed for the presence of Anthrax spores. Most of the spores were located at a depth of 5 cm or lower due to high rainfall and peaty soil, and decontamination was carried out accordingly with this in mind. We are confident all of the spores have been successfully decontaminated to a level of three spores per gram of soil. This does not pose a health risk.
- Q: Were there any air samples collected?
- A: No, strictly soil samples. The island was a wet, peaty, boggy domain with no risk of aerosols. After the first year we were there, we didn't have to wear respirators but did wear Wellington boots, latex gloves and white disposable suits over our underwear. The suits and gloves were disposed of and the Wellington boots washed off with disinfectant at a decontamination station.
- Q: How did methods for this decontamination compare to methods available today?
- A: This method was proved successful. To hand it back in public ownership was a big leap of faith. I know there are efforts to be environmentally friendly when you decontaminate.
- Q: You had a method that could detect three spores per sample?
- A: We used PletMedia. The idea is that the anthrax spores are more tolerant to that toxic mixture than soil microorganisms, so they could grow and the soil microorganisms were killed.
- Q: Would they allow the use of the formaldehyde solution today?
- C: We [Health Protection England] tried to duplicate Gruinard in 1990s, but we weren't allowed to do it. People have strong attitudes against formaldehyde despite that it occurs naturally. If you get it in the soil, it won't be there after a couple of weeks. This method of decontamination was ideal this location. The Island was uninhabited and about a mile off shore from the mainland of Scotland. The formaldehyde used was inactivated in the environment relatively quickly and there was no issue with any potential drinking water courses. The risk of airborne infection was remote as the climate in this part of the world is cool and wet.

## 8. Concurrent Sessions 1 Chemical Agent Sampling and Detection Moderated by Stuart Willison

Decontamination Screening Techniques Used At U.S. Army Chemical Agent Disposal Facilities and Applications for Clearing Contaminated Areas

**Theodore Ruff (Presenter)**, Joseph Padayhag | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry, Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services, Environmental Health Readiness Branch

#### Abstract

This presentation will review the approach and methods for decontamination and decontamination verification used at U.S. Army Chemical Agent Disposal Facilities and discuss their application for clearing contaminated areas in other contexts. These methods include decontamination followed by screening for chemical warfare agents: air "headspace" analysis (isolating the area or equipment from ventilation through tenting or bagging and airmonitoring the isolated space), surface sampling and analysis, and finally headspace analysis of unventilated rooms. The most important factors for selecting verification criteria are the future use of the area and the potential health hazards.

CMA decommissioning and decontamination process involves evaluating potential health hazards; removing selected equipment; decontamination of floors, walls, and remaining items; and verifying decontamination. Facility personnel review the history of known chemical warfare agent spills and elevated concentrations of chemical warfare agent in air. After gross decontamination is completed, equipment that is heavily contaminated or difficult to decontaminate is removed and further treated for agent removal (or further decontamination). Additionally, personnel conduct an enclosed space and porous material survey to find areas where chemical warfare agent may be prevented from volatizing. These areas are mitigated, generally through disassembly or removal and further decontamination. Surface sampling may be conducted after developing statistical and/or judgmental sampling plans for the walls and floors, followed by analysis for chemical agents. As areas are decontaminated, initial verification is conducted through headspace analysis. As a final verification step, facility personnel isolate larger areas to perform unventilated monitoring testing (UMT). Here, entire rooms are isolated from facility ventilation and air monitored for detection of chemical agent. After the UMT is complete, ventilation is resumed. Similar methods, with appropriate considerations for future use and health hazard potential, may be used in the event of chemical warfare agent contamination of other non-military facilities or vessels.

Two contamination scenarios will be explored: 1) a fixed facility, with occupancy to include the general public and 2) a marine vessel with worker occupancy. Considerations include nature and extent of contamination, evaluation of hazards (e.g. respiratory, dermal), future use of facility, decontamination methods, verification screening, and final verification of decontamination. These examples will illustrate the potential for transferring the experience from decontaminating and decommissioning chemical agent disposal facilities to planning for recovery and reuse after contamination incidents.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Headspace monitoring what was the endpoint you were looking for? There were no volatile agents. What about nonvolatile agents?
- A: Nonvolatile agents are volatile enough that the instrument will still pick it up; one facility had trouble picking
  up stuff under an I beam, so they tented it and probed it, and that's how they located the place where they
  had residual contamination, so even for nonvolatiles it proved to be pretty good; some sites did concrete
  samples as well, so you did get auxiliary evidence through those as well.
- Q: Who performed the analysis?
- A: The U.S. Army; agent samples were mostly analyzed on site.
- Q: How did CMA arrive at the risk level for transportation?
- A: That was based on action scenarios and based on the probability of an accident. They are based on a very conservative precise scenario.
- C: There was also a maximum concentration per drum to account for risk to any workers around the drum.
- Q: Was the use of hot air considered as a decontamination method; was that considered for traditional chemical warfare agents? It would be a relatively cheap method for a larger facility.
- A: Don't know if it was used for VX or not.
- Q: Waste that was shipped offsite, were there any special arrangements? Disposal facilities?

- A: For waste that still had agent remaining, CMA did the transport risk assessment for those drums, modeling the impacts from that agent.
- C: As drums were loaded at the disposal facility, they were supposed to be fed as quickly as possible to the furnace; US Army has done a risk assessment of that facility.

# Multi-Laboratory Study of Analytical Protocols for Chemical Warfare Agents in Environmental Matrices

**Romy Campisano (Presenter)** | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, National Homeland Security Research Center

Carolyn Koester | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Eric Boring, Joan Cuddeback | Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) Terry Smith | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Office of Emergency Management

### Abstract

The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) National Homeland Security Center (NHSRC) and Office of Emergency Management (OEM), in collaboration with experts from across USEPA and other state and federal agencies continue to develop analytical protocols for laboratory identification and measurement of target agents during site remediation. These methods will be used to assist in determining the presence of contamination, the effectiveness of decontamination, and site clearance following decontamination. These studies improve laboratory capability and capacity, thus enhancing response and recovery to intentional or unintentional chemical contamination incidents.

Results of a NHSRC and OEM collaborative multi-laboratory study evaluating analytical protocols for identification and measurement of chemical warfare agents (CWAs) in water, soil and surface wipe matrices are presented. CWAs included in this study are sarin (GB), soman (GD), cyclohexylsarin (GF), sulfur mustard (HD), and VX. These protocols were developed to achieve high laboratory throughput, while providing analytical detection limits necessary for thorough remediation of CWA contaminated environments during response activities. Specific procedures for all matrices and CWAs include microscale extraction techniques using methylene chloride followed by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) analysis. An additional extraction step using "tris buffer" was required to effectively remove VX from soil matrices. GC/MS analysis included use of quadrupole and time-of-flight (TOF) mass spectrometers.

Preliminary results of the study indicate the protocols can achieve analytical method detection limits of approximately 1  $\mu$ g/L for water, 2  $\mu$ g/kg for soil, and 0.04  $\mu$ g/wipe for surface wipe matrices for GB using quadrupole mass spectrometry, and approximately one order of magnitude lower using TOF.

Stability studies for ultra-dilute (10 ppm) CWA standards were determined. Results for individual standards stored in sealed ampules showed that the CWA standards made in methylene chloride were stable for up to one year. Data for individual standards stored in vials that were periodically reopened showed that most CWAs were stable for six months. Exceptions were GB, which was stable for only five months, and VX, which degraded after two months.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Do you have any plans for doing vacuum samples or other kinds of samples? How about composite samples or multiple wipes?
- A: Microbiologists and analytical colleagues are moving more towards sponge samples as samplers. The sponge sticks are easy to use, and we have contemplated investigating sponge sticks in chemical sampling, but no motions yet.

- C: Obviously one thing to worry about is whether the chemical is going to be picked up by that material and whether the people in the field would use it.
- Q: Are you also looking at recoveries? In Army facility research, concrete has a degradative effect on agents.
- A: We definitely looked at recovery. The experiment has controls over what you spike and what you analyze. The environmental samples are widespread and we consider the nature of the matrices.
- Q: What were those recoveries for glass and metal? What kind of recoveries did you get from those?
- A: I believe we got fairly good recoveries from stainless steel and glass. These are fairly small coupons because we did do a direct extraction of the surface as well as comparable wiping. For more permeable surfaces we are using two sizes of coupons, including a larger surface to see if we get comparable recoveries to see whether small scale wipe results translate up.
- Q: Have you spoken to ECBC? Researchers there are looking at these types of samples plus some you are moving on to; they have protocols already in place.
- A: Absolutely, we try to network and collaborate; we did have a strong partnership with ECBC, but diverged a little in aims and goals, but we should reconnect.
- C: Australia also has an equivalent to this network. Anecdotally, we found the same stability issues; we use screw cap vials. We use cotton swabs; if we find a liquid or device with a film we take a swab and stick it into a vial.
- Q: Was there a difference in solvents? Some solvents will melt plastic, do you get better recoveries with dichloromethylene?
- A: We found that dichloromethane worked best for our purposes.

### Accelerated Clean-up of A Residential Site Using On-site Analytics Lawrence Kaelin (Presenter), Terry Smith | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OSWER, OEM, CMAT Michael Nalipinski | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1

### Abstract

In May 2012, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 1 conducted an extent of contamination survey for coal tar wastes contamination at selected residential properties in St. Albans, VT. Samples of surface and subsurface soils, sump pump waters, sediments, soil gas, and indoor air were collected for analysis. Rapid, on site analytical results were provided by the EPA's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) CBRN Consequence Management Advisory Team (CMAT), using CMAT's mobile laboratory assets called PHILIS. PHILIS, which stands for Portable High-throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification System, is a mobile laboratory platform accredited through the NELAC program for the analysis VOCs, SVOCs and PCB analysis, and holds membership in EPA's Environmental Response Laboratory Network (ERLN). The site contaminants of concern included benzene, naphthalene and PAHs. In the course of approximately 4 days, over 250 samples were collected and analyzed onsite for contamination. The PHILIS provided same-day confirmatory data, allowing the EPA to make on-site decision without the need for secondary laboratory confirmation. The EPA was able to confer with the state of VT representatives on a daily basis using the most recent analytical data allowing for timely interpretation of data and better planning of the use on-site assets. The EPA prepared a Time Critical Removal Action Memo (RAM) recommending soil excavation as the site clean-up process and the installation of a vapor capture system to mitigate in-door air contamination posed by the coal tar wastes. The on-site analytical abilities provided by PHILIS allowed the EPA to complete all the site soil assessments, excavation, and removal and site restoration activities within 90 days, based on the results from a single, 4-day site visit. Greater time and cost savings were realized using on-site analytical assets (PHILIS) by the more effective use of their on-site assets in an accelerated time frame. On-site analysis allowed the EPA to remediate the site in a single site visit, a "one & done" accelerated remediation approach.

PHILIS has also been approved by the ERLN, for the analysis of a select group of chemical warfare agents (CWAs), at detection limits sufficient to support on-site risk based clearance goals. In the event of a CWA terrorist attack, PHILIS can be deployed directly to the incident to provide daily on-site data to help determine extent of contamination, direct field assets, confirm decon efforts and expedite the overall clean-up and remediation of the incident site.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: You mentioned 250 samples over four days, what is really the CWA throughput?
- A: The actual chemical warfare agent capability of PHILIS is expected at a minimum of 100 samples per day if only one CWA or one class of CWAs is present
- Q: What is the procedure for getting a response to a state request?
- A: The best approach is to call Headquarters/EPA's Office of Emergency Management; the EPA chemical spill number will probably get to us as well; one can also go through a Regional EPA Office. The other thing is with this international audience, we want to push for international partnerships. There is capability and we want to share it.

## Advancing the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer Fitted with an Atmospheric Pressure Chemical Ionization (APCI) Source to Provide Analytical Assistance for a Chemical Warfare Agent (CWA) Release

**Dave Mickunas (Presenter)**, Stephen Blaze | *Environmental Response Team, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* Danielle McCall | *Lockheed Martin Corporation* 

#### Abstract

Under the Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-8: National Preparedness (DHS, 2011), this directive is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation, including acts of terrorism, cyber attacks, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters. Furthermore, the National Response Framework's Emergency Support Function Annex (ESF) #10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response (FEMA 2008) provides Federal support in response to an actual or potential discharge and/or uncontrolled release of oil or hazardous material when activated. For purposes of this annex, "hazardous materials" is a general term intended to mean hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants as defined in the National Contingency Plan (CFR, 1994). Hazardous materials include chemical, biological, and radiological substances, whether accidentally or intentionally released. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) is the ESF #10 Coordinator and, therefore, the US EPA has the responsibility to provide the appropriate actions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by actual or potential oil and hazardous materials incidents.

The Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) technology, which is a direct air monitoring instrument employing triple quadrupole mass spectroscopy with a corona discharge source operated at atmospheric pressure, has demonstrated a potential to support analytical needs that would be required to respond to a CWA release. To advance the US EPA's preparedness, several elements were investigated. First, US EPA members and their contractors gained experience analyzing the CWAs with the US EPA's TAGA system. Second, the precursor and product spectra for these materials were collected using a prescribed tune that would be employed at an event. Third, detection limits and quantitation limits for each compound were determined using the aforementioned tuning strategy to provide an expected analytical capability. Fourth, the introduction of a charge transfer compound and its effects on the response for HD was reviewed. Fifth, materials spiked with various concentrations of a CWA were examined to provide evidence of the mass loading per area of a CWA that is needed to be detected by the TAGA. For this initial study, the following CWAs were investigated: Isopropyl methyl phosphonofluoridate (GB), O-ethyl-S-(2-diisopropylaminoethyl)methylphosphono-thiolate (VX), and Bis(2-chloroethyl)sulfide (HD).

#### Conference Report

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Is your vision for CWAs that you would have the TAGA on a cart and go through a building?
- A: The TAGA would be used after the decontamination process was completed. The TAGA would be moved through the previously contaminated area with the sampling port directly above the surface to determine if any compound(s) of concern could be detected. This technique would supplement other clearance sampling and analysis efforts.
- Q: How about detection for Lewisite?
- A: The TAGA cannot currently detect Lewisite but tests were conducted with Lewisite present with sulfur mustard; Lewisite does not interfere with the detection of sulfur mustard (HD). ECBC is currently derivatizing Lewisite to analyze the same on a GC. A gas phase derivatization may be possible and should be explored.
- Q: Are you further investigating matrix interferences?
- A: Yes, additional work needs to be performed. Previous testing used laboratory air with vaporized CWAs spiked into the air stream.

## 9. Concurrent Sessions 2 Biological Agent Sampling and Detection Moderated by Worth Calfee

### Development of Processing Protocols for Vacuum Sampling Devices

Laura Rose (Presenter) | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention M. Worth Calfee | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Home Security Research Center

#### Abstract

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Homeland Security sampling strategies for *Bacillus anthracis* spores frequently suggest the use of vacuum-based methods for porous surfaces, though no standard protocols exist for the extraction of spores from these devices. The CDC evaluated processing methods for extraction of spores from heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) filter media and three vacuum sampling devices; 37 mm filter cassette, vacuum sock, and the 3M<sup>TM</sup> Forensic Vacuum Filter. Vacuum pumps were evaluated and selected for each device. All filter materials were inoculated with a liquid suspension of *B. atrophaeus* spores, and allowed to dry before processing. Extraction of spores from the filter material by several methods (sonication, vortexing, shaking or stomaching) were compared in different elution buffers volumes, and containers. The highest percent of spores were recovered from the 37 mm filters when sonicated 3 min in 5 ml of phosphate buffer with 0.02% Tween® 20 (PBST), while the highest percent recovery from the trace evidence filters was accomplished by stomaching 1 min at 360 rpm in PBST. Vacuum socks were cut and shaken in 20 ml PBST, while HVAC filter sections (4 in2) were shaken in 200 mL PBST, both at 300 rpm for 30 min for the optimum recovery of spores. The optimized extraction methods were used to evaluate sampling and recovery of aerosolized spores from various surface materials.

Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Have you considered gelatin membrane filters? You can hook them up to a vacuum and you get very good results.
- A: The problem is you are picking up so many other things if you are vacuuming a carpet, the spores might be masked.
- C: We take the sampling head linked up to a vacuum and use it to sample a surface. If you heat shock it, you do not have to worry about background.
- Q: We used the gel filters, and what we found is that they would dry out after about 40 minutes. Could you tell me what the scale was in the new sampler?

- A: The nozzle cross sectional is 45 mm<sup>2</sup>, 45 mm wide and 1 mm tall.
- Q: I was glad to see you are thinking about making a bridge between *B. anthracis* and *B. atrophaeus*. Have you considered adding a stimulant that has an exosporium the way anthracis does? How many preparations did you use? How were they prepared?
- A: They were a Dugway prep and loaded into a MDI. Now we can do this ourselves.

# Evaluation of Surface Sampling for Bacillus Spores Using Commercially-Available Cleaning Robots

Sang Don Lee, M. Worth Calfee | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center Leroy Mickelsen (Presenter), Jayson Griffin | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Emergency Management Stephen Wolfe | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Matt Clayton, Nicole Griffin-Gatchalian, Abderrahmane Touati | ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller, Inc.

### Abstract

This project evaluated floor cleaning robots for *anthracis* spore sampling. From EPA's perspective, the proposed sampling device would be beneficial following a wide-area attack, where deploying a robotic vacuum sampler would allow large areas of outdoor space and numerous building interiors to be sampled rapidly and with reduced personnel. Five commercially available cleaning robots were evaluated for collection of *anthracis* spores. Five robots include three vacuum types, one wet vacuum, and one wet wipe. Tests were conducted as a function of surface type and spore surface loading. Aerosol deposited *B. atrophaeus* spores were used as surrogate of *B. anthracis* spores. Tested surfaces were carpet, laminate, and tile and the targeted surface loadings were  $10^2$ ,  $10^4$ , and  $10^6$  colony forming units per ft<sup>2</sup>. Spores were loaded on the surfaces (2' x 2') and the surfaces were sampled with robots in a chamber (3' x 3' x 1'). Chamber air was sampled using a bio filter sampler for potential resuspension of spores during sampling. After sampling, the spore collection media from robots were extracted and analyzed for the number of spores. Test results were compared to currently-used surface sampling methods (vacuum sock and sponge wipe) and the most efficient device was determined. Depending on the test results, the project will improve the robots by modifying the sampling mechanisms to obtain a comparable sampling efficiency to the surface sampling methods.

### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Do you have a calculation of the time per square foot to sample?
- A: The garage is 2x2 ft, the shortest robot time was approximately 20 seconds, and the longest was about five minutes. According to the manufacturer, it takes 45 minutes to cover 200-400 ft<sup>2</sup>.
- Q: Are these robots programmable? Could you do transects? Will it detect edges?
- A: We did not modify any of the robots. If it sees a drop, it should not go over it according to the manufacturer's instructions. They have different types of logics we just used them as default (factory setting).
- C: It is an off-the-shelf device. If you mess with the logics, there might not be as many to deploy.
- Q: For the wet sampling devices, did you use the solutions they gave you?
- A: It was their wipe, but we used PBST rather than the manufacturer's detergent.
- Q: Any thought to decontaminating the device going from one room to another?
- A: We decontaminated them after use and considered them disposable.

# Evaluation of Commercial Off the Shelf (COTS) Biological Detection Technologies for Transition to First Responder Community

**Rachel Bartholomew (Presenter)**, Heather Colburn, Richard Ozanich, Kristin Victry, Timothy Straub, Cheryl Baird, and Cindy Bruckner-Lea | *Pacific Northwest National Laboratory* 

#### Abstract

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate administers programs to develop, field test, and transition to commercialization next-generation technologies required to effectively counter potential attacks on the Nation. The Chem/Bio Division of S&T supports this mission by identifying and developing technologies that DHS operational components can use to reduce the probability and potential consequences of a biological pathogen or a chemical attack on the nation's civilian population, its infrastructure, or its agricultural system. In this regard, PNNL has been tasked by DHS to assess hand portable DNA-based commercial off the shelf (COTS) biodetection technology with the end goal of transitioning this technology to the first responder community. One main challenge first responders face when responding to a potential biological event is the identification of a threat, often a "white powder" event, to determine the critical next steps to response. As part of this effort, PNNL has conducted a thorough technology foraging effort, including surveying members of the first responder community to identify critical biodetection needs. First responders desire rapid, accurate detection with low cost reagents providing a high confidence result, with the two key threat agents of interest being Anthrax (Bacillus anthracis) and Ricin toxin. PNNL has evaluated several COTS biodetection technologies for the detection of 15 different strains of Bacillus anthracis DNA, and evaluation with near-neighbor DNA is underway. Overall, the tested COTS technologies detected Bacillus anthracis DNA as expected, with only a few instances of failures. Future work includes testing of additional platforms, evaluation of the impact of white powders, actual spore testing, and the evaluation of these technologies by first responders in field training exercises. The information gathered in the foraging exercise along with the test data will provide the first responder community with objective information to guide appropriate instrument procurement and use to improve response to critical biological events.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

• C: Some powders you listed are tested with spikes. You would expect the extraction methodology to clean those out so you could detect them.

# Evaluation of Effect of Decontamination Agents on the Rapid Viability PCR Method for Detection of Bacillus Anthracis Spores

**Sanjiv Shah (Presenter)** | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center S. Kane, G. Murphy, T. Alfaro, J. Avila | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

#### No slides were made available for inclusion.

#### Abstract

Rapid methods for *Bacillus anthracis* viability determination are needed to alleviate the sample analysis bottleneck for the remediation phase of the response to a wide-area anthrax attack. The Rapid Viability (RV)-PCR method provides more rapid results than current culture-based methods by combining high throughput sample processing with real-time PCR analysis before and after a short incubation period to determine the presence/absence of viable *Bacillus anthracis* spores. The 10-spore level was consistently detected using RV-PCR for surface, air filter, and water samples even in backgrounds of reference debris,  $10^6$  live non-target cells/spores, or  $10^6$  killed target spores. The approach showed >97% agreement with culture-based analysis for *B. atrophaeus* spores exposed to surface treatment with pH-adjusted bleach or fumigation with either chlorine dioxide (CD) or vaporous hydrogen peroxide (VHP) in the EPA-led, multi-agency Bio-Response Operational Testing and Evaluation (BOTE). In the current effort, the RV-PCR method was further tested in a systematic study for any negative effect of three decontamination agents, pH-adjusted bleach, CD, and VHP. Exposure tests with these decontamination agents were designed to detect low levels of live spores in a background of high levels of dead spores. Results showed that RV-PCR accurately detected live *B. anthracis* spores at the  $\leq 10^2$ -level after CD, VHP, or bleach treatment, which caused a 4-log or greater reduction in viable spores. In addition, *B. anthracis* spores were tested

with bleach residual expected from wipe sampling. Results showed that the presence of bleach residual did not negatively impact RV-PCR results relative to control treatments. In summary, these data showed that the RV-PCR method could allow rapid and hence higher throughput analysis of post-decontamination clearance samples compared to the traditional culture-based analysis.

### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: How robust is it for other strains?
- A: We tested with other strains, but we have not fully characterized the PCR assays. We are keeping the doors open for anybody who has better ones.
- Q: Have you tried to tighten up the growth window?
- A: Yes, I would like to cut the incubation time down from nine hours to four hours. We already have shown that with the plasmid gene PCR assay, the LOD can be maintained after six hours of incubation.

## 10. Concurrent Sessions 2 Radiological Agent Fate, Transport, and Decontamination Moderated by Jeff Szabo

## Migration of Radiocesium, Radiostrontium and Radiocobalt in Urban Building Materials and their Wash-Off by Rainwater

K. Maslova, A. Gusarov, **A. Konoplev (Presenter)**, V. Popov, I. Stepina | *RPA "Typhoon"* S.D. Lee | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center* 

#### Abstract

An expanded understanding of interactions of radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt with urban surfaces under varied atmospheric conditions will aid in the development of more effective decontamination techniques and strategies. The objective of the work is to investigate fate and transport of dissolved radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt deposited on common urban surfaces. The research was performed in frame of International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) Project # 4007.

Wash-off of <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>60</sup>Co and <sup>85</sup>Sr from coupons of common building materials including asphalt, brick, concrete, granite, and limestone deposited as a liquid aerosol was studied by simulating heavy rain (20 mm/hr for 30 minutes) after aging at 30 and 87% of air relative humidity (RH) for 1 or 28 days at different temperatures. At 20°C and 30% RH the <sup>137</sup>Cs and <sup>60</sup>Co wash-off for asphalt ranged from 32 to 44% and for granite from 13 to 27 %. The <sup>85</sup>Sr wash-off for asphalt was 76-80% and for granite 11-22%. For other materials the radionuclide wash-off was typically 2-6%. Increasing the RH from 30 to 87 % affected wash-off of all radionuclides for granite and asphalt and <sup>137</sup>Cs for concrete and brick. The most pronounced RH effect was observed for <sup>60</sup>Co behavior in asphalt (<sup>60</sup>Co wash-off decreased from 34-47% to 11-25% and from 29-45% to 2-5% when RH increased from 30 to 87% for 1 and 28 days of aging correspondently). Temperature of incubation (5, 20 or 35 °C) did not affect significantly the wash-off of radionuclides from the building materials at 30% RH.

An effective method to study the radionuclide depth distribution in building materials using layer-by-layer sanding has been developed. Using this method, the <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>60</sup>Co and <sup>85</sup>Sr distribution in depth of selected building materials at different air humidity, time and temperature was studied. The median penetration depth (90% of radioactivity in the solid phase) of <sup>137</sup>Cs and <sup>60</sup>Co in asphalt and concrete aged for 28 days did not exceed 0.4-1.0 mm with or without rain. RH was found to influence significantly the <sup>85</sup>Sr depth distribution in case of asphalt and <sup>137</sup>Cs in case of granite (5-6 fold difference). Penetration of radionuclides in granite was remarkably high being 0.3-2.9 mm for <sup>137</sup>Cs, 4-6 mm for <sup>60</sup>Co, and 2-11 mm for <sup>85</sup>Sr depending on RH, aging and rain conditions.

### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Why do these differences occur? Because of differences in RH?
- A: We can't explain the high penetration of Sr into granite; this is unexpected and surprising. In terms of washoff, we can explain this. The highest efficacy values for wash-off are characteristic for materials with low porosity like asphalt and granite so the radionuclide is more available on the surface to such materials and doesn't penetrate to the porous materials. It is also not fixed in the pores.
- Q: Was any subsequent rainfall part of the simulation testing?
- A: No, because we have limited resources of materials and time, we did two replicates for only a fixed rain rate and duration. It will be useful to continue experiments with various duration and intensity of rain.
- C: Granite penetration is surprising. It might be connected to the very fine microscopic crystalline structure of granite, the same way fracture in bedrock could allow penetration.
- C: That is our speculation. When we look at the granite property data, it shows that pore size is smaller and the connectivity of the pores is limited. However, it is relevant to how we prepare the coupons. We had to cut it and some micro fractures may have been created. We did coat the other five sides to prevent water transport.
- Q: You are using soluble radionuclides; could you comment on the source terms in the environment?
- A: We suppose that in case of explosive devices solutions could be used.
- C: The initial tests used cesium chloride powder. Since we are testing with rain and humidity, we speculated that the wet form of cesium chloride would be most conservative and most difficult to remove.
- Q: Did you compare the mass of the coupon before and after you applied the solution?
- A: Yes, it was weighed before and after the application; the change in weight was taken into account.
- C: Before injection the coupons were equilibrated at specific RH.

## Scalability Challenges for Deployment of Commercially Available Radiological Decontamination Technologies in the Wide Area Urban Environment

John Drake (Presenter) | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Research and Development, National Homeland Security Research Center

Rick Demmer | *Battelle Energy Alliance* Ryan James | *Battelle Memorial Institute* 

#### Abstract

NHSRC has conducted in-house and extramural experimental work to evaluate the efficacy and applicability of a number of commercially available radiological decontamination technologies. This work has focused on decontamination of various radionuclides, from a range of urban building materials, based on accepted radiological dispersal device (RDD) scenarios. Many of these technologies may, or may not, be applicable to decontamination on a wide area scale. Based on these evaluations and input from USEPA emergency response personnel and other industry and government sources, a compendium of available technologies was assembled. These technologies were then evaluated to identify potential challenges (e.g., scalability) and knowledge gaps involved in applying them in the wide area urban environment after an RDD incident. Finally, this effort produced a set of recommendations for further development of promising methods and processes.

Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Does the government retain rights to a new compound or technology?
- A: It depends, if it's a patented by the company the government pays every time they use it.
- Q: In your literature search for different techniques and methods, how comfortable do you feel that you looked internationally?
- A: We probably have not looked everywhere. One technology was presented this morning that I was not aware of. We think we did a defensible job but are willing to add more.

- Q: Do you plan to conduct a large scale experiment or demonstration?
- A: That will be driven by budget. We do have research plans that would include some large-scale demo of these technologies
- Q: Is there a possibility to incorporate Chernobyl or Fukushima lessons learned?
- A: Absolutely. Fukushima is an ideal testing ground; the EPA's Consequence Management Advisory Team (CMAT) is the principal contact between us and Fukushima; we also have a collaboration with a research center in Armenia; there are contract vehicles via which we can do that, we would be interested in others.
- C: A bilateral commission is helping Japan now; we talked to the Japanese Ministry of the Environment about potential projects especially in exclusion zones. We are trying out some of these untried techniques with the opportunity to develop new ones; that's a likely scenario for DOE to be engaged in.

**Sorption and Speciation of** <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>60</sup>Co and <sup>85</sup>Sr in Building Materials I. Stepina, A. Gusarov, A. Konoplev, K. Maslova (Presenter), V. Popov | *RPA "Typhoon"* S.D. Lee | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center* 

### Abstract

Radionuclide binding to building materials is determined by a number of processes. Of them the key are sorption by ion exchange, complexation and fixation due to different mechanisms. They play an important role in migration and transformation of radionuclides on urban surfaces and should be thoroughly considered under development of decontamination techniques and strategies in case of radiological incidents such as nuclear accidents or terrorist attacks.

The objective of the work is to investigate sorption and speciation of dissolved radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt after deposition on common urban surfaces under varied atmospheric conditions for developing effective decontamination techniques and strategies. The research was performed in frame of International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) Project # 4007.

Kinetics of <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>60</sup>Co and <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption on powdered building materials in aqueous suspensions at 20°C for the interaction time 1, 7, 14 and 28 days was studied. The <sup>137</sup>Cs distribution coefficient (K<sub>d</sub>) values for all building materials except limestone practically did not change during 28 days of sorption. The highest value of K<sub>d</sub> (<sup>60</sup>Co) was observed for limestone. For other building materials K<sub>d</sub> (<sup>60</sup>Co) values varied from 800 to 5000 dm<sup>3</sup>/kg. It should be noted that for all building materials except granite the values vary insignificantly with time. The K<sub>d</sub> (<sup>85</sup>Sr) was several orders of magnitude lower than K<sub>d</sub> (<sup>60</sup>Co). The highest values were observed for asphalt and granite. For other materials K<sub>d</sub> (<sup>85</sup>Sr) values slowly changed with time and did not exceed 40 dm<sup>3</sup>/kg.

The ability of materials under study to bind radiocesium was characterized in terms of radiocesium interception potential (RIP). The RIP(K) value has been shown to range from 20 to 300 mM/kg and increase in the order: limestone < brick < concrete < granite < asphalt. The fine fraction of building materials (<0.125 mm) sorbs <sup>137</sup>Cs better than the coarse fraction (0.125-0.25 mm).

Mechanisms of radionuclide binding with components of building materials can be assessed by sequential extractions with various solutions. It was found that the major fraction of sorbed <sup>137</sup>Cs (from 30% to 51%) was extracted by a solution of hydroxylamine hydrochloride. The <sup>137</sup>Cs percentage in the residual fraction decreased in the order: concrete > limestone > granite > brick. Sodium acetate solution (pH=5) extracted most of <sup>60</sup>Co. This fraction decreased in the order: limestone (74%) > brick (64%) > granite (57%) > concrete (47%) > asphalt (38%). The <sup>85</sup>Sr and <sup>60</sup>Co concentration in the residual fraction did not exceed 1%. The predominant fraction for <sup>85</sup>Sr after 28 days of interaction was the exchangeable fraction: from 24% (in limestone) to 72% (in asphalt).

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

## Humic Acid-Based Sorbents for Area Decontamination

A. Sosnov, S.V. Sadovnikov | *NP OrCheMed, Russia Academy of Sciences* Y.G. Putsykin, A.A. Shapovalov | *Agrosyntez, LLC* K. Volchek, W. Kuang, P. Azmi, **C.E. Brown (Presenter)** | *Environment Canada* 

#### Abstract

The paper describes formulations of humic acids (HA) which can be used as selective adsorbents for toxic chemical substances, such as cations of heavy metals, and for radionuclides. HA-based adsorbents are typically produced from lignate (brown coal), leonardite, and peat. HA activation involves desorption of non-active constituents while retaining the chemical skeleton of natural HA that is necessary for a reversible polymerization of HA. A subsequent microbiological treatment helps further purify the HA.

Several different types of adsorbents based on activated HA were developed in this study. These include a powder (45% of extractable HA), a neutral aqueous gel (10% of HA as emulsion), and an aqueous solution (10% of HA as potassium salts). The capacity of these adsorbents for cations of heavy metals and radionuclides can be as high at 10% (w/w). Cesium can be removed using HA derivatives containing additional inorganic compounds.

An addition to being promising sequestering agents for toxic chemicals and radionuclides, HA-based sorbents are effective in remediation of oil-contaminated soil. This makes them usable in a variety of environmental emergency response scenarios.

The focus of current research is on: a) development of standard samples of HA adsorbents for testing and evaluation; b) application of adsorbents for area mitigation after radiological incidents; and c) development of methods for environmental remediation of contaminated sites. The research is funded in part by the Canadian Safety and Security Program.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: How stable is the activated humic acid?
- A: Not sure. Where they added microorganisms, it was stable for at least a year.
- Q: Has any of these formulations been suspended in water to do removal from water?
- A: Yes, that was one of the formulations.

## 11. Poster Session

# 1. Surface and Vapour Decontamination by Aerosolized Micro-Emulsion Decontaminant

Linda Ang, George Ng M H, Lim M Y, Tan K R, Eunice Sim S H | DSO National Laboratories

#### Abstract

In buildings and structures, bulk liquid spraying of decontaminant is the basic protocol for spot and area decontamination of surfaces contaminated by chemical warfare agents (CWAs). Other than bulk-liquid decontamination, aerosolization or fogging is another means of dispensing the decontaminant in indoor areas. Such method could be more practical as aerosols are capable of reaching to almost every aspect of an area including difficult to reach places, such as air ducts.

Here, we present a preliminary work in exploring the deployment of our newly developed in-house decontaminant in the form of an aerosol to decontaminate spatial and surface areas contaminated by CWA. The decontaminant has previously been evaluated as a bulk liquid spray for chemical and biological threats.

Our approach was to first create a CWA vapour atmosphere in a customized 0.6 m<sup>3</sup> stainless steel chamber with an unique adjoining inflatable bag that serves to uptake the voluminous incoming aerosol-laden air jet from a

commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) pneumatic air-assisted portable atomizer (COTS fogger). A few indoor material types, arranged at 3 spatial orientations were also placed inside the chamber prior to CWA vapour generation. After 1.5 hours, the decontaminating aerosol was generated and introduced by the COTS fogger into the chamber. CWA-aerosol interaction was allowed overnight, and regular air sampling was performed using Tenax<sup>®</sup> adsorption tubes. The tubes were subsequently analyzed by Thermal desorption/Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometer (ATD/GC/MS). The material surfaces were retrieved at ~22 hours after fogging and the residual agents on sample materials were extracted with appropriate solvents. The poster will provide a brief description of the methodology and results of the study.

### 2. Development of Solid Peracetic Acid (PES-Solid) for Decontamination Kathryn Burns | Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division

#### Abstract

Current decontamination solutions are based on oxidative chemistry in aqueous systems. To avoid transporting extra water, it is desirable to reduce the logistical footprint of decontaminants by identifying solids to be mixed on site. One of the more challenging components is the oxidizing agent. While currently fielded high test hypochlorite (HTH) is a solid, it is also a harsh, halogenated material with poor materials compatibility. Non-halogenated peroxygen compounds are of interest as oxidizers because of their low impact on the environment and their relatively low toxicity. PES-Solid, made by Solvay Chemicals Inc., is a solid peracid-containing borate salt that releases 25-30 wt% peracetic acid immediately upon dissolving in water. Peracetic acid is therefore immediately available for reaction with threat agents and is neither delayed by nor dependent upon the kinetics of *in situ* generation. Dahlgren Decontaminant, a Navy patented decontaminant formulation incorporating PES-Solid in a surfactant blend, has been shown to provide improved decontaminant efficacy against both biological and traditional chemical agents, improved materials compatibility and offers the desired reduced logistical footprint. Dahlgren Decontaminant was successfully evaluated as part of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) Hazard Mitigation, Materiel and Equipment Restoration Advanced Technology Demonstration (HaMMER ATD) and is currently being evaluated in the Joint Project Manager for Protection (JPM P) General Purpose Decontaminant for Hardened Military Equipment (GPD-HME) Competitive Prototype testing.

# 3. On-Site qPCR for Detection of Biological Threat Agents - Sources of Measurement Uncertainty

S.M. Da Silva, L. Vang, N.D. Olson, N.J. Lin, J.B. Morrow | *Biosystems and Biomaterials Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology* 

#### Abstract

Quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) is a well-established technique often used to detect biological threat agents due to its selectivity and sensitivity in identifying targeted nucleic acids. However, obtaining accurate and reliable data can be significantly hindered by a number of factors within the process, sample, and environment. For example, qPCR for environmental biosurveillance (e.g. *Bacillus anthracis*) is challenging due lack of sampling validation and standards (GAO-05-251, 2005) and to variables encountered in real-case scenarios; unreliable biosurveillance data can jeopardize public safety. Reliability of qPCR data can be impacted prior to sample collection by the "environmental sample matrix," which can include background organisms, chemical interference from decontamination procedures, or scenarios involving high human activity. Additional factors that can impact uncertainty in qPCR field detection include sample collection, sample processing, nucleic acid extraction, qPCR measurement, data interpretation, and operator skill. Not all factors contribute equally to data variability, thus it is important to identify factors with the greatest impact on measurement uncertainty (MU) by evaluating their source(s) and significance (EURACHEM / CITAC Guide CG 4). Knowledge of the impact of these factors is important for robust experimental design, data accuracy in a given protocol, and data analysis (Arbeli et

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al, Int. Biodeterior. Biodegrad., 62(1), 14, 2008). In order to address the metrological aspects of on-site qPCR MU for biosurveillance, we will discuss factors contributing to qPCR MU relevant to field detection. Moreover, we will propose the use of a non-biothreat yeast reference material (YRM) containing a unique DNA marker to challenge the analytical process of on-site qPCR and offer a tool for further identifying sources of uncertainty. Advantages of the YRM include elimination of false positives from near-neighbor organisms and the absence of health and security risks. The YRM is expected to be useful as a training tool for a given protocol or technology, a test material in a simulated real-case scenario exercise relevant to emergency preparedness, a confidence checker to assess performance of a given technology or user skills, and a means for proficiency testing. Together, the MU assessment and the YRM enable the tracking and consequent minimization of sources of uncertainty for qPCR.

# 4. Survival and Demise of Biological or Chemical Agents in Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Leachate

Wendy Davis-Hoover | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center Mary Margaret Wade, Harry Salem | Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

#### Abstract

The primary objective of the study was to examine the fate or persistence of selected biological and chemical agents in municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill leachate. Raw MSW landfill leachate samples were individually spiked with chemical (Tabun, Sarin, Soman, Mustard Gas, Lewisite, or VX) or biological agents (*Francisella tularensis, Yersinia pestis, Bacillius anthracis* spores, or *Clostridium botulinum*). While most of the chemical agents (except Lewisite and VX) are unable to survive long in MSW landfill leachate at 12° C, the biological agents of *Bacillus anthracis* spores survive for > 7 years at 12° C, and 6 to 7 years at 37° C while *Clostridium botulinum* survives for > 7 years at 120 C, and<7 years (but >6 years) at 37° C. *Francisella tularensis,* and *Yersinia pestis* did not survive past 20 and 6 days, respectively at 35-37 and 28° C., respectively. Survivability of agents in landfill leachates and landfills emphasize the need to carefully evaluate the work place and long term containment in landfills. (Temperatures vary in landfills, so the temperatures used in this research were to simulate temperatures where the agents are likely to survive or grow.)

5. Method of Improving Chemical Resistance of Coatings by Surface Modification. Erin Durke Davis, Wesley O. Gordon, Gregory W. Peterson | *OptiMetrics, Inc./DCS Corp.* 

#### Abstract

Coatings are required to demonstrate chemical resistance in order to protect material, vehicles, and personnel. Numerous other requirements for the development of new coatings often involve substantial reformulation efforts in order to adapt to changing conditions and applications. One method to improve chemical resistance of coatings is to modify the surface of the paint to reduce surface energy without changing the bulk properties. Plasma-based chemical vapor deposition (PCVD) of perfluorinated compounds has been used for years to improve resistance of fabrics and materials to water and other chemicals. For example, there are several reports in the literature of superhydrophobic fabrics developed using PCVD. Here we report the application of a PCVD method that not only induces superhydrophobicity to a real world coating, but also dramatically improves the resistance of the coating to the spreading and absorption of the chemical warfare agents, HD and VX. Over the 30 min age time, droplets remained pinned and are therefore more easily decontaminated or removed physically. Surface analysis confirms modification of the surface with fluorinated species and also shows etching of the organic components of the paint. This treatment suggests that surface modification strategies may be effective in improving chemical resistivity without changing the bulk properties or requiring a significant reformulation effort.

6. Sample Sizes and Placement of Tests Following Building/Area Decontamination Martin A. Heller, Amarjit Budhiraja, Ross Leadbetter | *University of North Carolina* 

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#### Abstract

Following fumigation after an anthrax or similar attack, a building is typically tested intensively for residual contaminant. Sampling at the (say N) points of a grid sufficiently closely spaced to ensure complete coverage may be prohibitive even for such crucial situations, for example requiring a sample per square foot of building. It is thus important to assess the confidence in complete clearance when just n (<N) samples are taken and all "test negative". Calculation of C requires statistical modeling of the contamination pattern, using any known ("prior") information about causes and distribution. Commonly it is assumed that contaminated, where information about p is reflected in a so-called Beta "prior distribution". The underlying calculations have been extensively programmed by Pacific NW National Laboratory, as "VSP" (Visual Sample Plan) software, for varied applications including this decontamination context.

This software uses standard statistical means to provide the number n of sampled sites needed for any desired confidence level C of clearance, and has a wide capability to produce maps suggesting sample locations for userselected area patterns. The confidence obtained depends only on the number n of sites tested and not on their locations. For example samples taken contiguously in the corner of a room yield the same confidence as those spread uniformly throughout the room. This disquieting fact suggests that the basic assumptions should be reexamined, and some dependence structure between sites introduced.

Given some pattern of dependence, two strategies seem natural: (1) sample in a uniform way over the area, including regions of unlikely contamination, using just *n* of the *N* grid points, or (2) sample solely in the areas where contamination is likely to be higher. With such factors in mind we have combined their good features and developed a sampling algorithm, which emphasizes suspected areas of higher contamination likelihood, but automatically builds in diversity of location. The basic ingredients are preliminary values of the probabilities  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$ , ...,  $p_N$  of contamination of each of the *N* sites, using any prior information regarding placement and movement. The algorithm starts from an initial arbitrary choice of *n* sites, replacing them one by one with sites of greater individual probability according to specific rules that ensure diversity of location. To test the algorithm in particular cases we have simulated contamination patterns with complex ("*Branching Process*") dependence structure. As will be shown in the talk, it performs significantly better than Strategies (1) and (2) in a variety of such cases. While the type of example is very special it provides a useful comparison of methods, showing that the algorithm gives a quite promising procedure.

Finally the algorithm has been designed and tested for obtaining the confidence in complete clearance. In "less toxic" cases where some non-zero contamination level is acceptable (e.g. in some radiological situations) it is expected that modifications of the algorithm will be useful, and this is under current study.

## 7. Technology Evaluation of Army Toxicity Sensors

Ryan James, Elizabeth Hanft | *Battelle* 

Sharron Serre | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center David E. Trader, Linda M. Brennan, Mark W. Widder, William H. van der Schalie | U.S. Army Center for Environmental Health Research

#### Abstract

U.S. EPA National Homeland Security Research Center evaluated the performance characteristics of two rapid toxicity sensors that will be used as part of the U.S. Army Environmental Sentinel Biomonitoring program to test for the presence of a wide variety of chemical contaminants in drinking water. The sensors evaluated were Electric Cell-substrate Impedance Sensing (ECIS) and the Nano-Intelligent Detection System (NIDS) ACE<sup>™</sup> Rapid Test for Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors. The sensors do not identify or quantify the chemicals; rather they serve as screening tools to establish whether or not drinking water is potentially toxic or remains toxic following treatment or decontamination. The sensors were evaluated with 18 different individual industrial chemicals,

pesticides and rodenticides. Solutions of the contaminated water (CW) samples using a minimum of three concentrations of each chemical with four replicates for each concentration were prepared in deionized water (DI). In addition to the CW samples, six interference chemicals (ICs) were also tested. The ICs samples were prepared using chemicals that might be present in clean drinking water, such as chlorine and chloramines. These were analyzed with four replicates of a single concentration. The sensors were also evaluated for operational factors such as ease of use, field portability, and throughput.

CW samples were considered detected if the sensor responded positively to all four replicates. Because the ultimate goal is for these two sensors to be combined into a single analysis tool, results will be presented that provide an overall summary (percent of contaminants detected) for each sensor individually and combined to the EPA human lethal concentration (EPA HLC), the Army human lethal concentration (AHLC), and the Army military exposure guideline (MEG). Combined, the ECIS and ACE<sup>™</sup> sensors were able to detect 83% of the contaminants at the EPA HLC, 67% of the contaminants at the Army HLC, and only 6% (one contaminant) at the MEG. There was minimal response from either sensor to six different possible interfering chemicals. Both sensors had a low rate of false positive results in response to deionized water, 8% for the ECIS sensor, and 0% for the ACE<sup>™</sup> sensor.

The views expressed are those of the authors and do not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Army.

# 8. Identification of Hazard Mitigation Agents to Neutralize Dry Powder Biological Materials

Aimee Ketner | Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division

#### Abstract

The threat of adversaries using biological weapons reinforces the need for hazard mitigation strategies targeting harmful biological materials. Currently, there is a lack of expedient decontamination methodologies for dry powder biologicals such as *Bacillus* spores. Efforts including high heat, explosives, and gaseous acids have been tried in the past and were unsuccessful. We are currently pursuing a new hazard mitigation strategy that involves a combination of a sporicidal agent and a solvent with the aim of wetting the dry powder, allowing the sporicidal agent to fully contact the biological material.

We identified 43 potential sporicidal agents and 24 solvents, producing a matrix of 1,032 combinations. We down selected to a single optimized formulation through a series of qualitative and quantitative tests. We successfully tested the optimized Counter Measure (CM) solution against five milliliters of target spores and 125 milliliters of target spores.

Following the selection of the optimized CM solution, we ran several studies to help characterize it. These included: testing the optimized CM solution on spores in different container materials to determine if there is any adverse effect of the container material on the decontamination efficacy of the CM solution, and environmental testing of the CM solution to characterize the product across a range of realistic environment conditions. Future work includes characterizing the shelf life of the CM solution and testing against target materials with a range of different physical characteristics representing the realm of the possible in terms of dry agent that may be encountered. The end result of this effort will be a solution that can be used to neutralize the threat posed by a dry powder biological agent.

# 9. Decontamination of Surfaces Exposed to Organophosphates by Vapor Phase Hydrogen Peroxide

Marek Kuzma, Jaroslav Červený | *Laboratory of Molecular Structure Characterization, Institute of Microbiology* Kamila Syslová, Petr Kačer | *Department of Organic Technology, ICT - Prague* Libor Pánek | *BLOCK a.s.* 

#### Abstract

In recent history, chemical and biological counter-terrorism have come to the forefront of defense due to the immense threat to public health and national security. It is evident that after the release of any chemical and/or biological agent some level of decontamination is required before normal activities on the site affected can resume.

Particular decontamination methods were tested and approved for some applications and have their advantages and disadvantages. The use of vapor decontamination methods is quite easy and can be applied for a wide space. Vapor phase hydrogen peroxide (VPHP) is very progressive technology. This agent seems to be very active for decontamination and its elimination from decontaminated space is environmentally friendly, because it decomposes to water and oxygen. There is rising interest in application of VPHP for decontamination of chemical warfare and biologically active compounds. But there is only limited information about influence of VPHP on chemical substances.

We were dealing with degradation of organic substances derived from phosphoric acid by VPHP. It was studied insecticides, which represent a group of widespread toxic substances with structure features related to nerve warfare agents. It was studied influence of various functional groups on the course of degradation and degradation products. The decontamination process was followed by analytical methods to get information not only about the kinetics of the process but to elucidate the structure of decontamination products. We have studied both the effect of VPHP and potentiation of its action, especially with tertiary amines and UV radiation.

The results indicate substantial influence of the structure on the course of the decontamination and its products. It was approved that already VPHP can decontaminate various phosphoric acid derivatives. The presence of the sulfur atom substantially increases reactivity. In the case where the sulfur atom connects the phosphate group to the rest of the molecule, it can result in disintegration of the molecule. We can expect that the same mechanism would be probably also applied to the decontamination of warfare agent VX, which possesses such structure moiety in the molecule. It was also studied synergic effect of VPHP with UV radiation and/or amine on the course of the decontamination and degradation products.

Therefore, we guess that appropriate combination of VPHP with amine and UV radiation can be a powerful decontamination method, which can be easily applied in large rooms or buildings exposed to warfare agents.

#### Acknowledgements

The authors thank the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (Grant No TA02011185) and IMIC institutional research concept (AVOZ50200510) for financial support. The research was conducted within the "Prague Infrastructure for Structure Biology and Metabolomics" which has been built up by financial support of the Operational Program Prague – Competitiveness (Project No.: CZ.2.16/3.1.00/24023).

## 10. Rapid uptake of cesium and americium by sequestering agents from complex decontamination solutions

Carol Mertz, Michael Kaminski, Nadia Kivenas, Angela Tisch, Luis Ortega | Argonne National Laboratory

#### Abstract

After a malicious release of radioactivity, large urban areas may be contaminated compromising efforts by first responders and law enforcement officials. Large-scale implementation of urban substrate decontamination requires a balance between finding an effective decontamination formulation for the urban substrates and maximizing sorption based upon the sequestering properties in the presence of the wash solution additives. In addition, the technology should minimize hazards to the environment and personnel, and provide a rapid, easily deployed and implemented decontamination effort that is cost-effective for full-scale implementation. We are developing an inexpensive, water-based means of decontaminating an urban setting for restoring critical infrastructure and operational activities after a radiological release to address these decontamination requirements. Our decontamination technology is based on inexpensive and readily-available materials in large-Conference Report

scale quantities. Water-soluble additives were tailored to preferentially remove the radioactive contaminants from urban substrates followed by sequestration of the contaminant from the wash solution using a sequestering agent. Results from batch partitioning measurements will be presented on the evaluation of various sequestering agents for the sorption efficiency of cesium and americium in the presence of wash solution additives. The sequestering materials tested were natural minerals and some man-made compounds, including illite, vermiculite, silicon dioxide, chabazite, birnessite, clinoptilolite, montmorillonite and crystalline silicotitanate. Testing examined the kinetics of cesium and americium sorption onto the materials from five minutes to one day. In addition, wash solution additives and concentrations of additives were selected based upon previous work to optimize removal of radioactive cesium and americium from urban substrates, such as concrete, asphalt, brick, limestone and granite. Final recovery of cesium or americium using sequestering agents will be presented.

# 11. Energy density-response relationships of bacterial spores to ultraviolet radiation: a test of Haber's Law

Karen Pongrance, Deborah Schepers | *Excet Incorporated* Jana Kesavan, Jason Edmonds | *U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center* 

#### Abstract

Ultraviolet radiation has been thoroughly studied as a method to inactivate bacterial spores, making it a commonly used decontamination method by the military, healthcare industry, food industry and others. This investigation studied the effects of UVC radiation intensity levels and dosage time on Bacillus thuringiensis, a surrogate for Bacillus anthracis. Although the bactericidal effects of UVC radiation have been well studied, it is difficult to compare studies in the literature to one another because they use different wavelengths of light, intensities, and exposure times. Haber's Law states that the severity of a toxic effect depends on the total exposure concentration times the duration time of exposure. This investigation thoroughly characterized the energy density-response relationships of bacterial single spores and monodispersed clusters to ultraviolet radiation. Three different time/intensity combinations were used where the total fluence delivered to the particles remained constant in accordance with Haber's Law. A low-power continuous lamp source (254 nm) was used. The intensity was adjusted both by increasing or decreasing the distance between the lamp and the samples, and by screening the lamp to achieve different intensity levels. Both single spores and clusters up to 10 micrometers of Bacillus thuringiensis were seeded onto filters and exposed to the UVC radiation. Culture analysis was used to quantify the level of inactivation. Applicability of Haber's Law to this relationship is discussed. The goal of this work was to understand the fundamental interaction between photons and organisms in order to allow for advances in the effectiveness of UV irradiation applications, and allow a point of comparison for studies in the literature.

# 12. Can You Beat a Garden Sprayer? Novel Methods of Decontamination of Bacillus Anthracis Contaminated Soil

T. Pottage, A. Bennett, A. Crook, S. Hawkey | *Health Protection Agency* L. Baillie | *School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Cardiff University* 

#### Abstract

*Bacillus anthracis* is the causative agent of the disease anthrax. Anthrax is a potentially deadly disease to both animals and humans, which is endemic in some areas of the world such as the Caucasus region on the border of Europe and Asia. In some areas economic and time pressures lead to animals remaining unvaccinated, and the disposal of some fatally infected animals is inadequate leading to the contamination of the surrounding area and then potential future infection of animals and humans. A UK Home Office funded project lead by Cardiff University in conjunction with the Health Protection Agency, UK, and Kafkas University, Turkey, investigated using novel chemical and physical decontamination methods to remediate anthrax contaminated soil.

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The investigations studied whether the addition of two germinants (alanine and inosine) to anthrax contaminated soil would increase the effectiveness of two commonly available biocides, PeraSafe and hydrogen peroxide. The biocides were tested under a range of conditions from: a) direct liquid addition to soil within the laboratory, b) application to an anthrax contaminated burial site using a garden backpack sprayer, c) using an atomiser to produce a vapour of the biocides and d) the additions of the biocides to the soil then processed through a commercial reactor technology.

Preliminary studies were completed in the laboratory on small soil samples to determine the effectiveness of the germinants and biocide combinations *in vitro*. The results from these studies showed a concentration of 5000ppm PeraSafe was the most effective biocide. These parameters were then scaled up and tested in the field using the three technologies at different burial sites and separately with collected contaminated soil. The reactor technology was unable to achieve the necessary temperature to decontaminate the soil passed through it; Further complications whilst using hydrogen peroxide lead to trials being stopped with this device and the PeraSafe biocide then being focused on for the remaining duration of the study. Exposure of soil to germinants for 1 hour and then PeraSafe for a further hour, applied using a backpack sprayer, saw a decrease in numbers of vegetative organisms and total spore numbers of 1 log. The site exposed to the germinants and then PeraSafe using the vapour atomiser did not see any reductions in vegetative organism numbers and only an approximate 0.5 log reduction in spore numbers.

The vapour atomiser and backpack sprayer were effective methods of delivering biocide to the areas, but microorganism reduction is dependent on biocide concentration and the composition of the soil. The reactor technology was found to be unsuitable for the application of soil decontamination.

## 13. Degradation of Aerosolized BG Spores via Ultraviolet Light

Jonathan Sabol | Excet Incorporated

Donna Carlile, Jason Edmonds | U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

#### Abstract

The ability to decontaminate air is a universal problem as aerosolized particles posing a risk to health are ubiquitous. Some material, such as dust and molds, can be removed, at high efficiency from indoor air by filtration. Any particulates that escape the mechanical capture rarely cause a serious health risk and are more of an irritant and inconvenience. However, other airborne particulates, in the form of infectious microorganisms, are still a serious health concern for building occupants. This is of great concern for high risk facilities, such as hospitals, as well as governmental buildings vulnerable to malicious intent as witnessed in the 2001 anthrax attacks. Hospitals have invested in air purification systems to reduce the airborne particulates, which can infect hospital personnel, and to minimize the risk of exposing individuals with already compromised immune systems to other infectious diseases. One technology which has been extensively studied is the degradation of microorganisms by Ultraviolet irradiation. In our study, we have investigated the efficiency of UVC decontamination of *Bacillus* spores as a function of irradiation levels and particulate size. Our results demonstrate that larger particles are relatively unsusceptible to UV irradiation. While individual spores within a particle may be inactivated, the particle as a whole unit potentially remains infectious.

14. Use of Fixatives to Prevent Bacillus anthracis Spore Reaerosolization Mark Sutton, Staci R. Kane, Marilyn J. Ramsey, A. Celena Carrillo | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

#### Abstract

Many challenges exist in the successful outdoor decontamination of *B. anthracis* spores. High disinfectant concentrations increase operational costs and risk to human health and the environment. Disinfectants are corrosive, potentially damaging to surfaces and sensitive materials, and may be consumed by organic/chemical backgrounds in the environment. No disinfectants have been demonstrated to be effective in soils or vegetation,

and they pose long-term human health and environmental impacts. Additionally, some traditional decontamination activities could promote spore transport through reaerosolization.

Fixatives are commonly used in a variety of hazardous material mitigation applications, such as radiological contamination, methamphetamine cleanup, hazardous waste management, soil contamination encapsulation (common for PCBs), asbestos encapsulation and dust suppression.

The application of fixatives can temporarily or permanently fix *B. anthracis* spores to surfaces. Through agglomeration and fixation, the concentration of spores that may be resuspended in the respirable particle size range (1-10  $\mu$ m) should be reduced. Thus, fixative applications may then be employed as a risk mitigation step during first response and initial recovery activities to limit exposure and further spread of contamination.

Fixatives may be an inexpensive, rapid, and effective means to prevent reaerosolization and subsequent spread of outdoor biological/radiological agents needed for large-scale incidents. Where limited resources are available for decontamination, recovery efforts can focus on high priority locations and infrastructure. Lower priority areas can be stabilized with fixatives to prevent resuspension, thus reducing inhalation health risks and subsequent recontamination of cleared areas. Fixatives provide for Rapid Return to Service (RRS) for key transportation corridors (roads) and critical infrastructure.

The fixative materials for this evaluation have previously been deployed in Japan following the events at the Fukushima Dilachi plant to suppress the resuspension and subsequent migration and inhalation of radioactive particles. Additionally, some fixatives are peelable from the surface after curing to trap and remove contaminant particles. We have also investigating natural-based products such as horticultural oil as a means of preventing resuspension and agglomeration of spores to larger than the inhalable range.

This work was performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344. LLNL-ABS-618052.

# 15. I-WASTE: EPA's Suite of Homeland Security Decision Support Tools for Waste and Disaster Debris Management and Disposal

S. Thorneloe, P. Lemieux | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development* M. Rodgers | *Eastern Research Group, Inc.* 

#### Abstract

In the U.S., a single comprehensive approach to all-hazards domestic incident management has been established by the Department of Homeland Security through the National Response Framework. This helps prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. A significant component of responding to and recovering from wide-area or isolated events, whether natural, accidental, or intentional (including chemical, biological, and radiological incidents), is the management of waste resulting from the incident itself or from activities cleaning up after the incident. To facilitate the proper management of incident-derived waste, EPA developed the Incident Waste Assessment and Tonnage Estimator (I-WASTE). I-WASTE was developed by the U.S. EPA's Homeland Security Research Program in partnership with EPA program and regional offices, other U.S. government agencies, industry, and state and local emergency response programs.

I-WASTE is an online web-based suite of decision support tools that provides quick and easy access to information needed for making decisions associated with handling, transport, treatment, and disposal of waste and disaster debris. I-WASTE includes calculators to rapidly provide rough estimates of the quantities and characteristics of waste that would be produced by contamination incidents and subsequent cleanup activities in various building types. It provides location-specific information to identify specific facilities and key contacts for managing waste and debris. I-WASTE provides references to technical information, regulations, and other information that is important for the protection of public health, first responders, and the environment. This presentation provides an overview of I-WASTE and examples of recent uses.

# 16. Assessment of Contamination Following Simulated Chemical and Biological Attacks in a Public Building

Bob Muir, Erin James, Steve Wilkinson, Anusha Menon | ChemCentre, Resources and Chemistry Precinct

#### Abstract

There is currently a gap in Australia's preparedness for a large-scale chemical or biological attack on a public building or other significant infrastructure. This paper reports on a project which addresses the gap relating to the procedures of evacuation, contamination assessment and decontamination of public buildings following a terrorist release event. The research performed simulates a fictitious chemical (methyl isocyanate) and biological (Anthrax) terrorist attack on a public building of political importance in Western Australia.

The physical and chemical properties of either pathogenic organisms or toxic substances make them attractive weapons for terrorists to use against civilians. A chemical attack would be more effective if it took place in areas where the toxic material could be confined and where people are likely to gather en masse. For example, a subway system or government buildings are prime candidates.

A recent Australian Government CBRN Risk Environment Statement states, "Toxic chemical attacks are of concern due to recent terrorist use of these materials overseas. The consequences of an attack are potentially very serious, and there are significant vulnerabilities to be addressed" (CBRNSSC, 2011).

Toxic chemicals (Tokyo subway Sarin attack 1995) and Biological agents (the Amerithrax incident) have been used in the past against civilian populations. In addition to causing a number of deaths, many more were wounded and hospitals and first responders were overwhelmed.

To characterise the spread of such contaminants and determine the effectiveness of decontamination efforts in order to declare a facility safe for public occupancy requires significant effort.

A disused laboratory/office facility was used in this project where we released both sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) as a simulant for methylisocyanate and Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) formulation (Dipel<sup>®</sup>) as a simulant for Anthrax. The Bt spores were tracked by collection on deposition plates and the SF<sub>6</sub> by real time measurement with infrared spectrometry and by sample collection in foil bags followed by laboratory analysis by gas chromatography with electron capture detection (GC-ECD).

A Data Quality Object (DQO) document was written to capture all information pertinent to the decision making process for pre and post-decontamination phases of the study. The sampling plan was determined and the degree of contamination subsequently visualised using software tools (VSP).

Pseudo-real time monitoring of chemical and biological simulant species allowed the flux and dispersion of 'agents' to be evaluated. A simple model of the building compartments was built (using CONTAM) and the results compared to the experimental data. Of interest are the findings that spores travel to the building periphery in a short timescale and that months after the building had been left unoccupied it was possible to re-suspend viable spores simply by walking through the affected area. This has implications for first responders investigating suspicious substance or "white powder" incidents.

# 17. Screening *Bacillus thuringiensis* Isolates for Characteristics that Simulate *B. anthracis* and are Useful for Environmental Tests

T.L. Buhr, A.A. Young, Z.A. Minter, C.A. Johnson, N. Kennihan, D.C. McPherson | *Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division* 

#### Abstract

Seventeen *B. thuringiensis* isolates were phenotypically characterized for potential as *B. anthracis* simulants. Spore preparations were screened for pre-harvest heat-resistant titers (threshold > 1e8 spores  $mL^{-1}$ ; objective > 1e9 spores  $mL^{-1}$ ), spore purity (threshold >90% purity; objective >95% purity), a spherical-equivalent spore diameter with a statistical mode of 1-1.5  $\mu$ M, presence of exosporium, and the absence of crystal toxin. Each isolate was also screened on tryptic soy agar for colonies that could be isolated and easily quantified. Eleven *B. thuringiensis* isolates surpassed all of the phenotypic criteria thresholds and eight isolates passed the phenotypic criteria objectives as simulants for *B. anthracis* spores. These *B. thuringiensis* isolates may potentially be used for repeated environmental releases to test biological detection and re-aerosolization.

18. Decontamination of Materials Contaminated with Bacillus anthracis and Bacillus thuringiensis Al Hakam Spores Using PES-Solid, a Solid Source of Peracetic Acid T.L. Buhr, C.M. Wells, A.A. Young, Z.A. Minter, C.A. Johnson, A.N. Payne and D.C. McPherson | *Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division* 

#### Abstract

<u>Aims</u>: To develop test methods and evaluate survival of Bacillus anthracis Ames, B. anthracis  $\Delta$ Sterne and B. thuringiensis Al Hakam spores after exposure to PES-Solid (a solid source of peracetic acid), including PES-Solid formulations with bacteriostatic surfactants.

<u>Methods and Results</u>: Spores ( $\geq$ 7 logs) were dried on seven different test materials and treated with three different PES-Solid formulations (or preneutralized controls) at room temperature for 15 min. There was either no spore survival or less than 1 log (<10 spores) of spore survival in 56 of 63 test combinations (strain, formulation and substrate). Less than 2.7 logs (<180 spores) survived in the remaining seven test combinations. The highest spore survival rates were seen on water-dispersible chemical agent resistant coating (CARC-W) and Naval ship topcoat (NTC). Electron microscopy and Coulter analysis showed that all spore structures were intact after spore inactivation with PES-Solid.

<u>Conclusions</u>: Three PES-Solid formulations inactivated Bacillus spores that were dried on seven different materials.

<u>Significance and Impact of the Study</u>: A test method was developed to show that PES-Solid formulations effectively inactivate Bacillus spores on different materials.

# 19. UV-C Decontamination of Aerosolized and Surface Bound Single Spores and Bioclusters

Jana Kesavan, Deborah Schepers, Jerold Bottiger, and Jason Edmonds | U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

#### Abstract

Biological particles that are intentionally and un-intentionally produced are rarely composed purely of individual organisms but rather are clusters of organisms physically bound to one another. The organisms residing on the surface of a cluster are susceptible to environmental stresses and decontaminants, but they protect the organisms within the core of the cluster, resulting in decontaminating biological clusters harder to achieve. The use of ultraviolet irradiation is an option for decontaminating biological particles on surfaces and in air, and previous studies have been conducted with surface fixed particles, aerosolized single spores, or poorly characterized polydispersed aerosol particles making comparisons between studies difficult. This study is intended to evaluate the effect of UV-C irradiation on monodispersed spore clusters with mean diameters of 2.8  $\mu$ m and 4.4  $\mu$ m, and compare them to single spores of *Bacillus atrophaeus* subspecies *globigii* (BG) on fixed surfaces and in air. The data were fitted to decay models and the rate constants were determined. The results showed that the rate constants were higher for single spores and it decreased as the size of the cluster increased. The D<sub>90</sub>, the value at which 90% of the colony forming units has been rendered non-culturable, for single spores on surfaces is 138 J/m<sup>2</sup>, and 725 J/m<sup>2</sup> and 1128 J/m<sup>2</sup> for the 2.8  $\mu$ m and 4.4  $\mu$ m particles, respectively. The D<sub>90</sub> value for single spores in air is 27 J/m<sup>2</sup>, and 42 J/m<sup>2</sup> and 86-94 J/m<sup>2</sup> for the 2.8  $\mu$ m and 4.4  $\mu$ m particles in air, respectively. The study demonstrates that the decay rate of spores contained in the clusters is universally

dependent upon the overall particle size and it is harder to inactivate clusters on surfaces compared to clusters in air.

### 20. Decontamination, Decommissioning and Closure of the U.S. Chemical Stockpile Disposal Facilities Amy Dean | JPEO-CBD

### Abstract

With completion of the destruction of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile under the Joint Program Manager Elimination (Provisional) (JPM E (P)) (formerly part of Chemical Materials Activity (CMA)), the JPM E (P)'s focus transitioned to the decontamination and decommissioning of the chemical agent destruction facilities. The strategy established by JPM E (P) to support the decontamination and closure efforts is endorsed by the National Research Council (NRC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), various state environmental agencies, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The closure strategy was crucial in managing the closure effort and communicating the approach to affected stakeholders.

The destruction facilities are complex industrial facilities that require a suite of decontamination methods including chemical, mechanical, and thermal techniques. JPM E (P) developed expertise and cultivated a welltrained workforce in these decontamination methods and capabilities. Examples include: room isolation; contamination control; air monitoring methods for verification of contamination levels; waste characterization; transportation and disposal; development and validation of sampling methodologies and risk assessments/models. Sampling and air modeling protocols, training and procedures were created to ensure accurate assessment of contaminated areas and an "all hazards" approach to the decontamination process was applied. Potentially contaminated facilities are evaluated by room or area, using grid area sampling methodologies, tenting and air monitoring, and additional techniques to assess levels of contamination. These established methods support prompt decision making in the field during decontamination operations. Laboratory systems for air monitoring are built with fixed and mobile options and are capable of expedited analysis to provide continuous feedback of decontamination progress to focus cleanup operations. Additionally, JPM E (P) is managing unique and mixed waste media encountered during decontamination and decommissioning that often require innovative characterization and management. JPM E (P) has successfully decontaminated and closed four facilities and by the end of 2013 will have completed closure of four additional facilities.

Currently, JPM E (P) is working with Department of Homeland Security (DHS), EPA and CDC on methods to address the nation's response to a terrorist attack involving chemical agent. Specifically, JPM E (P) is proving recommendations based on their experience with tenting and sampling methodologies to determine whether decontamination of an area or facility has been successful. JPM E (P) is also recommending unventilated monitoring testing procedures to verify decontamination levels are achieved so that facilities can be released back to workers or the public in the shortest amount of time possible. Waste management of chemical agent contaminated material is another groundbreaking area where JPM E (P) has developed standards and protocols that are being leveraged for emerging threats.

JPM E (P)'s decades of research and experience with decontaminating large industrial sites has proven instrumental in supporting U.S. domestic preparedness efforts. JPM E (P) has real world experience to handle real world risk.

## 12. Concurrent Sessions 3 Biological Agent Fate and Transport Moderated by Marshall Gray

### Reaerosolisation of Bacterial Spores from Indoor Surfaces Susan Macken, Simon Parks, Jimmy Walker, Allan Bennett (Presenter) | Public Health England

### Abstract

Contamination of indoor surfaces with biological agents will occur in the event of a bioterrorism incident. These deposited micro-organisms will provide an exposure risk for those who enter these areas. While direct contact with surfaces can be minimized there will be a risk of re-aerosolisation of deposited agent as personnel walk across flooring. This risk may lead to access to areas being limited to those wearing high level PPE prior to decontamination. This study has quantified re-aerosolisation, caused by a walking person, from two commonly used flooring surfaces to understand the risks of exposure to personnel from floors contaminated with pathogens.

A smooth PVC monolayer and a cut-pile industrial carpet, such as might be found in offices and other indoor settings, were contaminated with Bacillus atrophaeus spores deposited from a fine aerosol using an artist's air brush. A range of air samplers placed at different heights (Andersen 6-stage, Sartorius MD8, Casella slit sampler) were utilised to quantify and fractionate the aerosol generated when a person walked over these floor coverings, in an environmental chamber. Results were expressed as a percentage re-aerosolisation factor to represent the ratio of air to surface concentration. The results demonstrated a highly significant difference between re-aerosolisation factors from carpet and PVC. Aerosol concentrations were greatest at floor level. The aerosol concentrations obtained at a height of 1.5m were on average ca50% of the floor concentration. Average aerodynamic particle diameter for aerosols derived at 1m from carpets and PVC was 2.18µm and 3.24µm, respectively; which are within respirable range. There was greater contamination on boots worn by the operator following activities on carpet, compared to PVC.

These studies are continuing and are planned to investigate the effect of factors such as deposition method, environmental factors and a wider range of floorings and participants.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Do you know when you used the sprayer whether the droplets reached the surface wet? Do you think recovery efficiency on a nonpolar surface could explain a lower fraction on the nonpolar surface?
- A: It was wet. What we measured is a ratio of what we recovered, not the actual deposition. We did studies on efficacy and about half a log of that difference was due to recovery efficiency, but the difference was three logs.
- Q: Was there an order in results to the type of steps?
- A: The difference between them was very subjective. Heavy walking resulted in less reaerosolization than medium walking.

## Informing Response and Recovery Decisions: The Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE), A Program Overview

M. Gray (Presenter) | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

D. Bansleben, M. Moe | U.S. Department of Homeland Security

S. Paikoff | U.S. Department of Defense

A. Weber | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

J. Koerner | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response

#### Abstract

Knowledge gaps exist in the understanding of the public health and environmental impacts of reaerosolization of Bacillus anthracis (anthrax) in an outdoor environment. Fundamental questions such as reaerosolization rates, the use of surrogates, spore preparation, effect of surface variability, temperature and humidity influences, fate and transport, temporal decay, and other factors may influence response and recovery decisions related to reaerosolization.

To address these gaps, the Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are partnered in the interagency Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE).

The session will provide an overview of the SPORE initiatives, objectives, current research, and future plans.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

#### Quantitative Analysis of Resuspension

**R.W. Wiener (Presenter)**, M. Gray, W. Calfee, S.D. Lee | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* D. Bansleben, M. Moe, J. Hogan | *U.S. Department of Homeland Security* T. Kar | *U.S. Department of Defense* A. Eisner | *ALION* 

#### Abstract

The Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE) seeks to provide an understanding of reaerosolization to make informed decisions to reduce risk in the event of a release of a biological agent. The biological agent of key interest is Bacillus anthracis (anthrax) spores, which have the capacity to produce mass casualties and are highly persistent in the environment.

If a bioagent, such as anthrax, were released in an urban area there is a high likelihood that the release would go undetected for a period of days. Once the release has been identified decision makers will have to determine the continued exposure risk to the population and the need for decontamination of the area contaminated by the agent. The continuing risk of exposure to the population after the initial release may be principally due to resuspension of the agent by natural and anthropogenic forces.

The purpose of this research project is to develop a quantitative understanding of the resuspension of anthrax spores from common environmental surfaces. Additionally, we will determine the confidence and suitability of the biological simulants Bacillus thuringiensis var kurstaki (Btk) or Bacillus atrophaeus subspecies globigii (formerly Bacillus globigii [Bg]) for B. anthracis (Ames strain) for use in environmental studies where particle resuspension is the critical parameter. The materials to be tested include concrete, asphalt, and glass. Tests will be performed at the Dugway Proving Grounds, UT, and at the Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

Experimental and Sampling Design for a Quantitative Investigation of the Resuspension of Anthrax and Surrogates under Controlled Conditions A.D. Eisner (Presenter), Z. Drake | ALION R. Wiener, M. Gray | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### No slides were made available for inclusion.

#### Abstract

Over the past decade the release of the Class A biological agent Bacillus anthracis (anthrax) has been deemed a serious public health risk. Such a release has the potential to produce mass casualties, and its spores are highly persistent in the environment. Numerous studies have identified the potential for anthrax to resuspend, after it has been released outdoors and has settled onto surfaces. Unfortunately, there has been a dearth of quantitative information about the behavior of anthrax spores. The mechanisms governing resuspension are complex, and developing a quantitative database is difficult and time consuming.

Conference Report

The Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are now collaborating in the Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE), which has provided the funding and direction for this study. The primary objective of SPORE is to develop a quantitative assessment of the risk of public health exposure from the resuspension of B. anthracis spores should an event happen in which anthrax is released outdoors into an urban environment.

One of the aims is to determine the suitability of the biological simulants Bacillus thuringiensis var kurstaki (Btk) as a surrogate for B. anthracis (Ames strain) in terms of resuspension from surfaces, represented in this research by coupons made of variety of outdoor materials. The end point for the experimentation is to compare two sets of data, one acquired from EPA using surrogates and the second from DPG using Ba-Ames. For the purpose of these experiments two small resuspension wind tunnels (RWT) and two resuspension chambers have been built. Design of the RWTs was predicated on extensive CFD modeling of particles' detachment and movement under the impact of the novel slotted traversing jet. The height of the jet, the angle of the impinging air on the coupon, and the speed of the actuator can all be changed as desired. The operational principle of the detachment experiment is based on a total collection of all detached spores. The biological extraction requirements imposed a need to have filters no larger than 10 cm in diameter. Therefore, multiple filters have been installed to obtain a reasonable air velocity and directionality in the tunnel. The experimental variables that have been selected for this study are spore type (Btk, Bg, and Ba-Ames), spore preparation (liquid slurry, dry powder, and refined powder), jet velocity (low, medium, and high), surface type (glass, roofing material, and concrete), and roughness level of each surface type (smooth, rough, and very rough).

A series of tests was conducted to establish nozzle jet impact on various surfaces. In these tests coupons laden with Btk spores were subject to a series of jet sweeps under step-wise increased jet air pressure. We found that in the case of smooth glass, spore resuspension increased by order of magnitude when nozzle jet velocity increased from 10 to 15 m/s. In case of smooth concrete and rough glass, increase of resuspension was more gradual as jet velocity was increased from 0 to 15 m/s. The total percent resuspended calculated from the filter data was 0.083% for smooth glass, 0.013% for rough glass, and 5.4% for smooth concrete.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: You said spores were deposited wet, but when you ran the experiments, had they dried?
- A: We established droplets initially that were 20 microns in size. We than waited to ensure everything settled. The coupons were left to dry entirely. By measuring the water content in various coupons, we established how many hours they need to equilibrate in the temperature humidity chamber.
- Q: Is there a pulse or a slowly ramping up jet?
- A: The pressure is preset and the valve is opened. Compressed air is delivered with a huge volume. The velocity is established almost instantaneously. Once it is going, the switch is flipped to start the traverse. The entire surface of the coupon is subjected to the same force. The length of the jet was essentially the length of the coupon.
- Q: The level of the surface is across the bottom. Why did you do that?
- A: In the literature, you find researchers that put the test surface in the middle of the tunnel to achieve the highest velocity. We decided to use an air jet as a major source of particle detachment, so we think it is a better way than a wind tunnel. In terms of potential losses behind the coupon (3/4 inch high), they were insignificant
- Q: Do you use another fan?
- A: Yes, there is one in the exit part of the tunnel to generate the main motion that is responsible for particle delivery.
- Q: What if you put the fan in front instead of the back?

• A: In terms of air movement, it is determined by pressure gradient. It is just a matter of convenience. I don't think it matters. There are other engineering issues; fans warm up the air and if you pressurize the system, there could have been spores flying out through gaps.

## 13. Concurrent Sessions 3 Chemical Agent Fate, Persistence and Transport Moderated by Larry Kaelin

Predictive Modeling of Transport Processes at Environmental Interfaces Following Chemical or Radiological Contamination James Hunt (Presenter) | Beaufort

Adam Love | Johnson Wright, Inc.

#### Abstract

Predictive transport models are necessary for development of operational plans under different scenarios regarding emergency response and subsequent remediation to lower future risk. The environmental fate of chemical, radiological and biological weapons has sufficiently matured to consider the development of predictive models that could be extended beyond the experimental conditions that were utilized in model development. While experimental measurements can be fit to various models, the goal has been to develop models that can predict transport under the range of conditions expected for the environment, the relevant surfaces, and the specific agent. The development of predictive models is illustrated using chemical warfare agent evaporation data collected at Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center (ECBC) in their 5 cm wind tunnels. The model utilizes chemical agent vapor pressure as a function of temperature, estimates of turbulent interfacial mass transfer coefficients, and assumed liquid agent geometry on an impermeable surface. The model is calibrated using one set of experimental results and model applicability is demonstrated for experimental conditions involving different temperatures, wind speeds, and liquid droplet volumes. Overall, droplet lifetimes are predictable within a factor of 2 – an accuracy that meets typical operation planning needs. Two challenges in model predictability are illustrated with observations from field experiments where liquid water dynamics within porous media are coupled with chemical and radiological agent transport processes. The first example is the "rain event" where chemical agent releases from field soils following light rain was unanticipated and placed field personnel at risk. The other example is the movement of cesium into porous media following a simulated explosive device that also mobilized liquid water. The coupling of chemical and radiological agents to liquid water dynamics within porous media has not been fully explored. These examples illustrate an approach to agent transport and remediation that combines experimental measurements with predictive modeling. Thus, additional fate and transport expertise is necessary to ensure robust operational plans can incorporate these common variations in environmental conditions. More generally, there remains a need for an integrated modeling approach that can assess overall system sensitivity to individual processes, which is needed in planning, risk assessment, and remediation.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Was it possible to test what had evaporated off?
- A: Edgewood (ECBC) did that, Lawrence Livermore National Labs analyzed the coupons for agent that was remaining but neither lab did both at the same time.
- Q: Talking about GB maybe forming a skin or surface and impeding evaporation. Do you think that would be more typical for sulfur mustard? Was there any clue on why it acted that way?
- A: That's the problem, this analysis was after the experiments were done; there is no way to go back and ask.
# Adsorption and Desorption of Chemical Warfare Agents on Activated Carbons: Impact of Temperature and Relative Humidity

**Lukas Oudejans (Presenter)** | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* Kent Hofacre, John Shaw, Anbo Wang | *Battelle Memorial Institute* 

#### Abstract

The known threat of a chemical agent release in a building or transportation hub is necessitating the development of a research program that evaluates potential decontamination strategies. Hot air ventilation is being considered as an approach for the decontamination of surfaces contaminated with chemical warfare agents (CWAs). It is, however, likely that the effluent during hot air fumigation will contain CWA vapors well above the airborne exposure limit, which will need to be captured prior to release of the CWA-loaded hot air to the ambient environment. A building's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system could be used to capture the CWAs if equipped with carbon filters. It is expected that such capture will occur from air flows at elevated temperatures and relative humidity (RH), because of the nature of the decontamination approach. Temperature and RH may affect the capability of carbon in the air filtration system to capture the CWA (or CWA decontamination by-products). Results are presented from a systematic study to determine the dynamic adsorptive capacity for GB and HD on activated carbon beds through measurement of the breakthrough curves as function of temperature, and RH. The subsequent measurement of desorption curves of the CWA from the activated carbon indicates whether off-gassing from activated carbon air filters is a potential concern when they are removed from service. Results of this study are intended to be used by decision makers to facilitate the development of remediation plans following a chemical contamination incident where a hot air decontamination process is considered.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Are the carbon beds at time zero at the temperature of the experiment? Or are you relying on the temperature of the air flowing through it?
- A: The temperature sensor was located just above the carbon bed and is in a controlled environment where the temperature is controlled, plus the carbon bed was equilibrated for 24 hours, so at time zero the temperatures are the same.
- Q: Using hot air for decontamination and bringing the temperature up and pulling it through the system, by the time it gets to the filter, hopefully we've had a drop in temperature, wouldn't that increase the filter efficiency?
- A: That's a valid point, indeed sometimes the HVAC system the filters may be much further away and there may be cooling equipment or even stay at the same temperature which also provides a chance of condensation.
- Q: Are you sold on using the carbon? Is it necessary? Isn't it easier just to take the exhaust and put it through a wet scrubber? Bubble it through water?
- A: Those are other alternatives; there is a presumed presence of activated carbon beds already in HVAC systems, that may be the first option; but there may be alternatives.
- C: Usually you would have a second carbon bed behind it and have a second stack behind it to make banks

# 14. General Session 4 Low Tech/Self Help

Moderated by Emily Snyder and Charlie Fitzsimmons

Assessment of RDD Contamination Removal from Laundering Soft Porous and Bulky Materials

Karen Riggs (Presenter) | Battelle Pacific Northwest Division

Emily Snyder, John Drake, Kathy Hall, Jeff Szabo | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, National Homeland Security Research Center John Cardarell | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Office of Emergency Management's Consequence Management Advisory Team Elizabeth Hanft, Michael Lindberg | Battelle Memorial Institute

#### Abstract

Radiation contamination from the release of a radiological dispersal device (RDD) or an accident at a nuclear reactor facility is a potential threat. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for environmental cleanup after the release of contamination from an RDD and may provide recommendations for actions that can be taken by the public to mitigate their exposures. Current guidelines for handling contaminated clothing recommend removing the contaminated item and placing it in a bag. The general public may unknowingly wash contaminated items or they may wish to launder items to reduce the contamination. The impacts of the general public knowingly or unknowingly washing their contaminated clothing are not fully characterized.

Previous research has demonstrated methods for determining the effectiveness of laundering for removing cesium, a potential contaminant that could be used in an RDD.

Results showed that laundering cloth swatches removed 92-97% of the contamination. The focus of the recently completed research was to build on previous studies in this area. Specifically, the current studies are focused on the efficacy of laundering soft porous and bulky materials, repeat washing, and laundering without detergent. The effect of laundering the contaminated swatches with uncontaminated clothing was also examined. Swatches of cotton and polyester materials (15 cm x 15 cm) were used to simulate clothing, and swatches prepared from a cotton comforter and towels (30 cm x 30 cm) were used to represent more bulky household items that could be laundered. A front-loading washing machine and liquid Tide HE detergent were used for this research. The swatches were contaminated with Cs-137 and laundered under different temperature conditions with and without detergent.

Laundering the swatches removed greater than 91% of the contamination for all materials studied in this work, except for the swatches made from a cotton comforter, for which 68% of the contamination was removed. The wastewater exiting the washing machine was collected after each load and measured for activity. A material balance indicated that the majority of the Cs-137 contamination ended up in this wastewater. Additionally, in tests where uncontaminated clothing was laundered with contaminated swatches, approximately 30% of the Cs-137 ended up on the uncontaminated clothing. Finally, there appeared to be an accumulation of the contamination in the washer over the testing period. These results will be presented and discussed.

- Q: How realistic do you think the clothing contamination was as compared to an actual RDD incident?
- A: After the materials were spiked with the liquid solution, they were dried prior putting them in the washing machine. This may not be entirely representative of how the materials would be contaminated after an RDD. We're open to suggestions.
- Q: You measured the activity on the clothes after decontamination. How do you measure this activity?
- A: We used a BEGe detector to measure <sup>137</sup>Cs gamma radiation.
- C: The follow-on study with the dryer would be very valuable. I would be interested to see if the fabric sheets might make a difference.
- Q: Did you consider any of the residual contamination in the washing machine?
- A: Yes, we did a quick non-destructive analysis count of the entire washing machine using the BEGe detector. We did not pull it apart. We did detect some residual contamination in the machine.

# Evaluation of Compressed Air Dusting and Vacuuming for Radiological Decontamination of Sensitive Equipment

**Ryan James (Presenter)**, Ryan Stowe, Eric Burckle | *Battelle* 

Emily Snyder | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

#### Abstract

In a Nuclear Incident Response Team Federal Emergency Management Agency funded effort, EPA's Homeland Security Research Program is conducting experiments that have determined the efficacy of compressed air dusting (CAD) and vacuuming (VAC) for the removal of radiologically tagged simulated fallout material (RTSFM) from the surfaces of several types of sensitive equipment (SE). SE refers to items that would be immediately important for decontamination and recovery efforts after the detonation of an Improvised Nuclear Device. The RTSFM was generated using sand that was sieved to isolate three distinct three particle size ranges: less than 150 micrometers (µm), 150-250 µm, and greater than 250 µm. Each particle size range was then tagged with a unique radionuclide. The smallest particles were tagged with cesium-137, the middle particle sizes were tagged with cobalt-60, and the largest particles were tagged with strontium-85. The removal of the RTSFM using these two methods (CAD and VAC) was tested on six different types of model SEs (number pad keyboards, cell phones, handheld radios, pulse oximeter, automated external defibrillator, and a fabric medical kit). The RTSFM was applied to the surface of the SE via dry particle deposition. Following deposition of the RTSFM, the gamma radiation from the contaminated SE was measured. The CAD and VAC was then be used to decontaminate each piece of SE. The residual gamma radiation emitted from the "decontaminated" SE was then measured and a decontamination factor (i.e., efficiency of radionuclide removal) was calculated. Results will be presented that include the quantitative (i.e., decontamination factor) and qualitative performance (operational considerations) of the CAD and VAC on each type of SE.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Would a recommendation to responders be to use keyboards with touch pads?
- A: Absolutely. Looking at these data, any equipment with open space or hidden space is going to be hard to decontaminate. Anything with a flat plastic surface would be better to decontaminate with these tools; blowing the keyboards with compressed air was not effective and risked the spread of contamination.
- Q: Before contamination, were the surfaces greasy or cleaned?
- A: They were new equipment. No additional cleaning was performed.

## Efficacy of Sporicidal Wipes on Select Surfaces

Kathryn Meyer (Presenter) | ORISE

M. Worth Calfee, Lukas Oudejans | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### Abstract

Four sporicidal wipes (three with sodium hypochlorite and one with hydrogen peroxide/peracetic acid active ingredients) and two disinfecting wipes were quantitatively evaluated for their ability to inactivate *Bacillus atrophaeus* spores dried onto non-porous surfaces. Using the ASTM WK32908 method, liquid aliquots of *B. atrophaeus* spores were dried onto glass Petri dishes and exposed to the test chemical of either a sporicidal wipe (Clorox<sup>™</sup> Bleach Germicidal, Sani-Cloth<sup>®</sup> Bleach Germicidal, Dispatch<sup>®</sup> Hospital Cleaner, Steriplex<sup>®</sup> SD) or disinfecting wipe (Lysol<sup>®</sup> Disinfecting, Clorox<sup>®</sup> Disinfecting) through a prescribed pattern of wiping. Following exposure for a specified time of contact, survivorship of the spores was assessed by quantification of the remaining viable spores, both on the glass Petri dish and on the wipe itself. Preliminary results suggest the *Bacillus* spore removal/inactivation efficacy varies considerably by active ingredient. Additionally, results show that the commercially available disinfecting wipes were not able to kill *Bacillus* spores. Ongoing work will test the top three performing wipes on test coupons made of several indoor building materials to determine their

effectiveness in a larger-scale environment. Results of this study are intended to be used by decision makers to facilitate the development of remediation plans following a biological contamination incident.

Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: You mentioned painted drywall, what was it painted with?
- A: It was a latex-based paint.
- Q: Did you measure how wet the towels were compared to each other?
- A: Yes; pretty consistent, 0.01-0.02 g/cm<sup>2</sup>.
- Q: Did the plates stay wet the entire contact time recommended by manufacturers?
- A: We wanted to test wipes for entire contact time, and if the surface dried, the manufacturers recommended to re-wet it with a second wipe. We did have to do that for some wipes.
- Q: Have you used these wipes on any PPE materials?
- A: Not yet, the LDPE simulates sample bags or other plastics, thus far we've tested everything flat.

## Inactivation of Bacillus Spores in Decontamination Wash Down Wastewater using Chlorine Bleach Solution

# **Vincente J. Gallardo (Presenter)**, K. Scott Minamyer, Eugene W. Rice | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center*

Donald A. Schupp | Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc., a CB&I Company

#### Abstract

Wash water from the decontamination of various hard surfaces and personal protective equipment was generated and spiked with *Bacillus atrophaeus* subspecies *globigii* spores to simulate wash down wastewater containing anthrax spores. This spiked wash water was treated either with diluted household bleach (1:100, 2:100, 3:100, or 5:100 volume ratios of bleach:wastewater), or with a diluted bleach and vinegar solution (a 1:1:10 volume ratio of bleach:vinegar:wastewater), and the amount of spore inactivation measured. The majority of the inactivation experiments were conducted at the 5:100 bleach:wastewater ratio. Prior to dilution, the household bleach contained 6% sodium hypochlorite by weight. Inactivation testing was conducted at two different temperatures: 22 °C and 4 °C. The chlorine level was monitored during the length of the inactivation test (typically 30 minutes to 2 hours), and no decrease in the level was observed. The goal of this work was to produce results that would form guidelines for using household bleach to treat wash down wastewater generated during a cleanup of a building or other area contaminated with anthrax spores. Inactivation results will be given for different wastewater types, bleach levels and water temperatures. At the higher temperature, greater than 99.9999% (6 log) removal was usually obtained in 30 minutes of contact time with the disinfectant. At the lower temperature, a longer time (60 minutes) was often needed to obtain the same amount of removal.

- C: One challenge at this [US EPA RTP] site was meeting our mercury limits in the waste water. We did an inventory of everything going down the drain and had to test bleach and Alquinox. I think it would be useful in the future to maybe take a mercury sample just to see what's there.
- A: I didn't realize that mercury was a problem when using bleach.
- Q: Are there MCL targets for anthrax spores?
- A: I would guess probably not. Before 9/11, no one cared about anthrax in drinking water.
- C: In drinking water, you want to be able to show log reduction, you want to use a process that shows certain performance rather than that you are meeting the target. You use a method that has been shown in the past to give a certain reduction.
- C: There are no MCLs; most are treatment techniques. For anthrax it's even more unknown, but there are no regulatory requirements, what we aim for is no detectable spores.

- C: It is extremely important for drinking water to use a certain contact time to have good removal.
- C: About the use of a surrogate here; this goes back to the study that shows that they are less susceptible to chlorine than anthracis. They are quite different, hydrophilic vs. hydrophobic, external spore, etc. We looked at this on hairless guinea pigs as part of a human remains study. One study showed bleach was working, but didn't work on guinea pigs. It would be good to go back and test the virulent strain so that you don't outsmart yourself with a tried and true simulant.
- C: To answer the question about the difference between BA and BG as a surrogate, if you recall the data presented earlier, when we reduced the time to three minutes, we could get 99 % kill; so I know there are differences, but I don't think they are very important in a suspension environment.
- C: Great comments and one piece of the research we aren't seeing today is that there is a lot of work done on different surfaces vs. these surrogates and decontamination methods; we want to come up with more resistant/conservative surrogates; whether or not you can see surface differences or contaminant-specific factors are what these studies show; great point and important thing is that there is a body of work supporting the use.

# 15. Concurrent Sessions 4 Biological Agent Persistence

Moderated by Matthew Magnuson

# A Large-Scale Soil Survey of Genetic Markers Associated with Bacillus Anthracis and Bacillus Species Across the Contiguous United States: A Joint USGS/USEPA Project

D.W. Griffin (Presenter) | U.S. Geological Survey, Coastal and Marine Science Center

E. Silvestri, C.Y. Bowling, T.L. Nichols | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

V.A. Luna | University of South Florida, Center for Biological Defense

C.A.O. Jean-Babtiste, D. Harbin, L.A. Hempel | Formerly at U.S. Geological Survey

T. Boe | Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Fellow with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

D. Smith | U.S. Geological Survey

#### No slides were made available for inclusion.

#### Abstract

Soil samples collected for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Geochemical Landscape Project, which covered the contiguous United States on a sample site scale of ~1,600 km<sup>2</sup> (4,770 samples), were screened for the presence of *Bacillus* sp. and *Bacillus anthracis* using a multiplex-polymerase chain reaction (PCR) method. Species of *Bacillus* were detected in 60.3% of the samples (in 43 of the 48 States). B. anthracis was presumptively identified by PCR in 83 samples. Subsets of these samples were sent to the University of South Florida's Center for Biological Defense for *B. anthracis* confirmatory analysis. Ten of the presumptive PCR positive samples were confirmed to contain PX01 *pag* and *lef* and pX02 *cap* virulence markers (three samples in Alabama, two in Kansas and one each in Maine, Missouri, New York, and West Virginia). Seven of the other presumptive PCR positive samples were evaluated statistically against land type, precipitation totals 1-day and 7-days prior to sample collection date, soil moisture, and geochemical data. A significant correlation was noted between *Bacillus* sp. PCR positive samples and total precipitation for 1-week prior to sample collection. No relationship was noted for *B. anthracis*. Statistical analyses of geochemical data indicated numerous correlations with the variables examined for Bacillus sp. (both negative and positive statistical correlations) and B. anthracis (negative statistical correlations). To evaluate the

strength of the statistically significant PCR-based observations, geochemical data from sample sites located in counties that reported cases or outbreaks of anthrax since 2000 were evaluated against counties within the same states (MN, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD and TX) that did not report cases or outbreaks. Those data identified the elements calcium (Ca), manganese (Mn), phosphorus (P), and strontium (Sr) as having strong positive correlations with counties reporting anthrax outbreaks and questioned the strength of the PCR-based elemental correlations. Threshold values based on the lowest geochemical concentrations of each of these elements and the lowest significant average concentrations that gave a correlation were identified as prospective investigative tools in determining whether an anthrax outbreak was 'potential' or 'probable' at any given geographic location in the contiguous United States. While these elemental threshold values are preliminary in nature, they present potential investigative tools that can be refined through future high-resolution studies.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Did you do an isotopic breakdown of any elements?
- A: No. Not that it can't be done; it was an issue of funding.
- Q: Do you have any criteria for temporal area and depth?
- A: The depth was at the surface. The sites were generated randomly through a program for sampling. There were adjustments because access was denied to certain areas that are individually owned. There was a variety of soil types and we didn't target just one.

# Persistence of Vegetative *Bacillus Anthracis* with and without Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation to Simulate Sunlight

**Thomas Kelly (Presenter)**, Andrew Lastivka, Morgan Wendling | *Battelle* Joseph Wood | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center* 

#### Abstract

The goal of this study is to assess the persistence (loss of viability over time) of vegetative *Bacillus anthracis* cells on common materials and in soil, under normal laboratory conditions and when exposed to levels of ultraviolet (UV) radiation simulating natural sunlight.

A fundamental part of the work has been the development of methods to reliably prepare high titer 100% vegetative cell suspensions of *B. anthracis* with no formation of endospores. That development included selecting initial inoculation conditions, confirming the effectiveness of heat shock procedures to distinguish vegetative and sporulated *B. anthracis*, defining the growth curve of *B. anthracis* in liquid culture, monitoring this culture via microscopy, and identifying the optimum point in the growth curve to maximize the cell titer while still achieving a purely vegetative culture.

Persistence was quantified using colony forming units recovered from test samples at various elapsed times. Qualitative techniques were also employed in some tests to assess growth or no growth of cells after 1 and 7 days incubation time. Heat shocking of sample extracts was used to assess any sporulation of cells.

The resulting preparation procedure was employed in a series of tests including:

- Persistence of vegetative *B. anthracis* on material coupons of four types (topsoil, glass, bare pine wood, and unpainted concrete) over a period of 1 hour under relative humidity (RH) conditions of approximately 30% and 75%. These were initial scoping tests conducted under normal laboratory lighting conditions to assess impact of material and RH on persistence.
- Persistence of vegetative *B. anthracis* on glass coupons over periods ranging from 15 minutes to 8 hours at approximately 30% RH under normal laboratory lighting conditions. This test was conducted to facilitate assessment of kinetics and compare results gathered from qualitative and quantitative assays.

• Persistence of vegetative *B. anthracis* on topsoil coupons over periods from 1 to 120 hours at approximately 30% RH, with and without exposure to simulated sunlight. Since vegetative *B. anthracis* was most persistent in soil, longer term tests were conducted using only this material.

The results of the persistence tests, including parallel tests with and without UV exposure, will be presented.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: How are you certain the organism you were looking at was actually Ba?
- A: It was based on colony morphology and plating and growing of the organisms.
- C: All of the soil and other coupon materials were sterilized before use.
- Q: Is it fair to say that after five days, if an outdoor area was contaminated with weaponized anthrax, it would no longer be an issue as long as there was no rainfall?
- A: No. If you treated it with a germicide, you could be better off in terms of destroying the vegetative cells.
- Q: Could you explain how your sterilized the soil? In another program, they found that if you autoclaved soil, spores can't grow.
- A: It is autoclaved in bulk and portioned out to make the coupons. I have heard about that work you are referring to, and I think it is an issue that needs to be looked at.

# 16. Concurrent Sessions 4 Water and Waste Water Treatment Moderated by Matthew Magnuson

## Investigation into U.K. Capability to Manage Contaminated Water

**Carmel Ramwell (Presenter)**, Paul Robb, Nigel Cook | *The Food and Environment Research Agency* Hasmitta Stewart | *Government Decontamination Service* 

#### Abstract

As a part of a suite of wider work, a review was undertaken to investigate the UK capability to manage water contaminated with chemical and/or biological entities.

The objectives of the study were to:

- Assess the current status of different treatment processes at sewage treatment works (STW) and (drinking) water treatment works (WTW) in the UK
- Examine the current knowledge with regards to the fate of chemical and biological entities, and decontaminants in treatment processes
- Examine the roles and responsibilities of government agencies and other governmental departments for managing contaminated water, and
- Identify data gaps and make recommendations.

Although contaminated water will largely be dealt with at an STW, any losses to surface water can ultimately be abstracted at a WTW, hence both STW and WTW were considered.

The suitability of different drinking water treatment methods for a number of chemical classes was taken mainly from the US EPA Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT).

Common water treatment processes can treat a range of chemical and biological entities, but processes such as activated carbon will only exist if the catchment has a specific risk e.g. pesticides. Only 1 biological was likely to pose a potential risk as the relevant treatment method is not commonplace at UK WTWs. Another limiting factor may be the capacity at the WTW to physically hold/dose sufficient disinfectant. Disinfection by-products can generally be treated with standard WTW processes. WTWs associated with aquifers are unlikely to cope with

contaminated water as the water abstracted is ordinarily of high quality, thus only basic treatment processes will be in place.

Common decontaminants are already used in the general day-to-day operation of STWs. Decontaminants will not automatically have an adverse impact on STWs – depending on the dose in the incoming water.

Information on biologicals in STW was limited but it appears that biological agents are unlikely to be affected by sewage treatment plants.

Generalizing, chemical agents that are water soluble, have a low sorption potential and a high volatilization potential are unlikely to be removed within an STW, although such compounds may volatilize, particularly during aeration.

The technology to manage highly contaminated and toxic wastewater exists due to use in, for example, chemical/pesticide industries.

Data on the range of concentrations/volumes of waste water containing chemical/biological agents and decontaminants that could enter STW are required in order to assess their risk.

A unified process for recording information on processes at individual WTW and STW processes would be highly beneficial to quantifying capability to manage contaminated water at a national scale, particularly for England where there are several different water and wastewater providers.

Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Regarding biological nutrient removal, do you anticipate increased stability to remove these contaminants or are these systems already in place?
- A: Whether we have that on the plant depends on the water body to which the effluent is being discharged. If the water body is not that sensitive, then you do not need that type of treatment.

## Decontamination for the Water Sector

Marissa Lynch (Presenter), George Gardenier | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### Abstract

The Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council (CIPAC) Water Sector Decontamination Working Group identified the need for the development of a decision-making framework for the decontamination of chemical, biological, and radiological agents in water systems specifically to be used by utilities, responders, and other decision makers.

The decontamination and recovery process of a water system following a contamination incident will vary on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, water utilities and responders need decision-making information that can be adapted to specific situations and incidents as appropriate for consideration during planning and rapid decision making. The decision-making framework highlights the critical steps taken during the characterization, decontamination and clearance phases of remediation/cleanup for a chemical, biological, or radiological incident affecting water and wastewater systems.

The decision-making frameworks for water utilities and responders on containment, treatment, and disposal of contaminated water, are aimed at preparing utilities for all-hazard events. This information may include, but not be limited to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, potential treatment methods, and containment and disposal options.

To address this need, EPA leveraged existing guidance and developed an interactive set of decision-making frameworks for water and wastewater. The frameworks pose situation- specific questions to users and guide them through subsequent steps.

References and links to relevant tools are also provided. The frameworks were vetted through two rounds of work group meetings.

The Water Security Division (WSD) in collaboration with National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC) is working to incorporate advanced decontamination research results into the Water Contaminant Information Tool (WCIT). This peer-reviewed information includes decontamination methods on contaminants of concern to utilities and responders.

In 2013, WSD launched a decontamination website. All of WSD's latest decontamination efforts will be summarized on the website. Links to other EPA led decontamination efforts will also be provided.

This presentation will provide a summary of EPA's development efforts in producing decision-making frameworks. The decision-making frameworks are supported by a recently published EPA guidance document, "Containment and Disposal of Large Amounts of Contaminated Water: A Support Guide for Water Utilities" which will also be discussed in the presentation. The presentation will also highlight other potential projects currently being worked on to enhance preparedness such as the work WSD is performing in collaboration with NHSRC and the decontamination website.

Building upon the conference theme of decontamination this presentation will address progress made to enhance tools and guidance available to utilities, responders and other decision makers involved in decontamination efforts.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

# 17. Concurrent Sessions 4 Chemical Agent Decontamination Moderated by Lukas Oudejans

# Developing Decontamination Tools and Approaches to Address Indoor Pesticide Contamination from Improper Bed Bug Treatments

**Emily Snyder (Presenter)**, Lukas Oudejans, Paul Lemieux | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

**Dan M. Stout II (Presenter)**, Halûk Özkaynak, Kristin Isaacs, James Starr | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Exposure Research Laboratory* 

Amy Mysz | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Land & Chemicals Division, Pesticides Section Jeanelle Martinez | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OSWER, Office of Emergency Management, Chemical, Biological and Nuclear Consequence Management Advisory Team (CBRN CMAT) Dennis Tabor | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Risk Management Research Laboratory

Keith Houck | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Center for Computational Toxicology

#### Abstract

There has been an increase in reported pesticide misuse incidents for controlling insects, including bed bugs, in indoor environments. These incidents include pesticide products not registered by the US EPA for indoor use or the application of approved pesticide products at concentrations that far exceed the labeled rates or in a manner that violates the product labeling. It is generally expected that the bed bug epidemic will result in a growing number of incidents of misuse EPA Regional Offices are often called on to assist local communities in remediating homes and businesses following indoor misapplications where pesticide levels may be deemed "unsafe". Currently, there are no validated tools for adequately evaluating pesticide residues on indoor surfaces to evaluate potential risk to occupants, or cleaning procedures with known efficacies to reduce pesticide levels in contaminated structures. Occupants of contaminated homes may be exposed to a potentially high concentration of pesticides, be forced to evacuate their homes, or be compelled to attempt decontamination themselves, possibly creating toxic by-products or administering decontamination agents with their own inherent risks.

This research aims to provide responding agencies with information to evaluate indoor pesticide misuse incidents and reduce occupant exposures. Findings will guide remediation needs and will illustrate the potential effectiveness of cleaning efforts.

The presentation will describe the effort to accomplish these objectives for malathion and carbaryl on select surfaces. The results from wipe sampling method development and initial surface decontamination studies will be presented. The use of the Stochastic Human Exposure and Dose Simulation (SHEDS) Lite model to generate predicted pesticide concentration distributions, which will be used to determine likely exposures, associated with minimal health impacts or health impacts of potential concern will also be discussed.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Can you speculate on the poor total recovery of carbaryl using three wipes?
- A: There may be a limited solubility of carbaryl in isopropanol.
- Q: How did you conduct the small coupon decontamination study?
- C: The decontamination solution was applied to the coupon and it did not run off. Everything was extracted.

## Challenges in Lewisite Decontamination Studies

**Harry Stone (Presenter)**, Lukas Oudejans, Sarah Perkins, Autumn Smiley | *Battelle* Emily Snyder | *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center* 

#### Abstract

The US EPA may be tasked to lead efforts to decontaminate facilities following a release of a chemical warfare agent (CWA); Lewisite (L) is one of those CWAs. Whereas other CWAs may evaporate quickly or decompose into less harmful by-products, L is an arsenic-based vesicant with low volatility and its decomposition by-products are particularly challenging to decontaminate because of they may still have vesicant properties and may be more persistent than L itself. L is composed of three similar arsenic-based compounds known as: L1 [2-chlorovinylarsonous dichloride, 90%], L2 [bis(2-chlorovinyl)arsonous dichloride, 9%], and L3 [tris(2-chlorovinyl)arsine, 1%]. L2 and L3 are relatively less volatile compared to L1. Further complicating matters, L1 rapidly hydrolyzes and oxidizes in the environment into 2-chlorovinyl arsonous acid (CVAA), 2-chlorovinyl arsonic acid (CVAOA), and Lewisite oxide (L oxide; a vesicant). In this effort we are examining methods for inactivation/neutralization (conversion to compounds without vesicant properties) of L; specifically, we are looking at the ability of deionized water, bleach, hydrogen peroxide liquid to convert L to less toxic by-products. Neutralization and degradation of L leave residual arsenic compounds like CVAA, CVAOA, and L oxide. Removal methods of these by-products are also evaluated that may be used subsequently to L neutralization and degradation.

Methods for successful extraction and analysis of L and its degradation by-products from building materials do not currently exist. Extraction methods developed for environmental and clinical samples were modified for this purpose; specifically, extraction efficiency for L1 on four building materials by three solvents (toluene, hexane, and acetone) was evaluated. The analysis of samples containing L is complicated by the presence of L1-L3 and their hydrolysis and oxidation by-products. In general, analytical methods used direct detection or derivatization prior to detection. Direct detection of the L1 and L2 in the extracts was demonstrated using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry with a cool-on-column inlet. LC/MS and derivatization by butanethiol reaction were evaluated as methods for detecting by-products. An update on EPA's progress addressing the challenges in extracting and analyzing L and its degradation by-products in the extracts will be presented.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

 Q: Are you thinking of extending LC/MS to cover parent compounds, so you have one method? Can't you see L1 and L2 with LC/MS?

- A: You want to measure L1 and the byproducts; we don't have that method. The presence of water will hydrolyze L1 too quickly. There is not a single method for this.
- Q: How long did you leave your Lewisite on substrates before decontamination?
- A: 30 min.
- Q: For your substrates, how did you condition them? Did you dry them to avoid water in concrete and wood?
- A: I'm not aware of anything special we did. Coupons prepared in advance inside of a lab.
- Q: Did you perform any calculations on arsenic to see how much surface loading of Lewisite?
- A: We haven't, but it would be easy to do. We know what we put on and what we are wiping off. Easy to look at this.

Advanced Absorbent Wipes for Personnel and Personal Equipment Decontamination Stuart Notman | Defense Science & Technology Laboratory

#### Abstract

There are a number of potential technologies (wipes, powders, cloths and lotions) that have the potential to be used to decontaminate CWA from personnel and personal equipment. The patent literature shows that industry has invested heavily to develop Commercial-Off-The-Self (COTS) wipes for use in a number of sectors including personal care, household cleaning and industrial cleaning.

This presentation describes an experimental project undertaken to determine whether or not modern textile technology (Wipes) could be used as an alternative to fullers' earth (FE) for CWA decontamination of skin and personal equipment. An additional aim was to determine whether it is possible to improve efficacy of personal equipment decontamination.

We used a rotary wiping rig, designed to remove operator variability, to evaluate flat surface decontamination. Manual wiping was used to evaluate decontamination of geometrically complex surfaces. The performance of Wipes was compared to an FE pad and FE powder.

In total 33 different wipes from personal care, household cleaning, industrial cleaning and specialty fabrics sectors were tested during this project. Simulants were used to select best-performing wipes, and to determine the relative importance of different parameters (e.g. drop size, applied pressure) and procedures on wiping efficacy. Eight wipes were selected for further testing using an optimised wiping process against flat surfaces contaminated with the chemical agents HD, GD and VX. The results from these wipes were compared to the FE pad and FE powder.

- Q: Did you test only one microfiber? You can get them in a range of types.
- A: Yes, we tested several types including one with a smooth finish and one more like flannel. We wanted to test broad range of wipes.
- Q: If you tested punch woven containing carbon containing how did they perform?
- A: Yes we tested two carbon-based wipes both performed well, but not to LoQ for mustard.
- Q: Were you able to draw general conclusions on physical attributes that decrease efficacy?
- A: Most manufacturers will not disclose the construction of the material. We found microfiber performed well; carbon fiber leaves a lot of carbon behind which could be a toxic hazard.
- Q: What process do you think is involved: capillary forces or dissolution?
- A: Mostly capillary forces where liquid sucked in; most of the wipes tested were dry.
- Q: Did you see variation in viscosity of fluid?
- A: Yes there was variation in viscosity and surface tension. Mustard was found as discrete drops; VX stretches out. This is probably related to why surfaces with VX don't decontaminate as well.
- Q: If you explore temperature could you look at viscosity?

- A: We would not be able to do this in our lab.
- Q: Were the same wipes effective for more than one contaminant?
- A: Yes, microfiber worked on all three contaminants.
- Q: Did you consider using other powders?
- A: Yes we did consider, but given time constraints we just used FE powder. You could go back and do more powders and proper agent materials
- Q: Have you accounted for losses from evaporation?
- A: For the flat surface we weighed just before decontamination and did not see loss from evaporation. For the silicon there was a delay before decontamination of about two minutes. We weighed before decontamination also and did not see losses from evaporation.

#### Large Panel CWA Efficacy Testing of Hazard Mitigation Products and Processes Adam Judd (Presenter), George Wrenn, Scott Mason, John Shaw | Battelle Shawn Funk | Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

#### No slides were made available for inclusion.

#### Abstract

The Hazard Mitigation, Materiel and Equipment Restoration (HaMMER) Advanced Technology Demonstration (ATD) Program is an integration effort to optimize, build, and demonstrate a Family of Systems (FoS) for decontamination. HaMMER includes the assessment and integration of novel products and the development of hardware to apply the products in an efficient manner that successfully performs hazard mitigation while minimizing logistics and waste.

Historically, chemical warfare agent (CWA) decontaminants were tested inside of a chemical fume hood using small material coupons ranging from one to a few square inches in area. Although effective for screening large numbers of decontamination products and materials, small coupon testing did not initially provide a realistic test environment. Over the years, attempts were made to improve the realism of the small coupon test environment such as adding temperature control, changing the physical orientation of the coupons, and modifying the shape of the coupons. Although improvements to the overall process, the steps failed to address a fundamental shortcoming of coupon testing — the ability to assess the effect of various physical removal processes while simultaneously integrating a variety of hazard mitigation technologies into the decontamination process. Physical processes such as rinsing, brushing, and scrubbing can be important parts of the overall decontamination process but cannot be effectively replicated at the small coupon level.

Through support from the Joint Program Manager, Protection and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Battelle designed and assembled the Integrated Decontamination Test and Evaluation System (IDTES) to allow for more realistic larger scale decontamination testing. The IDTES operates as an 10-foot long environmentally controlled glove box located behind conventional fume hood faces in a large item test facility. For HaMMER, multiple liquid spray nozzles were integrated into the IDTES and connected to decontaminant applicators representative of those demonstrated during the HaMMER program. The IDTES applicators delivered water, soaps, decontaminants, and indicator sprays at operationally relevant pressures and volumes. HaMMER testing used large flat panels placed in near vertical and near horizontal positions that were contaminated with neat HD or VX and evaluated using contact hazard and, for a select number of trials, vapor hazard test methods.

HaMMER large panel CWA testing began with a process efficacy study using VX to identify optimal decontaminant delivery parameters. The process efficacy study used a design of experiments approach and statistical modeling to estimate and subsequently verify effective process steps that were used in follow on testing. The optimal process steps included a low pressure soap application and rinse followed by multiple low pressure applications of decontaminant. The decontamination process steps were then combined with several hazard mitigation technologies including strippable coatings, surfactants, reactive decontaminants, and chemical agent disclosure

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sprays and tested on large panels in the IDTES. Results indicate that the decontamination processes and products tested can significantly reduce remaining chemical agent hazards to well below military requirements if used in a synergistic manner. This presentation will provide details on test methodology as well as results for the products tested.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Does the vapor off-gassing recreate a condition of contact hazard?
- A: We did have vapor hazard for VX, so we had to redesign. Yes, it is a problem we found that will recondense out of the vapor phase.
- Q: Were there foams included in your program?
- A: Dahlgren's Decon is somewhat of a microemulsion foam. We didn't look at decontamination foams. We wanted to look at what DoD didn't look at. We did look at some enzyme products.
- Q: Is Dahlgren decontamination foam commercially available?
- A: No, not commercially available. Navy will not manufacture and supply and they are looking for companies to license and make it commercially available.
- Q: You mentioned high pressure washing at the end. Did you look at redistribution on other surfaces?
- A: We took agent discloser spray and sprayed on inside of area and it was all over. HaMMER is a low-pressure decontamination. High-pressure hits run off and no contact time. High pressure for super soap was a bit of a mess.

# 18. Concurrent Sessions 5 Biological Agent Decontamination Moderated by Sanjiv Shah

Decontamination of Soil Contaminated with Bacillus Anthracis Spores Joseph Wood (Presenter) | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency M.Q.S. Wendling, A.T. Lastivka, Y.W. Choi, J.V. Rogers | Battelle Memorial Institute

#### Abstract

#### Background:

Remediation efforts could be extensive following a large aerosol release of *B. anthracis* spores in an urban area, and will greatly challenge the capabilities of government agencies and decontamination contractors to respond. In such a scenario, many different types of materials and environments may need to be decontaminated, including soils. The focus of this presentation will be on soil decontamination, but a few other related data will also be presented.

#### Methods:

This research evaluated the inactivation efficacy of six decontamination technologies on topsoil and Arizona Test Dust (AZTD). Tests were conducted with either *B. anthracis* (Ames strain) or *B. subtilis* (a potential surrogate) spores. The technologies were tested under a range of applications and conditions, and included chlorine dioxide  $(ClO_2)$  gas, aqueous  $ClO_2$ , methyl bromide (MeBr), metam sodium, pH-amended bleach, and sodium persulfate with hydrogen peroxide  $(H_2O_2)$ . Efficacy, e.g., log reduction (LR), was determined based on the difference between spore recovery from positive controls (not subject to decontamination treatment) and recovery from test samples.

#### **Results:**

<u>CIO<sub>2</sub> gas</u>: In all tests with AZTD and 1 cm topsoil, > 6 LR was achieved with 3,000 ppm CIO<sub>2</sub>, 75% relative humidity; CIO<sub>2</sub> gas was only moderately effective in decontaminating 2 cm topsoil.

<u>Aqueous  $ClO_2$ </u>: Minimal (essentially zero) LR was achieved with this technology on topsoil. Results for the decontamination of other materials using aqueous  $ClO_2$  will also be presented.

<u>pH-amended bleach</u>: For the AZTD, complete inactivation of *B. anthracis* was achieved with a contact time of 2 hours with 4 applications, and > 7 LR for *B. subtilis* at the same condition. Minimal LR (essentially zero) for both microorganisms was obtained for the topsoil samples.

<u>Sodium persulfate with  $H_2O_2$ </u>: Greater than 7 LR was achieved for *B. anthracis* in topsoil and AZTD with three applications. *B. subtilis* was significantly more resistant to this decontaminant chemical compared to *B. anthracis*.

<u>MeBr</u>: Complete inactivation of *B. anthracis* was achieved in AZTD at 212 mg/L for 36 hours, while > 7 LR was achieved for topsoil at this same condition. *B. subtilis* was significantly more resistant to MeBr compared to *B. anthracis*.

<u>Metam sodium</u>: Testing is currently underway for this soil decontaminant, and final results will be included in the presentation. Preliminary results show that > 6 LR is achievable for this technology, depending on application regimen.

#### **Conclusions:**

Topsoil was generally more difficult to decontaminate than the AZTD, most likely due to its organic content. Nevertheless, the sodium persulfate/ $H_2O_2$ , MeBr, ClO<sub>2</sub> gas, and metam sodium technologies all showed favorable decontamination efficacy (> 6 LR) on topsoil in one or more of the conditions tested. The use of pH-amended bleach and aqueous ClO<sub>2</sub> is contraindicated for topsoil.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: Has anyone looked at elemental enrichment of topsoil as a potential way to decontaminate? Could we treat soil with sulfur?
- A: We have looked at calcium sulfide for soil decontamination, but that had minimal efficacy,
- Q: What is the final concept for decontamination of soil? Just treat the surface?
- A: Metam Sodium would be applied by liquid injection and then covered with a tarp; others that are gases would need to be applied after the soil is tarped. The pesticidal chemicals are already being used in agricultural applications and we could translate those approaches to decontamination for anthrax.
- C: Fumigation in agriculture typically requires tarp over soil. In this study, capping the sample jars in the laboratory study achieved the same effect.

## Decontamination of Nursery Potting Soil with Chlorine Dioxide Craig Ramsey (Presenter), Steven Newman | U.S. Department of Agriculture

#### Abstract

The goal of the study was to determine whether chlorine dioxide could be an alternative biocide for methyl bromide applications to decontaminate nursery potting soil. The study objective was to evaluate the microbial efficacy of nine different formulations of chlorine dioxide in a soil column study, using soil respiration as the microbial response variable. Chlorine dioxide formulations were applied to a mix of potting soil (75%) and play sand (25%) that was added to 12" tall soil columns made of ABS plastic. Six of the chlorine dioxide formulations were granules that converted into a gas phase fumigant, upon contact with an activator. Three of the formulations were applied as liquids that saturated the soil, which released the chlorine dioxide that was diffused as a gas in the liquid. Soil respiration was measured with a LICOR 6400 XT gas exchange instrument, before the biocide application and 38 and 60 days after application. Soil respiration is the combined carbon dioxide flux from both soil microbes, and soil organic matter reactions and decay. The soil respiration flux averaged 5.3  $\mu$ mol CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>/s, across all the soil columns, before chlorine dioxide was added to the soil. The untreated control had a soil respiration rate of 2.96  $\mu$ mol CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>/s at 60 days after treatment (DAT). At 60 DAT there were six formulations with respiration rates below the average untreated, control rate. The chlorine dioxide formulation

with the lowest respiration flux was a granule + activator (1.5g + 6g), which had a flux of 0.99  $\mu$ mol CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>/s, at 60 days after treatment. This is a 67% reduction in soil respiration when compared to the untreated, control, at two months after treatment. Oxidant biocides breakdown rapidly in the soil, are relatively inexpensive, and have potential to be a good alternative to methyl bromide treatments for decontamination of soil.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

Test Method Development to Evaluate Hot, Humid Air Decontamination of Materials Contaminated with *Bacillus Anthracis* ΔSterne and *B. Thuringiensis* Al Hakam Spores T.L. Buhr, A.A. Young (Presenter), Z.A. Minter, C.M. Wells, D.C. McPherson, C.L. Hooban, C.A. Johnson, E.J. Prokop, J.R. Crigler | *Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division* 

#### Abstract

<u>Aims</u>: To develop test methods and evaluate the survival of *Bacillus anthracis*  $\Delta$ Sterne and *Bacillus thuringiensis* Al Hakam spores after exposure to hot, humid air.

<u>Methods and Results</u>: Spores (>7 logs) of both strains were dried on six different test materials. Response surface methodology was employed to identify the limits of spore survival at optimal test combinations of temperature (60, 68, 77°C), relative humidity (60, 75, 90%) and time (1, 4, 7 days). No spores survived the harshest test run (77°C, 90% R.H., 7 days), while > 6.5 logs of spores survived the mildest test run (60°C, 60% R.H.,1 day). Spores of both strains inoculated on nylon webbing and polypropylene had greater survival rates at 68°C, 75% R.H., 4 days than spores on other materials. Electron microscopy showed no obvious physical damage to spores using hot, humid air, which contrasted with pH-adjusted bleach decontamination.

<u>Conclusions</u>: Test methods were developed to show that hot, humid air effectively inactivates *B. anthracis* <u>A</u>Sterne and *B. thuringiensis* Al Hakam spores with similar kinetics.

<u>Significance and Impact of the Study</u>: Hot, humid air is a potential alternative to conventional chemical decontamination.

- C&Q: Decontamination and mechanisms that destroy spores differ by approach. According to FIFRA, surrogates should be as resistant as or slightly more resistant than the agent they are meant to represent. The appropriateness of any surrogate should first be verified for any decon approach, using side-by-side studies. Surrogates should not be chosen based upon their genetic homology to an agent or their similarities with regards to cellular architecture. Surrogates must be chosen based upon similarities in kill kinetics, when using them for decon studies. Exosporiums have been shown by Thompson et al. not to confer chemical, heat, or UV resistance. Did you first check the similarities with regards to heat resistance of Bt Al Hakam when compared to virulent strains of B. anthracis?
- A: Agree, surrogates should be chosen based on similar resistance. We picked a temperature/RH/exposure length because we knew had complete kill; than reduced temp/RH based on info from manufacturers to preserve integrity of materials.
- C: The US Air Force brought this technology to the researchers; a full-scale demonstration will begin May 2014 based on trials performed on two different aircraft; method will heat both sides of the aircraft (interior and exterior) inside a portable hangar in a controlled manner.
- C: Thermophiles were used in the initial trial but they did not survive as well; data are available, though.
- C: One should find a surrogate that is very close to actual Ba to avoid having to raise temperature or relative humidity higher than needed.

# Aerosol Delivery of Liquid Decontaminants: A Novel Approach for Decontamination of Complex Interior Spaces

Mark Tucker | Sandia National Laboratories

#### Abstract

A fundamental technology gap exists for the decontamination of chemical and biological warfare agents in "hardto-reach places" such as aircraft interiors, other vehicle platforms, and other complex interior spaces. Direct application of liquid formulations to these spaces is difficult. Therefore, methods such as gas- or vapor-based technologies are better suited to decontaminate these spaces. However, most gas and vapor technologies have significant shortcomings because they are toxic and/or corrosive and can be difficult to deploy.

Liquid decontaminants have a greater flexibility in formulation than gas- or vapor-phase decontaminants and consequently can be made with lower toxicity and corrosivity properties. Typically a liquid decontaminant is directly applied by spraying or foaming making application to hidden surfaces in complex geometries difficult. An alternative to direct application of liquids to surfaces is the use of aerosol-delivered decontaminants. Aerosols can remain airborne for a long enough time to be transported by airflow into hidden regions of complex geometries and in this sense resemble the application of a gas- or vapor-phase decontaminant. Aerosol delivery of decontamination materials is a novel, innovative approach to decontamination allowing liquid decontaminant materials to be delivered to surfaces with complex geometries and hidden areas. This method has the potential to be as effective as toxic and corrosive gas- or vapor- phase decontamination methods with the advantage of a much simpler delivery system using more benign decontamination materials, which can be selected and optimized based on the application and agent of interest.

We have conducted several projects that have significantly advanced the science and understanding of aerosol delivery of liquid decontaminants in complex, confined spaces. Through modeling and experimentation, we have investigated the fundamental parameters of this approach such as droplet penetration, size, charge, deposition rate, and impact angle resulting in a detailed understanding of the process variables. One project, the Aerosolized Activated Hydrogen Peroxide (AAHP) project, was funded by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) with the objective of developing an aerosol system for decontamination of vehicle interiors. Aerosols of modified Sandia-developed DF-200 were deployed in a large test chamber to investigate the effectiveness of penetration of aerosols into small spaces to uniformly coat surfaces. Excellent film uniformity was observed at depths of greater than 24 inches into small, tight spaces. Tests were also conducted using the anthrax simulant *Bacillus globigii* spores to investigate the effectiveness of aerosolized-delivered decontamination formulations in penetrating complex geometries to kill spores. Complete kill of spores occurred in less than one hour with very little decontamination agent. Additionally, a project investigating spore kill with the sequential aerosol-based delivery of a "germination solution" (to cause spores to convert into vegetative cells) followed by aerosol delivery of a mild "kill solution" (to kill the vegetative cells) was conducted. High levels of kill of *Bacillus globigii* spores were also achieved with this method.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

# 19. Concurrent Sessions 5 Water and Waste Water Management Moderated by Marissa Lynch

# Selected Projects of EPA's Homeland Security Research Program (HSRP) for Water and Wastewater Treatment and Decontamination

Matthew Magnuson | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

#### Abstract

Selected results for HSRP projects for drinking water and wastewater treatment and system decontamination following chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) contamination incidents will be briefly presented. Please contact the presenter for more details. Some projects will also be discussed in separate presentations.

# MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT OF COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF CBR CONTAMINATED WATER AND WASTEWATER RESIDUALS:

- Investigation of advanced oxidation processes (AOP) for treatment and disposal of contaminated water prior to release into public sewer (collection) systems. This work studies the ability of AOPs to break down chemical contaminants in order to make the resulting wastewater suitable for public sewer discharge, i.e., so that it does not harm "normal" plant operations.
- 2) Fate of Organophosphates (OPs) in municipal wastewater treatment systems. Investigates the ability of municipal wastewater treatment activated sludge to biodegrade and sorb OPs.
- 3) *Inactivation of Bacillus spores in decontamination wash down wastewater using chlorine bleach solution.* The goal of this work is data that supports National Response Team guidelines for using household bleach to treat wash down wastewater generated during a cleanup of *B. anthracis* spores.
- 4) *Inactivation of bacterial bioterrorism agents in water.* This report summarizes seven drinking water inactivation studies using non-disease causing surrogates for *Bacillus anthracis* and other microbes identified as potential bioterrorism agents.
- 5) *Irreversible wash aid additive for Cs-137 contamination.* The additive consists of a solution to wash down contaminated structures, roadways, and vehicles and a sequestering agent to bind the radionuclides from the wash water and render them environmentally immobile. The sequestering agent also facilitates separation of the radionuclides from the bulk water for transport and disposal.

#### DECONTAMINATION AND RESTORATION OF CRITICAL WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE:

- 1) State of science review of water system decon. This summarizes the publically available research on decontamination of drinking water infrastructure and gives suggestions about what the best path may be for decontamination of CBR contaminants and future research directions.
- 2) Persistence and removal of CBR contaminants from drinking water pipes studied with USEPA's pipe decontamination experimental design (PDED). This work simulates drinking water pipes adsorbing toxic chemicals that are introduced either accidentally or intentionally. The PDED allows multiple labs to generate reproducible and comparable data regarding to adsorption and removal of contaminants.
- 3) Impact of CBR contaminated sediments on flushing and decontamination of drinking water storage facilities. Sediments in water storage tanks and reservoirs can serve as sinks for contaminants and must be taken into account when developing treatment and decontamination strategies. This research is focused on better understanding the adherence and persistence of selected contaminants on storage facility sediments and methods for flushing and decontamination.
- 4) Decision support tools for responding to water distribution incidents. This project examines a combination of isolation and flushing strategies to develop response action plans. It also evaluates response strategies for water distribution systems using computerized simulation studies.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

#### NHSRC Drinking Water Infrastructure Decontamination Overview

**Jeff Szabo (Presenter)**, Scott Minamyer | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

#### Abstract

EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC) recently released a report titled "Decontamination of Drinking Water Infrastructure: A Literature Review and Summary". This report summarizes data from the open literature on chemical, biological and radiological contaminant persistence on drinking water infrastructure and the effectiveness of decontamination methods. The report includes suggestions for future research based on current data gaps and provides insight into how persistence and decontamination data could be applied to a real contamination event. Using the report results, this presentation will include a summary of the present state of decontamination research in drinking water for chemical, biological and radiological agents. Data will be presented for nine chemical agents. Biological agents will be divided into spore forming bacteria, vegetative bacteria and viruses. Radiological agents will include cesium, strontium and cobalt. The presentation will also cover the future direction of decontamination research in drinking water systems for NHSRC. This discussion will include the proposed work in the decontamination pipe loop at the Test and Evaluation Facility in Cincinnati, OH as well as the Water Security Test Bed at Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho Falls, ID.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: You said that the radiological materials were only effectively removed under acidic conditions. Can you clarify what is meant by acidic?
- A: This is only referring to Co; other materials were not tested. Acidic meant about pH of 2. Changes from Co-2 to Co-3 makes Co insoluble.
- Q: In the literature review everything is in public domain. Are there concerns about providing information?
- A: Yes, there is a concern. This information goes through an intense security review before release to the public.

# Demonstration of Unit Operations for the Irreversible Wash Aid Additive for Cs-137 Contamination

Michael Kaminski (Presenter) | Argonne National Laboratory Matthew Magnuson | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center Jack Schwalbach | Separmatic Filter Systems Dennis Barkenmeyer | HESCO Bastion Environmental, Inc.

#### Abstract

The Irreversible Wash Aid Additive process has been under development by the U.S. EPA and Argonne National Laboratory. The process for radioactive cesium mitigation consists of a solution to wash down contaminated structures, roadways, and vehicles and a sequestering agent to bind the radionuclides from the wash water and render them environmentally immobile. The sequestering agent also facilitates separation of the radionuclides from the bulk water for transport and disposal. The wash solution is designed to be easily disseminated by first responders using eductors and nozzles already used by firefighters to distribute foaming agent.

To elaborate, the wash solution consists of a salt solution with a surfactant additive to improve the wettability of asphalt and other hydrophobic surfaces. The salts that we found work best are potassium and ammonium. A saturated, surfactant brine can be created in smaller tanks and drawn into a fire hose by the educator system to achieve the desired salt concentration (>0.1 molarity and preferably 0.5M molarity).

Based on the literature and experiments, the sequestering agents of choice are montmorillonite and vermiculite clay with vermiculite being preferred. The clay is distributed across the ground in the affected zone and within the artificial reservoirs set-up downgrade from the wash activities.

We expect to contain the contaminated water for filtration and reuse by deploying a system of berms to create reservoirs at the street level. As the wash waters and clay material collect in the reservoirs, we will begin slurry collection and filtration operations. From experiment, we expect up to 80% of the cesium to be bound within the

clay sequestering agent within the reservoir. Additional separations can reduce contamination levels to permit wash water reuse or disposal.

Disposal of materials is a key aspect of the technology. By using the clay and filtration system, we can be reasonably assured that the wash waters will be suitable for direct disposal as treated waters (not low-level radioactive liquid waste).

Recently, the process was demonstrated at the Wide-Area Recovery and Resiliency Program meeting under the Department of Homeland Security and the Denver Urban Area Security Initiative. We down-selected technologies for integration and demonstration at the pilot-scale level. The scope of the demonstration included the primary unit operations of the Irreversible Wash Aid Additive technology -- wash down, collection, and filtration of "radioactive" wash waters. With the technologies selected, we coordinated with local city and public works officials, regional EPA, and federal officials to establish a location for the demonstration and logistics for receipt of materials. We will summarize the demonstration and the lesson's learned.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: In real world application, is there a necessity for more contact between material and the water; does the decanted water [which contains the radionuclides] have enough contact for sufficient mixing?
- A: I don't think there is sufficient contact as shown here. The clay settles quickly and a lot of it might not be • transported to the filtration system but there are ways of improving the mixing. People that remove sludge out of cooling towers have a similar problem, and they have a pump system that circulates water continuously within the basin so there is always a slurry instead of supernatant. Thus, [the system shown here] could have a mixing system added on the front end to ensure good mixing, followed by transport of the slurry into the filtration system.
- Q: When washing the truck, it collected 6-8 inches of water. How long would it take to pump 6-8 inches of water?
- A: I don't have a per-horsepower of pump measurement, but the size of the pump is the limitation. No one [commercial firm] has the ability to store big inventory of large pumps; that is the limit on the flow through. The biggest of the pumps are made to order.
- Q: Did you observe any leakage?
- A: There was a bit of leakage that we saw. The surface was fairly smooth with the setup of the berm across a • divot to see how it did. That wasn't where the leakage was. Leakage [the water seen outside the berm] might have only been from original water pumping. Berms [from this supplier] are designed for the containment of water despite a large head behind them. They [the supplier] were confident [because of the normal deployment scenarios for the berms] that they would work even on city streets with curbs and irregularities.

## Radiocesium, Radiostrontium and Radiocobalt Sorption/Desorption on Components of **Drinking Water Distribution Systems**

A. Konoplev, V. Popov, I. Stepina (Presenter) | RPA "Typhoon" J. Szabo | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Homeland Security Research Center

#### Abstract

The objective of the work is to investigate the fate of dissolved radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt deposited on components of drinking water distribution systems (iron, copper, plastic and concrete pipes) for developing effective decontamination techniques and strategies. The research was performed in frame of International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) Project # 4007.

Sections of drinking water pipes made of four different materials: iron, concrete lined iron, copper and polyvinylchloride have been mounted vertically in the lab and fed from the bottom by a radionuclide solution in tap water using a peristaltic pump MasterFlex 77120-62. The experiments were designed so that the water pipe could be regarded as a closed or open-type chemical reactors.

It was found that radionuclide distribution in the tap water - water supply pipe system strongly depends on the pipe material. <sup>60</sup>Co was sorbed very well by all types of pipes except the copper pipe. Only 1.5-3% of the spiked <sup>60</sup>Co is desorbed by tap water. Note should also be made of the high sorption of <sup>85</sup>Sr by two types of iron pipes (the sorption being 98%). The desorption of <sup>85</sup>Sr from these pipes by tap water was only 2.5-4.5%. The sorption of <sup>137</sup>Cs by plastic pipe was not high and equal to 2.9%, and practically all sorbed <sup>137</sup>Cs was desorbed by tap water. About 30% of <sup>137</sup>Cs was sorbed and 7% desorbed by the iron pipe without coating.

The use of 0.1M solution of tartaric acid for decontaminating these pipes is an effective measure for their decontamination from radionuclides besides concrete lined iron pipe because of neutralizing of the acid by coating. 0.1M EDTA solution was found as efficient desorbing agent for <sup>60</sup>Co from the pipes. This solution extracted all sorbed <sup>60</sup>Co from the iron pipes, and about 80% of <sup>60</sup>Co from concrete and plastic pipes.

#### There were no questions for this presenter.

# 20. General Session 5 Foreign Animal Disease Research Moderated by Joe Wood and Benjamin Franco

Decontamination of Agricultural Facilities Following a Bioterrorism Attack or Disease Outbreak: Learning from Outbreaks of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Virginia Gary Flory (Presenter), Robert Peer | Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

#### Abstract

The food supply represents a high-risk vulnerability for every nation. The food and agricultural sector of the U.S. economy contributes as much as \$1 trillion to the Gross Domestic Product and accounts for an estimated 15 percent of the total workforce. The decontamination of agricultural facilities following infection—either intentional or unintentional—with biological agents poses a significant challenge to recovery.

Outbreaks of low pathogenic avian influenza in Virginia in 1983, 1999, 2002 and 2007 have resulted in the development of decontamination protocols that have been tested and improved under full-scale disease eradication conditions. These same procedures can provide valuable insights when preparing facility decontamination protocols for other biological agents.

This presentation will address lessons learned from the Virginia experience and include the following topics to support the development and enhancement of agricultural facility decontamination procedures:

- Timing of depopulation and carcass disposal activities
- On-site and off-site carcass disposal methods
- Transportation of infected materials
- Litter/manure management
- Sealing structures and controlling access
- Pest management inside and outside of the effected structures
- Cleaning structures and equipment
- Disinfectant selection
- Disinfecting large areas
- Disinfecting porous surfaces

- Environmental sampling
- Quarantine release

It is our desire that sharing these lessons and supporting the transfer of these principles to broader biological agent response efforts will result in a higher level of preparedness and as a result, reduce the desirability of the use of these agents by those wishing to do us harm.

Questions, Answers, and Comments

- Q: How did Virginia facilitate cooperation between agricultural and environmental agencies and the agricultural industry?
- A: A Poultry Disease Task Force was developed in Virginia following the 2002 outbreak to keep processes up-todate and ensure readiness. We have now created a task force for large animal industry and found that establishing relationships between agencies is key.
- Q: In Virginia, who pays for depopulation, disposal and decontamination procedures following a disease outbreak like Avian Influenza?
- A: Because Virginia has an approved avian influenza response plan, our activities were funded by the Indemnity Program through the Federal Government.

## Animal Disease Outbreak Emergency Response

Michael Mayes (Presenter), Jimmy Tickel | North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

#### Abstract

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) has been tasked as the lead agency to research logistical issues related to a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) outbreak in the United States. The logistical issues of the project are transporting, permitting, decontamination, and disposal of diseased animal carcasses.

This project focuses on developing a model of best transportation guidelines for hauling diseased cargo intra and interstate as the need would arise during an outbreak. This effort, entitled "Animal Disease Outbreak Emergency Response Logistical Infrastructure – North Carolina Region", will focus on the dairy and swine industries. This is part of an umbrella project in which West Texas A&M will research the same logistical issues within the beef cattle industry.

Of primary concern are how to decontaminate vehicles prior to and during transport, as well as equipment and personnel at disposal facilities. The project will look at issues regarding decontamination of all facilities and equipment after the outbreak is contained. Furthermore, the project will consider how to safely move infected carcasses without further disease propagation.

To insure a national perspective and gain consensus, experts from the State of North Carolina will collaborate with other states' experts to identify areas for movement of infected carcasses within the guidelines established by this project. In this project, a draft model will be designed within North Carolina using experts from the state, and then with collaboration with other states' experts across the nation, information will be gathered to refine and expand the draft model. The final model will be offered to USDA as a best guidelines approach to safely transport and dispose of infected carcasses.

- Q: Is this effort pointing towards on-farm composting?
- A: Yes, composting is an option.
- C: The sequence and timing of the process is complicated and variable.

## Portable Vehicle Wash Tunnel Bob Henderson | Integrated Solutions For Systems (IS4S)

#### No slides were made available for inclusion.

#### Abstract

Highly contagious foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreaks such as Foot and Mouth Disease and Vesicular Stomatitis for cattle and highly pathogenic avian influenza for poultry can have devastating impacts on export markets, the economic stability of farms, and world confidence in the integrity of the US food supply. Lost export business, and containment and eradication costs are the main sources of financial loss. If not contained in a timely manner, a single outbreak can wreak havoc in the marketplace and invoke long term financial and logistic impacts.

Complete recovery from the disease is not complete until the outbreak is contained and the pathogen(s) are eliminated. The primary means of spreading FAD are through the movement of contaminated material such as soil, animal bedding, or infected livestock through human and vehicular transport. Rapid boundary and access control with effective disinfection at ingress/egress points is the key to minimizing propagation.

Disinfection of humans and vehicles is difficult and expensive. Conventional portable vehicle wash stations are large, difficult to transport, and require substantial human and logistic support. The costs of decontamination necessarily increase the overall cost of the containment effort for as long as the outbreak continues.

The Portable Vehicle Wash Tunnel system provides a reliable, easily deployable, autonomous vehicle wash system that can rapidly disinfect small and large vehicles at a reasonable cost. The tunnel can disinfect a 70 ft, 18 wheeled heavy truck in less than 13 minutes at a cost of approximately \$34.15. At full capacity, a single tunnel can process over 110 heavy trucks or 240 passenger cars every 24 hours. This represents a significant reduction in cost and time over conventional decontamination methods.

The Portable Vehicle Wash Tunnel system is available in short (35 ft.) and long (80 ft.) lengths. Both are available in single and dual lane versions, and all variants are transportable in a small trailer. All be deployed by two to four people in less than 4 hours. The system is fully autonomous and can be operated bi-directionally. Other applications include rapid response decontamination for vehicles and people during bio-terrorism attacks and nuclear plant incidents.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

- C: A full-scale wheel wash and tread wash system might be implemented later.
- C: The tunnel is divided into three zones and the middle zone is the largest. It is subdivided into six zones, however, it cannot shut off the top wash only.
- C: The beginning of a wash outside the tunnel is a common approach. Any reaerosolization/spread of pathogens during that process is going into the contaminated area. One could add a section onto the tunnel as area for triage.
- C: To clean farm equipment in a cold setting, it takes four people who could work maximum of two hours at a time. The process took four hours to complete. Assuming the labor rate & benefits is \$100/hr/person, replacing that setup with one of these units is paid for quickly.

Combustion of Contaminated Livestock in a Pilot-Scale Air Curtain Burner P. Lemieux (Presenter), J. Wood, W. Calfee | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency B. Hall | ARCADIS

#### Abstract

In the event of a foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak, the response will likely include decontamination of agricultural sites, depopulation of affected livestock, and disposal of the resulting animal carcasses. For highly

contagious FADs such as foot and mouth disease (FMD) virus, on-farm disposal is preferred so that additional contamination is minimized. One transportable technology for on-farm disposal of contaminated animal carcasses is air curtain burners (ACBs). ACBs are mobile incinerators that utilize the general concept that a highvolume sheet of air is blown at a slight downward angle across the top of, and into, an open-topped combustion vessel. The air serves a dual purpose: 1) combustion is enhanced (when compared to open burning) by providing a steady supply of forced excess air with turbulent mixing resulting in higher temperatures and more thorough consumption of the solid materials used as fuel as well as any other combustible materials fed into the burn chamber (e.g., animal carcasses); and 2) the injection of the air at a slightly incident angle forms a "curtain" that creates a recirculation zone that serves to encourage burnout of unburned materials prior to release into the atmosphere. ACBs have been deployed on numerous occasions by the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the reduction of vegetative waste and in some cases for destruction of animal carcasses. ACBs can be mobilized to where they're needed as a potential means of reducing the waste volume while minimizing potentially harmful environmental impacts and spread of pathogens. This presentation reports on a series of tests at the pilot-scale, to identify and analyze operational issues as well as efficacy of spore destruction while processing large amounts of animal carcasses in an ACB. The tests utilized Cornish game hens as the animal carcasses, which were inoculated with G. stearothermophilus spores. A combination of aerosol and wipe sampling was used to characterize residual spores remaining after the test burns.

#### Questions, Answers, and Comments

• C: There is limited data for these air curtain burners on a field scale; the state of Virginia has data after burning 641,000 carcasses that they could share; also a high interest in viral surrogates was expressed.

# APPENDIX A Agenda

DAY 1: TUESDAY, November 5, 2013 Auditorium, C-111		
7:30 AM	Registration Begins	
8:15 AM	Welcome and LogisticsShawn Ryan, Lukas Oudejans   U.S. Environmental Protection AgencyHomeland Security from the EPA's Office of Research and Development PerspectiveLek Kadeli   U.S. Environmental Protection AgencyPurpose and Objectives of the ConferenceGregory Sales   U.S. Environmental Protection AgencyIntroduction of the Keynote SpeakerPeter Jutro   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
9:00 AM	Keynote SpeakerDecontamination: Can You Tell Decision Makers What They Need to Know After (and Before) a CBRNAttack?Richard Danzig   Former Secretary of the Navy and Vice-Chair of the RAND Corporation Board of trustees	
9:45–10:10	Break	
General Ses Auditorium, C	sion 1—Outcome Tabletop Exercise, Guidance, and Response -111. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Hiba Ernst and Richard Rupert	
10:10 AM	The Role of the Private Sector in the Assessment and Remediation of Areas Impacted by a CBRNE Incident Carl Brown   Environment Canada	
10:35 AM	U.K. Recovery Guidance and Advice for the Remediation of the Environment Following a Chemical Incident (The U.K. Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents) Stacey Wyke   Public Health England	
11:00 AM	Cleaning up Afterwards. The UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents Alan Bennett   Public Health England	
11:25 AM	Research Activities of the Japan National Institute of Environmental Studies on Fukushima NuclearPower Plant AccidentNoriuki Suzuki   National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan	
11:50-1:00	Lunch	
1:00 PM	Hazard Mitigation Science and Technology Program for the DoD Chemical and Biological Defense Program (CBDP) Charles Bass   Defense Threat Reduction Agency	
1:25 PM	<b>U.K. Government Decontamination Service (GDS)</b> Sara Casey   <i>Government Decontamination Service, United Kingdom</i>	
1:50 PM	Biological Response and Recovery Science and Technology Roadmap Brooke Pearson   Cubic Applications, Inc.	
General Ses Auditorium, C	sion 2—Decision Support Tools -111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Leroy Mickelsen and Timothy Boe.	
2:00 PM	Utilization of the QUIC Urban T&D Modeling System for Pre-Planning, Sensor Siting, and Post-Event	

	Analysis of CBR Dispersal Events Michael Brown   Los Alamos National Laboratory	
2:20 PM	A Comprehensive Decision Support Tool for Agricultural Security Robert Knowlton   Sandia National Laboratories	
2:30 PM	Toward Feasible Sampling Plans Landon Sego   Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	
2:40-3:00	Break	
3:00 PM	Decision Support Toolset for Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Crisis Management Brooke Pearson   Cubic Applications, Inc.	
3:10 PM	Tactical Dynamic Operational Guided Sampling (TacDOGS) Tool for the Transatlantic CollaborativeBiological Resiliency Demonstration (TaCBRD) ProgramDan Dutrow   John Hopkins University APL	
3:20 PM	Decon ST: Decontamination Strategy and Technology Selection Tool Donna Edwards   Sandia National Laboratories	
3:30 PM	Carcass Management Decision Support Tools Brooke Pearson   Cubic Applications, Inc.	
3:40 PM	Waste Estimation Support Tool: An Overview, Updates, and Demonstration Timothy Boe   Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education	
3:50 PM	Interactive All Hazards Waste Management Plan Development Tool Anna Tschursin   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
4:00 PM	Panel Discussion	
4:30 PM	Decision Support Tools Demonstration: Auditorium, C111 A/B/C and C114	
5:30 PM	Day 1 Adjourns	

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2013				
8:00 AM	Reflections on Day 1			
General Ses	General Session 3–Risk Communication and Systems Approach			
Auditorium, C	-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Bre	ndan Doyle		
8:15 AM	Professional and Public Perceptions of Information Needs During a Drinking Water Contamination Event			
8:40 AM	Perceptions of Risk Communication Messages During a Long-Term Biological Remediation Charlena Bowling   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency			
9:05 AM	A Systems Approach to Characterizing the Social Environment for Decontamination and Resilience Keely Maxwell   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency			
General Session 3—Food Safety-Decontamination and Disposal Issues Auditorium, C-111. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Brendan Doyle				
9:30 AM	Intentional Contamination of Food: Detection, Decontamination, and Disposal Research and Needs Nicholas Bauer   Food Safety and Inspection Service			
9:55–10:20	Break			
Concurrent Sessions 1				
	Biological Agent Decontamination	Chemical Agent Sampling and Detection		
	Auditorium, C-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Shawn Ryan	C-113 Presentations and Q&A moderated by Stuart Willison		
10:20 AM	Auditorium, C-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Shawn Ryan Smart Aqueous Gels and Foams for RB Decontamination Sylvain Faure   CEA Marcoule, France	C-113 Presentations and Q&A moderated by Stuart Willison Decontamination Screening Techniques Used At U.S. Army Chemical Agent Disposal Facilities and Applications for Clearing Contaminated Areas Theodore Ruff   Centers for Disease Control and Prevention		
10:20 AM 10:45 AM	Auditorium, C-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Shawn Ryan Smart Aqueous Gels and Foams for RB Decontamination Sylvain Faure   CEA Marcoule, France Anthrax Decontamination of a Mock Office Using Low Level Chlorine Dioxide Fumigation Matthew Clayton   ARCADIS	C-113 Presentations and Q&A moderated by Stuart Willison Decontamination Screening Techniques Used At U.S. Army Chemical Agent Disposal Facilities and Applications for Clearing Contaminated Areas Theodore Ruff   Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Multi-Laboratory Study of Analytical Protocols for Chemical Warfare Agents in Environmental Matrices Romy Campisano   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency		

11:35 AM	Gruinard Island Returns to Civil Use Stephen Hibbs   Defence Science & Technology Laboratories, United Kingdom	Advancing the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer Fitted with an Atmospheric Pressure Chemical Ionization (APCI) Source to Provide Analytical Assistance for a Chemical Warfare Agent (CWA) Release Dave Mickunas   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
12:00-1:00	Lunch	
Concurrent	Sessions 2	
	Biological Agent Sampling and Detection Auditorium, C-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Worth Calfee	Radiological Agent Fate, Transport, and Decontamination C-113. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Jeff Szabo
1:00 PM	Development of Processing Protocols for Vacuum Sampling Devices Laura Rose   Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Migration of Radiocesium, Radiostrontium and Radiocobalt in Urban Building Materials and their Wash-Off by Rainwater Aleksei Konoplev   <i>RPA "Typhoon", Russia</i>
1:25 PM	Evaluation of Surface Sampling for Bacillus Spores Using Commercially-Available Cleaning Robots Leroy Mickelsen   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Scalability Challenges for Deployment of Commercially Available Radiological Decontamination Technologies in the Wide Area Urban Environment John Drake   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1:50 PM	Evaluation of Commercial Off the Shelf (COTS) Biological Detection Technologies for Transition to First Responder Community Rachel Bartholomew   Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	Sorption and Speciation of <sup>137</sup> Cs, <sup>60</sup> Co and <sup>85</sup> Sr in Building Materials Katerina Maslova   <i>RPA "Typhoon", Russia</i>
2:15 PM	Evaluation of Effect of Decontamination Agents on the Rapid Viability PCR Method for Detection of Bacillus Anthracis Spores Sanjiv Shah   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Humic Acid-Based Sorbents for Area Decontamination Andrey Sosnov   NP OrCheMed, Russia; presented by Carl Brown   Environment Canada

Poster Session Building B Atrium		
2:40-4:00	<b>Poster</b> Join us	Session of the Decontamination R&D Conference in the Building B Atrium to view posters and interact with poster presenters.
	1	Surface and Vapour Decontamination by Aerosolized Micro-Emulsion Decontaminant
	2	Development of Solid Peracetic Acid (PES-Solid) for Decontamination
	3	On-Site qPCR for Detection of Biological Threat Agents – Sources of Measurement Uncertainty
	4	Survival and Demise of Biological or Chemical Agents in Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Leachate
	5	Method of Improving Chemical Resistance of Coatings by Surface Modification.
	6	Sample Sizes and Placement of Tests Following Building / Area Decontamination
	7	Technology Evaluation of Army Toxicity Sensors
	8	Identification of Hazard Mitigation Agents to Neutralize Dry Powder Biological Materials
	9	Decontamination of Surfaces Exposed to Organophosphates by Vapor Phase Hydrogen Pe
	10	Rapid Uptake of Cesium and Americium by Sequestering Agents from Complex Decontamination Solutions
	11	Energy Density-Response Relationships of Bacterial Spores to Ultraviolet Radiation: a Test of Haber's Law
	12	Can You Beat a Garden Sprayer? Novel Methods of Decontamination of <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> Contaminated Soil
	13	Degradation of Aerosolized BG Spores via Ultraviolet Light
	14	Use of Fixatives to Prevent Bacillus anthracis Spore Reaerosolization
	15	I-WASTE: EPA's Suite of Homeland Security Decision Support Tools for Waste and Disaster Debris Management and Disposal
	16	Assessment of Contamination Following Simulated Chemical and Biological Attacks in a Public Building
	17	Screening <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> Isolates for Characteristics that Simulate <i>B. anthracis</i> and are Useful for Environmental Tests
	18	Decontamination of Materials Contaminated with <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> and <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> Al Hakam Spores Using PES-Solid, a Solid Source of Peracetic Acid
	19	UV-C Decontamination of Aerosolized and Surface Bound Single Spores and Bioclusters
	20	Decontamination, Decommissioning and Closure of the U.S. Chemical Stockpile Disposal Facilities

Concurrent Sessions 3		
	Biological Agent Fate and Transport Auditorium, C-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Marshall Gray	Chemical Agent Fate, Persistence and Transport C-113. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Larry Kaelin
4:00 PM	Reaerosolisation of Bacterial Spores from Indoor Surfaces Allan Bennett   Public Health England	Predictive Modeling of Transport Processes at Environmental Interfaces Following Chemical or Radiological Contamination James Hunt
4:25 PM	Informing Response and Recovery Decisions: The Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE), A Program Overview Marshall Gray   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Adsorption and Desorption of Chemical Warfare Agents on Activated Carbons: Impact of Temperature and Relative Humidity Lukas Oudejans   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
4:40 PM	Quantitative Analysis of Resuspension Russell Wiener   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
5:05 PM	Experimental and Sampling Design for a Quantitative Investigation of the Resuspension of Anthrax and Surrogates under Controlled Conditions Alfred Eisner   ALION	
5:30 PM	Day 2 Adjourns	

DAY 3: THURSDAY, November 7, 2013			
General Session 4—Low Tech/Self Help Auditorium, C-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Emily Snyder and Charlie Fitzsimmons			
8:00 AM	Assessment of RDD Contamination Removal from Laundering Soft Porous and Bulky Materials Karen Riggs   Battelle		
8:25 AM	<b>Evaluation of Compressed Air Dusting and Vacuuming for Radiological Decontamination of Sensitive</b> <b>Equipment</b> Ryan James   <i>Battelle</i>		
8:50 AM	<b>Efficacy of Sporicidal Wipes on Select Surfaces</b> Kathryn Meyer   <i>Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education</i>		
9:15 AM	Inactivation of Bacillus Spores in Decontamination Wash Down Wastewater using Chlorine Bleach Solution Vincente Gallardo   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency		
9:40–10:00	Break		
Concurrent	Sessions 4		
	Biological Agent Persistence Auditorium, C-111A/B/C Presentations and Q&A moderated by Matthew Magnuson	Chemical Agent Decontamination C-113 Presentations and Q&A moderated by Lukas Oudejans	
10:00 AM	A Large-Scale Soil Survey of Genetic Markers Associated with <i>Bacillus Anthracis</i> and Bacillus Species Across the Contiguous United States: A Joint USGS/USEPA Project Dale Griffin   U.S. Geological Survey	Developing Decontamination Tools and Approaches to Address Indoor Pesticide Contamination from Improper Bed Bug Treatments Dan Stout   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
10:25 AM	Persistence of Vegetative Bacillus Anthracis with and without Challenges in Lewisite Decontamination Sturnation Sturnatin Sturnatin Sturnatin Sturnation Sturnation Sturnation Sturnation		
Water and Waste Water Management			
10:50 AM	Investigation into U.K. Capability to Manage Contaminated Water Carmel Ramwell   Food and Environment Research Agency, United Kingdom	Advanced Absorbent Wipes for Personnel and Personal Equipment Decontamination Stuart Notman   Defence Science & Technology Laboratories, United Kingdom	
11:15 AM	<b>Decontamination for the Water Sector</b> Marissa Lynch   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Large Panel CWA Efficacy Testing of Hazard Mitigation Products and Processes Adam Judd   Battelle	
11:40 AM	Lunch		

Concurrent Sessions 5				
	Biological Agent Decontamination Auditorium, C-111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Sanjiv Shah	Water and Waste Water Management C-113. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Marissa Lynch		
1:00 PM	<b>Decontamination of Soil Contaminated with</b> <b>Bacillus Anthracis Spores</b> Joe Wood   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Selected Projects of EPA's Homeland Security Research Program (HSRP) for Water and Wastewater Treatment and Decontamination Matthew Magnuson   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency		
1:25 PM	Decontamination of Nursery Potting Soil with Chlorine Dioxide Craig Ramsey   U.S. Department of Agriculture	NHSRC Drinking Water Infrastructure Decontamination Overview Jeff Szabo   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency		
1:50 PM	Test Method Development to Evaluate Hot, Humid Air Decontamination of Materials Contaminated with Bacillus Anthracis ΔSterne and B. Thuringiensis Al Hakam Spores Alice Young   Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division	Demonstration of Unit Operations for the Irreversible Wash Aid Additive for Cs-137 Contamination Mike Kaminski   Argonne National Laboratory		
2:15 PM	Aerosol Delivery of Liquid Decontaminants: A Novel Approach for Decontamination of Complex Interior Spaces Mark Tucker   Sandia National Laboratories	Radiocesium, Radiostrontium and Radiocobalt Sorption/Desorption on Components of Drinking Water Distribution Systems Irina Stepina   RPA "Typhoon", Russia		
2:40-3:00	Break			
General Ses Auditorium, C	ssion 5 - Foreign Animal Disease Research -111A/B/C. Presentations and Q&A moderated by Joe	Wood and Benjamin Franco		
3:00 PM	<b>Decontamination of Agricultural Facilities Following a Bioterrorism Attack or Disease Outbreak:</b> <b>Learning from Outbreaks of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Virginia</b> Gary Flory   Virginia Department of Environmental Quality			
3:25 PM	Animal Disease Outbreak Emergency Response Michael Mayes   North Carolina Department of Agriculture			
3:50 PM	Portable Vehicle Wash Tunnel Bob Henderson   Integrated Solutions for Systems			
4:15 PM	<b>Combustion of Contaminated Livestock in a Pilot-Scale Air Curtain Burner</b> Paul Lemieux   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency			
4:40 PM	Final Remarks			
5:00 PM	Conference Adjourns	Conference Adjourns		

# APPENDIX B Attendance

Name	Affiliation
Nancy Adams	Self, U.S.
Bruce Akers	North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, U.S.
Brian Allen	Missouri Department of Natural Resources, U.S.
Linda Ang	DSO National Laboratories, Singapore
Anthony Arkell	U.K. Government Decontamination Service
Donald Bansleben	Department of Homeland Security, U.S.
Rachel Bartholomew	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, U.S.
Charles Bass	Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), U.S.
William Batt	CTTSO/TSWG, U.S.
Nicholas Bauer	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service
William Bell	TDA Research, Inc., U.S.
Allan Bennett	Public Health England (formerly Health Protection Agency)
Doris Betancourt	U.S. EPA
Nathan Birnbaum	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Timothy Boe	Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Technology, U.S. EPA
Charlena Bowling	U.S. EPA
Eletha Brady-Roberts	U.S. EPA
Carl Brown	Environment Canada

Name	Affiliation
Michael Brown	Los Alamos National Laboratory, U.S.
Kelly Brown	MRIGlobal, U.S.
Tony Buhr	Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division, U.S.
David Burford	EPA START, U.S.
Erik Burnett	U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM)
Kathryn Burns	Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division, U.S.
Joan Bursey	U.S. EPA
Kirkley Cain	U.S. EPA
Worth Calfee	U.S. EPA
Romy Campisano	U.S. EPA
Joseph Cappello	CUBRC, U.S.
Michael Carpenter	Idaho National Laboratory, U.S.
Sara Casey	U.K. Government Decontamination Service
Kevin Choe	We Green, Inc, South Korea
Matthew Clayton	ARCADIS, U.S.
Teresa Cremer	BioSAFE Engineering, U.S.
Beverly Cusworth	Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division, U.S.
Sandra Da Silva	National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S.
Joe Dalmasso	Yakibou, Inc.
Richard Danzig	Former Secretary of the Navy and Vice-Chair of the RAND Corporation

Name	Affiliation
Matthew Davenport	The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics University, U.S.
Wendy Davis-Hoover	U.S. EPA
Amy Dean	JPEO-CBD, U.S.
Jeff Dellinger	North Carolina DHHS Public Health, U.S.
Brendan Doyle	U.S. EPA
John Drake	U.S. EPA
Erin Durke Davis	OptiMetrics, Inc./A DCS Corp., U.S.
Dan Dutrow	The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, U.S.
Rovelyn Dytioco	Boeing, U.S.
Donna Edwards	Sandia National Laboratories, U.S.
Alfred Eisner	ALION, U.S.
Hiba Ernst	U.S. EPA
Anthony Evans	FBI, U.S.
Susan Fairchild	U.S. EPA
Sylvain Faure	Commissariat for Atomic Energy and Alternative Energies (CEA), France
Richard Fitzpatrick	CUBRC, U.S.
Charlie Fitzsimmons	U.S. EPA
Gary Flory	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, U.S.
Francois Fontaine	National Institute of Environmental & Industrial Risks (INERIS), France
Brian France	TDA Research, Inc., U.S.
Benjamin Franco	U.S. EPA

Name	Affiliation
Vicente Gallardo	U.S. EPA
Christopher Gallo	U.S. EPA
Jerome Gilberry	RTI International, U.S.
Marshall Gray	U.S. Public Health Services - U.S. EPA
Jayson Griffin	U.S. EPA
Dale Griffin	U.S. Geological Survey
Nicole Griffin Gatchalian	ARCADIS, U.S.
Robert Henderson	Integrated Solutions for Systems, U.S.
Stephen Hibbs	DSTL Porton Down, U.K.
Art Hin	METSS Corporation
Nagahisa Hirayama	National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan
James Hunt	Consultant, U.S.
Ryan James	Battelle, U.S.
Shalini Jayasundera	CSC, U.S.
Adam Judd	Battelle, U.S.
Peter Jutro	U.S. EPA
Lek Kadeli	U.S. EPA
Lawrence Kaelin	U.S. EPA
Michael Kaminski	Argonne National Laboratory, U.S.
Amit Kapoor	First Line Technology
Melissa Kaps	U.S. EPA
David Karaolis	National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center (NBACC), U.S.
Thomas Kelly	Battelle, U.S.
Jeff Kempter	U.S. EPA (Retired)

Name	Affiliation
Aimee Ketner	Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division, U.S.
Sean Kinahan	The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, U.S.
Robert Knowlton	Sandia National Laboratories, U.S.
Dean Komm	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Aleksei Konoplev	RPA "Typhoon", Russia
Marek Kuzma	Institute of Microbiology, Czech Republic
Shawn Lafferty	U.S. EPA
Ross Leadbetter	University of North Carolina, U.S.
Sang Don Lee	U.S. EPA
Johannes Lee	ARCADIS, U.S.
Paul Lemieux	U.S. EPA
Laurene Levy	U.S.D.A., Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Hoo Li Wei	Ministry of Home Affairs, Singapore
Kai Yun Lim	National Environment Agency, Singapore
Alan Lindquist	U.S. EPA
Jin Phang Jimmy Loh	DSO National Laboratories, Singapore
Marissa Lynch	U.S. EPA
Matthew Magnuson	U.S. EPA
Blair Martin	U.S. EPA (Retired)
Katerina Maslova	RPA "Typhoon", Russia
Keely Maxwell	U.S. EPA

Name	Affiliation					
Michael Mayes	North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, U.S.					
Katrina McConkey	Booz Allen Hamilton, U.S.					
Tanya Medley	U.S. EPA					
Kathryn Meyer	Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Technology, U.S. EPA					
James Michael	U.S. EPA (Retired)					
Leroy Mickelsen	U.S. EPA					
David Mickunas	U.S. EPA					
Lori Miller	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Homeland Security					
Ong Ming Kwei	Singapore National Environment Agency					
Shoji Nakayama	National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan					
Tonya Nichols	U.S. EPA					
Stuart Notman	DSTL, U.K.					
Brian O'Donnell	Joint Project Manager for Elimination, U.S.					
Jeremy OKelly	FBI, U.S.					
Tim Oliver	Cooper Zietz Engineers, Inc., U.S.					
Lukas Oudejans	U.S. EPA					
Bruno Pagnani	Dynamac Corp., U.S.					
Kurtis Palmer	14th CST (CT-ARNG), U.S					
Lucas Pantaleon	Ogena Solutions, LLC, U.S.					
Greg Parra	U.S.D.A.					
Cayce Parrish	U.S. EPA					
Brooke Pearson	Cubic, U.S.					
Name	Affiliation					
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Karen Pongrance	Excet, Inc., U.S.					
Brent Pulsipher	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, U.S.					
Craig Ramsey	U.S.D.A., Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service					
Carmel Ramwell	The Food and Environment Research Agency, U.K.					
Juan Reyes	U.S. EPA					
Karen Riggs	Battelle, U.S.					
Laura Rose	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention					
Theodore Ruff	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention					
Richard Rupert	U.S. EPA					
Shawn Ryan	U.S. EPA					
Jonathan Sabol	Aberdeen Proving Grounds, U.S.					
Mike Saye	CSC, U.S.					
Greg Sayles	U.S. EPA					
Robin Schubauer	U.S. EPA					
Landon Sego	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, U.S.					
Shannon Serre	U.S. EPA					
Sanjiv Shah	U.S. EPA					
John Shaw	Battelle, U.S.					
Erin Silvestri	U.S. EPA					
Markham Smith	Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), U.S.					
Emily Snyder	U.S. EPA					
Douglas Steele	U.S. EPA					
Irina Stepina	RPA "Typhoon", Russia					

Name	Affiliation				
Harry Stone	Battelle, U.S.				
Daniel Stout II	U.S. EPA				
Kevin Strohmeier	Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection, U.S.				
Mark Sutton	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, U.S.				
Noriyuki Suzuki	National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan				
Jeffrey Szabo	U.S. EPA				
Dennis Tabor	U.S. EPA				
Calvin Terada	U.S. EPA				
Eben Thoma	U.S. EPA				
Jonathan Thornburg	RTI International, U.S.				
Anna Tschursin	U.S. EPA				
Mark Tucker	Sandia National Laboratories, U.S.				
Jenia Tufts	Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Technology, U.S. EPA				
Dana Tulis	U.S. EPA				
Bryan Vasser	EPA START, U.S.				
Howard Walls	RTI International, U.S.				
Russell Wiener	U.S. EPA				
Steven Wilkinson	ChemCentre, Australia				
Stuart Willison	U.S. EPA				
Joseph Wood	U.S. EPA				
Stacey Wyke	Public Health England				
Barbara Wyrzykowska- Ceradini	ARCADIS, U.S.				
Jennifer Yap	National Environment Agency, Singapore				

Name	Affiliation				
Alice Young	Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division, U.S.				

Name	Affiliation				
Cynthia Yund	U.S. EPA				

# APPENDIX C Presentation Slides



# Tuesday, November 5, 2013

# General Session 1

Outcome Tabletop Exercise, Guidance, and Response



# The Role of the Private Sector in the Assessment and Remediation of Areas Impacted by a CBRNE Incident

C.E. Brown\*, P.G. Lambert, M. Goldthorp, and K. Volchek Environment Canada F. Scaffidi, and K. Corriveau Transport Canada N. Yanofsky Defence R&D Canada



#### **Private Sector Engagement**

- Environment Canada, Transport Canada, and Defence R&D Canada's Centre for Security Science have undertaken projects to improve Canada's resilience to potential CBRNE events
- Developed and delivered table-top exercises in Hamilton, ON (2012) and Calgary, AB (2013) with another planned for Montreal, Quebec (November 2013)
- These TTXs examined the role of private industry during the response to a CBRNE event involving emergency services from all levels of government
- The exercises are part of a larger program to integrate private sector capabilities in response to CBRNE events

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#### **Exercise Development**

- Planning for the Hamilton TTX began a year in advance
- Exercise was intended to build CBRNE capability and capacity across a broad range of stakeholders including industry, municipal & provincial governments, the Chemical, Forensic and Explosive CoPs and member departments
- The goal was to target stakeholders in one geographic area who, as a whole, would benefit from participation in the larger scale CBRNE exercises
- The exercise scenario was intentionally designed to;
   meet the specific needs of the local participants.
  - fulfill the goals of the larger private sector engagement program,

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- develop a template for future exercises throughout Canada

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# TTX ~ 40 participants 20+ organizations

First Responders	Hamilton Emergency Medical Services (EMS)     Hamilton Fire/Hazmat     Hamilton Police Services	Calgary Emergency Medical Services (EMS)     Calgary Fire/Hazmat     Calgary Police Services     Canadian Pacific Police Service     Office of the Fire Commissioner
Industry	Agrium Inc.     Canadian National Railway (CN Rail)     Canadian Pacific Railway (CP Rail)     I-Tech Environmental     Newalta Emergency Response     Quantum Murray LP     Railway Association of Canada (RAC)     U.S. Steel Canada	Agrium Inc. Canadian Fertilizer Institute (CFI) Canadian National Railway (CN Rail) Canadian Pacific Railway (CP Rail) Chemistry Industry Association of Canada (CIAC) Enviro Hazmat Quantum Murray LP Railway Association of Canada (RAC) Shield Specialized Emergency Services Inc.
Municipal, Regional, Provincial, Federal, Organizations	Environment Canada (Ontario Region)     Hamilton Emergency Management Office (EMO)     Ministry of Environment Spills Action Centre (SAC)     Public Health (PH)	Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) Alberta Environment Alberta Transportation Dangerous Goods Transport Canada (Regional Office)
Observers	DRDC Centre for Security Science (CSS)     Emergency Response Management Consulting (ERMC)     Hamilton Emergency Management Office (EMO)     Hamilton Port Authority	DRDC Centre for Security Science (CSS)
Planning Team and Facilitators	Environment Canada (EC)     Transport Canada (TC)     International Safety Research Inc. (ISR)	Canadian Safety & Security Program (CSSP)     Transport Canada (TC)     International Safety Research Inc. (ISR)

# **Exercise Outline – Scenario Overview**

- Consultation with the municipalities to build local capability focussing on response and consequence management stages of a CBRNE event
- Examine the roles of private sector or industry manager and response contractors
- Two separate plausible scenarios employing significant releases of toxic industrial chemicals that have an effect on city infrastructure and threaten public safety
  - 1. Railcar of anhydrous ammonia
  - 2. Transport truck carrying drums of chloropicrin
  - Both chemicals are regulated by TC and EC and are on numerous Hazmat and CBRNE threat agent lists
  - Hazardous material properties relevant to focus of the exercise
- Both scenarios lead to activation/authorization of Emergency Response Action Plan (ERAP)
  - Attacks were located in or near population centres and took place consecutively over the course of several hours
  - The timing of the simulated attacks was designed to maximize the number of casualties, public panic and economic disruption consistent with a terrorist event

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# Exercise Outline – Ammonia Scenario

- Timeline of scenario was T= 0 to 8 hours
  Example of Inject Objectives:
  - To understand the role and actions of each participant at that moment in time
    - What are the responsibilities of the rail yard and how would they respond internally?
- Example of questions used to drive the exercise
  - Who would they call?
  - Are other authorities notified by the dispatched responders?
  - How the response changed when the HAZMAT event evolved to a CBRNE event





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#### Exercise Outline – Ammonia Scenario



# Exercise Outline – Chloropicrin Scenario

- The chloropicrin scenario targeted the study of longer term consequence management and recovery operations
- T= 12 hours, or 0500 hours next day
- 2<sup>nd</sup> event, hours before morning rush hour traffic
- Sequential with ammonia scenario versus separate events
- Public Health
  - Numerous 911 calls
  - Need to address public safety



#### **Exercise Outline – Chloropicrin Scenario**



#### **Discussion - Hamilton**

- Overall, the exercise achieved its intended objective to advance the role of private sector industry in CBRNE events and enhance capability of regional emergency services
- The number, diversity and positive contribution of the industry groups and regional M/P/F emergency offices greatly added to the outcomes
- Extended planning period was advantageous
  - Was essential for administrative requirements,
  - Facilitates communication with each participant to better determine the objectives of each group



#### **Discussion – Federal Participants**

- Goals specific to respective departmental mandates
  - EC tested its environmental emergency notification and response protocols and examined the application of its regulations within the context of a CBRNE event
  - Private sector and crime scene management The National CBRNE Response Team
  - TC's Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) legislation has extend Emergency Response Assistance Plans (ERAP) to CBRNE events and sought to better understand the practical issues of a CBRNE event within its legal jurisdiction and internal response plans

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# Discussion – Industry

- Railway Association of Canada provided valuable insight on the impact to the concept of operations whether the railyard or rail line was federally or provincially regulated or if the railcar was on the property of a client at the time of the incident
- CN and CP provided important details on their existing Hazmat response procedures such as isolating leaking railcars



### **Discussion – Response Contractors**

- Extensive detection and monitoring equipment inventories
- Highly trained personnel with specialized response skills required for some TIC incidents and not available elsewhere
- Performance standards for response contractors exist
- With appropriate site safety planning will potentially enter a CBRNE "hot zone"
- Work in partnership with municipal responders including law enforcement agencies and public health
- May already have response agreement with City and/or industry
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#### **Discussion – Product Specialists**

- Agrium Inc. provided specialists to support any response
- Expert advice on
  - the product,
  - response options,
  - impact to the concept of operations of specific details such as who was the product owner
- In addition, the challenge of whether or not it was a known versus an unknown intentional attack was examined.

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Agrium

# **Discussion – City of Hamilton**

- Interoperability of the participating groups varied from fully successful to less defined
- The City of Hamilton Emergencies Services established a unified command with a lead agency in a timely matter
  - Their experience and results of their recent participation in the CBRNE post-blast research project and workshop was apparent
- Each of the participants have established response management systems
  - Challenge was to identify and overcome the practical issues of integrating different systems in a multi-agency response
  - Incident Command and Unified Command System were noted
  - Players were able to reconcile broad issues surrounding concept of operations
- The importance of a multi-agency concept of operations to address a CBRNE event involving first responders, all levels of government and the private sector was noted early in the planning stages of the exercise

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#### **Discussion – City of Calgary**

- Allowed industry to show the first responder communities its technical expertise and capabilities
- It is likely that industry will play an important role in response to the type of scenario used in the TTX
- Demonstrated the need to get industry involved in the planning phases for response to an incident
  - Their familiarity with product behavior, means of containment was useful in assessing risks and developing response strategies
- Re-enforced existing working relationships between organizations and created some new ones

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#### **Discussion – City of Calgary**

- Provided critical guidance towards developing TC CBRNE Response Framework so that it clarifies;
  - limits on costs,
  - the extent to which we can apply an ERAP to a CBRNE event, and
  - the additional equipment needed during a CBRNE event.
- Demonstrated
  - how complex a CBRNE incident can be in terms of scope,
  - requirements for decisions affecting public safety,
  - requirements for decisions with large financial implications (e.g. how far to evacuate, decontaminate – and to what extent?
- Showcased contractor-owned equipment and existing industry capabilities
  - Lenvironment Environnement 2013 EPA Decontamination R&D Conference Page 19 Canada

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#### **Next Steps**

- Follow up work initiated or pending includes:
  - A scoping study to further review the challenges of an inter-agency concept of operations that includes the private sector was undertaken and a report prepared
  - A survey of federal departments including members of the National CBRNE Response Team and Chemical CoP to obtain additional information on the engagement of private sector contractors by federal departments in their potential support to a CBRNE event
  - A literature search and a road map to learn from the experience of other stakeholders who have addressed similar challenges related to private sector engagement. Examples are;
    - Contaminated site reclamation industry,
    - Natural disaster emergency response groups,
    - The workplace occupational health and safety sector, and
    - Building and property manager associations

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#### **Next Steps**

- Planning for future exercises
  - Montreal, QC November 19, 2013
- Incorporate lessons-learned
- Consideration of other issues, such as;
  - Liability and/or insurance,
  - Psycho-social, and
  - Casualty management
- Delivery models
  - Further advance capability in same location(s),
  - Offer in new location(s),
  - Combine with other demonstrations and exercises

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#### **Acknowledgements**

- International Safety Research and Associates
  - Ms. S. Lavigne, Mr. R. Morris and Mr. M. McCall
  - Mr. P. Butler
- Capability Based Planning, DRDC contractors
   Mr. T. St. Onge and Mr. C. Sharpe
- DRDC Centre for Security Science project funding
  - Mr. S. Dickie, Capability Based Planning
  - Mr. M. Roy, Explosives Community of Practice
  - Mr. T. Sykes, CSSP, CBRNE Section Head (retired)
  - Mr. Pervez Azmi, ESTS, Environment Canada

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Canada

Public Health England

UK Recovery Guidance and Advice: The UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents

**Dr Stacey Wyke** 

With Public Health England

#### Contents

- Introduction
   Acknowledgements: Nick Brooke, Antonio Pena-Fernandez, David Baker, Raquel Duarte-Davidson and Virginia Murray,
- · Recovery from major chemical incidents
- The UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents
  - Scope
  - · Evidence base
- What next..... Chemical and Radiation Recovery Decision Support Tool (C&R DST)







WW Public Health England

# **Definition of recovery**

' the process of rebuilding, restoring and rehabilitating the community following an emergency'

HM Government (2005) Emergency response and recovery: Non- statutory guidance accompanying the <u>Civil Contingencies Act 2004.</u>





#### UK Recovery handbook (Rad) v1



European stakeholder networks e.g. FARMING





Public Health England

# **Target audience**

- National and local authorities
- · Central government departments and agencies
- · Environmental and health protection experts
- Industry
- Emergency services
- Others that may be affected by a Chemical incident

UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents





#### Focus on clean-up and restoration

Does not address all aspects of the recovery phase Risk assessment protocols Sampling or monitoring strategies

**Not** a substitute for specialist advice, but will **aid decision makers** in the Development of a recovery strategy



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#### Public Health England Practical application of the Handbook

Robust scientific and technical advise, presented in a simple format as checklists, decision tree's and "steps" to lead users through the stages of developing a recovery strategy.



Recovery option datasheets, provide an overview of different remediation techniques, highlighting associated issues



#### Step 1: Obtain information regarding the incident Determine physicochemical properties of contaminant and identify area that has been affected

Important physioch	hemical properties of chemicals affecting inhabited Areas				
Physical					Chemical
characteristic	Description	Interpr	etation	Description/ value	Interpretation
Physical form (solid/liquid gas)	Gases and vapous spread cut in the environment until they are equally distributed throughout the space available to them. Liquids will row with gravity when released and therefore require safe containment to stabilise the incident and prevent further risk to persons, properly and the environment. Solids need thrute assistance to move preder distances and in general are easier to contain. However, solids in the form of fitnes, dust or smoke can be quickly carried by the air and present a risk to synone situated in the path of dispersion.				
Vapour pressure (VP)	A measure of how easily a liquid evaporates or gives off vapours. For instance, where the vapours being yaon off by a liquid point behavior (a Spicher Michard) factory singularity coaling options may be considered. Higher validity would result in a higher vapour pressure. Interpretation (Units Fascalis) < -1.3 x (10 <sup>-1</sup> Lovidely to volatilise Between 1.3 x (10 <sup>4</sup> and 1.3.3). Increasing likelihood of volatilising >-1.3.1 (10 <sup>4</sup> Loviditie)	High VP Likely to: Be an inhalational risk Evaporate quickly	Low VP Unlikely to be: An inhalational risk		
Vapour Density (D vapour)	This refers to the relative weight of a gas or vapour compared to air (or sometimes it can be compared to hydrogen gas). At is assigned an antitrary value of 1 and 1 a gas has a vapour density of $-1.27$ will generally not an it. If the vapour density is $>1.20$ the gas will generally sink in air. All vapours lend to be heavier than air.	D > 1.29 Will: Stay close to the ground	D < 1.29 Will: Rise and mix in air more easily		
Density of liquid (D Liquid)	The density (specific gravity) of a liquid is determined by comparing the weight of an equal amound of water. Water = 110, If the specific gravity is sets than 10 then it will float. If organity than 10 a will sink. This is likely to be an important factor following release to water where the use of certain recovery options (e.g. use of adsorbert boomsimats) could be considered for chemicals that float on water.	D>1 Will: Sink in water	D<1 Will: Form a surface film on water		
Persistence	The time that the released chemical is physically present following release and is related to physiochemical supportents and is affected by environmental conditions such to humdhily and sengerature. This is an important factor to consider when judging when recovery options can be implemented following an incident.	Short persistence Moderate Persiste months Long Persistence Years	Hours to days mce: Weeks to		

UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents (US EPA Decon 5-7th Nov 2013)

#### Step 1: Obtain information regarding the incident Determine physicochemical properties of contaminant and identify area that has been affected

Important physioc	hemical properties of chemicals affecting Inhabited Areas				
Physical					Chemical
characteristic	Description	Interpr	etation	Description/ value	Interpretation
Absorbtion on porous surfaces	The ability of a substance to absorb to porous surfaces (e.g. concrete) is an important consideration as this may influence the effectiveness of decontamination options. In some cases (e.g. Sulphur mustard) options such as surface removal may be more appropriate	Absorbs Likely to be effectively removed via: Surface removal Disposal and dismantling	Does not absorb Likely to be : Easier to decontaminate		
Surface Tension	Chemicals with a low surface tension are more likely to seep into relatively inaccessible surfaces (e.g., between screws) boils) which has implications for the remediation of these surfaces. Those with a higher studies tension are more likely to accumulate on a surface without penetrating inaccessible areas. Examples, units: dynes /cm Ethanol: 22.3 (low) Water: 75.6 Mercury, 465 (high)	High Likely to: Accumulate on surface	Low Likely to: Contaminate inaccessible surfaces		
Water solubility	The ability of a material (gas, liquid or solid) to dissolve in water. Materials can be insoluble, sparingly soluble or soluble. Water soluble materials (such as acids) may be more easily dispersed in water and have a gravet potential to pollute water environments (e.g., groundwater). Many water insoluble materials (e.g., petrol) may be spread by flowing water. Water based documanization of surfaces may be more effective if a chemical is water soluble; removal options or active decontamination of surfaces may be more appropriate for non-water soluble chemicals Interpretation: Units ppm (mg/l) <10: Negligible solubility Between 10 and 1000: Increasing likelihood of solubilising >1000: Likely to solubilise	High Solubility Likely to be: Mobile Decontaminated by water based solutions Unlikely to be: Volatilised Persistent	Low solubility Likely to be: Immobilised by adsorption Persistent Unlikely to be: Mobile		

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#### Step 1: Obtain information regarding the incident Determine physicochemical properties of contaminant and identify area that has been affected

L	Important physioch	emical properties of chemicals affecting Inhabited Areas				
F	Physical	Description	Interpre	etation	Description/	Chemical
٩	characteristic				value	Interpretation
A F	Soil sorption	Measures how readily a chemical is adsorbed to organic surfaces in the solt matter. Some solts have very limited addites to soon chemicals e.g. sandy solis or ones with low clay or organic matter contents. Gives an indication of likely persistence in soil. Hierperstation (UNINE = Kac) > 10,000 ; Likely to adsorb Between 1,000 and 10,000 : Increasing likelihood of adsorbing < 1,000 Unikely to adsorb	High Koc Likely to be: Adsorbed Accumulated Unlikely to be Mobile	Low Koc Likely to be: Mobile Unlikely to be Adsorbed		
	Partition coefficient between water and octanol (K <sub>ow</sub> )	This gives an indication of relative solubility of a material (compound) in water and in octanol. Chemicals that preferentially dissolve in octanol are defined as hydrophobic and have a high partition coefficient. A high value also gives an indication of potential to adsort to soil and sediments. Interpretation (trints = K <sub>col</sub> ) > 1,000 : Likely to bioaccumulate (hydrophobic)- High Between 500 and 1,000 : increasing likelihood of bioaccumulating < 500. Unlikely to bioaccumulate (hydrophilic)- Low	High K <sub>ow</sub> Likely to be Bioaccumulated: Sorbed in soil or sediments Unlikely to be: Mobile	Low K <sub>ow</sub> Likely to be: Mobile Soluble Biodegraded Unlikely to be: Bio- accummulated		
V	Viscosity	The viscosity of a chemical determines how easily it flows within an environment. It may infunce how easy it is to terrow hom an environment (a, a kead be difficult to vacuum a highly viscous chemical). Viscous chemicals are also less likely to re - suspend in the environment. Examples: Units = mPa. Water: 0.564 (cos) Com synap: 81 (high)	High: Likely to be: Difficult to decontaminate Unlikely to be: Vacuumed Resuspended Mobile	Low: Likely to be: Mobile Easier to decontaminate		
	Degradation and reaction by- products	Process by which chemicals decompose to their elemental parts or form by-products on reaction with other chemicals or water. Some chemicals can be converted to more toxic products during this process.				
	Toxicity	Sum of adverse effects or the degree of danger posed by a substance to living organisms. It is expressed generally as a dose response relationship involving the quantity of substance to which the organism is exposed and the route of exposure skin (absorption), mouth (ingestion), or respiratory tract (inhalation).				
1	5 UKR	ecovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents (US EPA Decor	5-7th Nov 2	013)		

Step 2:

Consult flow chart decision tree's for specific environment Identify potentially applicable recovery options Consult other sections of Handbook (if applicable)



# Food Production Systems









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Step 2: Consult flow chart decision tree's for specific environment Identify potentially applicable recovery options Consult other sections of Handbook (if applicable)



Public and private drinking water supplies Marine and coastal water Inland and underground waters (including recreational waters\_ Sewage treatment

23 UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents (US EPA Decon 5-7th Nov 2013)

#### Step 3: Determine effectiveness of recovery options

A: Eliminate options based on physicochemical properties B: Eliminate options based on surface material

Recovery Option		Efficacy for type of contamination and surface material					
	(	Surfa	ace Type	Conta		tamination type	
		Robust	Sensitiv	e Free	AD	sorbed	Inaccessible
(6) Reactive gases and vapours							
(7) Reactive liquids (bleaches, detergents, foams, gels)							
(8) Physical decontamination techniques							
(9) Other water based cleaning methods (scrubbing, shampoo)							
(10) Pressure hosing							
(11) Vacuum cleaning							
(12) Surface removal (buildings)							
(13) Fixative/ strippable_coatings							
(14) Dismantle and disposal of contaminated material							
(15) Modify operation/ cleaning of ventilation systems							
(16) Cleaning vehicle ventilation systems							
(17) Storage, covering, gentle cleaning of precious objects							
(18) Natural attenuation (with monitoring)							
(19) Outdoor surface removal and replacement (road, soil)							
(23) Barriers to seal land contamination							
(24) Burial in-situ							
Effectiveness	Up to 1	00% effecti	ve F	otentially e	effective	Limited	effectiveness

Step 4: Review key considerations and constraints Eliminate further options according to other considerations (public health, waste, social, technical, cost and time)

Recovery options considerations	Public	Waste	Social	Technical	Cost	Time	
Protection ontions							
(1) Isolate and contain water supply							ations
(2) Alternative drinking water supply							)
(3) Restrict water use (DND/DNU notices)							
Remediation options							
(4) Changes to water abstraction point or location of water source							
(5) Controlled blending of drinking water supplies							
(6) Continuing normal water treatment							
(7) Modification of existing water treatment							
(8) Water treatment at the point of use [tap]							
(9) Drain to temporary storage							
(10) Discharge off site using tankers (tankering)							
(11) In-situ treatment and discharge							
(12) Flush distribution system							
(13) Natural attenuation (with monitoring)							
(14) Treatment of sludge							
(15) Restrict access to inland, recreational or coastal (controlled) water							
environments							
(16) Restrict transport within inland, recreational or coastal (controlled)							
water environments							
(17) In-situ treatment of inland, recreational, coastal (controlled) waters							
(18) Drainage of Inland, recreational, coastal (controlled) waters							
(19) Kentoval/ containment of sedment							
(24) Retrieval of chemical (a) and containers							
(22) Ruming in situ							
(22) Durning in Situ							
Considerations None or minor	(1 ow)	Moderat	o (Modium)		Important (	koul	
Time (when to implement recovery option) No restrictions	on time	Weeks to n	nonthe/was	re	Hours -de	ave	
No resultations (	mune	TICCAS LO II	nonuis/ yea	13	nouis – ua	iys	

Recovery options consideratio	Recovery Options Considerations	Public Health	Waste	Social	Technical	Cost	Time				
Protection options	Protection options										
(1) Isolate and contain water sup	(1) Restrict public access										
(2) Alternative drinking water sup	(2) Controlled workforce access										
(3) Restrict water use (DND/DNL	(3) Impose restrictions on transport										
Remediation options	(4) Temporary relocation from residential areas										
(4) Changes to water abstraction	(5) Permanent relocation from residential areas										
(5) Controlled blending of drinkin											
(6) Continuing normal water treat	a Remediation options										
(7) Modification of existing water	(6) Reactive gases and vapours										
(8) Water treatment at the point c	(7) Reactive liquids										
(9) Drain to temporary storage	(8) Physical decontamination techniques										
(10) Discharge off site using tank	(9) Other water based cleaning methods										
(11) In-situ treatment and discha	(10) Pressure hosing										
(12) Flush distribution system	(11) Vacuum cleaning										
(13) Natural attenuation (with mo	(12) Surface removal (buildings)										
(14) Treatment of sludge	(13) Fixative/strippable coatings										
(15) Pestrict access to inland re-	(14) Dismantle and disposal of contaminated material										
environments	(15) Modify operation/ cleaning of ventilation systems										
(16) Restrict transport within inlau	(16) Cleaning vehicle ventilation systems										
water environments	(17) Storage, covering, gentle cleaning										
(17) In-situ treatment of inland, re	(18) Natural attenuation (with monitoring)										
(18) Drainage of inland, recreatio	(19) Outdoor surface removal and replacement										
(19) Removal/containment of se	(20) Soil and vegetation removal										
(20) Containment: use of dams, t	(21) Ploughing/ digging methods										
(21) Retrieval of chemical(s) and	(22) Snow/ice removal			_		_					
(22) Burning in-situ	(23) Barriers to seal contamination										
	(24) Buriai In-situ										
				_							
Time ( ) ( ) (	Considerations	None or minor			Moderate		Important (key)				
I IIIIe (when to impleme	Time – when to implement recovery option	No restric	ctions on time	Weeks	to months/ years	Hours	- days				

#### Step 5: Consult recovery option sheets Eliminate further options following a detailed analysis of options on a site and incident-specific basis.

			n								
_	Waste			Some recov	Some recovery options create waste, the recovery of which must be carefully						
ſ	Effe	Amount an	Side effect evaluation	on	Provides information on side-effects incurred following implementation of the recovery option.						
0		Dessible tr	Health impact		Impact that the option might have on the health of individuals within a population						
0	Reco	storage rou	Agricultural impact								
R	Tech effec	Factors infl	Ethical consideration	\$	Possible positive and/or negative ethical aspects (e.g. promotion of self-help, requirement for informed consent of workers, distribution of costs and benefits).						
T	Fea	Exposure	Social impact		Impact that an option may have on behaviour and on society's trust in institutions.						
T			Environmental impact		Impact that an option may have on the environment (e.g. natural water courses).						
Ti pl	Requ	Averted exp Factors infl exposure	Degradation products		The potential for a recovery option to degrade a chemical to another chemical. This will vary dependent on the chemical involved and the specific technique used. Field can be used to highlight potentially hazardous degradation products						
	Requ infra	Potential ir exposure	Other side effects		Some options may have other side effects (e.g. rationing of water supplies or restrictions on the use of water).						
	Requ		Additional Information								
5	Requ	Interventi	Practical experience		State-of-the-art experience in carrying out the recovery option. Some options have on a limited scale, whilst others are standard practices.	only been tested					
E	Requ Othe	Equipment	Key references		References to key publications leading to other sources of information.						
1 Th		Consumab	Comments		Any further comments not covered by the above.						
1.		Operator ti	Document History		History of previous publications that have led to the formulation of the datasheet.						
Co Pt	onstrair	Factors influ	uencing costs	Size and acce consumables the area.	ssibility of target to be treated. Seasonality. Availability of equipment and within the contaminated area. Requirement for additional manpower. Wage level in						
	Compensation costs Cost of lost pro				roduction, loss of use.						
Le	gal imp cial cor	Waste cost Cost of m		Cost of manag	aging any wastes arising, including final disposal.						
		Assumptions Any other as		Any other ass	sumptions which might significantly influence the intervention costs.						
Er	wironm	Communication needs Identificat			of possible communication needs, mechanisms and recipients.						
28		UK Rec	overy Handbook for	Chemical In	cidents (US EPA Decon 5-7th Nov 2013)						



UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents (Arcopol conference, 12th Sept 2013)

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# What next?

Chemical and Radiation Recovery Decision Support Tool (2013-2015)

- Inhabited areas pilot
- Review and update Radiation Recovery Handbook

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#### **Chemical Recovery Decision Support Tool**



Start



Recovery Options Considerations	Public Health	Waste	Social	Technical	Cost	Time
Remediation options						
(6) Reactive gases and vapours						
(7) Reactive liquids						
(8) Physical decontamination techniques						
(9) Other (water based) cleaning methods						
(10) Pressure hosing						
(11) Vacuum cleaning						
(12) Surface removal (buildings)						
(13) Fixative/strippable coatings						
(14) Dismantle and disposal of contaminated material						
(18) Natural attenuation (with monitoring)						
(22) Snow/ice removal						
(24) Burial in-situ						
Considerations	None or minor		Moderate		Important (key)	
Time – when to implement recovery option	No restrictions on time		Weeks to months/years		Hours - Days	
Return Back Back	aminated s	urface type	es in the reco	overy decisi	on report fo	Nex

#### Developing a recovery strategy (Inhabited Areas) - Step 4: External building surfaces Review key considerations and constraints of recovery options

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# PHE are committed to;

- · Maintain and update the Recovery Handbooks
- Take forwards areas of research to improve and further develop guidance for the recovery and remediation of the environment following an incident
- Continue to build the evidence base of recovery options recommended within the handbooks (<u>biological incident review</u>; <u>chemical incident review</u>)

#### **Contact details:**

For more information on the recovery handbooks and projects, to attend workshops, or participate in the retrospective reviews of chemical, biological and radiation incidents, please email;

Stacey.wyke@phe.gov.uk; Antonio.pena-fernandez@phe.gov.uk

Biological.Recovery@phe.gov.uk



Cleaning Up Afterwards. Towards a UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents

Allan Bennett, Stacey Wyke, Thomas Pottage Sara Speight & Emma Goode

WW Public Health England

#### Contents

- Introduction
- · Recovery from Anthrax Incidents in the UK (and Sweden)
- The UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents
- Persistence Database
- Disinfection Database



鯋 Public Health England

# Gruinard Island (1986)





- Formalin and sea water
- Topsoil removal

#### 鯋 Remediating Anthrax Graveyard (1990s) Public Health England

•

- Site intended for housing ٠
- Sampling showed >2000 spores/g •
- ٠ Decontaminated with formalin
- Unsuccessful •
- Ground capped with concrete •



GENERAL SESSION 1 | 32



# Two UK Anthrax Cases

- The first fatal human case of anthrax in the UK for over 32 years
- Cause not identified for a month
- Samples sent to PHE Porton and identification made

#### Lived near Hawick (Scottish Borders)

- · Skilled craftsman and carver
- Recently joined a local drumming group

#### Past medical history

 Acute myeloid leukaemia in remission

- In October 2008 a man contracted anthrax and died after weeks in intensive care
- · Diagnosed rapidly by PHE Porton
- · Treated with immunoglobulin

#### Lived in East London

- Drum Maker, Teacher and Player
- Lived in bedsitter and workshop on busy road

#### Past medical history

Tuberculosis



# Public Health Anthrax Positive Sites From Scottish Case

- Belford England
- Home of couple who run a drumming workshop, authentic African drums stored here, as well as skins/hides for additional drums
- Smailholm Scotland
  - · Garage was used to prepare hides
- Smailholm Village Hall
  - · Venue for a drumming workshop attended by the deceased
- · All premises culture and PCR positive. Only small numbers found






#### Dalston Lane, London 鯋 Public Health England

- Single room basement flat with shared entrance to three other premises located on busy thoroughfare
- Cupboard under stairs reputed to contain skins
- Resident cat •
- Anthrax positive drum found
- Anthrax skins in cupboard ٠





鯋 Public Health England

## Scottish Decontaminations

- International experts consulted on appropriate course of action. No • consensus gained
- Belford Home and Smailholm Garage decontaminated using Hydrogen • Peroxide
- Village Hall decontaminated using SABRE Chlorine Dioxide •





## London Decontamination

- B.anthracis found on one of the drums and on a skin from under the stairs
- Items removed from two other sites • found to be negative
- Contaminated items removed and destroyed
- Local decontamination with 10% sodium hypochlorite on areas surrounding the contaminated items

<u>ŁŌŚ</u>

England



#### Swedish Anthrax Cases **Public Health**

- In 2008 a single cow from a beef cattle herd suddenly died without any observed ٠ previous symptoms. The carcass was sent for routine destruction.
- · Within the next thirteen days, ten more animals from the same herd had died. Three carcasses were sent to a regional laboratory for investigation and on the 12th December, the cause of death was confirmed as Bacillus anthracis by culture and PCR methods.. Environmental samples of the farm were taken and only two samples returned positive for anthrax from the courtyard where the infected carcasses were stored. The most likely source was thought to be contaminated roughage, but couldn't be proved by laboratory analysis.
- "Decontamination of the farm has been extensive and it has been one of the most expensive single sanitizing procedures in Swedish history." Knuttson R, 2012 The entire decontamination process cost approximately 60 million SEK (£5.8 million).
- It included a mobile incinerator and liquid disinfection of farm

#### UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents 10

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## Different Scenarios, Different Recovery Options

• No one size fits all option

Gaseous Decontamination

- In many of the cases there was no complete record of how and why decisions had been taken
- · Options used varied widely in cost, time-scale and amount of disruption







GENERAL SESSION 1 | 37



- Focus on clean up and restoration.
- Does not address all aspects of the recovery phase
  - Risk assessment protocols
  - Sampling or monitoring strategies
- Not a substitute for specialist advice but will aid decision makers in the development of a recovery strategy
- · Aim: reduce exposure and return to 'normality'





## Structure of the UKRHBI





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## Who will use the Handbook?

- · National and local authorities
- · Central government departments and agencies
- Environmental and health protection experts
- Industry
- Emergency services
- Others that may be affected by a biological incident

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## **Difference from Chemical handbook**

- Differences in the decision making frameworks caused by microbiological factors
  - · Ability to divide and grow
  - · Difficulties in rapid detection
  - · Epidemiology
  - Persistence differences
  - Lack of data on effectiveness of recovery options
- · List of representative agents agreed
- Persistence Database developed
- · Disinfection Database in development

Public Health England	Agent prioritis	ation list
Agent / scenario	Environment	Inclusion criteria
Aspergillus spp. and other environmental Fungi	Inhabited Areas	Causes Aspergillosis infecting humans and birds, can cause sensitisation
Bacillus anthracis	Food Production systems /	Rare but high impact due to persistence /
	Inhabited Areas	resistance of spore
Bacillus cereus	Food Production Systems	Cause of diarrhoea from food poisoning
Brucella abortus	Food Production Systems	Rare but high impact
Campylobacter	Food Production Systems	Common causative agent of food-poisoning outbreaks
Clostridium botulinum	Food Production Systems	Rare but high impact, toxins released can cause serious harm
Clostridium difficile	Inhabited Areas	Large numbers of infections annually
Clostridium perfringens	Food Production Systems	Causes many cases of food poisoning. Large number thought to be underreported.
Coxiella burnetii	Food Production Systems / Inhabited Areas	High impact due to resistance of agent
Cryptosporidiosis	Water environments / Food	Common cause of waterborne disease
	Production Systems	outbreaks
Cyanobacteria	Water environments	Toxins released can cause harm
Dampness in buildings	Inhabited Areas	Common generic problem
Escherichia coli 0157 &	Inhabited Areas / Food	Seen in food outbreaks, and also in farms /
other VTEC Serogroups	Production Systems	petting zoos

Top 20 organism			Limited persistence - <7 days						
Relevant to inhabited areas			Intermediate persistence - 8-100 days			* Some papers just say surfaces or fomites and are not specific			
Non-top 20 organism			Persistent - >101	days					
	Persistance in inhab	ited areas							
Pathogen	Surfaces/fomites*	s/steel (meta	glass/ceramics	carpet	wood	plastics and/or vinyl flooring	soft furnishings/fabrics	beach sand	faeces/pest faeces/pests/
Aspergillus	>30					>30	>30		
Avian influenza/ influenza	1-2	1-13	7-66		3	1-2	1-160		
Bacillus spp							>3650		
Clostridium spp	150	>7							
Coxiella burnetii									
E. coli 0157	30-480	> 60	1-3		7-294			5-15	
Legionella pneumophila									
MRSA	7-210		< 2 - 18		90-140	60-140	7- (>) 30		
Mycobacterium tuberculosis	1 - 120			19 days	> 88		45		56-120
Norovirus	<1-19	7->42	7->42		16-28	> 42			
Viral haemorrhagic fevers	4-5	6	6-50			6-26			
Brucella abortus		>56	>56	1	28 - 56			Î	1
Campylobacter	1-6							4-12	
Cryptosporidium	<1								
Cvanobacteria									
Giardia									
Listeria monocytogenes	1->30	> 28							
Salmonella son	1-1500	14-336				< 1		20-30	21-32
Toxonlasma aondii	1 1000	14 330						20 30	46-357
Acientobactor	2 150		2 60		-		1		40.337
hemetobbeter	3-130	24.50	3-00			25.40			1
Adenovirus	7-90	21-50	21-30	-		35-49	r	-	1
Condido	3-5	2 >14	2 ~14			2 20	1 20		1
California Chile and the same	1-150	3-214	3- /14	-		3-30	1-30		1
Criamyala spp	1-15	-		-			1		1
Convenient actorium con	1 190			-		-	1	-	1
Cotynebuctenant spp	1-100						1	- 20	1
Enterococcus	5-120			-			1	>30	
Foot and mouth virus		_		-	_		-		
Prancisella tularensis		-			_		-		
Haemophilus influenzae	12	-		-	_	<1	-		
Helicobacter pylori	<1								
nepatrus A	<1-00	>/	30		1/	06 <	30-00		2 3U
neusiena spp	<1-900	-		-	+	1		+	+
iveisseria gonormoeae	1-3	-	+		+	1		+	
Parvovirus	2 305					1			
eroteus vulgaris	1-2			-	+	1		+	
eseuaumonas aeruginosa	1-480			-				-	
Rotavirus	60	<10	10-35		_	< 10			
serratia marcescens	3-60		10-18				-	-	
Snigena	2-150	2-28		-			+	-	20-24
Streptococcus spp	1-195		1				-	-	
			1		1	1	1	1	1



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#### **Retrospective Study**

- Project team is inviting stakeholders and other interested parties to participate in a retrospective study of biological incidents and recovery options used (successful or unsuccessful)
- Initially short online questionnaire
- <u>https://www.hpa-</u> surveys.org.uk/TakeSurvey.aspx?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=8IKJ7 6IM&Preview=true
- Followed by telephone interview / meeting
- Contact the project team if you are interested in participating; <u>biological.recovery@phe.gov.uk</u>



#### UK Recovery Handbook for Biological Incidents



There are a wide range of stakeholders and PHE steering group members to help steer the knowledge base and direction of the Handbook



November, 2013



### Research activities on environmental contamination of radioactive substances at National Institute for Environmental Study

1. Behavior of radionuclides in the environment
2. Appropriate treatment and disposal technologies for
radioactively contaminated waste

Principal Investigator	Toshimasa Ohara and Masahiro Osako		
Project Members	Seiji Hayashi, <b>Noriyuki Suzuki</b> , Masanori Tamaoki, <b>Shoji F. Nakayama</b> , Yasuyuki Shibata, Motoyuki Mizuochi Masato Yamada, Hidetoshi Kuramochi, Hidetaka Takigami, <b>Nagahisa Hirayama</b> Yuji Matsuzaki		
	<b>Nagamsa magama</b> , Tuji Matsuzaki		

1

## Introduction

- Due to nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant (FDNPP), enormous amounts of radionuclides were emitted into the atmosphere and the ocean.
- Radioactive materials may affect human health through the contamination of air, water, soil, waste, and food.
- Research projects on beharior and disposal technologies are now underway
  - Behavior of the radionuclides in the environment
  - Appropriate treatment and disposal technologies for radioactively contaminated waste

2

## Aims of the two projects

#### Behavior of the radionuclides in the environment

- Predict long-term distribution of radioactive nuclides in the terrestrial and aquatic environment as well as in living organisms
- Build a model to estimate long-term human exposure to radiation
- Contribute to better understanding of the impacts on human, wildlife and ecosystem health
- Appropriate treatment and disposal technologies for radioactively contaminated waste
  - Accumulate the know-how for treatment and disposal and establish the systems

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- Reflect and use in technical standards and indicators
- Advance safe and effective waste treatment based on scientific evidence

#### NIES's plan in Fukushima-ken Environmental Creation Center

#### **Three Research Programs**





## Targeted area of field study in our project



# Runoff characteristics of radiocesium from a forest catchment (Mt. Tsukuba)

- <u>Continuous hydrological observations started immediately after the accident</u> and <u>stream water sampling</u> during the rain events at a forested catchment
- Estimated <sup>137</sup>Cs annual runoff load was 0.04 kBq/m<sup>2</sup> for one year, corresponding to only 0.3% of the total amount deposition in the catchment.



Stock and flow of Cs-137 (Lake Kasumigaura)





## Outline of multimedia fate modeling





### Observed and modeled Cs-137 deposition map

## Simulated trend of <sup>137</sup>Cs in soil





### Coastal Ocean Model (Dispersion and Sedimentation)

## **Exposure monitoring**

- ٠ Vacuum cleaner dust measurement
  - The most radioactive material in the indoor environment
  - Log-normal distribution
  - Decreased in the first several months but reached the plateau after that
  - Distribution in ingestible size (< 250  $\mu$ m)
  - Provided a model with parameters











134+

Cs-1



## Exposure route

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## Ecosystem evaluation

### (1) Effect for Wild animals

Wild mouse, *Apodemus speciosus*, were captured at high-gamma-dose area in Fukushima and low-gamma-dose area (Aomori and Toyama).







## Analytical method development

- Dissolved radioactive ceasium
  - Rapid and trace measurement of dissolved Cs in water using Cs selective disc
- Radioactive strontium
  - An effective solid phase extraction method developed using crown ether resin
- Iodine 129
  - Ultra trace determination of <sup>129</sup>I by an accelerator MS
  - Reconstruction of short-lived <sup>131</sup>I distribution
- Imaging plate
  - Disposition in organisms, house dust and wastes









# Appropriate treatment and disposal technologies for radioactively contaminated waste



#### Behavior mechanisms of radioactive cesium during waste incineration





Landfill and storage technology for contaminated wastes and soil

## Establishment of monitoring technologies for radioactivity and application to waste management





#### Quantitative Estimation Procedure for Disaster





## Future work

- · On-going research activities
  - More advanced understanding and modeling of the dynamics of radionuclides in environment and impacts
    - Extensive monitoring, model development, exposure and impacts on wildlife
  - Continuing development of waste disposal technologies
    - · Incineration, landfill and storage, monitoring and management
- Relation to future Fukushima environmental creation center
  - Environmental recovery research
    - · Following the activities of first half
  - Environmental creation research not presented today
  - Disaster environmental management research
    - · Following the activities of second half, and relating to our visit today

UK Government Decontamination Service

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UK Government Decontamination Service

## The UK Government Decontamination Service

Sara Casey - Biological Hazards Adviser

EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference November 2013

Part of the Food and Environment Research Agency

### Summary

- Who are GDS
- UK Government
- GDS Framework Suppliers
- Research and Projects
- Future work







- · Assist in the recovery from a CBRN event
- Maintain a framework of private sector contractors
- Run a development programme for CBRN remediation
- Capability Development



## **Capability Development**

- Direct link to policy owners
- Capability gaps from scenarios based upon National Risk Assessment
- Management of CBR R&D projects for the Home Office
- Exploitation of research and development projects
- International research collaboration

## GDS Operational Capability



- Facilitate the rapid decontamination of CBRN releases using private-sector capability
- On call 24/7 to provide rapid access to GDS expertise and Framework service
- GDS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)
  that can be activated in minutes
- Provide expert scientific and technical advice to relevant groups, on the most appropriate decontamination methods





## **GDS Supplier Roles**

- Sampling and monitoring to determine the extent of the contamination and effectiveness of decontamination
- Prioritising the appropriate resources and equipment for decontamination
- Decontamination of the built and open environment, transport assets
- Waste disposal



### Exercises, Evaluations, Case Studies

UK Government Decontamination Service



## Exercise RED EAGLE Site Sampling Plan

UK Government Decontamination Service

•Exercising of a wide area biological sampling standard operating procedure (SOP)

•The requirement came from a national risk assessment driver

•The suitability of organisations with sampling and PPE capability was assessed





UK Government Decontamination Service



# Practical Testing of a Formaldehyde SOP

UK Government Decontamination Service

- Development of a standard operating procedure (SOP) for a decontamination process using formaldehyde
- To test a GDS supplier using the formaldehyde SOP
- To validate the efficacy of the SOP in the hands of a GDS supplier



### Framework Assurance (biological)

UK Government Decontamination Service

- Building contaminated with Bacillus atropheus (10<sup>9</sup>/ml)
- Suppliers were asked to sample the site to verify presence and determine distribution.
- Suppliers were asked to remediate the area using their preferred technique



## Since 2006



- Tolerability of residual hazard (ToRH)
- Wide area sampling and analysis (WASA)
- VSP development
- · Development of methods to test suppliers
- · Background levels study
- Novel biological decontamination technologies
- SOP development and testing





- Rolling programme of framework assurance work for biological framework suppliers
- · Operationalise research and development
- Research collaboration
- Multi-agency response and recovery evaluation
- Redevelopment of the ToRH biological guidance
- Revision of wide area sampling and analysis SOPs
- Biology of Bacillus anthracis conference

UK Government Decontamination Service

## **Questions**?

sara.casey@gds.gsi.gov.uk

## BIOLOGICAL RESPONSE AND RECOVERY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ROADMAP

 $\sim$   $\sim$ 

Brooke Pearson Executive Secretary (Contract Support to DHS S&T) Biological Response and Recovery Science and Technology Working Group

## **Biological Response and Recovery**

- A catastrophic biological incident could threaten the Nation's human, animal, plant, environmental, and economic health, as well as America's national security.
- <sup>80</sup> Such an event would demand swift and effective responses in order to minimize loss of life and other adverse consequences or, in the case of suspected criminal activity or terrorism, to prevent additional attacks.
- Standing ready to respond to a biological incident requires ongoing data and information collection, data integration and scientific analysis, evidence-based review, strategic decision making, and continuous coordination across government and with nongovernmental partners.
- In addition, an effective response and recovery process requires the coordination of data and capabilities from several sectors—such as public health, law enforcement, waste management, infrastructure management, transportation, and more.

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## The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

- Congress established the Office of Science and Technology Policy in 1976 with a broad mandate to advise the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the effects of science and technology on domestic and international affairs.
- <sup>50</sup> Strategic Goals and Objectives
  - Ensure that Federal investments in science and technology are making the greatest possible contribution to economic prosperity, public health, environmental quality, and national security
  - Energize and nurture the processes by which government programs in science and technology are resourced, evaluated, and coordinated
  - Sustain the core professional and scientific relationships with government officials, academics, and industry representatives that are required to understand the depth and breadth of the Nation's scientific and technical enterprise, evaluate scientific advances, and identify potential policy proposals
  - Generate a core workforce of world-class expertise capable of providing policyrelevant advice, analysis, and judgment for the President and his senior staff regarding the scientific and technical aspects of the major policies, plans, and programs of the Federal government

3

4

## **R&D Budgets**

- The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) has responsibility, in partnership with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), for advising the President on the Federal Research and Development (R&D) budget and shaping R&D priorities across those Federal agencies that have significant portfolios in science and technology.
- OSTP also has responsibility—with the help of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), which is administered out of OSTP—for coordinating interagency research initiatives. It is OSTP's mission to help develop and implement sound science and technology policies and budgets that reflect Administration priorities and make coordinated progress toward important national policy goals.

## NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL (NSTC)

- The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) is the principal means by which the Executive Branch coordinates science and technology policy across the Federal research and development enterprise.
- A primary objective of the NSTC is establishing clear national goals for Federal science and technology investments.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND & NATIONAL SECURITY (CHNS) Zach Lemnois (DoD), Tara O Toole (DHS), Arun Seraphin (OTSP)					
BDRD: Biological Defense Research & Development (SC)	HFHNS: Human Factors for Homeland and National Security (SC)	SOS-CBRNE Standards (SC)			
CDRD: Chemical Defense Research and Development (SC)	ISC: Infrastructure (SC)	D-IED: Domestic IEDs (SC)			
	NDRD: Nuclear Defense Research & Development (SC)				

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## Biological Response and Recovery Science and Technology Working Group (BRRST WG)

Co-Chair

#### Co-Chair

Jayne B. Morrow National Institute of Standards and Technology Department of Commerce

### Department of Health and Human Services

- © Dave Adams, Department of Homeland Security-Office of Health Affairs
- Matthew Arduino, Department of Health and Human Services-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Mark Beall, Department of Defense–Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense
- Second Canzler, Environmental Protection Agency– Office of Emergency Management
   Lisa Delaney, Department of Health and Human
- Elisa Delaney, Department of Health and Human Services-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Aaron Firoved, Department of Homeland Security-Office of Health Affairs
- © Sonia Hunt, Department of Justice-Federal Bureau of Investigation
- George Korch, Department of Health and Human Services-Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
- <sup>80</sup> James Lawler, Department of Health and Human Services–National Institutes of Health
- Helen Lawrence, Department of Justice-Federal Bureau of Investigation

John F. Koerner Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response

### ponse Executive Secretary

Brooke Pearson

Staff

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- Tyler McAlpin, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Logi Millan Computer of Management of Management Animal Service
- Lori Miller, Department of Homeland Security– Science and Technology
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  Theresa Smith, Executive Office of the President-
- National Security Staff Margaret Sobey, Department of Defense–Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and
- Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense
- Angela Weber, Department of Health and Human Services-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## The Road to the Roadmap

- The BRRST WG developed a working document that described the decisions that first responders or government officials would need to make following a biological incident, what questions the decision maker might ask, and, of those questions, which could be addressed with scientific information or technological capabilities.
- <sup>80</sup> The BRRST WG developed a **list of major (high-impact) decisions** that would need to be made during each phase of response and recovery.
- <sup>80</sup> The resultant working document was used to guide discussions and to collect Federal department and agency information on current and planned programmatic activity with the potential to address the questions answerable by S&T.
- Review of submitted information on Federal activities drove the development of S&T capability goals and objectives.
- Those goals and objectives constitute the heart of this Roadmap and comprise a guide for future Federal, academic, and industrial S&T efforts and for international collaborations.

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## **Key Response and Recovery Decisions**

Response and Recovery						
	Crisis Management		Consequence	Management		
Notification		R	Restoration/			
	First Response	Characterization	Decontamination	Clearance	Re-occupancy	
Initiate first response activities, including notification of proper authorities Develop a public- engagement campaign Evaluate Threat Credibility	Operational Coordination Law enforcement, intelligence, and investigative response When and how to distribute medical countermeasures Recommend taying-in-place or evacuation Recommend quarantime/solation/social distancing Implement transportation restrictions Provide safety and health guidance and protections to impacted first responders and citizens Issue guidance on personal hygiene or decontamination Provide support for mass casualty Establish mass medical treatment facilities	Develop/ implement strategies for characterization in facilities and the outdoors Implement strategies and procedures to identify, stabilize, and maintain infrastructure and property Determine requirements and methods to protect natural and cultural resources Implement strategies and means to contain and mitigate the spread of contamination and eliminate sources of further distribution (e.g., insecticides for files)	Decontaminate outdoor areas and/or buildings Decontaminate wide areas Implement required capabilities for sustained environmental decontamination operations Implement decontamination waste handling requirements Decontaminate critical infrastructure	Provide guidance for determination of effectiveness of decontamination	Provide guidance for re-occupancy and reuse criteria and goals Provide guidance for controls to implement, reduce, mitigate any potential exposures or future incidents after re-occupancy implement public messaging to instill confidence in the public and workforce that re- occupancy is safe Implement measures to retain, maintain and improve the economic vitality of a region Implement long term health treatment, intervention and surveillance strategy	
	implement mounted standards of					

## Findings

Key near-term R&D priorities and objectives outlined in the Roadmap include:

- Develop reliable estimates of risk of exposure for a multitude of environments, matrices, and conditions associated with widearea release scenarios;
- Develop reliable estimates of risk to humans, animals, and plants through various exposure and transmission routes;
- Evaluate population infection prevention measures (e.g., quarantine, isolation, and social distancing) used to reduce incident impact and develop a strong scientific basis for recommending these measures; and
- Apply insights from risk-communication research to guide dissemination of appropriate messages to decision makers, first responders, and others.

## The BRRST Roadmap

The Roadmap aims to:

- so Categorize key scientific gaps,
- Identify specific technological solutions
- Prioritize research activities to enable government—at all levels—to make decisions more effectively



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http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/NSTC/brrst\_roadmap\_2013.pdf
## **Questions?**

#### Jayne B. Morrow

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# Tuesday, November 5, 2013

# General Session 2

**Decision Support Tools** 

GENERAL SESSION 2 | 1



## Outline

- QUIC Model Components
- QUIC Urban Capabilities
- QUIC CBR Capabilities
- Applications
- Validation

#### - Los Alamos

Unclassified

LA-UR-12-24176 & LA-UR-10-02201

# Quick Urban & Industrial Complex dispersion modeling system

#### \* QUIC-URB

rapidly produces 3D wind field around buildings using an empirical/diagnostic model based on Röckle (1990)



Pardyjak and Brown (2001)

-Los Alamos

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LA-UR-12-24176 & LA-UR-10-02201

## What is QUIC?

# Quick Urban & Industrial Complex dispersion modeling system

#### \* QUIC-CFD

- solves incompressible RANS equations for steady-state solution relatively quickly compared to other CFD models.

- based on artificial compressibility method (Chorin, 1967)

- uses simplified algebraic turbulence model based on Prandtl's mixing-length theory



Gowardhan et al (2011)

Unclassified

LA-UR-12-24176 & LA-UR-10-02201

# Quick Urban & Industrial Complex dispersion modeling system

#### \* QUIC-PLUME

- "urbanized" Lagrangian random-walk dispersion model

- local, non-local, and vortex turbulent mixing schemes

- drift terms to account for inhomogeneous turbulence

- CBR capabilities

Williams et al (2004)

Release ----

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## What is QUIC?

Quick Urban & Industrial Complex dispersion modeling system

#### \* QUIC-GUI

graphical user interface for set-up, running, and visualization

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2		н	•	$\Diamond$	QUICURB	r	12	QUICPLUME	Vis GUI	Data	Pressure	Population
Project San_Diego_CBD_7m								Run	Both	~	Grid(s)	

Penn Station Release, Midtown Manhattan

- Los Alamos

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LA-UR-12-24176 & LA-UR-10-02201

#### **Quick Urban & Industrial Complex** dispersion modeling system

#### \* QUIC-GUI

graphical user interface for set-up, running, and visualization





· Los Alamos

- Los Alamos

Unclassified

LA-UR-12-24176 & LA-UR-10-02201

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## What is QUIC?

**Quick Urban & Industrial Complex** dispersion modeling system \* QUIC-GUI QUIC 5.5 San\_Diego\_CBD\_7m graphical user interface for set-up, 🕼 🗃 🐑 DUICURB 🗖 💟 DUICPLUME VIs GUI Data Pres 2 running, and visualization n\_Diego\_CBD\_7m Project S t



#### **Quick Urban & Industrial Complex** dispersion modeling system

#### \* QUIC-GUI

graphical user interface for set-up, running, and visualization



- Los Alamos





## QUIC's Niche

1. Urban dispersion with buildings



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## Impact of Buildings on T&D





#### Impact of Buildings on T&D



DTRA/DHS NYC Madison Square Garden Tracer Experiment (PNNL - Allwine et al, 2006)

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#### Impact of buildings on retention and timing

Midtown @ Grand Central Station - Particle dispersion animation



#### Impact of Buildings on T&D





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Impact of buildings on Particle Deposition patterns

Corrected by Los Alarmos
 Corrected by Los Alarmos National Security, LLC for NNSA

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## Impact of Buildings on T&D



QUIC model w/out





















## **QUIC's Niche**

- 1. Urban dispersion with buildings
- 2. Relatively fast



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#### **QUIC Wind Solver Run Time**





## QUIC's Niche

- 1. Urban dispersion with buildings
- 2. Relatively fast
- 3. Chemical, biological, and radiological agents



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#### **Release Type**



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#### **Release Type**



#### **Release Type**



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## **Release Type**



## **QUIC's Niche**

- 1. Urban dispersion with buildings
- 2. Relatively fast
- 3. Chemical, biological, and radiological agents
- 4. Advanced users



NNSA

## QUIC's Niche

- 1. Urban dispersion with buildings
- 2. Relatively fast
- 3. Chemical, biological, and radiological agents
- 4. Advanced users
- 5. Applications where many simulations must be performed and/or rapid feedback is required



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#### **CBR Sensor Siting**

Goal: Optimally Site Bio Collectors to Enhance the Probability of Detecting a Bio Attack on High-Profile Facilities & Special Events



#### **QUIC Collector Siting Tool GUI**

 The model is completely automated and allows for batch processing on multi-processor platforms



#### **Assessments & Response Guidance**

#### **Chemical Facility Vulnerability Assessments**



#### **Clean-up & Restoration Studies**



#### **Training and Exercise**



## Deposition – 0-5 micron particles



The 0-5 micron particles get lofted high into the air and slowly settle out. They are the major contributors to the deposition on the upper walls of tall buildings.

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# Deposition – 25-100 micron particles



The 25-100 micron particles get lofted fairly high into the air and settle out fairly rapidly. They are a major contributor to the deposition on building roofs and the

## **Protective Action Guidelines**

# Suffice Deposition Contours FPA Relocation Unit (ver 1 year) Greater bia Deposition Contours Suffice Deposition Contours FPA Relocation Unit (ver 1 year) Greater bia Deposition Contours Suffice Deposition Contours For the contours For the contours Suffice Deposition Contours For the contours Suffice Deposition Contours For the contours For th

**Public Evacuation Guidelines** 

## **Protective Action Guidelines**

A: 379525 m<sup>2</sup>, M: 3.2311 g Surface Deposition Contours A: 1278925 m<sup>2</sup>, M: 209.2148 g EPA Emergency Personnel Limit (over 96 hrs) A: 42975 m<sup>2</sup>, M: 24.2508 g A: 263275 m<sup>2</sup>, M: 329.7651 g A: 79450 m<sup>2</sup>, M: 399.2623 g irem(96hr) EPA A: 4500 m<sup>2</sup>, M: 115.3233 g vacuation/Sheltering - Upper Limite - 5rem(96hr) A:0m<sup>2</sup>,M:0g EPA EPA Evacuation/Sheltering – Lower Limit – 1rem(96hr) mrem(hr) 1mrem(96hr) 3000 lb HE Case 1: 3000 lb HE, 3.6 m/s wind, 700 m BL depth, B stability · Los Alamos Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for NNSA Unclassified NISA

**Emergency Responder Guidelines** 



## **Protective Action Guidelines**

**Emergency Responder Guidelines** 



#### **QUIC Building Infiltration Capability**



Note-majority of building infiltration properties set to default (old office with commercial filter and closed windows) Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for NNSA NNSA

## Linkage with NIST CONTAM Model



#### **Urban Forests**

#### **Drag & Deposition**



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Automatic Vegetation & Urban Canopy Import from Land Use Data









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#### **Forest Canopies act as Particle Filters**

#### **Particle Resuspension**



#### Wind- & Mechanically-Driven Resuspension

Wind gusts can loft the deposited particles from the ground, trees, and buildings up into the air again.



#### Wind- & Mechanically-Driven Resuspension

Wind gusts can loft the deposited particles from the ground, trees, and buildings up into the air again.



#### Wind- & Mechanically-Driven Resuspension

Wind gusts can loft the deposited particles from the ground, trees, and buildings up into the air again.



0.01 0.001 00 0.0001 1e-05 1e-05 ÷ 1e-06 1e-06 1e-07 49.53 223 1e-07 1e-08 1e-08 1e-09 le-09 3 microns 7.5 microns .84 1e-1  $\Lambda[s^{-1}] = 0.42$ z0 + 0.01 m u\*= 0.5 m/ 3.5 Deposition increases with particle size Dp = 10 # 2.5 2 Dp = 1 m 1.5 **Resuspension increases** Increasing with particle size particle size 0.5 Los Alamos t(s) Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for NNSA UNCLASSIFIED NNSA

#### Impact of Spore Agglomerate Size

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#### **QUIC Model Evaluation – OKC Joint Urban 2003**



#### **QUIC Model Validation – Particle Deposition**



A comparison of the crosswind integrated deposition versus downwind distance measured by Walker (1965) and computed by QUIC for glass spheres of **56 micron** mass median diameter during Trial I.



#### **QUIC Model Validation – Explosive Rise**



Validation of the QUIC rise scheme using outdoor buoyant rise field experiments. The top of the model-computed buoyant puffs are close to the measurements.

Boughton, B. A. and J. M. DeLaurentis, "An Integral Model of Plume Rise from High Explosive Detonations," SAND-86-2553C.

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#### **Dense Gas Validation**



#### **Dense Gas Validation**

#### **Thorney Island**



#### **QUIC Evaluation – NYC Midtown Tracer Expt**





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#### **QUIC Evaluation – NYC Midtown Tracer Expt**




# **QUIC Evaluation – NYC Midtown Tracer Expt**

# **QUIC CBR Dispersion Modeling System**

- Fast running code with graphical user interface
- Produces 3D winds around buildings using empirical/diagnostic approach
- "Urbanized" random-walk plume
  dispersion model
- Algorithms for chemical, biological, and radiological source terms
- Infiltration into buildings
- In independent urban tracer expt. evaluation studies, has been shown to work as well as CFD codes, but runs hundreds of times faster (Allwine et al, 2008, PNNL).
- Used by several hundred groups in
   JS and around the world

Free for research purposes



NNSA

# Joint Urban 2003 – Oklahoma City



Joint Urban 2003 Held in downtown OKC 30 min SF6 release 3 release locations IOP3 – IOP10 = 24 trials ½ day, ½ night



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## **QUIC Model Evaluation – JU03 OKC**

## **QUIC Model Evaluation – JU03 OKC**



## **QUIC Model Evaluation – JU03 OKC**







## **QUIC Model Evaluation – JU03 OKC**





## **QUIC Model Evaluation – JU03 OKC**

## **QUIC Model Validation – Pressures**



### $\Delta C_{p}$ = Max $C_{p}$ Front Face – Min $C_{p}$ Back Face



## **QUIC Model Validation – Buoyant Rise**



# **Cloud Rise vs HE mass**



# **QUIC Model Validation – Project Prairie Grass**



# **Terminal Fall Velocity vs. Diameter**



Gunn, R. and G.D. Kinzer, 1949: The terminal velocity of fall for water droplets in stagnant air, J. Meteor., 6: 243-248.



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# **Evaporation of Falling Drops**



Beard, K. V. and H. R. Pruppacher, 1971: A wind tunnel investigation of the rate of evaporation of small water drops falling at terminal velocity in air, J. Atmos. Sci., 28, 1455-1464.

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Slide 84

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## **Liquid Pool Spreading Validation**



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# **Other Unique Features**



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Robert Knowlton, Mark Tucker, Mark Kinnan, Brad Melton, Jim Davies



# An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in livestock would be devastating



- Historical outbreaks of livestock diseases have had significant impacts:
  - In 2001, the UK had an FMD outbreak that resulted in the slaughter of over 4M livestock and caused over \$6B in agricultural and food chain losses.
  - An FMD outbreak in Korea in 2010-2011 resulted in the slaughter of over 3M livestock and \$2B in financial losses.
  - The occurrence of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a dairy cow in the US in 2003 resulted in over \$3B in lost revenue due to export restrictions.
- Following an FMD outbreak there will be tough decisions:
  - Should vaccination be considered?
  - Should depopulation occur both in the infected zone and a buffer zone?
  - Several options exist for disposing of carcasses, which option, or options, are best, given time and resource constraints?



#### 2

#### A Comprehensive Decision Support Tool



- A comprehensive decision support tool is needed to address the complex interdependencies associated with options for recovery from an FMD outbreak
- SNL had previously developed a comprehensive tool for restoration and recovery analyses following wide-area chem-bio-rad releases, called:
  - Prioritization Analysis Tool for All-Hazards/Analyzer for Wide-Area Restoration Effectiveness (PATH/AWARE)
- PATH/AWARE was developed with funding from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)
- PATH/AWARE has been used on several projects to assess recovery costs, timelines, resource allocations, and gaps in needs
- With funding from the DHS Agricultural Defense Branch, a module that addresses agricultural security (AgSec) is being added to PATH/AWARE

#### Key Elements of the PATH/AWARE System

- A built-in Geographical Information System (GIS) that provides geospatial situational awareness
- A database that stores large datasets for critical infrastructure and building information
- Complex algorithms that implement decision rules and interdependencies in order to calculate costs and time based on user inputs for resources and parameters
- A prioritization algorithm that allows the users to weight the measures for critical infrastructure needs resulting in a prioritized list of critical assets to restore



Sandia National

#### 2

#### **AgSec Module Development**



Sandia National

- Information on FMD recovery was obtained from a variety of sources, including the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) publication "Foot-and-Mouth Disease Response Plan - The Red Book"
- A set of requirements for the software were developed
- A spreadsheet application was developed that implements most of the logic for the tool to aid with the tool development and with code testing
- Reference data (e.g., cost of equipment rental, manpower rates, etc.) from the literature and the web have been documented for inclusion in the spreadsheet application and the AgSec module of PATH/AWARE
- The AgSec module within PATH/AWARE will also have:
  - GIS spatial analysis capability
  - A database of locations for rendering facilities, incinerators, and landfills (largely taken from EPA's iWASTE tool)
  - Report generation

#### **Key Components of the AgSec Module**

- The modules that have been defined for the tool are:
  - Vaccination
  - Depopulation (including multiple options for euthanizing livestock such as captive bolt, gunshot, and injection)



- Composting (including carbon source estimation)
- Rendering (including transportation)





Composting



### Key Components of the AgSec Module (continued)

- The modules that have been defined for the tool are:
  - Off-site Incineration (including transportation)
  - On-site Incineration (with portable aircurtain incinerators)
  - Off-site landfill burial (including transportation)
  - On-site trench burial
  - Mobile treatment technologies
- In addition, the AgSec module will have a Disposal Decision Tree and check list, as well as a Decision Options Matrix to aid the decision maker



Commercial incinerator



Air curtain incinerator





## Zone Concepts in AgSec Module





Prototype Software for the AgSec Module



- The AgSec Module has been developed as a web-based software package using mostly freeware for the portal and GIS functionalities
- The software is still under development



## Conclusions



- An FMD outbreak would be costly to the nation
- Options for Disinfection, Depopulation, and Disposal (3D) are complicated, so a decision support tool is desired to evaluate alternatives
- The AgSec spreadsheet model provides a basis for estimating costs and time for 3D options, as well as a specification for the coded version of the application
- The prototype AgSec Module for PATH/AWARE will be a useful web-based tool to aid decision makers and to evaluate gaps/needs

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# **Toward Feasible Sampling Plans**

EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference Research Triangle Park, NC 5 November 2013

#### LANDON SEGO, BRENT PULSIPHER

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Richland, WA

PNNL-SA-99210

### The challenge



- Laboratory capacity is a limiting factor
- Costly
- ► Time intensive
- Taking millions of samples is not feasible





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Pacific Northwest

## Strategies for feasible sampling plans

- Judgmental sampling
- Lines of Evidence
- Composite sampling
- Sampling that supports multiple objectives
- Managing risk



### **Judgmental sampling**



Judgmental Prob

Probabilistic

► GAO:

"Probability sampling would have allowed agencies to determine, with some defined level of confidence, when all results are negative, whether a building is contaminated."

- The need to measure confidence was the motivation for probabilistic sampling
- > However, judgmental samples can be used in probabilistic models!



## **Composite sampling**



Image courtesy of MIT Lincoln Labs

- Very useful when local spatial resolution is not required
- Can reduce sampling time (less media to handle)
- Can reduce the number of samples to analyze by a factor of 4, 8, 12, or more
- Subway scenario:
  - In a RESTORe simulation by Sandia National Laboratories, we saw a 42% reduction in the cleanup timeline using 4x composites
- Must consider the potential for a "dilution effect"



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### Sampling that supports multiple objectives



#### Hotspot

Hotspot Design

95% chance of detecting a hotspot with at least 80cm radius if

 such a hotspot exists

## 95% chance of finding contamination if

**Discovery** 

2% of area is contaminated
Judgmental sample 8x more likely to find contamination

than random sample

95% probability that at least 99% of area is clean, if

Compliance

- o samples are dirtyPrior expectation that 99% of high
- risk area is cleanHigh risk cells twice as likely to be
- High risk cells twice as likely to be contaminated as low risk



## Visual Sample Plan

- VSP is systematic planning software for environmental sampling
- ► VSP helps answer:
  - How many samples do we need?
  - Where should we take samples?
  - What decisions do the data support?
  - What confidence can I have in those decisions?
- Free VSP Download: vsp.pnnl.gov





Pacific Nort

#### **VSP** sampling strategies

#### **Existing capabilities**

- Compliance sampling
  - Given I've found nothing, what can I say about the rest of the area?
  - Can include judgmental samples
- Discovery sampling
  - If contamination is present, I want to find it with high probability
- Characterization sampling
  - I want to be assured of detecting a hotspot of a certain shape and size

#### In development

- Compliance sampling
  - Lines of evidence model
     Account for the effect of false
  - negativesAccount for areas with different levels of risk
  - Composite sampling
- Discovery sampling
  - Include judgmental sampling
  - Composite sampling



## Acknowledgements

#### This work was funded by DHS S&T:

- Randall Long
- Don Bansleban
- Lance Brooks
- Chris Russell

#### and CDC/NIOSH

#### **Contact Information:**

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Come see our DEMO!



Pacific Northwest



T REDUCTION

Dr. Brooke Pearson on behalf of:

Mr. Ryan Madden

U.S. Department of Defense Defense Threat Reduction Agency Joint Science and Technology Office ryan.madden@dtra.mil





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November, 2013 Approved for Public Release; Distribution is Unlimited

		BIOLOGICAL F	RESILIENCY		
Event	Preparedness		Recovery		
Continuous		Pre-incident	Pan-incident	Post-incident	-
Routine public	Research verifying best	Increased exercising	Notification	Optimize	Reoccupation
health monitoring	science	of response plans	Identify agent	characterization	decisions
Routine	Trained medical staff and	Increased	ugent	Prioritize recovery	Long-term public
environmental	responders	environmental	Deploy medication	Descritoria	health monitoring
monitoring	Develop plans	sampling	Forensic investigation	Decontamination	Long-term
Force protection	p plane	Increased clinical		Clearance	environmental
	Conduct exercises	sampling	Monitor exposure		monitoring
Established	Hordonod infrastructure	Thoropoutio pro	statistics of affected		Bonovation
communications	Hardened infrastructure	nerapeutic pre-	population		Renovation
	Asset and Capability	, second and	Initial characterization		
	Awareness	Social distancing			

Highlighted activities are informed by the TaCBRD program decision support toolset



#### Threat Activity Sensing and Reporting

For wide area contagious biological threats, mitigate morbidity through rapid detection and containment:

- Novel use of environmental indicatorsCorrelating threat probability to response
- actionsRecommend response actions to prevent or mitigate catastrophic incident

#### Rapid Response and Recovery

For wide area persistent biological threats, compress the timeline for recovery

- Tools to inform decisions on asset prioritization, sampling/decon strategy, tradeoff analysis
- Whole-of-government and international coordination for capability development
- Recommend response actions to recover from catastrophic incident













Prioritization Analysis Tool for all Hazards analyzer (PATH)

- Allows for the rapid identification of key infrastructure likely to be impacted during a WMD event
  Allows users to identify restoration objectives
- Produces a prioritized list of impacted key infrastructure for recovery operations.



Analyzer for Wide Area Restoration Effectiveness (AWARE)

- Allows the user to input one or more WMD contamination scenarios
  - User provides input on estimates of resources available to conduct recovery The prioritized list derived in the PATH tool (above) is
  - I he prioritized list derived in the PATH tool (above) is passed to AWARE tool
     Calculates recovery timelines
    - Calculates recovery timelines
       Estimates the cost of recovery for the key infrastructure list









#### Toolset Development Team:



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# Tactical Dynamic Operational Guided Sampling Tool (TacDOGS)

Daniel Dutrow, Scott Stanchfield, Suma Subbarao, Phillip Koshute, <u>Sean Kinahan</u> and Alex Proescher

2013 U.S. EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference: Decision Support Tool Session (11/5/2013)



# System Architecture





# Capabilities under development

- Web Portlets
- Asset Registration, Asset Coordination, Sampling Research
- Sampling Efficiency Derivation
- From published research  $\rightarrow$  efficiency of instrument vs. surface
- Algorithms
  - Assign assets to missions based on known capabilities
- Best Practices
  - Given the task  $\rightarrow$  suggest how best to accomplish objective
- Field Tasking App
  - Identify sampling locations
- Field Sample Collection App
  - Collect sampling data, record to NFC tag attached to bag



# Field Tasking Application

- Coordinate and assign a variety of tasks to specific locations
  - Sampling locations, points of interest
  - Pre-survey to record photos and notes about the locations
- Robust communications
  - Transfers data through a network connection or NFC "taps" or tags
- Configurable
  - Currently configured for outdoor biological samples
- Current work

5

- Map layer import
- On screen sketching



11/20/2013

# Field Sample Collection Application

#### Field Apps

- Capture and track information about what, when, where, and how samples were collected
- Sample collection data tracking
  - > Transferred to server
  - > Transferred to NFC tag
- May input field analysis data (presumptive field results)





1/20/2013

# Decontamination Strategy and Technology Selection Tool (DeconST)

Donna Edwards, Tim Sa, Stephen Mueller, Paula Krauter (retired), Julie Fruetel, Lynn Yang, Mark Tucker Sandia National Laboratories

Shawn Ryan, Paul Lemieux, Leroy Mickelsen, Mario Ierardi U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

2013 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) International Decontamination Research and Development Conference November 5-7, 2013



Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.







#### Potential decontamination methods

- environmental conditions
- application requirements
- site-specific inputs
- · Cleaning and removal of potentially contaminated items or material
  - off-site treatment
  - source reduction
  - waste management
    - ...all with associated costs and benefits

Problem is exacerbated in wide-area incident with potentially hundreds to thousands of contaminated facilities and limited availability of resources.



#### Features

- Facility-specific, effective remediation approaches
- Comparison of decontamination technologies for the facility
- Flexible, data-rich framework

RESULTS SUMMARY	Decontamination Technologies							
	Volume	tric Decontai	nination	Surfa	ce Decontamin	ation		
	Chlorine Dioxide Gas	Methyl Bromide	Vaporous Hydrogen Peroxide®	Aqueous Chlorine Dioxide	Bleach Immersion	Hydrogen Peroxide PAA, Oxonia Active		
% of Materials Decontaminated	90%	90%	10%	0%	90%	100%		
Total Cost, \$M	\$5.6	\$5.0	\$5.6	\$8.3	\$8.3	\$8.2		
Material Removal/Replacement Time (person hours)	66,500	53,500	71,200	86,900	86,700	84,000		
Total Waste Generated (tons)	300	200	300	400	400	400		
		Jaant darimi	alas I					

#### Intended User

 Technical Working Group (TWG) functioning under a Unified Command (UC) providing recommendations to the Incident Commander (IC) remediating a facility
 3

Source: WARRP Decontamination Strategy and Technology Selection Tool: User Manual and Report

								Denner Area UA
ECONITANAU			RESULTS SUMMARY			lean decks	bler .	
ELECTION TOOL®				Volumet	tric Decontar			
				HVAC is decor	reminated as not			
			Note: The numbers shown are for comparison purposes only. The values should be considered order of magnitude		decontamination			
Facility Name: Medium Office		ke	estimates, rather than occurate predictions due to multiple uncertainties.	Chlorine Dioxide Gas	Methyl Bromide	Vaporous Hydrogen Peroxide®	Chlorine Dioxide Liquid	Aqueous Chlorine Dioxide
Type Size (qualitative)	Walled Offic Medium		sum of the component ports.	3000 ppmv, 3 hrs. >700 cRH, >75 deg F	751; FIH, 18 hour contact time	225 ppmv, 4 hrs		3000 ppm, 1hr contact time, 3 spriev application
Volume (ft <sup>3</sup> )	800,000		% of Exterior Structural Materials Decontaminated	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Ceiling Height (feet)	10		% decontaminated and reusable	0%	0%	0%	0%	0
Number of Occupants	291		% decontaminated and destroyed (treated waste)	006	05	05		
			% of Interior Materials Decontaminated	90%	90%	10%	0%	0%
			% decontaminated and reusable	80%	90%	10%	0%	0
HVAC Information	100 C		% decontaminated and destroyed (treated waste)	10%	0%	0%	0%	0
System Type Duct Lining	Lined		% of Contents Decontaminated	8004	500	EON:	404	
Accessibility/Complexity	Less-Accest	ible	% decontaminated and reverable	-NA	2014	30%	40/5	-
				40%	50%	50%	40%	40
Agent Information			% decontaminated and destroyed (treated waste)	20%	0%	0%	0%	0
Agent Type	Bacillus ant	mracis	Total Cost, SM	\$5.6	\$5.0	\$5.6	\$8.2	\$8.3
Weather Considerations	Relative H	rumidity (%)	Decon Process Cost, \$M	\$3.0	\$3.3	\$2.8	\$4.5	\$4.5
HIGH:	50	STOCKED LINE	Waste Management Cost, \$M	\$2.0	\$1.1	\$2.2	\$3.1	\$3.2
LOW:	20		Material Removal/Replacement Time	66,500	53,500	71,200	86,900	86,900
Temperature Profile	Temper	ature (*F)	Removal Time (person hours)	45.300	22.000	12 000	48.000	40.000
LOW:	50		Banlassement Time (names being)	45,200	33,000	35,900	40,000	40,800
Cost-Scaling Factors			neparement rime (person nours)	21,300	20,500	37,300	38,100	38,10
Labor & Materials Scaling	Factor 1 (cost	t multiplier)	Total Waste Generated (tons)	300	200	300	400	400
waste-mandling bitriculty	ROW		Removed for Waste Treatment & Disposal (Adversals & contents removed as waste prior to decentamination)	200	200	200	200	20
Enter new Deconta- mination Technology	Enter new Facility Material	Generate	Treated Waste					
		mepor	/Materials & contents decentaminated, but clamaged by technologie	100	0	0	0	c
NOTES:			Potentially Contaminated Waste				1000	1.1.1

#### GENERAL SESSION 2 | 68

	ser Inp	out: Facility Info	ormation
ECONTAMINATIO	N ()) 🛞 🕞 🥸	User Instructions	Tool Logic Diagram:
Chemical Agent ( Biologual Agent) 44		Insurf skillsy information           Enter a Name for the facility.           (NEQUIRED INFUTS, TO BE SET FIRST):           Select the facility type and qualitative size in order to populate default quantitative of urban materials.	Is the decontamination technology efficacious for the bestvera?
Facility Name: M	vflum Offkor	<ul> <li>Update facility parameters, if desired. Note that tool will promot to confirm new parameters or revert to default.</li> </ul>	is technology efficacious in the environment No
Facility Information         *           Type         WW           Size (qualitative)         MA           Floor Area (tr <sup>2</sup> )         80           Volume (tt <sup>2</sup> )         80           Centing Height (Feet)         10           User Input Area (sqlt)         80           Number of Occupants         280	naukedragust, in ter verifier Liked Office * diuem * diuem * 0.000 0.000	InstitutAC information Selective Acceleration For databal space hyper-builded or unducted. For databal spaces hyper-builded bill and the selection of the database inset of and description of the database inset of and dat	Which metricity (party clinic), as called a set of the
		Insut Cost-Scaling Factors  Adjust urban-area premium.	(efficacy, waste-generation, and destructiveness outputs)
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Agent Information		and results worksheets and charts.	to decon building & decon sensitive materials (remove, treat, sample, transport, dispose, materials)? ex-atu? replace!?
Humidity Profile Humidity Profile Hold: LOW Temperature Profile Hold: LOW Cost-Scaling Factors Labor Materials Scaling Factor	telative Humidity (%) 00 Temperature (*f) 10 1 *(cost multiplier)	Existical Add Meer Facility Adversal 9 - Wohk Jutton Distreme var Aufling Vastensia. 1 - Dister efficacy and destinctionersis of each continue batton. 2 - Dister remeal and regiscement informations: push continue batton. 2 - Dister remeal and derait profession. 2 - Dister Indonesis and derait photomation. Einter quantity of advectional batton. 2 - Dister Indonesis and derait photomation. Einter quantity of advectional batton. 2 - Dister Indonesis and derait photomation. 2 - Dister Indonesis and derait photomati	Andrew cost of decision factor angloyment for metatrock, lader, a decision presents wanter technology and the second and the second and the second materials & constants water metatrock management & registerament technology & Wester Management (w/s operational constraints)
Waste-Handling Difficulty In		of and determine actions on materials and to input costs for high-value items decon and contents replacement.	
mination Technology Materia	Generate Report	<ul> <li>Switch to Sampling inputs worksheet to adjust sampling densities.</li> </ul>	
KOTES:		Switch to Results worsheets and charts to view results.     Push Generate Report button to print input and output	

\*Note: The EPA's BOTE experiment is the source for the concept of "waste handling difficulty."



				_			-14	
RESULTS SUMMARY	last demitée							
	Volumet	ric Decontai	mination		5	urface Decontamination		
Note: The numbers shown are for comparison purposes	HVAC is departmentiated as part of instantitie departmention				MVAC will be very difficult to econes and decorrient			
only. The values should be considered order-of-magnitude estimates, rather than accurate predictions due to multiple uncertainties. Note: Rounding of numbers can cause totals to not equal the sum of the component parts.	Chlorine Dioxide Gas 3001 gens. 3 Ivs. > 202 PH	Methyl Bromide 20mgl, 27 degres C. 701 PJ, 10mz	Vaporous Hydrogen Peroxide*	Chlorine Dioxide Liquid	Aqueous Chiorine Dioxide 2000 ppm, 11y contact time, 3 sprace	Bleach Immersion Breach Diversit BD(1600 by weight Add sorts and to pH(68) Interesting 2016	Bleach Spray Bleach Diue to DEV NaOCi by weight Add sortic and to JH1680 Spray Bornis contact TTS	
% of Exterior Structural Materials Decostaniaated	175 deg F	sprind him	225 ppm, 4 hrs	1000	applications	real sized french acted	restrations at and of contact time	
% decontaminated and reusable	0%	0%	0%	0%	.0%	0%	0%	
M decontaminated and destroyed (treated warts)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
% of Interior Materials Decontaminated	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
N decentarionated and southly	90%	90%	10%	0%	0%	90%	90%	
% decontaminated and destroyed (treated warts)	80%	90%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
V of Contexts Decontexticated	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	90%	90%	
% decontents decontentinates	50%	50%	50%	40%	40%	40%	40%	
% decontaminated and destroyed (treated search)	40%	50%	50%	40%	40%	40%	40%	
Total Cost dat	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Decos Brocers Cost GM	\$3.0	61.1	67.8	CA S	64.5	41	64 S	
Waste Management Cost, SM	\$2.0	61.1	62.0	63.1	63.7	p.5	61.7	
Material Removal/Renlacement Time								
Removal Time (nerson hours)	66,500	\$3,500	71,200	86,900	86,900	\$6,700	86,700	
Renlacement Time (nerson hours)	45,200	33,000	33,900	48,800	48,800	48,700	48,700	
Total Waste Generated (tons)	21,300	20,500	37,300	38,100	38,100	38,100	38,100	
Removed for Waste Treatment & Disposal	300	200	300	400	400	400	400	
Additionals & condents commont as mostly prior to decontaininations'	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	
Advectory weakle	100	0	0	0	0	200	200	
Potentially Contaminated Waste			100	100		100	100	







- EPA's On-Scene Commander "BioGuide" – Incorporated into Decontamination Technologies Chapter
- DoD/DTRA's Transatlantic Collaborative Biological Resiliency Demonstration (TaCBRD)
  - Demonstrated at Technical Demonstration 1
  - Integration into TaCBoaRD tool


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## **Blizzard of October 2013**

- Description Provide a state of single state of single state of single state of single state of the state o
- Animals suffocated as the snow built up, others suffered from hypothermia, fell off rocky ledges or were hit by vehicles as they wandered on to roads
- Killed between 15,000 and 30,000 head of cattle in South Dakota, and ~1,000 in Nebraska



# Disposal

- IVK burning, landfill, rendering and mass burial
  - Burial: A total of seven sites were used. In total, some 1.3 million carcasses (about 20% of the total 6 million) were disposed in mass burial sites
  - Rendering: only 15,000 tons per week capacity
  - Landfill: 69,000 tons in Cumbria, but there were concerns about spread of BSE
- 80 South Dakota mass burial
  - Two giant pits dug in the eastern part of Pennington County, SD and ranchers are being encouraged to bring carcasses to them for disposal.

ю Korea - mass burial

 Approximately 3.48 million animals (151,425 cattle, 3,318,299 pigs, 8,071 goats, and 2,728 deer) were buried at 4,583 burial sites

80 Nebraska - landfill

 The Solid Waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska was granted a permit by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality to operate an Emergency Carcass Disposal Area at a landfill.

# How can we aid in determining the disposal option for the scenario?

- <sup>50</sup> What is the best option?
- 80 What materials do I need?
- <sup>so</sup> What training do I need?
- 80 What permits do I need?
- so How much land do l need?
- 80 How long will it take?
- Bo How much will it cost?



5

# **Disposal Matrix**

	Onsite Composting		Permitted Landfill	Regional Composting Facility*	Fixed Incineration	Open Burning	Unlined Burial	Mobile Technologies	ନ୍ଦ	Started with Draft FAD PReP SOP for		
Public health risk (1)				3	3	2		\$		Disposal matrix in		
Need to transport carcasses offsite (2)							3	3	ନ୍ଦ	Reviewed by		
Byproducts (3)			2					?		interagency 3D IPT		
Biosecurity (4)	2		2	2	2			?		and revised		
Pathogen inactivation (5)				3	3	2		?	ନ୍ଦ	This is a subjective		
Cost effectiveness (6)		2	3	3			3	?		scoring system based on the expert opinions of subject matter experts		
Environmentally sustainable (7)			2	з	2			?				
Volume reduction (8)	2		2	2			2	?				
Capacity (9)	2	2	3	2		2		1				
Throughput (10)	2		В	2		2	2	1	∞ Is a one-size fits all scenarios view			
Availability (11)	2	2	8	2		3						
Speed to implement (12)	2	2	3	2	2			?				
Public acceptance (13)		2	3		2			?		Color Key		
Efficiency (14)	2	3	2	2	2		2	?		Ideal		
Operability (15)	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	_	Not Ideal		
Total Points	37	37	35	35	29	26	26	7		Net Outerble		
Average Score	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.3	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.4	π	Not Suitable		

# **Agent Based Disposal Matrix**

Disposal Option	Virus	Prion	Bacteria	Spore Bacteria	Chem <sup>a</sup>	Rad <sup>b</sup>
Unlined Burial	Possible <sup>1</sup>	Possible <sup>2</sup>	Possible <sup>3</sup>	Possible <sup>4</sup>	No <sup>5</sup>	No <sup>6</sup>
Engr. Landfill	Yes <sup>7</sup>	Yes <sup>8</sup>	Yes <sup>9</sup>	Possible <sup>10</sup>	Possible <sup>11</sup>	Possible <sup>12</sup>
Incineration	Yes <sup>13</sup>	Yes <sup>14</sup>	Yes <sup>15</sup>	Possible <sup>16</sup>	Possible <sup>17</sup>	Possible <sup>18</sup>
Open burn	Possible <sup>19</sup>	No <sup>20</sup>	Possible <sup>21</sup>	Possible <sup>22</sup>	No <sup>23</sup>	No <sup>24</sup>
Rendering	Yes <sup>25</sup>	Possible <sup>26</sup>	Yes <sup>27</sup>	Yes <sup>28</sup>	No <sup>29</sup>	No <sup>30</sup>
Compost	Yes <sup>31</sup>	No <sup>32</sup>	Yes <sup>33</sup>	No <sup>34</sup>	No <sup>35</sup>	Possible <sup>36</sup>

80 Built a new matrix based upon the suitability of the disposal option and the reason for disposal

so Justification based on experimental evidence and regulations

7

80 Primary literature and reports cited



# Tool Calculates:





## **Questions?**

The epidemic health control officer gave us a few guidelines. "No one can leave here until after all the work is done and the sterilizing truck has come and disinfected everyone. We will begin the live burial of bigger pigs first, and then move on to the smaller pigs." Even the mayor, who had to volunteer like the rest of us due to lack of personnel, had to follow these orders.

 Yoon Hu-Duk, a politician who is also a volunteer with his local diseaseprevention authority in Paju—a city at the northern border of South Korea commenting on Korea's FMD disposal activities

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- GIS-based tool that can assist in planning/preparedness activities
  - Radiological incident waste management issues linked with decontamination and restoration timeline
  - Waste management decisions need to be made early

#### Waste Estimation Support Tool (WEST) Facilitates

- First-order estimate of waste quantity and activity
- Pre-selection of waste management options
- ID of potential triage/staging/temporary storage areas
- Assessment of impact of decontamination/waste management strategies on waste generation and vice-versa
- Identify starting points for policy discussions









Office of Research and Development National Homeland Security Research Center Wide Area Recovery and Resiliency Program (Denver Metro Area)



#### Demolition/decontamination decisions

- -Default % for all buildings within each zone
- -Custom based on 28 user-specific occupancy types (e.g., single family homes, industrial buildings, etc.)

#### Distribution of decontamination technologies

- -Washing
- -Abrasive removal
- -Strippable coatings
- -2 user-defined decontamination technologies
- -"No decontamination" option

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#### **Example Results**

	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Total	
	Mass	Volume	Mass	Volume	Mass	Volume	Mass	Volume
Media	мт	m <sup>3</sup>	МТ	m³	мт	m³	мт	m <sup>3</sup>
Ground Materials and Trees	21,000	9,700	226,000	107,000	543,000	267,000	790,000	383,000
Building Demolition	67,000	28,000	83,000	34,000	142,000	59,000	292,000	121,000
Building Decontamination	900	300	85,000	37,000	72,000	33,000	159,000	71,000
Wastewater (L)		5 3E+07		1 5E+10		2 8E+10		4 2E+10

Results from Liberty RadEx National Level Exercise Scenario



#### **EXAMPLA STATES** Implications Identified by the Tool

- Highlights benefit of considering waste when selecting decontamination options
- Identify resource constraints (e.g., wash water)
- Help refine decontamination strategy based on infrastructure, time, & radionuclide activity
- Advantages of on-site treatment to reduce waste
  Seil is prime condidate for on site treatment and
  - Soil is prime candidate for on-site treatment and waste minimization activities
- Identifies starting point for policy discussions
  - Use of conventional or hazardous waste landfills for minimally-contaminated materials
  - -Use of low-level radioactive waste disposal capacity
- for materials contaminated at higher levels



- Version 2.0 (Oct. 2013)
  - -ArcGIS 10.x support
  - -Significant automation of data processing steps
  - -Building occupancy-specific decontamination/demolition
  - -Support for multi-state scenarios
- Version 2.1 (Feb. 2014)
  - -Generate reports
  - -Detailed user guide

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- Import building stock (Shapefile or OpenStreetMap)
- Support for OCONUS
- Essential facilities (IC)
- Building contents (I-WASTE)
- Estimate biomass/vehicles (USDA)
- Cost & logistical support
- Plot results in GIS
- All-hazard support (chem/bio)
- EPA GeoPlatform support







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Paul Lemieux lemieux.paul@epa.gov 919-541-0962











#### **Focus Group Meetings Summary**

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- Participants supportive of application concept
- Recommended an "All Hazards" approach
- Provided examples of plans for similar, past incidents
- Provided suggestions for additional resources for various parts of the tool
- Requested the application provide additional guidance/information on certain issues, such as carcass disposal.
- Noted significant differences between level of experience and degree of planning of participating States. Recommended flexibility to accommodate differences
- Stressed importance of integration with other related tools (such as IWASTE) and adherence to existing EPA data standards
- Mentioned importance of coordination with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) (and with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and US Coast Guard (USCG) to lesser extent)
- · Emphasized value of users' ability to share information with each other







# Wednesday, November 6, 2013

# **General Session 3**

Risk Communication and Systems Approach





#### **Acknowledgements**

- · City of Chicago Department of Water Management
- City of San Diego Public Utilities Department
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities
- Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
- Public Participants
- Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies/WaterISAC
- Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE)
  - Dick Tardif
  - Kelli Martin
  - Mark Herring (Mark Herring Associates)





### **Risk Communication**



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### **Objectives**

- Critical information needs of public during water emergency
- Differences in perceptions

•Support crisis communication planning





### **Research Methods**



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### **Professional Sessions**

- Questions the public would want answered

"If you can keep the...public informed... you can help the public manage the situation."



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#### **Reactions**

- "Attack" and "terrorism" negative connotations
- Supply protection





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Beliefs

Point of attack source water (e.g., reservoir, river) Contamination will spread throughout the system



Public: "I don't know if I believe it could be that isolated."





### **Biological vs. Chemical**

- · Bacterium are alive
- Remediation more difficult
- Pesticides less alarming
  - -Ingested
  - -Used in homes

"Big difference...we eat pesticides."

"A biological agent will grow rather than be diluted." "[Biological agent] automatic...sick, gut-wrenching feeling"

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### Conclusions

- Construct
- Capacity
- Collaborate
- Communicate



Professional: "The health information must come from health officials." Public: "I'd have to have someone come out, open the faucet, and drink it."

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#### **Draft Messages**

- Preference for
  - -Directives
  - -Short concise sentences
  - -Protective actions
  - -Results rather than process
  - -Sense of time/predictability





Ş	Lited States Environmental Protection Agency
	User Guide References About
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	This product was prepared for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by the Oak Klopp Institute for Science and Education (OKESE) through an interrugency agreement with the U.S. Department of Energy (DDP). ORISE is managed by Oak Ridge Astrobatic Universities under DDE contract number DE-AC05-ISG0823100.
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### **Report Availability**

Website

-www.epa.gov/nhsrc

- For more information, contact
  - Scott Minamyer WIPD minamyer.scott@epa.gov
  - -Cynthia Yund, PhD TCAD <u>yund.cynthia@epa.gov</u>

#### Disclaimer

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, through its Office of Research and Development, funded and managed the research described here. It has been subjected to Agency's administrative review and approved for publication. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use. 2013 EPA Decon Conference Risk Communication and Systems Approach Session

#### Perceptions of Risk Communication Messages During a Long-Term Biological Remediation

#### Charlena Bowling<sup>1</sup>, David Malet<sup>2</sup>, Mark Korbitz<sup>3</sup>, Jody Carrillo<sup>4</sup>, Elizabeth Penrod<sup>4</sup>, Cynthia Yund<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>US Environmental Protection Agency, 26 W. Martin Luther King Dr., MS NG16, Cincinnati OH 45268; <sup>2</sup>University of Melbourne, Grattan St., Parkville VIC 3010, Australia; <sup>3</sup>Otero Junior College, 1802 Colorado Ave., La Junta CO 81050; <sup>4</sup>Pueblo County/City Health Department, 101 W. 9<sup>th</sup> St., Pueblo CO 81003

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#### **Feedback Session**

- Participants assigned to tables of 6-8
  individuals
- Recorders and digital tape recorders collected responses
- Determine most effective messages for communicating decontamination data to the lay public



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A Systems Approach to Characterizing the Social Environment for Decontamination and Resilience

Dr. Keely Maxwell, AAAS Fellow, EPA National Homeland Security Research Center U.S. EPA International Decontamination Research & Development Conference November 6, 2013

### Talk outline

- 1. The social environment of decontamination
  - Systems approach to characterizing the social environment



Decontaminated Environment Resilient Community











Indicator	Couplea Human-Natural System Resilience Indicators				
Category	Pre-	Post-disaster			
	Vulnerability	Capacity	Recovery Outcomes		
Demographic	Vulnerable populations	Educational attainment	Population growth rate		
		Religious adherents /capita	USPS vacancy rates		
	oneven risk disinbolion	Owner: renter	Domestic violence rates		
Governance	No disaster planning	Scenario exercises			
& Planning	Political fragmentation	Risk communication	Compliance rates		
& Flanning	Risk (mis)perception	Hazard mitigation planning	Organizational learning		
Economic	Income & wealth inequality	Human development index	Housing affordability		
	Household access to cash,	Livelihood diversity	Unemployment rates & wages		
	vehicles, phones, insurance	Females in labor force	Business disruption		
	Vulnerable housing stock	Critical infrastructure and	Property damage		
Infrastructure	Low arterial miles/ area	lifeline redundancy	Time until return to function		
	Bottlenecks	Structural protection	Degrades gracefully		
	Unhealthy population &	Access to doctor, hospital,	Disaster related morbidity		
	behavior patterns	insurance, pharmacy	Disease incidence		
	Crime rates	Health literacy	Perception of well-being		
Social networks & collective action	limited sense of place	Civic organizations	Access to public spaces		
	Lack of trust	Voter registration rates	Memorialization undertaken		
	Community values not ID'd	Volunteering rates	Political voice in recovery		
	control in y valoes not ib a	Foldineering rules	Tomed voice in recovery		
Environment	Environmental legacies		Contaminant levels		
	Environmental injustice	Biodiversity	Waste management		
	Soil erosion	Land use planning	Resource property rights		

Indiantar	Coupled Human-Natural System Resilience Indicators				
Category	Pre-d	Post-disaster			
	Vulnerability	Capacity	Recovery Outcomes		
Demographic	Vulnerable populations Uneven risk distribution	Educational attainment Religious adherents /capita Owner: renter	Population growth rate USPS vacancy rates Domestic violence rates		
Governance & Planning	No disaster planning Political fragmentation Risk (mis)perception	Scenario exercises Risk communication Hazard mitigation planning	Adaptive capacity Compliance rates Organizational learning		
Economic	Income & wealth inequality Household access to cash, vehicles, phones, insurance	Human development index Livelihood diversity Females in labor force	Housing affordability Unemployment rates & wages Business disruption		
Infrastructure	Vulnerable housing stock Low arterial miles/ area Bottlenecks	Critical infrastructure and lifeline redundancy Structural protection	Property damage Time until return to function Degrades gracefully		
Public Health	Unhealthy population & behavior patterns Crime rates	Access to doctor, hospital, insurance, pharmacy Health literacy	Disaster related morbidity Disease incidence Perception of well-being		
Social networks & collective action	Limited sense of place Lack of trust Community values not ID'd	Civic organizations Voter registration rates Volunteering rates	Access to public spaces Memorialization undertaken Political voice in recovery		
Environment	Environmental legacies Environmental injustice Soil erosion	Environmental knowledge Biodiversity Land use planning	Contaminant levels Waste management Resource property rights		

ndicator	Pre-disaster			Post-disaster		
Category	Vulnerability		Capacity	Recovery Outcomes		
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Governance & Planning	No dis Politicc <b>N</b> Risk (m	letric	US Census Da	pacity rates nal learning		
Economic	Econor Housel vehicle	ple	Households w mem	bers	rdability ent rates & wages uption	
Infrastructure	Vulner gene Low ar Bottler house	ration eholds	<18 and 65+, as % total households		mage urn to function acefully	
Public Health	Unhea behav Crime		F or M householde	r, no	ted morbidity lence f well-being	
Social networks & collective action	Limitec Singl Lack o pare Comm house	e nt eholds	spouse present, w/ children <18, as % households w/own	own 6 total	olic spaces tion undertaken e in recovery	
Environment	Enviror Enviror		children <18		levels agement	

Indicator	Coupled Human-Natural System Resilience Indicators			
Catagory		Post-disaster		
Calegory	Vulnerability	Capacity	Recovery Outcomes	
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	Political fragmontation	Dick co	Compliance rates Organizational learning	
Economic	Metric	Data	Housing affordability Unemployment rates & wages	
Infrastructure	ŚŚŚ	ŞŠ	Business disruption Property damage Time until return to function Degrades gracefully	
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Environment	Environmental legacies	Environmental knowledge	Contaminant levels		
	Environmental injustice	Biodiversity	Waste management		
	Soil erosion	Land use planning	Resource property rights		



# Moving forward: local environmental knowledge & risk communication





# Moving forward: public values & remediation criteria

Sugar Creek, OH: polluted watershed. Locally controlled water quality testing. Used pollution levels & **social significance** to prioritize clean-up hotspots.





Rocky Flats, CO: Superfund site. Community Radionuclide Soil Action Level Oversight Panel held monthly public meetings. Methodology & report on soil action levels.



### Moving forward: coupled humannatural system monitoring





Endicott, NY. 1979: TCE spills into groundwater. Remediation: house ventilation limits vapor intrusion Monitoring: # houses with ventilation, public health

System monitoring: trust in institutions, property values, attachment to place

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Photo: P. Little



Thank you! Please provide information & ideas to: Dr. Keely Maxwell, AAAS Fellow, EPA NHSRC <u>Maxwell.Keely@epa.gov</u> (202) 564-3193

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# Wednesday, November 6, 2013

# **General Session 3**

Food Safety-Decontamination and Disposal Issues

### USDA United States Department of Agriculture

U.S. EPA Decontamination Conference

# Intentional Contamination of Food

Nicholas B. Bauer USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service November 6, 2013

11/06/2013



# U.S. Agriculture



United States Department of Agriculture

- \$1 trillion in food business
  - \$141 billion agriculture exports (2012)
  - \$103 billion agriculture imports (2012)
  - ~10 15% total U.S.
     economic activity
  - -~18% of total U.S. jobs

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USDA

### USDA United States Department of Agriculture

# Food Defense

**Food Safety** – the efforts to prevent accidental (unintentional) contamination of food products by agents reasonably likely to occur in the food supply

 Natural / environmental source of contamination

**Food Defense** – the efforts to prevent intentional contamination of food products by biological, chemical, physical, or radiological agents



Food Defense is Voluntary!



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USDA United States Department of Agriculture

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# Why Attack Food?

- Food is often prepared or held in large batches (many servings)
- Extremely rapid, widespread distribution with just-in-time deliveries
- Industry consolidation of food processing facilities



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# Food as a Weapon

- The food and agriculture sector could be used as a vehicle to disseminate threat agents, with potentially catastrophic impacts:
  - Public Health

United States Department of Agriculture

- Economic and trade
- Psychological
- Loss of public confidence
- Even the threat of intentional contamination could pose serious problems for public health and the international economy
- Intelligence indicates terrorists have discussed attacking components of the food sector

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### USDA

### Intentional Contamination of Food



Latest Terror Threat in US Aimed to Poison Food (December 2010)

 Afghan cops: Food poisoning at border post (February 2012)

United States Department of Agriculture

### The Telegraph

 Milk alert as poison terrorist strikes (December 2003)

THE¥ INDEPENDENT

 'Al-Qa'ida' attempt to poison Rome's water supply foiled (February 2002)





 Arsenic Poisoning Caused by Intentional Contamination of Coffee at a Church Gathering— An Epidemiological Approach to a Forensic Investigation (April 2010)

### CRIENGLISH. COM

 The food poisoning of 203 hospital patients in northeast China was a criminal act involving the intentional use of dangerous substances, the police said... (April 2007)

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# Potential Impact of Intentional Contamination

 Scenario: Ground Beef

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# Where to Find Information



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- Analytical methods
  - Food matrices are varied and complex
  - Food-specific extraction and analysis methods must be developed and validated
- ٠
- Ingestion toxicity
  - USG funding often focuses on inhalation and dermal exposure-not ingestion and food

# Response and Recovery: Decontamination and Disposal

- Methods for decontamination of food facilities
  - Equipment

ited States Department of Agricult

- Buildings
- How clean is clean?
- Methods for treatment and disposal of contaminated food
  - Treatment
  - Testing
  - Permitting



USDA



### United States Department of Agriculture

# Decontamination and Disposal Challenges

- Large volumes—even a moderate-sized establishment can produce 1 million pounds/week
- Geographically dispersed production, distribution, and retail facilities
- · Consumer homes and facilities
- Complex matrices

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# Food Safety Modernization Act

- FSMA §208 identifies EPA as lead agency to assist state, local, and tribal governments in preparing for, assessing, decontaminating, and recovering from an agricultural or food emergency.
  - Development of standards
  - Development of model plans
  - Exercises

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• Resilience is key

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<u>USDA</u>

### USDA United States Department of Agriculture

# **Ensuring Response Capabilities**

- USG roles and responsibilities in response to an attack on food or agriculture need to be well defined and tested
  - NSTC Chemical Defense R&D Subcommittee:
    - Coordinates technical aspects
    - FSIS, DHS, EPA, FDA, DoD, HHS
  - NSS Chemical Preparedness Sub-Interagency Policy Committee (Sub-IPC)

11/06/2013

# **Contact Information**

Nick Bauer 202-690-6372 <u>Nick.Bauer@usda.fsis.gov</u>

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# Wednesday, November 6, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 1**

Biological Agent Decontamination





➢R Decontamination studies at CEA

>ASPIGELS: self drying and cracking gels for 2D surface decontamination >GELIFOAM: viscosified or gelified foams for 3D decontamination (high volume and complex shapes)

- ➤B Decontamination GELIBIO
- >C Decontamination (FOAM for TICs: OP, pesticides, ammonia, chlorine...)
- >Conclusion: Gels and foams are promising technologies for CBRN decon



### NR Decontamination studies at CEA

### ≻Motivations

 Increasing of maintenance or cleaning facilities and dismantling projects all other the world: fission products tanks, hot cells, gloves boxes, concrete of buildings, PWR steam generator maintenance, pools cleaning...
 Accident case (Fukushima)

\*CBRN terrorism

### Which R decon process?

Need of novel, safe, reliable, "teleoperable" or easily deployable **decontamination processes for solids limiting waste volume and easing the final waste treatment and conditioning** 



di/triphasic fluids to avoid usual liquid decon/rinsing





### Summary

➢R Decontamination studies at CEA

>ASPIGELS: self drying and cracking gels for 2D surface decontamination >GELIFOAM: viscosified or gelified foams for 3D decontamination (high volume and complex shapes)

- ➤B Decontamination GELIBIO
- >C Decontamination (FOAM for TICs: OP, pesticides, ammonia, chlorine...)
- >Conclusion: Gels and foams are promising technologies for CBRN decon











Transfer with Strippable organic gel = no chemistry

CEA mineral drying and cracking gel : ASPIGEL

### I- NR Gels: ASPIGELS®

• ASPIGEL can be considered as a <u>concentrated colloidal suspension</u> of silica or alumina in water containing suitable chemical reagent for decontamination.





<u>between</u> particles

• These gels are **easily prepared** by mixing silica or alumina with chemical reagents in water.



### Radioactive decontamination using drying/cracking gels



### **Advantages**

No liquid effluent

Fixed contamination

•Reduction of secondary wastes volume

Rheology
(spraying, adhesion)
Corrosion (0 to 2 µm)
Drying (3 to 24 hours)
Cracking formation
Pellets Adhesion

3 Ph D students 2004, 2007, 2013





3. Brushing and/or vaccum to recover dry pellets including contamination

# cea

### Metal and concrete decontamination

### Commercial SDC gels : ASPIGELS®

ASPIGEL 100	Ŧ	Stainless Steel
ASPIGE 100 E	æ	Stainless Steel 2011 in Hanford USA
ASPIGEL 200	F	Steel
ASPIGEL 300	(P	Lead
ASPIGEL 400	F	Aluminium
ASPIGEL 500	œ	Concrete, mortar
ASPIGEL 50	Ē	Degreasing gel

Synthesis and selling license : FEVDI (Corbas-France)



CE2 Real decontamination of ISAI cells in CEA Marcoule using ASPIGEL 100



Pulverization of a ASPIGEL 100 thin film (500 µm) :

Silica colloidal particles AEROSIL and/or TIXOSIL



Recovering of the dried pellets by brushing or vacuum cleaning





### Experience feedback about decontamination operations using drying gels

2007 : The Decontamination of GUYENNE hot cell (CEA Fontenay aux Roses)



- Substrate : stainless steel
- Nature of the contamination α : <sup>241</sup>Am, <sup>244</sup>Cm, <sup>238</sup>Pu
- Nature of the contamination β: <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>241</sup>Pu, <sup>90</sup>Sr, <sup>90</sup>Y



Gel during its applying by painting

- Application of 2,650 Kg of gel by painting because of the small area treated (4 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Drying time = 48 hours
- < 1 Kg of dry pellets produced</p>



Dry pellets during brushing and vacuum cleaning

Experience feedback about decontamination operations using drying gels

The Results of the process efficiency obtained on CYRANO



 After gel decontamination, all radiological requirements fixed at initial time were reached

 $\ensuremath{\mathscr{F}}$  The contamination retired from the stainless steel is trapped in the solid tiles removed by vaccum succion





### What to do with the particulate pellets?

Immobilization of the pellets in mortar for final storage in ANDRA facilities







➢R Decontamination studies at CEA

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- ➤B Decontamination GELIBIO
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- >Conclusion: Gels and foams are promising technologies for CBRN decon





Static (high volume, complex shapes) GELIFOAM















Foam flow rate =85 m³/h ,  $\Delta P$  = 250 mbar



Viscosified foam video film



### Foams as much efficient as liquids

cea

Metal corrosion obtained with acidic foams<sup>1</sup>



☞ Foam is active on every point of the solid/foam interface

 $\ensuremath{\mathscr{T}}$  The corrosion depends on the contact time of the foam with the metal surface

- The foam efficiency is similar to the liquid
- Transformed and the surface of weeting liquid film between the foam and the surface



S. Guignot, S. Faure, M. Vignes-Adler, O. Pitois "Liquid and particle in foamed suspensions" Chemical Engineering Science, Volume 65, Issue 8, 15 April 2010, Pages 2579-2585



. Faure, S. et al "Synthesis of new fluorinated foaming particles", Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects, Volume 382, Issues 1–3, 5 June 2011, Pages 139-144



➢R Decontamination studies at CEA

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### ➢B Decontamination GELIBIO

>C Decontamination (FOAM for TICs: OP, pesticides, ammonia, chlorine...)

 $\succ$  Conclusion: Gels and foams are promising technologies for CBRN decon


\*GELIBIO 2, more aggressive (bleach), Efficiency > 7 log, CEA contracted the license with <u>NBC-Sys French Company</u>

(GELIFOAM using viscosified foams for B is now under process...) \*CEA Patent 2010 and 2013

#### Summary

➢R Decontamination studies at CEA

>ASPIGELS: self drying and cracking gels for 2D surface decontamination >GELIFOAM: viscosified or gelified foams for 3D decontamination (high volume and complex shapes)

➢B Decontamination GELIBIO

>C Decontamination (FOAM for TICs: OP, pesticides, ammonia, chlorine...)

>Conclusion: Gels and foams are emerging technologies for CBRN decon







•First encouraging results to neutralize gases or organophosphates (pesticides)..

•Under process...

#### CEZ CONCLUSION

2 kinds of <u>promising</u> complex fluids for CBRN decontamination limiting the volume of generated wastes:

- Surface decontamination: self-drying and cracking gels (SDC Gels) for metal et concrete decontamination by simple spraying, flakes vacuum cleaned after drying -ASPIGEL® (NR) - Solid wastes



- Volume decontamination : Use of stable gelified foams for huge surfaces and complex shapes by filling or spraying

-GELIFOAM (B) and FOAMSTIC (for TICs C decon) Easy Liquid treatment



Future : to go on the optimizing of the chemical decontaminations formulations (gels and foams) in order to increase efficiency and reduce even more the quantity of secondary wastes

Multipurpose formulations, promising technologies...





#### Evaluating *Bacillus* Spore Inactivation in an Office Environment Using Low Levels of Chlorine Dioxide

Matt Clayton, Abderrahmane Touati, Nicole Griffin-Gatchalian, Stella McDonald, Rob Delafield, Tim McArthur (ARCADIS)

Joseph Wood, Worth Calfee, Shawn Ryan (EPA)



Presented at US EPA Decontamination Research Conference, Research Triangle Park, NC, November 5-7, 2013
Office of Research and Development
National Homeland Security Research Center, Decontamination and Consequence Management Division



#### **Acknowledgements**

- Other participants:
  - -Shannon Serre, Kim Egler, Joshua Nardin, Neal McSweeney, and Christina Slone

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#### Background

- In a wide area release of anthrax spores, many decontamination tools will be needed
- CIO<sub>2</sub> fumigation has been demonstrated at high concentrations, but few companies have technology to generate high levels
- Purpose is to find conditions and materials in which low levels of ClO<sub>2</sub> are effective, thus allowing more companies to assist in remediation efforts (in the event of a wide area release)
  - -Using a realistic, full scale test bed

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CEPA United States Environmental Prote

#### **Background (continued)**

- Proof of concept small scale glove box tests with coupons showed that > 6 LR achievable at 100 ppm ClO<sub>2</sub>, 8 hours on wood, carpet, drywall, galvanized metal, concrete

   Would these results transfer to full-scale scenario?
- Added benefit with using low levels CIO<sub>2</sub>: would have less impact on materials
  - In some fumigation tests, computers were included in office and were minimally impacted based on software analyses of computer systems



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#### **Methods**

- COnsequence ManageMent ANd Decontamination Evaluation Room (COMMANDER) test chamber and mock office
- CIO<sub>2</sub> generation and measurement
- Test variables and matrix
- General approach for each test
- Microbiological sampling and analysis



# COMMANDER Test Chamber

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- State of the art decontamination chamber
- Measure and/or control temperature, relative humidity, CIO<sub>2</sub> concentration, air flows, pressure



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#### **Mock Office Set up**

- Office finished with carpeting, painted drywall, ceiling tile
- Equipped with desk, chairs, filing cabinet, pin cushion screen, computer/keyboard, catalogues/books, electrical socket



# SEPA

#### CIO<sub>2</sub> generation and measurement

- ClorDiSys GMP
- CIO<sub>2</sub> measurement
  - -EMS
  - -titration
- T, RH



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#### **Test variables/matrix**

- ClO<sub>2</sub> levels ranged from 100 3000 ppm
- Contact time ranged from 4 24 hours
- Nearly all tests conducted at 75% RH, 25 ° C.

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# General Approach for each test

- · Collect negative samples in office
- Place coupons, Bls, RMCs
- Disseminate spores, let settle
- Collect positive control samples
- Fumigate, then aerate
- Collect test samples
- Reset office/chamber with VHP





- Approx. 3.5 x 10<sup>10</sup> colony forming units (CFU) of *Bacillus atrophaeus* disseminated via dry fluidized bed
- · Sampling, extraction, dilution and filter plating
- Detection limit



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#### SEPA United States Environmental Protection Microbiological Sample Summary

- Pre-dissemination samples:10 surfaces + 2 blanks
- Characterize and post decon samples:
  - -25 surface samples
    - HEPA vacuum and wipes
  - -6 Reference Measurement Coupons (1 for post decon)
  - -3 swab samples
  - -1 air sample (Viacell®)
  - -biological indicators

#### -TOTAL= 81 samples per test

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#### CEPA United States Agency Microbiological sampling and analysis









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#### SEPA United States Agency Preliminary Results – Pre Decontamination

- Average surface levels ranged from 4.9 7.2 log CFU/sq ft. –Overall average of 6.4 log CFU/sq ft.
- RMC results correlated well with office surface loadings
   -Correlation coefficient of 0.9
- Spore loadings on horizontal surfaces ~ 0.5 log CFU > vertical surfaces

-Vertical surfaces ~ 0.5 log CFU > ceiling tile

Spore levels in air ranged from 0.24 – 20 CFU/liter

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	n	Average Pre-decon CFU/ft <sup>2</sup>	Average Post-decon			
catalogue	1	6.18E+04	ND			
keyboard	1	2.66E+06	ND		Average Pre-	Average Po
chair back	2	3.55E+05	1.55E+00		decon	decon
chair seat	2	1.73E+06	ND	RMCs	CFU/ft <sup>2</sup>	
pin cushion screen	3	9.00E+04	ND	wall	8.35E+03	
ceiling tile	3	9.46E+04	ND	inside computer	2.88E+03	
carpet	5	2.54E+05	ND	corner of floor	1.44E+03	
Desk top	3	1.05E+06	ND	center of chair	4.32E+03	
drywall	5	7.60E+04	ND	keyboard	1.15E+03	
filing cabinet	3	1.97E+04	ND	filing cabinet	1.22E+07	
geometric mean		2.26E+05		inside computer		
log of geo mean		5.35	0.19	post-test		ND
				Average RMC	2.04E+06	
electrical socket swab	1	G	NG	log of geo mean RMC	4.05	
keyboard swab	1		NG	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
computer swab	1		NG			
iacell® air sample (CFU/liter)	1	2.43E-01	2.17E-02			

#### SEPA Preliminary Results – Post Decon

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#### SEPA United States

#### Preliminary Results – Post Decontamination

• Post decon surface spore loading correlations:

- -0.90 correlation with post-decon spore levels in air
- -0.61 correlation with pre decon spore surface levels
- -0.50 correlation with fumigation contact time
- -0.34 correlation with ClO<sub>2</sub> concentration (ppm) x time (hours)
- -0.29 correlation with ppm level

#### Summary, Lessons Learned

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- $\bullet$  First comprehensive parametric near full-scale study on  $\text{CIO}_{2}$  fumigation
  - Mock office allows for realistic sampling, but loss of experimental control on surface loading, fume conditions, etc
  - -Focus on low level CIO<sub>2</sub>
  - –Numerous and diverse set of samples each test
- Low detection limits achieved via filter plating
  - -LR for many tests/samples > 6 (considered effective), yet many samples came back positive
- 200 ppm @ 4 and 6 hours had least number of positives, but also lowest surface loadings
- Bench scale test chamber results may not always transfer to full-scale results

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- Effective low levels would allow more contractors to participate in remediation efforts after a wide area event
- Tests are ongoing, still analyzing data, drawing conclusions
- Further research needed to find conditions (eg contact time) where low levels of ClO<sub>2</sub> will be effective on higher spore loadings (> 6 log CFU/sq. ft)
- Current results show low ClO<sub>2</sub> levels effective at spore loadings < 5 log CFU/sq. ft

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#### Methyl Iodide Fumigation of Bacillus Anthracis Spores

U.S. EPA Decon Conference November 2013



#### **Traditional Fumigation Techniques**

- Chlorine dioxide and vaporous hydrogen peroxide are often incompatible with materials found in a variety of buildings causing damage, reaction or high material demand (absorption).
- This results in damage to sensitive or valuable items and infrastructure, reduced efficacy per kg of fumigant and increased waste volume.





- Methyl bromide has been shown to be an effective fumigant for B. anthracis and was widely used in the agricultural and import community.
- Methyl bromide general use has been phased out as part of the Montreal Protocol, an international agreement to reduce ozone-depleting gases.
- Prof. Rudolf Scheffrahn at U. Florida has been researching MeBr fumigation of *B. anthracis.*



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#### **Methyl Iodide Fumigation**

- Methyl iodide has similar methylation properties and was used as a replacement for methyl bromide in fumigating strawberries.
- Methyl bromide is not subject to the Montreal Agreement, making justification for use in fumigation easier, although a FIFRA crisis exemption would still be required for use in fumigating *B. anthracis*.



#### Mel vs. MeBr Health Effects

- LC50, AIHA ERPG-2 and ACGIH guidance suggests Mel health effects are slightly less than those of MeBr.
- OSHA guidance suggests MeI effects are slightly worse than MeBr.



#### **Methyl lodide Fumigation Studies (1)**

- In 2012 and 2013, LLNL scientists performed two different studies:
  - Evaluation of Mel efficacy of Mel in fumigating B. anthracis (DTRA);
  - Evaluation of the effects of Mel on delicate/irreplaceable materials (DHS).

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#### **Methyl lodide Fumigation Efficacy (2)**

• 3 x 10<sup>6</sup> *B. anthracis* Sterne spores on stainless steel

 Efficacies greater than a 6-log reduction in CFUs were obtained after 12 hours at room temperature and just 1 hour at 55°C



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#### Methyl Iodide Material Compatibility (1)

- Previous studies showed that CIO<sub>2</sub> and VHP were detrimental to some delicate/historic items.
- If Mel can be shown to not damage such items, could provide useful for decontamination of *B. anthracis* contaminated items. Coupons included:
  - 3 B&W and sepia photographs from the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century;
  - 2 types of hand-written note-paper from collections dated a collection dated 1909 to 1957 and 1860 to 1890;
  - 3 pages from printed books dated 1884, 1893 and 1904;
  - 2 monochromatic oil painting surrogates representative of palette and techniques used in historical paintings;

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- 1 historical light/cool color palette oil painting from 1885.

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#### **Methyl lodide Material Compatibility (3)**

- Painting coupons showed no qualitative visible degradation after fumigation with Mel at room temperature or elevated temperature
- One of the three historical photographs suffered discoloration consistent with methyl iodide absorption followed by photodegradation or reaction with the photographic paper at 55°C



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#### **Methyl lodide Material Compatibility (4)**

- 1 of 2 historical pages with hand-written notes suffered discoloration after exposure at 55°C
- 1 of the 3 historical books exposed to methyl iodide at both room temperature and 55°C showed discoloration consistent with absorption of methyl iodide after degasing and exposure to light

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Methyl Iodide Material Compatibility (5)

- Prior results from a recent EPA study showed that methyl bromide fumigation resulted in no degradation of the samples tested (a portion of the same samples were tested in this methyl iodide study).
- Since Mel is photosensitive, absorbed reagent remaining after degassing will lead to discoloration of the material.
- Given the observed discoloration on photograph, book and notepaper samples exposed to methyl iodide in the LLNL study, methyl bromide should be favored over methyl iodide in the fumigation of historic, irreplaceable artifacts, particularly in those cases where the fumigant can be absorbed into the surface of the material.

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#### **Acknowledgements**

- Funding: DTRA and DHS
- Laboratory efficacy studies: Stacy Kane and Jessica Wollard (LLNL)
- Material compatibility coupons: Shannon Serre (EPA)

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## Wednesday, November 6, 2013

### **Concurrent Sessions 1**

Chemical Agent Sampling and Detection



#### Centers for Disease Control/ Environmental Public Health Readiness Branch Oversight

- Title 50 of the U.S. Code, Section 1512 requires CDC to review particulars associated with disposal and transportation of chemical warfare agents and recommend precautionary measures to protect public health and safety, if necessary.
- U.S. stockpile and non-stockpile items.
- Continues through closure of facilities until agent hazard is eliminated.





#### Waste Shipment

 Chemical Materials Agency (CMA)\* Bounding Transportation Risk Assessment (Bounding TRA) for >1 Vapor Screening Level Waste was proposed to

Develop bounding conditions for shipment of chemical warfare agent-contaminated secondary waste.

Identify and assesses potential release and exposure risks associated with an accident during ground transportation to a treatment, storage, and disposal facility.

 CDC recommended establishing a maximum concentration for the interior headspace of each drum to be no higher than ½ the Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) value to give personnel opportunity to safely exit the area in the event of an accident.

\* CMA is now Joint Program Manager – Elimination (JPM-E)

#### Waste Shipment Con't

The Bounding TRA specifies limits on the level of agent contamination in the waste and the total number of shipments that can be completed.

- The limits on agent contamination are provided to limit downwind hazard in the event of an accident to a level that would result in little or no health impact.
- The limits on total number of shipments are provided to limit the probability of an accident during the shipment operation.

#### Waste Shipment Con't

The Bounding TRA is just one of many safeguards to ensure protection of the public, workers, and the environment during shipment operations. Other items include:

- Monitoring and characterization of the waste.
- Packaging and segregation of the waste.
- Loading and unloading operations.
- Transportation planning and procedures.
- Emergency response planning and procedures.



- Flushing.
- Removal of contaminated equipment.
- Pressure washing.
- Detergent, bleach, peroxide.
- Hot air.
- Steam.





















- Established methodology for waste shipment.
- Decontamination planning based on contamination history.
- Thorough and documented decontamination.
- Preliminary, targeted verification.
- Occluded space survey.
- Use of other verification methods (concrete sampling).
- Structured review process to verify required activities were completed.
- Unventilated Monitoring Test (UMT). Verify isolation from facility ventilation.
  - Temperature.
  - QA/QC requirements.
  - Air mixing.
  - Generally, the goal was to be below the programmatic level of quantitation. Some sites set lower monitoring levels as the goal.

#### Summary

- Appropriate decontamination methods and identification of occluded space essential to successful clearance.
- Air monitoring to verify decontamination proved effective.
- Other verification methods still important – rinsate, solids, wipe samples.
- Selection of appropriate acceptance criteria and agreement by stakeholders key consideration.











#### **ESS Pursuit Incident**

- Approximately 6:00 am on June 7, Nurse at St. Luke's Hospital identified fisherman's blisters as a sulfur mustard exposure.
- Sequence of events from identification to notification of emergency response personnel unclear.
- By mid-day June 7<sup>th</sup> Incident Command System had been established.

#### **ESS Pursuit Incident**

#### **Incident Command System included:**

- New Bedford (MA) Fire Department.
- New Bedford (MA) HAZMAT.
- MA National Guard Civil Support Team.
- U.S. Coast Guard.
- U.S. EPA.
- MA Department of Emergency Preparedness.
- MA Department of Public Health.
- MA Division of Marine Fisheries.

#### **ESS Pursuit Incident**

# MA National Guard Civil Support Team decontaminated the vessel

- ATSDR (Part of CDC/NCEH) Region 1 was contacted to determine the level to clear the vessel.
- ATSDR reached back to NCEH/EPHRB Chemical Weapons Program for advice.
- NCEH/EPRHB provided ATSDR with the Airborne Exposure Levels and sampling techniques the U.S. Army uses at chemical weapons demilitarization site.

#### **ESS Pursuit Incident**

#### **Clearance Sampling**

- EPA clearance strategies uses wipe samples.
- NCEH/ATSDR clearance strategies uses air samples.
- The two separate philosophies created delays and confusion.
- Ultimately both clearance methods were employed.
#### Lessons Learned

#### Potential for reoccurrence:

MA Department of Health Representative related that during conversations with Captain and crew the following statements had been made:

- They recover munitions during every fishing trip
- Approximately 50 % of the munitions smell of garlic (a indication of a ruptured munition).
- The fisherman have painted rocks and tossed them overboard with other refuse and have then retrieved the same rock on sub-sequent fishing trips in the same area.

#### Lessons Learned

#### Worked Well

- CDC/Division of Laboratory Science intra-laboratory biomonitoring with state of MA.
- Health care provider training conducted by the MA Department of Public Health.
- Sulfur Mustard exposure identification visual aid provided by the MA Department of Public Health.

#### Areas for Improvement

- Emergency responders notification network.
- ICS and UCS were not effective: Confusion about who had authority and jurisdiction. Confusion about authority over a private vessel.
- Clearance Sampling: Difference in philosophies between agencies.



Future Applications -	- Con	sider	atior	าร
Extrapolate from Army's experi Decontamination. Intermediate verification. Documentation. Verification.	ence			
Extrapolation of CDC Airborne	CDC Recommended AELs			
Exposure Levels (AELs)	Exposure Limit	HD (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	GB, GA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	VX (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Army currently uses GPL as basis to clear for	Short Term Exposure Limit (STEL)	0.003 (15-min)	1 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> (15-min)	1 x 10 <sup>-:</sup> (15-min)
unrestricted use. Army used WPL as goal at	Worker Population Limit (WPL)	0.0004 (8-hour)	3 x 10 <sup>-s</sup> (8-hour)	1 x 10 ⁴ (8-hour)
some sites.	General Population	0.00002 (12-hour)	1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> (24-hours)	1 x 10- (24-hours)





#### **Partners and collaborators**

- Terry Smith: EPA Office of Emergency Management
- Carolyn Koester: Lawrence Livermore National Lab
- Joan Cuddeback, Eric Boring: CSC (contractor)

#### Participating Labs

- -EPA Regions 1, 3, 6, 9, and 10
- -State Labs of Virginia and Florida
- -EPA PHILIS (mobile lab)



#### Selected Analytical Methods for Environmental Remediation and Recovery (SAM) 2012

 Section include Chemicals, Radiochemicals, Pathogens and Biotoxins

Chemicals	141 analytes	5 matrices
Pathogens	31 analytes	4 matrices
Radiochemicals	25 analytes	6 matrices
Biotoxins	18 analytes	4 matrices

www.epa.gov/sam









United States Environmental Prote

#### Shelf Lives for CWAs Single-Component Solutions



Single-Component Solutions (months)					
	Dichloromethane		Hexane		
	Screw- cap Vial	Sealed Ampoule	Screw- cap Vial	Sealed Ampoule	
GB	5	12	4	2	
GD	12	12	12	12	
GF	12	12	12	12	
HD	6	12	4	6	
VX	2*	12	5	3	

Estimated Shelf Lives for CWAs in

\* Large variabilities between replicate analyses were noted (relative standard deviation >50%). A subsequent VX preservation study is ongoing.



#### Shelf Lives for CWAs Multiple-Component Solutions



#### Estimated Shelf Lives for CWAs in Multiple-Component Solutions (months)

	Dichloromethane		Hexane		
	Screw- cap Vial	Sealed Ampoule	Screw- cap Vial	Sealed Ampoule	
GB	9	12	0.3	9	
GD	12	6	0.7	9	
GF	12	12	12	12	
HD	6	6	3	6	
VX	0.2	≤ 1*	12	≤ 1*	

\* Large variabilities between replicate analyses were noted (relative standard deviation >50%). A subsequent VX preservation study is ongoing.



#### **Sample Preparation - Water**

- Microscale extraction technique using methylene chloride
  - 35 ml water sample
  - Sodium chloride is added
  - 2 mL of methylene chloride is added
  - Sample allowed to settle or is centrifuged
  - ~1 mL of the methylene chloride is pipetted for analysis





#### **Sample Preparation - Soils**

- Microscale extraction technique using methylene chloride
  - -10 g sample
  - Anhydrous sodium sulfate and glass beads added
  - 25 mL of methylene chloride is added
  - Use shaker table or sonicator for 15 min
  - Sample allowed to settle or is centrifuged
  - Decant or pipet solvent
  - Concentrate sample with nitrogen evaporation



#### **Sample Preparation - Wipes**

- Microscale extraction technique using methylene chloride
  - 1 wipe sample
  - 15 mL of methylene chloride is added
  - Use shaker table or sonicator for 15 min
  - Decant or pipet solvent
  - Concentrate sample with nitrogen evaporation



**€EPA**

### Analysis by GC/MS

- Study was conducted using standard quadrupole gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) and gas chromatography/time-of-flight mass spectrometry.
- Preliminary results indicate method detection limits of approximately 1 µg/L for water, 2 µg/kg for soil, and 0.04 µg/wipe for surface wipe matrices using quadrupole mass spectrometry
- Approximately one order of magnitude lower was achieved using TOF.







#### DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Accelerated Remediation at a Region 1 Residential Clean-up Site Using PHILIS On-site Analytical Laboratories

> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Lawrence Kaelin OEM/CBRN-CMAT, Michael Nalipinski, Region 1 OSC,

NHSRC Decon Workshop, 2013

### Site History

The property was near the former St. Albans Gas & Light Company, where 4,000 tons of PAH-contaminated soils were excavated and disposed of off-site in 2005.



# St. Albans Site History

#### Spring 2011, heavy rains flooded Stevens Brook

- Residents in nearby apartments noticed odors and coal tar wastes in basement sumps
- Workers found coal tar wastes in area manholes
- VT DEC temporarily stabilized the situation by pumping out basements and ventilating buildings



#### **Site Conditions**

- After Hurricane Irene in the Fall of 2011, additional complaints of tar and oil like odors came from the apartment residents
- Contamination was suspected in soil, sump water, and brook sediment
- VT DEC requested assistance from Region 1 EPA to determine whether coal tar waste contamination exists on residential properties abutting Stevens Brook

### **Region 1 Response**

- Region 1 provided support to the VT DEC, responding as a Time Critical Removal under CERCLA authority
- Mike Nalipinski was assigned OSC for the St. Albans Gas & Light Site
- An Accelerated Remediation Clean-up Concept was proposed to minimize community impact
- Region 1 requested the use of OEM/CMAT's PHILIS mobile labs to provide on-site analysis of soil, water, soil gas and air samples

## Accelerated Remediation Concept

- On-site sampling and analysis activities maximize the utilization of EPA response assets to reduce time and costs for effective site assessment and clean-up actions
- Rapid on-site laboratory results that meet all 2009 TNI (NELAP) requirements for accredited parameters from the PHILIS mobile labs will achieve accelerated clean-up objectives

## **Accelerated Remediation Goals**

- Maximize site resources to reduce time to remediation
- Direct on-going soil coring activities using rapid analytical results to maximize usage of contractor and on-site assets
- Capture the boundaries of the vertical and horizontal extent of soil contamination in a single mobilization
- Determine the source and extent of the in-door air contamination in the apartment complex
- Provide rapid, on-site NELAP accredited, confirmatory data for daily decisions, briefings to local authorities (VT DEC)
- Reduce number and longevity of site visits normally required to support a Time Critical RAM
- Direct excavation activities based on data from a single site mobilization – <u>"one and done"</u> concept

## PHILIS Mobilization and Site Work

- On May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Region 1 START contractors and PHILIS mobile labs were deployed to conduct sampling and analysis to determine the extent of coal tar waste contamination
- Contaminants of concern included benzene, naphthalene and SVOCs, particularly PAHs and benzo(a)pyrene
- In the course of 4 days, over 250 samples were collected and analyzed on-site for PAH, benzene or naphthalene contamination

# PHILIS Mobile Laboratory Assets – Dual Use PHILIS units are the EPA's mobile laboratory assets under the Environmental Response Laboratory Network (ERLN) Mission Chemical Warfare Agents (CWA) and Toxic Industrial Chemicals (TIC) in environmental samples They are stationed in Edison, NJ and Castle Rock, CO and can be deployed within 24 to 48 hours to support emergency response and clean-up actions

# **PHILIS Capabilities**

- Deployable within 6 hours of notification/operational within 6 hours of being on-site
- Operate via internal generators/supplies for 4 days before restocking/refueling required
- TNI accredited for VOCs, SVOCs and PCBs in water and soil using EPA Methods 8260c/8270d/8082a. Mobile lab confirmatory analysis meets 2009 TNI requirements
- Pursuing accreditation for TO air methods and LC/MS/MS methodology for carbamates and pharmaceutical compounds
- Estimate 100-200 samples/day for CWAs and TICs (24hr operations) for all matrices
- Analysis of environmental samples for CWAs via ERLN's Ultradilute agent (UDA) program. Detection limits to health-based clearance via EPA's SAM methods

# PHILIS Labs at St. Albans Site



APL01 – Volatiles Mobile Lab for EPA method 8260 for soil, sediment and water samples via purge & trap.

Modified TO method for benzene and naphthalene in air and soil gas via automated thermal desorption unit







Purge & Trap for soils & waters Tedlar bag analysis soil gas Tenaxtube analysis air

# PHILIS Labs at St. Albans Site



APL02 – semi-volatiles lab, & sample prep trailer, set up for EPA prep methods 3535A and 3545A

> APL02 with GC/MS instruments set up for method 8270D.



SPA01 Trailer w/automated PSE & SPE Apparatus.





# Daily Briefing and Data Depiction

- Region 1 OSC Mike Nalipinski conferred with the VT DEC representatives on a daily basis using analytical data presented in GIS site maps
- OSC used on-site data to direct daily site work



Daily briefing with VT DEC.



Daily posting of soil data on GIS site map



### Region 1 Removal/Mitigation Actions

 Using the rapid site sampling and analysis capability brought to bear at the St. Albans Gas & Light Site, the OSC was able to prepare a Time Critical Removal Action Memo (RAM) recommending soil excavation at the Colony Apartments and the installation of a system to mitigate in-door air contamination posed by the coal tar wastes

In door air basement mitigation system



### **Excavations Begins**

 On-site sampling and analysis defined the spatial and subsurface extent of contamination



Excavation starts at the Colony Square Apts



Common borrow Place at corner of Maple & Lasalle



Soil cores are "logged", screened and Sampled at discrete depths

### Goals of Accelerated Remediation Concept were Meet

- In the course of approximately 4 days, over 250 samples were collected and analyzed on-site for PAHs, benzene or naphthalene contamination in air, soil and water matrices
- Expedited RAM was issued was issued
- Accelerated remediation completed using initial data set – no new samples required, "1 & done"
- The on-site abilities provided by PHILIS allowed the OSC to complete all the site soil assessments, excavation, removal and site restoration activities within 90 days of the initial site visit

### **Colony Apts Remediated**

- The accelerated remediation plan for the Colony Apts accomplished on site sampling and analysis data from a single site visit
- Top 2 feet of soil removed from specific zones identified by PHILIS on site analysis and sent for disposal. Backfill with clean top soil
- The possibly of runoff to Steven Brooks was reduced by the rip rap and other soil retention measures
- Official demobilization on October 2012



Colony Square Apts, September 2012 after backfill and hydro seeding



Stevens Brook runoff and soil retention measures, rip rap, & geo-fabric

### Costs/Benefits

- Estimations of actual PHILIS analytical cost/sample from the St. Albans site effort were determined to be below most commercial lab costs, ranging from \$250-325/sample which included fuel, mob/demob costs, travel, pre diem, sample analysis, QA review and report writing
- Man-hours for St Albans site were covered under the PHILIS contract. Future mobilizations may not
- Cost sharing options can be explored for future sites.
- PHILIS costs should drop ~ \$50-100/sample based on "lessons learned" and optimization of assets
- The greater time and cost savings were realized for the OSC by having the most effective use of their site assets in an accelerated time frame

# Questions

- Mike Nalipinski, Region 1 OSC
- The CMAT POCs for the PHILIS program are: Larry Kaelin (<u>kaelin.lawrence@epa.gov</u>) and Terry Smith (<u>smith.terry@epa.gov</u>).
- OEM/CBRN-CMAT Director Erica Canzler(<u>canzler.erica@epa.gov</u>)

2013 US EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference Research Triangle Park, NC

Chemical Warfare Agent Analysis Using The Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA)

November 2013



David B. Mickunas US EPA/ERT

































































Acronym	Chemical Name	CAS Number	Detection Limit (pptv)	Detection Limit (mg/m3)	Quantitation Limit (pptv)	Quantitation Limit (mg/m3)
GB	Sarin; Isopropyl methylphosphonofluoridate	107 44 8	3.2	1.8*10 5	11	6.3*10 5
vx	O ethyl S (2 diisopropylaminoethyl)methyl phosphonothiolate	50782 69 9	0.58	6.3*10 6	1.9	2.1*10 5
HD	Sulfur Mustard; Bis(2 chloroethyl)sulfide	505 60 2	119	7.8*10 4	398	2.6*10 3
L	Lewisite; 2 Chloroethenylarsonous dichloride	541 25 3	NA	NA	NA	NA
DMMP	Dimethyl methylphosphonate	756 79 6	6.8	3.4*10 5	23	1.2*10 4










Media: AIR	Standard Name	Population	Exposure Scenario	H/HD/HT	GB (Sarin)	vx
TAGA Detection Limits mg/m3	S.			0.00078 [7.8xE-4]	0.000018 [1.8E-5]	<b>0.0000064</b> [6.4E-6]
Airborne Exposure Limits mg/m3	IDLH Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health	DoD Workers (civilian)	Acute 30 minute exposure	0.7	0.1	0.003
	<b>STEL</b> Short Term Exposure Limit	DoD Workers (civilian)	Occasional (4x day) 15 minute exposure	0.003 [3x10E-3]	0.0001 [1x10E 4]	0.00001 [1x10E 5]
	WPL Worker Population Limit	DoD Workers (civilian)	8 hr daily/ multi yr time weighted average (TWA)	<b>0.0004</b> [4x10E-4]	0.00003 [3x10E 5]	0.000001 [1x10E-6]
	<b>GPL</b> General Population Limit	Civilian General Population	24 hr/daily lifetime time weighted average	0.00002 [2x10E 5]	0.000001 [1x10E 6]	0.0000006 [6x10E 7]

Acute Exposure Guideline Levels	Acute Exposure Guideline Levels	Emergency/ Accident Scenario	1 time exposure	H/HD/HT	GB (Sarin)	vx
(AEGES) mg/m3	AEGL Level 1 Above this potential for some minor discomfort or noticeable but reversible effects	Civilian General Population	10 min 30 min 1 hr 4 hr 8 hr	0.40 0.13 0.067 0.017 0.008	0.0069 0.0040 0.0028 0.0014 0.0010	0.00057 0.00033 0.00017 0.00010 0.000071
	AEGL Level 2 Above this more obvious effects begin: potentially impacting functional abilities or ability to escape; potential delayed recovery	Civilian General Population	10 min 30 min 1 hr 4 hr 8 hr	0.60 0.20 0.10 0.025 0.013	0.087 0.050 0.035 0.017 0.013	0.0072 0.0042 0.0029 0.0015 0.0010
	AEGL Level 3 Above this level potential for serious effects potential life threatening	Civilian General Population	10 min 30 min 1 hr 4 hr 8 hr	3.9 2.7 2.1 0.53 0.27	0.38 0.19 0.13 0.070 0.051	0.029 0.015 0.010 0.0052 0.0038
TAGA Detection Limits mg/m3	e secte (12)			<b>0.00078</b> [7.8xE-4]	<b>0.000018</b> [1.8E-5]	<b>0.0000064</b> [6.4E-6]

US	A PHC* Chemie	al Agent He	alth-Based St	andards ar	d Guidelin	es Summary	Table 1: Cr	iteria for AIF	BORNE E	posures as of July 2011**
Media: AIR	Standard Name	Population	Exposure Scenario	H/HD/HT	GA (Tabun)	GB (Sarin)	GD/GF	VX	Lewisite	Notes/Status
Airborne	IDLH Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health	DoD Workers (civilian)	Acute 30 minute exposure	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.008	(**)	This Table supersedes previous versions and represents the most current information known to PHC at time noted. *GD/GE values were developed by
Limits	STEL Short Term	DoD Workers (ciullian)	Occasional(4x day) 15 minute	0.003 [3x10E-3]	0.0001 [1x10E-4]	0.0001 [1x10E-4]	0.00005 [5x10E-5]	0.00001 [1x10E-5]	NA	Army/USACHPPM based on the relative potency to the CDC value of GB (vef all) **Since not significant in US Stockale.
(AELs) mg/m <sup>1</sup>	WPL Worker Population Limit	DoD Workers (civilian)	8 hr daily/ multi yr time weighted	0.0004 [4x10E-4]	0.00003 [3x10E-5]	0.00003 [3x10E-5]	0.00003 [3x10E-5]	0.000001 [1×10E-6]	0.003**	-since moti typencare in OS sociopaie, Lewistra chiefa had not been revealuated sino 1988 - so the value 0.003 mg/m <sup>2</sup> - a detection value was used as as after level for all exposures including long term. Though other Ind Parim 385-61 as "surregater Levelste ICUH - away of 150 prepared a reve ICUH equivalent of 0.36 mg/m <sup>2</sup> in Aug 200 been note net page!
and forms	GPL General Population Limit	Civilian General Population	24 hr/daily Efetime time weighted average (TWA)	0.00002 [2x10E-5]	0.000001 [1x10E-6]	0.000001 [1x10E-6]	0.000001 [1x10E-6]	0.0000006 [6x10E-7]	0.005**	
	Acute Exposure Guideline Levels	Emergency/ Accident	1 time exposure	нр	GA	G8	GD/GF	vx	Lewisite	Final Addi, values (br. HC, VX, O Agents) were publication in Mary 2001 (s) halocoul transitional in Mary 2001 (s) halocoul transmission (s) and s) in the second second memory and second second second second date JA 2007. "Anche Exposure Cualable transmissione (ACC) (second Second Second Mary 10 Accession Composition of E These are guidelines, not regulatory statistication, havener, frem is and Ammessi- Addis for the Chemission Stockyle Emergency Narving Program (SCMP) refs d successfer (SCMP) (SCMP) re
Acute Exposure Guideline Levels	AEGL - Level 1 Above this potential for some minor disconfort or noticeable but reversible effects	Ovilian General Population	10 min 30 min 1 hr 4 hr 8 hr	0.40 0.15 0.067 0.017 0.008	0.0069 0.0040 0.0028 0.0014 0.0010	0.0069 0.0040 0.0028 0.0014 0.0010	0.0035 0.0020 0.0014 0.00070 0.00050	0.00057 0.00033 0.00017 0.00010 0.000071	NR NR NR NR	
(AEGLs) mg/m <sup>2</sup> 	AEGL - Level 2 Above this more obvious effects begin; potentially impacting functional abilities or ability to escape; potential delayed recovery	Civilian General Population	10 min 30 min 1 hr 4 hr 8 hr	0.60 0.20 0.10 0.025 0.018	0.087 0.050 0.035 0.017 0.018	0.087 0.050 0.035 0.017 0.013	0.044 0.025 0.018 0.0085 0.0065	0.0072 0.0042 0.0029 0.0015 0.0010	0.65 0.23 0.12 0.035 0.018	
refs a and d for application	AEGL - Level 3 Above this level potential for serious effects potential life threatening	Civilian General Population	10 min 30 min 1 hr 4 hr 8 hr	3.9 2.7 2.1 0.53 0.27	0.76 0.38 0.26 0.14 0.10	0.38 0.19 0.18 0.070 0.051	0.38 0.19 0.13 0.070 0.051	0.029 0.015 0.010 0.0052 0.0038	3.9 1.4 0.74 0.21 0.11	level for shelter in place/ evacuation); but policy includes allowance for site specific (state, local) decision making) See refs e & I for ALGL, applications
Military Exposure Guideline (MEG)	potential for serious effects potential life threatening MEGs multiple severity levels and acute exposure	Population The chemical eight hour tim 230 (ref h). N values, but for	1 hr 4 hr 8 hr agent values for m eframes. They an OTE: MEGs are pri HD and Nerve Ag	2.1 0.53 0.27 ilitary deploym a cited USACHF marily based o ents only AEGL	0.26 0.14 0.10 PM Technical n hierarchy sel 1 criteria are o	0.18 0.070 0.051 Esafety decision Report (TR) 64-F ection of publish used as MEGs (e.	0.13 0.070 0.051 making include 5-0722-07, July ed CIVILIAN crit g, as for Neglig	0.010 0.0052 0.0038 Negligible, Marg 2008 (ref g) and teria; for short te ble MEGs). Marg	0.74 0.21 0.11 jinal, Critical a new (2010) ve em air MEGs t ginal, Critical a	(state, local) decision making) See refix e & I for ALOL applications d Catastrophic MEGs for 10 minute to sion of USAPHC Technical Guide (TG) le first choice in hierarchy are the AEGL nd Catastrophic are based on military





# Acknowledgements

Harry Compton, US EPA/ERT Stephen Blaze, US EPA/ERT John Schwarz, US Army ECBC Uday Mehta, US Army ECBC Danielle McCall, Lockheed Martin/SERAS William Weeks, Lockheed Martin/SERAS Richard Magan, Lockheed Martin/SERAS



For additional information concerning the scheduling, capabilities, and applications of the TAGA mobile laboratories, contact:

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# Wednesday, November 6, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 2**

Biological Agent Sampling and Detection















# 37 mm Filter Cassette



## Inoculation :

- 10<sup>4</sup> spores onto membrane
- Dried 3 hrs
- Added buffer
- Processed
- Diluted and plated
- **Evaluated:**
- 4 filter types
- 3 elution buffers
- 3 elution methods





# 3M Forensic Filter (Trace Evidence Filters)



### Inoculation:

- 10<sup>5</sup> spores/filter
- Resealed the housing
- Applied vacuum for 30 seconds
- Evaluated
  - Two elution buffers,
  - Two elution volumes
  - Four elution methods

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Trial Sampling Method Sample Area Surface Re (cm <sup>2</sup> ) Material Re	plicates (n)
Vacuum Sock 2787 Carpet (fast) Concrete	10 10
Gauze Wipe <sup>1</sup> 929 Stainless Steel	5
2 Vacuum Sock 2787 Carpet (slow) Concrete Unbolstery	10 10 10
Gauze Wipe <sup>1</sup> 929 Stainless Steel	5
37 mm MCE 929 Carpet Concrete Upholstery	10 10 10
Gauze Wipe 929 Stainless Steel	5
37 mm PTFE 929 Carpet Concrete Upholstery	10 10 10
Gauze Wipe 929 Stainless Steel	5
Forensics Filter 2787 Carpet Concrete Unholstery	10 10 10
Gauze Wipe <sup>1</sup> 929 Stainless Steel	5

# Consistency of spore deposition and wipe sampling: stainless steel reference coupons

<b>Test run</b> n = 3 each	CFU/ft <sup>2</sup>	сv
А	1.34 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0.27
В	2.02 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0.24
С	2.87 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0.20
D	1.64 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0.18
E	1.79 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0.03
Mean	1.93 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0.19

From: U.S. EPA. Effectiveness of Physical and Chemical Cleaning and Disinfection Methods for Removing, Reducing or Inactivating Agricultural Biological Threat Agents . U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, EPA/600/R-11/092, 2011



# **Analysis Time and Observations**

### Vacuum Socks

- 90 min/12 sock batch or <u>7.5 min/sample\*</u> to process
- Custom made racks needed for shaking cups
- Gaps/holes in sock occasionally found

### 37mm Cassettes

- 120 min per 12 filter batch or <u>10 min/sample to process</u>
- Rinsing cassette and transferring can be difficult, if debris present
- Nozzle processed separately sometimes contained debris/fibers

### **3M Forensic Filter**

- 180 min per 10 filter batch or <u>18 min per sample</u> to process
- Omitted from further evaluation breakthrough issues and cost

 $\ast$  Unpackaging and processing to liquid – does not include serial dilutions, plating or analysis





Reproducibility Bet	ween Analysts
---------------------	---------------

% Recovery (n=10)					
	Lab 1	Lab2	р		
37mm MCE	12.4% (4.6)	13.7% (4.6)	0.52		
Vacuum Sock	6.8% (3.7)	8.4% (1.7)	0.23		

-

No significant difference between recoveries of two laboratories When data pooled, significant difference between two vacuum devices (p<0.001) -









# **Liquid Extraction of HVAC Filter**

### Pros:

greater spore recovery

### **Cons:**

- Sectioning field and in lab problematic
  - Industrial filters might contain wire backing
  - Requires sterile wire cutters
  - Dispersion of spores during cutting
- Liquid extraction requires 10 x more liquid
- Processing longer (30 min shaking) reducing throughput.
- Limited to 6" x 6" section per sample

### Summary

- Processing protocols optimized
- Vacuum pumps evaluated for each sampling device
- 4 materials inoculated with aerosolized spores
- Sampling conducted with each vacuum device
  - % Recovery
    - Relative to recovery by gauze wipe of inoculated steel
    - Relative to recovery by submersion and sonication of inoculated steel
  - Linearity
  - Reproducibility
- **Two best devices chosen for continued evaluation**

# **Concerns and Limitations**

### Vacuum Sock

- Quality control frequent reports of gaps/holes in socks
- Potential loss of sample
- Potential to contaminate other samples, BSC, Lab

### 37mm Cassette

- Limited sample area due to small nozzle
- Slow to collect sample 5 min per ft<sup>2</sup>

# FY 2014: Enhance Field Use 37mm Cassette

### Improve 37mm Cassette method

 Develop a wider nozzle for faster sampling

### **Evaluate variables:**

- Use of personal air sample pump (3 LPM)
- Collection speed
- Larger Sampling area
- Increased humidity: 90%RH
- Presence of dust/grime
- Other surfaces: tile, laminate

### Prototype nozzle











# Background

Following the 2001 *Bacillus anthracis* letter attacks, sampling methods such as:

- -wetted gauze wipe,
- vacuum sock,
- -swab, and
- -air filtration samples

were used to determine the presence, magnitude, and spatial extent of contamination.

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# **Capacity Problem**

# There were some sample related issues:

- Sampling and analysis has been a bottle neck,
  - Validation of those sampling methods has progressed, &
  - Laboratory capacity has been expanded

### However,

- Wide-area release scenarios continue to show sampling and analysis as critical bottle necks, &
- Wipe, sponge stick, and vacuum-based sample collection procedures are labor intensive and would generate a large number of samples during a wide-area response

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# Robot Cleaners as a Potential Capacity Solution

- Off the shelf
- · Multiple makers and models to select from
- Operate with little set up and oversight
- Cover a large area with one sample
- Applicable to horizontal surfaces which have the highest contamination probability

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# **Test Approach**

- · Cleaning robot selection: commercially available off the shelf robots
- Test Surface Types: carpet, laminate, and tile
- Surface Contamination: aerosol deposited B. atrophaeus spores

- Target Contamination Level:  $10^2,\,10^4,\,and\,10^6$  colony forming units (CFUs) per  $ft^2$ 

• Comparative Rato (CR): robot sampling results are compared to the vacuum sock or sponge wipe results

average recoveryfrom robot (CFUs)

 $CR(\%) = \frac{CR(\%)}{average recovery from comparative surface sampling method (CFUs)} \times 100$ 

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# **Robotic Cleaners**

Robot	Model	Picture	Cleaning type	Applicable Surfaces
R1	Roomba 760 <sup>°</sup> iRobot <sup>°</sup>	0	Vacuum with HEPA filter and rotating bristle brush	All surfaces
R2	XV-11 Neato robotics <sup>®</sup>		Vacuum with air filter and rotating silicone flat beater	All surfaces
R3	P3 P4920 P3 International		Vacuum with air filter (no surface agitation tool)	All surfaces
R4	Mint 4200 Evolution Robotics, Inc.	II.	Sweep and mop	Hard floors
R5	Scooba 380° iRobot <sup>°</sup>		Wet vacuum	Hard floors

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# **Test Chamber**



# Sampling Media Extraction Efficiency

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Robot's spore collection media were extracted and analyzed quantitatively for viable spores.

Dehete		Extraction Mothed	Average Extraction Efficiency	
RODOTS		Extraction Method	(%)	
R1	Filter, dust bin	Orbital shaking	64.9 ± 14.1	
R2	Filter, dust bin	Orbital shaking	56.7 ± 7.6	
R3	Filter, dust bin	Orbital shaking	67.2 ± 4.1	
R4	Wipe cloth	Stomaching	49.1 ± 7.1	
R5	Tank	Rinsing	89.6 ± 6.9	

# Sampling Efficiency Results from Cleaning Robots







# **Scenario-based Tests**

### 1. Hotspot test

### 2. Low level wide dispersed test

Scenario Type	Surface	Robot	Target Spore loading (CFUs/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Hot Spot			<b>10</b> <sup>4</sup>
Hot Spot	Carpet	60	<b>10</b> <sup>4</sup>
Widely-dispersed Contamination		ΠZ	<b>10</b> <sup>1</sup>
Widely-dispersed Contamination			<b>10</b> <sup>1</sup>
Hot Spot			<b>10</b> <sup>4</sup>
Hot Spot		D/	<b>10</b> <sup>4</sup>
Widely-dispersed Contamination		π4	<b>10</b> <sup>-1</sup>
Widely-dispersed Contamination			<b>10</b> <sup>-1</sup>



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# **Scenario-based Test Results**

# Hotspot Test Results

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Surface type	robot	Average Currently-Used Surface Sampling Recovery (CFUs/929 cm <sup>2</sup> ), n=3	Robot Sampling Recovery (CFUs)
Carpet	R2	1.6 x 10 <sup>6</sup> <u>+</u> 6.1 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	<b>1.4 x 10</b> ⁵
Carpet	R2	1.9 x 10 <sup>6</sup> <u>+</u> 1.7 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	5.8 x 10⁵
laminate	R4	1.6 x 10 <sup>7</sup> <u>+</u> 3.9 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	1.2 x 10 <sup>7</sup>
laminate	R4	1.7 x 10 <sup>6</sup> <u>+</u> 1.4 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	<b>2.1 x 10</b> <sup>6</sup>

Surface type	robot	Average Currently-Used Surface Sampling Recovery (CFUs/929 cm <sup>2</sup> ), n=3	Robot Sampling Recovery (CFUs)
Carpet	R2	9.6 x 10 <sup>2</sup> <u>+</u> 5.2 x 10 <sup>2</sup>	5.0 x 10 <sup>3</sup>
Carpet	R2	2.3 x 10 <sup>2</sup> <u>+</u> 4.2 x 10 <sup>1</sup>	3.2 x 10 <sup>2</sup>
laminate	R4	4.5 x 10 <sup>2</sup> <u>+</u> 4.5 x 10 <sup>2</sup>	<b>2.8 x 10<sup>3</sup></b>
laminate	R4	6.6 x 10 <sup>1</sup> <u>+</u> 3.8 x 10 <sup>1</sup>	4.9 x 10 <sup>2</sup>

# Widely-Dispersed Test Results

Conclusions

- Robotic samplers demonstrated recoveries similar to conventional methods (head to head comparison)
- Robots sample large surface areas
- Increase probability of hot-spot detection
- Increase detection of low level contamination

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# Potential Benefits of Augmenting Sampling Efforts with Cleaning Robots

- Reduced number of sampling personnel required
  - reduce cost
  - reduce risk
- Increase spatial coverage and representativeness of samples
- Reduce number of samples collected
  - reduce burden to processing labs
  - reduce cost

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# **Future Directions**

- Evaluate Robots in difficult to sample environments (HVAC, outdoors, subway, etc)
- Improve Robots to increase collection efficiency or improve field-ability

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# **Further Reading**

- Evaluation of Surface Sampling for *Bacillus* Spores Using Commercially-available Cleaning Robots, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, National Homeland Security Research Center, Washington, DC, 600/R/13/100. 2013
- Sang Don Lee, M. Worth Calfee, Leroy Mickelsen, Stephen Wolfe, Jayson Griffin, Matt Clayton, Nicole Griffin-Gatchalian and Abderrahmane Touati. Evaluation of Commerciallyavailable Cleaning Robots for *Bacillus* Spore Surface Sampling. Environmental Science and Technology, 2013, 47: 2595-2601
- Sang Don Lee, M. Worth Calfee, Leroy Mickelsen, Matt Clayton and Abderrahmance Touati. Scenario-based Evaluation of Commercially-available Cleaning Robots for Collection of *Bacillus* Spores from Environmental Surfaces. In submission, Journal of Microbiological Methods
- **Disclaimer:** This presentation has been peer and administratively reviewed and has been approved for publication. It does not represent EPA Policy. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use of a specific product.

# Independent Testing of Hand Portable Biodetection Equipment

### **RACHEL BARTHOLOMEW, PH.D.**

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Richland, WA

Presentation at: EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference November 5-7, 2013 Research Triangle Park, NC



Pacific Nort

### The Suspicious "White" Powder Challenge



Thousands of suspicious powder events have been reported since 9-11
Events are costly: from local to state and federal level

- Total estimated yearly cost for suspicious powder events: >\$19M
- Does not include impacts due to diverting resources
- from other needs to bio response
- Can lead to illness and loss of life

What instrument(s) can be used to rapidly determine if a powder/unknown sample contains a biological threat?

- Cost for instrument and analyses?
- Ease of use and time to result?
- Confidence of the information/data?




# Ground-Up Approach: Biodetection Technology ID, Assessment and Transition

- Define performance requirements with stakeholder and end user input
  - **Conduct** interviews with end users
  - Bring together end users and key agency reps PH/LRN, CST, DHS, etc.) in workshops to fully understand and define key needs and gaps
- Perform technology foraging (collect, compile info)
- **Establish** technology test plans
- **Conduct** 3<sup>rd</sup> party independent testing

and evaluation; support and facilitate end-usertesting



- Publish and disseminate instrument and assay testing results and summaries for instrument use, limitations, cost/benefit
- Facilitate adoption of approved equipment lists





Pacific Northwest

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#### Initial Evaluation of Hand Portable PCR Instruments Using *Bacillus* DNA



- Goal: assess initial PCR instrument performance with purified samples
- 5 PCR-based biodetection platforms:
  - FilmArray (BioFire Diagnostics) +17 biothreat panel (pX01, pX02, and chrom tests)
  - RAZOR (BioFire Diagnostics) +10 threat pouch (pX02 test)
  - BioSeeq PLUS (Smiths Detection) +pX02 test
  - T-COR4 (Tetracore) +pX02 test
  - POCKIT (Gene Reach USA) +pX02 test
- Test samples: purified genomic Bacillus anthracis and near neighbor DNA using PNNL-developed test plan
  - Inclusivity panel DNAs (n=13)
    - Starting test concentration: 2,000 copies/mL; exception BioSeeq PLUS: 20,000 copies/mL
    - Each strain analyzed in triplicate
  - Exclusivity panel DNAs (n=18)
    - Starting test concentration: 20,000 copies/mL; exception BioSeeq PLUS: 200,000 copies/mL
    - Each strain analyzed in duplicate
- Follow on publication of results pending



#### **Criteria for Successful Testing**



- Testing following existing AOAC test guidance\* can be extremely burdensome
- Because biodetection technology and assays are rapidly evolving, with new versions appearing almost annually, a more efficient, but still statistically based testing approach is needed
- PNNL Approach: The following number of samples with 0-2 failed results (shown by the different curves) need to be run in order to achieve the minimum Probability of Detection (0.95) with the desired confidence (95%).
  - 34 samples must be tested without a single failed result,
  - 53 samples must be tested with no more than a single failed result, or
    86 samples must be tested with no
  - more than two failed results.

(assumes all inclusivity strains and all exclusivity strains provide equivalent information)

\*AOAC guidelines: "Standard method performance requirements for PCR methods for detection of Bacillus anthracis in Aerosol collection filters and/or liquids", SPMR: Journal of AOAC International, 95(4), 2011, 1347-1351



Number of Tests Needed for 95% Lower Confidence Bound on POD

#### Hand Portable Biodetection Testing: Instrument Pass/Fail Metrics

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- Inclusivity Testing (n = 13)
  - Test 3 replicates X 13 strains (39 tests total). If no failures, instrument passes.
  - If one failure, test additional replicates to reach 53 total tests. If no additional failures, instrument passes.
  - If two failures, test additional replicates to reach 86 total tests. If no additional failures, instrument passes.
  - If three or more failures, instrument does not meet POD and testing is halted.
- Exclusivity Testing (n = 18)
  - Test 2 replicates X 18 strains (total of 36 tests). If no failures, instrument passes.
  - If one failure, test additional replicates to reach 53 total tests. If no additional failures, instrument passes.
  - If two failures, test additional replicates to reach 86 total tests. If no additional failures, instrument passes.
  - If three or more failures, instrument does not meet POD and testing is halted.

This test plan follows AOAC inclusivity, exclusivity and 95% confidence for 0.95 POD guidelines, and requires only 75 to 172 tests per instrument Totals do not include blank or positive controls

Hand P	Pacific Northwest NATONAL LABORATORY Proudly Operated by Battelie Since 1965					
Instrument	Type of test	# Analyses	Positive	Negative	Overall # of Failed Tests	
	Inclusivity	39	39	0	0	
FilmArray	Exclusivity	36	0	36	0	Pass
	Blank	18	0	18	0	
	Inclusivity	39	39	0	0	
RAZOR	Exclusivity	54	1	53	1	Pass
	Blank	24	0	24	0	
	Inclusivity	39	39	0	0	N
	Exclusivity	36	0	36	0	Dace
T-COR 4	Blank	17	0	17	0	Pass
	Positive Controls	6	6	0	0	
	1					
<b>BioSeeq Plus</b>	Exclusivity	36	0	36	0	Fail
	Blank	16	0	15	1	inclusivity samples
	Inclusivity	39	39	0	0	
						Fail
POCKIT	Blank	22	0	22	0	3 false positive exclusivity samples
	Positive Controls	12	12	0	0	8

# Screening of Environmental Powders for Possible

- Goal: understand instrument performance, limitations, and cost/benefit of assays/biodetection platforms
- Test samples:
  - Environmental material and potentially interfering common powders (10 mg/test)
- Screening Assays:
  - General Protein: 20/20 Bioresponse (BioCheck) and Indipro strips (Macherey-Nagel)
  - Biochemical/ATP: Clean-Trace tests (3M), Profile 1 (New Horizons Diagnostics)
  - General DNA: Prime Alert (GenPrime)
  - Pending:
    - Protein: BioScreener (Field Forensics)
    - Chemical/Spectroscopic: HazMat ID 360 (Smiths Detection)
    - Immunoassays: RAID 8 (Alexeter) and Pro Strips (Advnt)
    - PCR Assays: Razor, FilmArray, T-COR4, POCKIT, and BioSeeq PLUS
- Outcome of these tests will help to formulate additional testing, including studies with white powder + Ba and ricin mixtures using PNNL developed test plan

#### Environmental Powder Screening: Protein Tests

Class of Powder	Powder Type	Indipro Protein Test	20/20 Protein Test	20/20 Acid-Base Result
Organic Rielogical	Brewers Yeast Powder	Positive (3)	Positive (3)	Neutral (3)
Organic, Biological	Dipel dust	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
Organic Brotain	Milk Powder	Positive (3)	Positive (3)	Slightly Acidic (3)
Containing	Infant Formula	Positive (3)	Positive (3)	Slightly Acidic (3)
Containing	White flour	Positive (3)	Positive (3)	Neutral (3)
	Coffee creamer (non-dairy)	Positive (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
	Instant pectin	Positive (2/3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
Organic, No Protein	Instant pectin         Positive (2/3)         Negative (3)         Neutral (3)           acetaminophen         Negative (3)         Positive (3)         Neutral (3)           Powdered Sugar         Negative (3)         Negative (3)         Neutral (3)           Corn starch         Negative (3)         Negative (3)         Neutral (3)           Polyethylene glycol 3300         Negative (3)         Negative (3)         Neutral (3)	Neutral (3)		
Organic, No Protein ecceminopieri Regative (3) Powdered Sugar Negative (3) Corn starch Negative (3)		Negative (3)	Neutral (3)	
	Corn starch	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
	Polyethylene glycol 3300	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
	Toothpaste powder with fluoride	Positive (3)	Negative (3)	Basic (2), Slightly Basic (1)
	Baking powder (aluminum free)	Positive (3)	Negative (3)	Slightly Basic (3)
	antacid (calcium carbonate)	Positive(3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (1), Slightly Basic (2)
	Baking soda	Positive (3)	Negative (3)	Basic (3)
Inorganic	Epsom salt	Negative (3)	Positive (2), Negative (1)	Slightly Acidic (2), Neutral (1)
	gym chalk (magnesium carbonate)	Positive(3)	Positive (1), Negative (2)	Basic (3)
	Borax	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Basic (3)
	Talc	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
	Road Dust	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
	Kaolin	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)
	Salt	Negative (3)	Negative (3)	Neutral (3)

Environmental lest Materials						
Bt powder (Dipel)	Cornstarch					
Powdered milk	Baking powder					
Powdered infant formula	Kaolin					
Powdered coffee creamer	Borax					
Powdered sugar	Brewer's yeast					
Talcum powder	MgSO <sub>4</sub> (Epsom salt)					
White flour	Powdered toothpaste					
Baking soda	Popcorn salt					
Chalk dust (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	Acetaminophen					
Chalk dust (MgCO <sub>3</sub> )	Instant pectin					
Road dust	Miralax					

#### Environmental Powder Screening: ATP and DNA Tests

Class of Powder	Powder Type	Clean Trace ATP (>300 is positive)	Profile 1 ATP (>10000 is positive)	Prime Alert DNA (>1500 is positive)
	Brewers Yeast Powder	231508, 368570, 365886	108628, clogged	13374, 13903, 9715
Organic, Biological	Dipel dust	87, 123, 110	305817, 296151, 420386	257, 213, 183
Organic Brotoin	Milk Powder	2930, 2435, 3009	clogged	1007, 1109, 929
Organic, Protein-	Infant Formula	125, 120, 105	clogged	305, 370, 287
Containing	White flour	1720, 1853, 1615	clogged	Profile 1 ATP 0000 is positive)         Prime Alert DNA (>1500 is positive)           108628, clogged         13374, 13903, 9715           817, 296151, 420386         257, 213, 183           clogged         1007, 1109, 929           clogged         305, 370, 287           clogged         336, 351, 657           clogged         261, 693, 948           7713, 8488, 605         59, 61, 38           35, 526, 134         92, 72, 57           1284, 33, 18         38, 67, 31           762, 136, 53         215, 118, 142           58, 62, 131         47, 29, 5           84, 138, 651         138, 175, 128           776, 696, 678         1111, 115, 41           clogged         436, 745, 234           467, 597, 5976         49, 24, 21           163, 148, 167         52, 50, 55           277, 450, 540         327, 271, 76           265, 867, 497         19, 52, 33           218, 180, 14         146, 164, 235           687, 371, 887         211, 228, 262           300, 352, 497         420, 700, 790
	Coffee creamer (non- dairy)	78, 92, 70	clogged	261, 693, 948
	Instant pectin	6, 7, 8	7713, 8488, 605	59, 61, 38
Organic No Protein	acetaminophen	9, 8, 9	35, 526, 134	92, 72, 57
organic, no Floteni	Powdered Sugar	14, 11, 14	1284, 33, 18	38, 67, 31
	Corn starch	35, 42, 36	762, 136, 53	215, 118, 142
	Polyethylene glycol 3300	7, 6, 6	58, 62, 131	47, 29, 5
	Toothpaste powder with fluoride	6, 8, 8	84, 138, 651	138, 175, 128
	Baking powder (aluminum free)	275, 208, 338	776, 696, 678	111, 115, 41
	antacid (calcium carbonate)	16, 19, 16	clogged	436, 745, 234
	Baking soda	4, 5, 8	467, 597, 5976	49, 24, 21
Inorganic	Epsom salt	7, 5, 6	163, 148, 167	52, 50, 55
-	gym chalk (magnesium carbonate)	11, 11, 10	277, 450, 540	327, 271, 76
	Borax	5, 6, 5	265, 867, 497	19, 52, 33
	Talc	15, 13, 15	218, 180, 14	146, 164, 235
	Road Dust	140, 150, 132	687, 371, 887	211, 228, 262
	Kaolin	7, 7, 7	300, 352, 497	420, 700, 790
	Salt	6, 3, 3	170, 85, 61	71, 59, 30

Environmental Powder Screening:

Protein tests result in positives from many environmental powders:

Protein test positives:

**Summary To Date** 

- Indipro: Brewer's yeast, milk powder, infant formula, white flour, gym chalk, coffee creamer, instant pectin, toothpaste powder, baking powder, antacid, and baking soda
- 20/20: Brewer's yeast, milk powder, infant formula, white flour, gym chalk, acetaminophen, and Epsom salt
- ATP and DNA tests result in only a few positives from environmental powders; Dipel dust not positive in some cases (but expect positive)
   ATP test positives:
  - Clean Trace: Brewer's yeast, milk powder, and white flour (note: Dipel not +)
     Profile 1: Brewer's yeast, Dipel dust;clogging problems with 5 powders
  - Prime Alert DNA test positives:Br ewer's yeast (note: Dipel not +)
- Next steps: Perform additional testing to understand test limitations and value of the tests for sample screening and triage.

Testresults w ill provide key information for first responders regarding the limitations of screening tests and effect of powders on test outcome



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PNNL laboratory testing

- Establish LOD, dynamic range, potential for false positive/negative results, and impact of other substances such as common hoax powders
- Identify technology deficiencies/limitations prior to high cost/effort field testing
- Evaluate strategies for instrument use
- Develop objective information and guidance for selection and use of biodetection technology
- Publish and disseminate information
  - COTS biodetection instrument summary reports
  - Peer-reviewed publications of COTS instrument testing
  - Dissemination of PNNL Test Plan for future instrument testing and transition

Applied Microbiology

Evaluation of the FilmArray<sup>®</sup> system for detection of *Bacillus anthracis, Francisella tularensis* and *Yersinia pestis* 

Volume 114, Issue 4, pages 992–1000, April 2013





### **Summary of Path Forward**



- Continue technology foraging and instrument testing
- Conduct additional Working Meeting with first responders in 2014 to report testing results, present instrument use/guidelines and solicit stakeholder feedback
- Provide information to end-users to assist in making more informed decisions on equipment selection, improving training and better understanding of equipment use and limitations



Framework for a Biothreat Field Response Mission Capability (ml 3\_201) Security



- In partnership with Public Health and other Agencies (APHL, LRN, CST, FBI, NIST, Others), support field biodetection exercises
- Support DHS and other agencies in the implementation of key elements of the Biothreat Field Response Mission Capability

## It Takes A Village



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**DHS Program Manager:** Anne Hultgren This effort is funded by the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate under Contract HSHQDC-08-X-00843.



# Wednesday, November 6, 2013

# Concurrent Sessions 2

# Radiological Agent Fate, Transport, and Decontamination



# Migration of Radiocesium, Radiostrontium and Radiocobalt in Urban Building Materials and their Wash-off by Rainwater

MASLOVA K.<sup>1</sup>, GUSAROV A.<sup>1</sup>, <u>KONOPLEV A.<sup>1</sup></u>, LEE S.D.<sup>2</sup> , POPOV V.<sup>1</sup> , STEPINA I.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>RPA "Typhoon", Obninsk, Russia <sup>2</sup>National Homeland Security Research Center, US EPA, USA

2013 US EPA Decon Conference

# Introduction (1)

- The previous experience from radiological accidents, such as Chernobyl (1986) and Fukushima (2011) shows that there can be a hazard from contamination of the urban environment by long-lived radionuclides such as radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt.
- These radionuclides are also believed to be potential agents that may be used in radiological dispersal devices in acts of terrorism.

2013 US EPA Decon Conference

# Introduction (2)

- Basically there are two main ways of decreasing the contamination: natural attenuation and artificial decontamination;
- The natural attenuation processes on urban materials include radioactive decay, run-off, short-term and longterm weathering;
- These weathering processes greatly depend on the meteorological conditions. A better understanding of the interactions of radionuclides with building materials under varied atmospheric conditions will help increase the effectiveness of artificial decontamination methods.

2013 US EPA Decon Conference

US EPA-ISTC Partner Project #4007 «Fate and transport of radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt on urban building materials»

### **Objective:**

To investigate and characterize the fate and transport of water soluble radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt particles deposited on common urban building materials, especially concrete, brick, asphalt, limestone, granite and components of drinking water distribution systems (iron, copper and plastic pipes), under various environmental conditions.

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# **Tasks of the Project**

- 1. Determination of the radioactive material migration profile through urban building materials at various times and relative humidities. Wash-off of radionuclides by rain from contaminated surfaces(this presentation);
- 2. Determination of sorption and desorption coefficients and distribution coefficients of radionuclides in water-powdered building material system (presentation of K. Maslova);
- 3. Identification of interaction mechanisms between target compounds and urban materials and characterization of their interactions as a function of time (presentation of K. Maslova);
- Laboratory study of radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt sorption/desorption on components of drinking water distribution systems iron, plastic, copper and concrete pipes (presentation of I. Stepina).

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# Radionuclide penetration into building materials was characterized in terms of $h_{90\%}$ - depth where 90% of RN occurs.

- For *asphalt, limestone and concrete* penetration depth does not depend on a specific radionuclide, relative humidity and time of contact of the radionuclide with building material.
- A significant dependence of the penetration depth for different radionuclides is seen for *brick*. While the median value h<sub>90%</sub> for <sup>85</sup>Sr changes from 2.1 to 3.6, for <sup>137</sup>Cs and <sup>60</sup>Co this value changes from 0.7 to 0.9 mm.
- The most pronounced differences in the penetration depths of radionuclides are seen for *granite*. While for <sup>85</sup>Sr the median values h<sub>90%</sub> are about 6.0-6.5 mm, for <sup>137</sup>Cs and <sup>60</sup>Co this value is practically 5 times lower and equals about 0.3-1.7 mm.

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Artificial raining of building materials. Method. Incubation of building materials at 30 or 87% RH for 1 or 28 days at 5, 20, or 35 °C Raining water composition Concentration, mg/l Ion Cl 0.53 NO<sub>3</sub> 0.32 HCO<sub>3</sub> 1.06 SO42-3.0  $Na^+$ 0.4  $\mathbf{K}^{+}$ 0.2 Mg<sup>2-</sup> 0.68 0.05  $NH_4^+$ Ca<sup>2+</sup> 0.3 Raining: Intensity - 20 mm/h

2013 US EPA Decon Conference

Duration - 30 min.























Category	Some Examples	Challenges/Limitations	
Strippable Coatings and Gels (7 products)	Argonne SuperGel ALARA 1146 DeconGel	Removal may be difficult Wide-area spray not thoroughly tested No efficacy data for some technologies	
Liquids Foams (4 products)	Canadian UDF EAI Rad-Release TechXtract	Secondary waste collection/disposition (media) Some technologies are labor intensive No efficacy data for some technologies	)
Physical Removal (10 products)	Abrasive blasting surface grinding vacuum pressure washing	Secondary waste collection/disposition (blast media, removed surface material) Some technologies have low decon rate Some technologies are labor intensive Some technologies not tested against rad Destructive to surface Vacuum only effective for loose contamination	1
11/20/2013	U.S. Env	vironmental Protection Agency 7	

		And Real Party	
Potential R8	D to addres	s technical challenge	S
Challenges/Limitatio		Potential R&D or solution	
Coating removal may b Wide-area spray not th	be difficult horoughly tested	Demonstrate on large scale (non-radiological)	
Secondary waste colle	ction/disposition	Investigate effluent capture mechanisms; demonstrate retro collaborate with vendors	ofits;
Some technologies are Some technologies ha	e labor intensive ve low decon rate	Investigate potential design mo collaborate with vendors	ds;
No efficacy data for so coatings/gels/liquids/fo Some physical remova tested against rad	me pams Il technologies not	Perform efficacy evaluation (radiological testing)	
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### Conclusions:

- No surface cleaning technology is ready for wide area deployment, but some are close
- Large scale demonstration could provide valuable assurance for wide-area deployment (strippable coatings, foams)
- Effluent capture remains a primary limitation (water/media blast, abrasive surface removal)
- Some potentially viable products still need efficacy testing



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"Fate and Transport of Cesium, Strontium and Cobalt Particles on Urban Surfaces"

<u>Katerina Maslova</u><sup>1</sup>, Stepina I.<sup>1</sup>, Popov V.<sup>1</sup>, Konoplev A.<sup>1</sup>, Lee S.D.<sup>2</sup>, Gusarov A<sup>1</sup>.

> <sup>1</sup>RPA "Typhoon", Russia <sup>2</sup> US EPA, NC USA

U.S. EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference

5 – 7 November 2013 Durham, NC USA



Asphalt	<u> </u>	Asphalt					
Brick	Crushing						
Granite	Building material	Porosity, %	Particle density, g/cm <sup>3</sup>	CEC, cmol(+) /kg	рН <sub>КСІ</sub>	Organic C, %	0
1201 F20	Concrete	<u>20.3±0.9</u>	2.10±0.11	6.4±0.5	12.5	0.36±0.03	Granite
Limestone	Granite	<u>1.5±0.5</u>	2.44±0.13	5.9±0.6	9.7	0.092±0.004	A
	Limestone	15.3±2.4	2.52±0.06	3.3±0.4	9.6	0.092±0.004	Limestone
250	Asphalt	<u>2.2±1.0</u>	2.39±0.06	8.8±0.4	9.5	2.9±0.3	36.2
Concrete	Brick	<u>20.28±0.25</u>	2.53±0.01	6.9±0.1	10.5	0.30±0.08	Concrete
900							(W)









<sup>\*</sup>Maslova et al. Journal of Environmental Radioactivity 125 (2013) 74 - 80.



Building material	<b>RIP(K)</b> suspension, mM/kg	K <sub>c</sub> (K/N)	RIP(N) suspension, mM/kg
	<0.125	< 0.125	< 0.125
Asphalt	280.5 ± 16.3	9.5	29.5 ± 0.6
Limestone	12.5 ± 0.4	6.6	1.9 ± 0.3
Granite	204.3 ± 21.0	17.7	11.5 ± 0.9
Concrete	185.4 ± 5.0	1.0	195.4 ± 1.5
Brick	$14.9 \pm 3.0$	2.8	$5.4 \pm 0.6$

*RIP(N)=18-37 mM/kg* Old brick: *RIP(K)=380 mM/kg RIP(N)=120 mM/kg* 

# $K_d$ <sup>137</sup>Cs for intact building materials predicted using experimental values of RIP(K) and C<sub>K</sub>\*

k	$K_{d} = \frac{RIP(K)}{C_{K}} (1) \qquad \qquad$									
	Building material	m <sub>L</sub> : m <sub>S</sub> dm <sup>3</sup> /kg for intact samples	Predicted C <sub>K</sub> , mM/dm <sup>3</sup> for intact samples	Predicted K <sub>d</sub> ( <sup>137</sup> Cs), dm <sup>3</sup> /kg for intact samples	Suspension 1:50 K <sub>d</sub> ( <sup>137</sup> Cs), dm <sup>3</sup> /kg for 1 day					
	Concrete	0.172	0.11 ± 0.04	$1700\pm600$	$1950\pm27$					
	Granite	0.020	7.8 ± 1.6	$26 \pm 5$	$2654 \pm 131$					
	Limestone	0.077	$0.83 \pm 0.20$	15 ± 4	950 ± 44					
	Asphalt	0.089	$0.71 \pm 0.13$	<b>390</b> ± <b>70</b>	<b>8316</b> ± 644					
	Brick	0.163	$0.61 \pm 0.06$	$25\pm 6$	1180 ± 176					

\*Stepina et al. Radiochemistry, 2013. Vol. 55, No. 3, pp. 305-309.

#### **Results summary**

- 1. <sup>60</sup>Co sorption by granite and concrete increases with time during 28 days. For brick the <sup>60</sup>Co  $K_d$  slowly decreases with time. There is no time dependence of the <sup>60</sup>Co  $K_d$  for asphalt and limestone.
- 2. <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption by asphalt and granite is decreasing of with time. <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption by brick, limestone and concrete increases approximately 1.5-2 times.
- 3. The K<sub>d</sub> value of <sup>137</sup>Cs increases with time. For asphalt and limestone K<sub>d</sub> <sup>137</sup>Cs increases approximately 2 times during 28 days of interaction. There is no time dependence of the <sup>137</sup>Cs K<sub>d</sub> for other materials.
- Selective sorption of <sup>137</sup>Cs ranges from 20 to 300 mM/kg in the order: Brick > Granite > Asphalt > Limestone > Concrete.
- 5. Predicted K<sub>d</sub> of <sup>137</sup>Cs for intact samples is significantly lower than experimental K<sub>d</sub> values for suspension. This results could be applicable in radionuclide transport models.

Sequential extractions methods									
		Title	<u>Tessier (1979)</u>	Riise(1990)	Bunzl (1997)	Niesiobedzka (2000)	Knox (2001)		
	P	lon-exchange fraction	<u>1M MgCl<sub>2</sub></u>	1M CH <sub>3</sub> COONH <sub>4</sub>	$1M CH_3 COONH_4$	1M CH <sub>3</sub> COONH <sub>4</sub>	1M CH <sub>3</sub> COONa		
Easily – extractable		Fraction bound to carbonates	<u>1M CH<sub>3</sub>COONa</u>	0.04M NH₂OH*HCI- 25% CH₃COOH	0.04M NH <sub>2</sub> OH.HCI- 25% CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	0.04M NH <sub>2</sub> OH*HCI- 25% CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	0.25M NH <sub>2</sub> OH*HCI- 0.25M HCI		
	ſ	Fraction bound to oxides of Fe-Mn	0.04M <u>NH<sub>2</sub>OH*HCI-</u> 25% CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	30% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + 3,2 M CH <sub>3</sub> COONH <sub>4</sub>	30% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + 3,2 M CH <sub>3</sub> COONH <sub>4</sub>	30% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> + 3,2 M CH <sub>3</sub> COONH <sub>4</sub>	1M NH <sub>2</sub> OH*HCI- 25% CH <sub>3</sub> COOH		
Strongly bound		Fraction bound to the organic matter	<u>0.02M HNO<sub>3</sub> +</u> <u>30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> +</u> <u>3,2 M</u> <u>CH<sub>4</sub>COONH₄</u>	7 M HNO3	7 M HNO <sub>3</sub>	HNO <sub>3</sub>	0.02M HNO <sub>3</sub> + 30% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>		
Non extractable	{	Residual fraction	measured RN on solid phase	Total activity - (F1+F2+F3+F4)	measured RN on solid phase	measured RN on solid phase	measured RN on solid phase		

Ammonium extraction was performed using 50 mL of  $1 M CH_{3}COONH_{4}$ solution (pH=7), the suspension was shaken on a to-and-fro shaker at 20 °C. The extraction time was 1 hour and 24 hours.









### **Results summary**

- **1.** By <sup>137</sup>Cs concentration in Strongly bound & non extractable fraction, the materials form the following sequence: asphalt > concrete > granite > limestone > brick.
- **2.** <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption by all materials is a practically completely reversible. The concentration of <sup>60</sup>Co in the residual fraction, like for <sup>85</sup>Sr , also did not exceed 1%.
- 3. For all radionuclides under study the  $CH_3COONH_4$  solution is the most effective agent for extracting the exchangeable fraction from all building materials. The optimum extraction time for <sup>137</sup>Cs is 24 hours, for <sup>60</sup>Co 24 hours and <sup>85</sup>Sr 1 hour.
- 4. With time the exchangeable fraction of radionuclides is decreasing in all materials, the maximum fixation is seen for <sup>37</sup>Cs. For <sup>60</sup>Co and <sup>85</sup>Sr, the changes in its exchangeable fraction were insignificant. However, <sup>60</sup>Co with time converted into strongly bound fraction. >







# **Tessier scheme**

(1) lon-exchange fraction:16 mL of 1 M solution of MgCl<sub>2</sub>, the suspension shaken on a toand-fro shaker at 20 °C during 1 hour.

<u>(2) Fraction bound to carbonates</u>:16 mL of 1 M solution of  $CH_3COONa$  was added, brought to pH = 5 with acetic acid (CH<sub>3</sub>COOH). The vials were shaken at 20 °C during 5 hours.

(3) Fraction bound to oxides of Fe-Mn: 40 ml of 0.04 M solution of NH<sub>2</sub>OH\*HCl in 25% acetic acid (CH<sub>3</sub>COOH). The tubes were kept during 6 hours in drier at temperature 96 $\pm$ 3 °C, the samples were shaken occasionally (during 20 minutes every 2 hours).

(4) Fraction bound to the organic matter: 6 ml of 0.02 M solution of HNO<sub>3</sub> and 10 mL of 27% solution of  $H_2O_2$  (pH=2), kept at temperature  $85\pm2$  °C during 2 hours shaking the samples occasionally. After that the tubes were added again with 6 ml of 27% solution of  $H_2O_2$  (pH=2) and kept for three hours at temperature  $85\pm2$  °C, shaking the samples occasionally. After cooling, the solution was added with 10 ml of 3,2 M solution of  $CH_3COONH_4$  diluted with 20% solution of nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) and shaken during 30 minutes.

(5) Residual fraction: For determining the residual activity in the solid phase of the materials the remaining samples were put in the vials (20 mL) and radionuclide activity was measured in the solid phase.



# S&T Bases for Use Humic acids (HA) in Decontamination Technics

1) Humic acids (HA) are main organic component of soil, lignate (brown coal), leonardite, and peat

• brown coal is main raw material for preparation of low cost and cross functional sorbents

2) Formulations of activated humic acids (AHA) can be used as effective adsorbents for toxic chemical substances, such as:

- cations of heavy metals
- cations of radionuclides
- hydrophobic and hydrophilic organic contaminants like CW, dioxins and pesticides

3) Humic acids is natural matrix for accumulation and living of soil microorganisms for biological degradation of organic contaminants

- increasing HA concentration in soil leads to increased concentration and activity of natural soil microorganisms to promote biodegradation
- there are formulations stable concentrates of various microorganisms promoters of biodegradation based on HA matrix

2

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### **Origin and Structure of Humic Acids**

# Useful Properties of Humic and Fulvic Acids

#### Humic acids:

- pH-dependent natural organic polymer compounds with essential inorganic component (a few percent of inorganic minerals, e.g. Montmorillonite)
- CAS#1415-93-6, exact chemical structure is unknown
- regulation of soil properties:
  - to improve thermal conditions and soil or substrate structure
  - to enhance the ion exchange capacity
  - to stimulate living of microorganisms
- resistant to soil microorganisms up to pH < 10
- form insoluble salts with cations of heavy metals and radionuclides
- **use for decontamination:** irreversibly bind cations of heavy metals and radionuclides in soil, greatly reduce their mobility in the environment, protect living water and living organisms from contamination

#### Fulvic acids:

- natural organic polymer compounds
- soluble in acid and base
- **use for soil decontamination**: turns salts of heavy metals and radionuclides into soluble forms that are absorbed by plants and no longer present in soil

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#### **Unique Features of HA**

Ability to form biocompatible nano-films on inorganic surfaces

- natural starting mechanism of soil formation from inorganic ground
- mechanism of soil fertilization use industrial HA products



Biocompatible nanofilm on inorganic surfaces



Ability to form soil particles as a living environment for useful microorganisms

Ability to adsorb inorganic cations, hydrophobic and hydrophilic organic compound including contaminants

Hypothesis: HA are key organic component of soil to making vital functions of microorganisms and plants

5

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# Our Approach for Commercial Purification and Activation of HA

**Stage 1. General approach.** Preparation of HA formulations for soil fertilization and remediation. Low cost and non-toxic materials.

- HA extraction from raw materials
- HA hydration

**Stage 2**. **General approach + know-how.** Preparation of sorbents for heavy metals, radionuclides, and cleaning products for wide industrial application incl. **decontamination.** Low cost, non-toxic and easy-to-use natural sorbents.

• HA purification (general approach) and activation (partial know-how) remove of inorganic micro particles and most of adsorbed inorganic compounds/cations)

**Stage 3. Know-how.** Preparation of high-purified HA sorbents for veterinary and medical use, materials for chemical industry.

- HA purification against natural LMW organic compounds use microorganisms decomposers
- Purified HA resistant to soil microorganisms under normal conditions
- Stage 4. General approach + know-how. Preparation of sorbents with soil microorganisms on HA matrix to enhance biodegradation of organic pollutants. This is approach for R&D new stabilized formulations of microbiological preparations for various applications.
  - Environment Environmement Canada 6 Canada
#### **Unique Features of Purified HA Sorbents**

Unique feature of highly purified HA sorbents is their self-structuring. Depend of their origin HA form the original particles look like crystals or filaments.

Microstructures of highly purified HA illustrate their selfstructuring and ability to make nano-films on inorganic surfaces, for example:

- roll of potassium humate
- 45-70 nm HA nanofilm on inorganic surface

Investigation of microstructures of highly purified HA in water solutions is important for understanding of building mechanism of soils, natural sorbents and creation of new sorbents and biocompatible materials:

- our results demonstrate polydispersed particles of HA in water solution with size 50-150 nm
- some publications demonstrate changes in forms and size particles of HA in water solution depends on HA concentration, pH and ionic force of the solution

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#### Suitability of HA-based Sorbents



• acceleration of waste in sewage processing plants

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#### **HA-based Sorbents for Heavy Metals**

#### Formulations to be Used in the Study

Several different types of adsorbents based on activated HA for soil remediation were developed in this study:

- <u>Powder formulation</u> (45% of extractable HA): base composition for soil humification and binding of toxic cations, special modification for bioremediation
- pH-<u>neutral aqueous gel</u> (10% of HA as emulsion), special modification contains useful soil microorganisms (don't lose their activity up to one year)
- <u>Aqueous solution</u> (10% of HA as potassium salts)
- <u>Concentrate of soil microorganisms on HA matrix</u> (10<sup>11</sup> cells/mL, pH 7.0)

The adsorption capacity heavy metal cations and radionuclides can be as high at ~10% (w/w)

#### Main features:

- Non-toxic to humans and the environment
- Low cost
- Easy-to-use
- Broad range of modifications
- Potential for dual applications (e.g., agricultural use and response to CBRN emergencies).

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# HA-based Sorbents for Heavy Metals in Greenhouse Tests

Phytotron (artificial light/climate room) conditions of the experiment:

- Light intensity 8000 Lux/8 hours/day
- Temperature 25-28°C

•

- Relative humidity 40-50%
  - Soil simulant granulated perlite (doesn't absorb HM cations)
- Duration of the experiment period 21 days
- Addition of HA formulations 1.5% w/w perlite



- Estimated parameters and examples of experiment:
- Dry weight of top of a plant (grains and beans) in control experiment and in experiment with HA formulation;
- Metal concentration (ICP-MS) in dry mass of the plant in control experiment and in experiment with HA formulation;
- Example (on the photo): effect of water soluble HA liquid formulations on beans growth in the presence of chromium, lead and mercury (50 and 150 mg/kg perlite)
- Adsorption efficiency decreases in the row:  $Hg^{2+}>Cd^{2+}>Pb^{2+}>Cr^{3+}$  and  $Ni^{2+}>Zn^{2+}>Cu^{2+}>Fe^{3+}$

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# HA Prevents Adsorption of Heavy Metals by Plants



#### **HA-based Sorbents for Radionuclides**

There is deficit of detailed and reliable information in the field of HA application for sorption of radionuclides cations. The reasons for this are:

- absence of purified Standard Samples of HA (activated) adsorbents for testing and evaluation
- depends HA degree of purification, pH and technique on sorption capacity
- absence of validated methods
- high cost of the research

#### But:

- there is prototype technology two-stage process for selective removal of lanthanides: (1<sup>st</sup>) sorption of lanthanide cations on HA, (2<sup>nd</sup>) incineration of the spent adsorbent and preparation of concentrated sample
- our experiments (ICP-MS) demonstrated adsorption > 10% (w/w) La<sup>3+</sup> ion on sample of activated HA

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# Application of HA-based Adsorbents in Area Mitigation and Decontamination

Mitigation and decontamination of terrain, highways, urban infrastructure, buildings, equipment, and even humans and animals
Decontamination of proving grounds, construction and demolition waste, landfills, etc.
Opportunity for the use of various conventional equipment:
• Fire trucks, street sweepers, etc.
Fire trucks street sweepers, etc.
Fire trucks street sweepers, etc.
Agricultural machinery, etc.



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### HA Product Development Strategy

Task I	<ul> <li>Selection of candidate adsorbents and their targeted modification</li> <li>Bench-scale evaluation of their performance.</li> </ul>
Task II	Development of standard samples of HA adsorbents for testing and evaluation
Task III	Application of adsorbents for area mitigation after radiological incidents
Task IV	Development of methods for environmental remediation of contaminated sites.

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#### **Project Partners**

<ul> <li>Atomic Energy Canada Ltd.</li> <li>Royal Military College of Canada</li> <li>Allen Vanguard</li> <li>Ottawa Fire Services</li> <li>US EPA, National Homeland Security Research Center</li> <li>Russian Federation</li> <li>NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences</li> </ul>	Canada	Environment Canada
<ul> <li>Royal Military College of Canada</li> <li>Allen Vanguard</li> <li>Ottawa Fire Services</li> <li>US EPA, National Homeland Security Research Center</li> <li>Russian Federation</li> <li>NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Atomic Energy Canada Ltd.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Allen Vanguard</li> <li>Ottawa Fire Services</li> <li>United States</li> <li>US EPA, National Homeland Security Research Center</li> <li>Russian Federation</li> <li>NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Royal Military College of Canada</li> </ul>
• Ottawa Fire Services         United States       • US EPA, National Homeland Security Research Center         Russian       • NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences         Federation       • NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences		Allen Vanguard
United States       • US EPA, National Homeland Security Research Center         Russian       • NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences         Federation       • NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences		Ottawa Fire Services
Russian       • NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences         Federation	United States	US EPA, National Homeland Security Research Center
	Russian Federation	NPP "OrCheMed" Russian Academy of Sciences
	Federation	

### Acknowledgement

 The research is funded in part by the Canadian Safety and Security Program, Project CSSP-2013-CP-1029





# Wednesday, November 6, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 3**

Biological Agent Fate and Transport Nublic Health England

# Re-Aerosolisation of Bacterial Spores from Indoor Surfaces

Allan Bennett and Susan Macken Public Health England, Porton Down

WW Public Health England

## Introduction

- Study background
- Methodology
- Results
- Risk assessment
- Conclusions

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Public Health England

## Anthrax Investigations

- Unknown level of contamination on flooring
- Unknown potential for reaerosolisation from potentially contaminated surfaces
- High level respiratory protection recommended on precautionary principle
- Made responses and remediation more challenging and of longer duration



#### 3 Re-aerosolisation from Flooring US EPA Conference 2013



## Other applications

- Hospital and healthcare environments
  - Noroviruses, Clostridium difficile
  - · Dried human bodily fluids on flooring
- Responses to laboratory accidents
  - Dropped flasks
- What are the risks?





Nublic Health England

## Study rationale

- To quantify re-aerosolisation from two flooring materials, carpet and vinyl
- To develop methods that could be used in further re-aerosolisation studies
- To use information gained to allow risk assessments to be performed



Re-aerosolisation from Flooring US EPA Conference 2013



#### **Aerosol Deposition**

- B. atrophaeus used
- Several contaminating systems were
   assessed
- An artists airbrush was chosen to contaminate surfaces
- Fine dispersed contamination
- Allowed a high level of contamination to be achieved



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## Samplers Used

- Sartorius MD8 used to measure total aerosols at 0m and 1m
- Andersen Samplers used to measure particles size distribution at 0m and 1m
- Surface samples taken after each experiment
- Slit sampler used at 1.5m



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Re-aerosolisation from Flooring US EPA Conference 2013



## Study Methodology



- Study carried on a strip of flooring in a clean room
- Walking defined as light, medium or heavy
- Ten replicates carried out at each condition
- Surface samples taken
- Air vented between each run

Public Health England

## **Definition of Results**

- Since this is an artificial system an attempt has been made to define the results in terms of a ratio of aerosol to surface contamination
- This is defined as cfu.L<sup>-1</sup>/cfu.cm<sup>2</sup>
- It is defined as our re-aerosolisation ratio %cm<sup>2</sup>/L
- This represents the percentage of the material in one square centimetre that ends up in a litre of air







Re-aerosolisation from Flooring US EPA Conference 2013



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## Conclusions of Re-aerosolisation Studies

- Much lower re-aerosolisation factor found from PVC than Carpet.
- Maximum re-aerosolisation factor at 1.5m, Carpet: 0.1%, PVC: 0.0002%
- Particles generated were within respirable range.
- Average particle size for carpet was 2.2µm for PVC it was 4.8µm both at 1m.



Re-aerosolisation from Flooring US EPA Conference 2013

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## Risk Assessment Analysis

Surface	Maximum Aerosol	Maximum Aerosol
Contamination	Exposure on	Exposure on PVC
(cfu/cm²)	Carpet (cfu/l)	(cfu/l)
10²	0.1	0.0002
10 <sup>3</sup>	1	0.002
<b>10</b> <sup>4</sup>	10	0.02
<b>10</b> <sup>5</sup>	100	0.2
10 <sup>6</sup>	1000	2

<sup>18</sup> 



- A model system for the measurement of re-aerosolisation has been developed
- An indication of the potential aerosolisation from two floorings has been obtained
- Many variables still need to be investigated
- PVC flooring causes far less re-aerosolisation than carpets

9 Re-aerosolisation from Flooring US EPA Conference 2013



## **Future Work**

- · Impact of variables on aerosolisation process:
  - · Operator: interpersonal differences, shoe type
  - · Contamination level
  - Organism
  - · Flooring type
  - Humidity/Temperature/Air flows
  - Modelling





Informing Response and Recovery Decisions: The Scientific Program on Reaerosolization and Exposure (SPORE), Program Overview



CAPT Marshall S. Gray, Jr, CIH EPA ORD NHSRC

6 November 2013





Purpose: Understand reaerosolization of Bacillus anthracis to inform decisions that reduce risk to the public.

Interagency Collaborative:

- > DHS S&T Donald Bansleben, PhD; Matthew Moe
- > HHS ASPR John Koerner, CIH
- HHS CDC Angela Weber
- DoD DTRA Sari Paikoff, PhD
- EPA ORD NHSRC CAPT Marshall Gray, CIH (Interagency Lead)

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Federal Subject Matter Expert Review, December 2012

 32 subject matter experts (SME) from partner

agencies

- Challenged to identify top gap in four focus areas:
  - I. Reaerosolization
  - 2. Detection, Sampling, Analysis
  - 3. Fate and Transport
  - 4. Health Endpoints
- Assigned to focus area based on expertise



Focal Area	Gap	Brief Description of Gap*	Grp 1	Grp 2	Grp 3	Grp 4	Total	<ul> <li>Top gaps were iden</li> </ul>
Reacrosolization	RI	Sensitivity analysis	-				0	for each focus are
	R2	Impact of parameters		1	1	1	3	
	R3	Model validation	1				1	• All gaps were
	R4	Determining suitable surrogates	1		1		2	· All gaps were
Detection, Sampling,	D1	Data communications					0	consolidated
and Analysis	D2	Air sampling collection methods	1	1	1	1	4	
	D3	Standardized vacuum sampling procedures					0	<ul> <li>Groups of SMEs we</li> </ul>
	D4	Trained responders					0	mixed. separated. a
	D5	Large-area sampling devices		-			0	
	D6	Rapid viability assays					0	requested to
	D7	Sampling processing methods	1				1	independently vote
Fate & Transport	FI	Ba spore characteristics				1	0	
	F2	Characterize similar size non-biological particles					0	the "top four" gaps
	F3	Verify tracer gases/particulate studies					0	<b>NOTE:</b> Many attendees
	F4	Confirm atmospheric models		1			1	believed that the Fate and
	F5	Identifying surrogates					0	Transport and Health
Health Endpoints – Exposure Assessment	ш	Identifying sampling and analytical methods, and strategies		1		1	2	Endpoints focal areas were important, however, the research necessary in thes
(Likelihood of Exposure)	H2	Considerations for exposure duration/frequency					0	
	H3	Outdoor activities that increase exposure		-	-	1	0	
Health Endpoints -	H4	Quantifiable dose for various durations		1	1	1	1	areas is highly dependent
(Likelihood of Disease)	H5	Human deposition doses for different spore characteristics					0	research results from the
	H6	Susceptible subpopulations					0	Detection, Sampling, and
	H7	Extrapolating animal dose-response data					0	Analysis and/or
Health Endpoints -	HS	Best methodology for characterizing			1		1	Reaerosolization focal are

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#### The group as a whole identified four priority gaps overall:

- I. Development of appropriate and validated air sample collection methods for reaerosolized viable and inhalable spores. Standardization of air sampling methods, including collection procedures, and validation of analytical methods that would improve reliability and interpretability of potential airborne exposure data.
- 2. Determination of reaerosolization through controlled, experimental data generation, assessing the impact of various parameters (e.g., particle size, surface properties, charge, dissemination method, forces [i.e., environmental, anthropogenic]).
- 3. Determination of suitable surrogates or simulants (e.g., non-pathogenic spores, inert particles) for *Ba* spores, for use in lab and field studies based on empirical reaerosolization data.
- 4. Determination of sampling and analytical methods, as well as sampling strategies that would provide data with the most utility for an exposure assessment.



SMEs were challenged to determine how to address the gaps, including time and funding.

Examples of potential studies identified:

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- I. Determine the predictability of reaerosolization to inform decisions to mitigate hazard/risk.
- 2. Conduct a requirements study focused on the development of an adequate air sampler.

Current SPORE Research is addressing :

• Identification of non-pathogenic simulants for Bacillus anthracis (Ba)

- Identification of outdoor urban surface types from which *Ba* may be prone to reaerosolization
- Identify factors influencing reaerosolization (force, spore preparation, surface properties)
- NOTE: Other interagency projects (CDC, DTRA) may assist in informing gaps.

NOTE: The group emphasized that it is critical to first understand parameters influencing reaerosolization to establish data quality objectives.



GAP	Potential Project(s)	Duration	Status
Identify forces to initiate reaerosolization from urban surfaces, identify surrogates for <i>Ba</i>	Existing reaerosolization wind tunnel (RWT) projects between EPA/DHS/DPG	Through mid FY-14	Funded through FY-14
Surface treatment methods to mitigate reaerosolization	Modification of RWT projects to introduce surface Treatment	FY 14 - 15	Unfunded – dependent upon success of initial test to ID surrogates
"Translation Guide" of forces causing reaerosolization	Evaluate forces caused by human activity as compared to RWT	FY 14	Unfunded
Temporal decay – how long will reaerosolization occur	Scale up from RWT	FY 15 - 17	Unfunded – dependent upon success of surrogates – top priority
Washdown transport and subsequent pooling / "hot spot" identification	TBD	FY 14 - 15	Unfunded – dependent upon success of surrogates
Fomite transport (how spores transport on dirt / debris)	Modification of RWT projects and scale up	FY 15 - 16	Unfunded – dependent upon success of surrogates
Outdoor Test and Evaluation	TBD (Limited by detection sensitivity for reaerosolization outdoors)	FY 16 - 18	Unfunded – dependent upon success of surrogates



Reference herein to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government and shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes.

#### Quantitative Analysis of Reaerosolization

Task I – SPORE



Russell W. Wiener, Ph.D. EPA ORD NHSRC

6 November 2013





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#### **Purpose:**

Provide a quantitative assessment of the energy required to reaerosolize *Bacillus anthracis* (*Ba*) and surrogate materials

#### **Collaborators:**

- EPA ORD NHSRC Russell Wiener (lead), Marshall Gray, Worth Calfee, Sang Don Lee
- > DOD DPG Jeffery Hogan, Kar Tsang
- > DHS S&T Donald Bansleben, Matthew Moe
- > Alion Science and Technology Laurie Brixey, Alfred Eisner
- > Arcadis Dahman Touati, Nicole Griffin



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#### Identified Programmatic Gaps

Gap	Potential Projects	Duration	Status
Identification of (1) forces to initiate reaerosolization from urban surfaces (2) surrogates for <i>Ba</i>	Existing EPA/DHS/DPG reaerosolization wind tunnel (RWT) projects	Through mid FY-14	Funded through FY-14

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- > What are appropriate simulants for Ba?
- > What level of force is required to reaerosolize spores?
- Do bioagent preparations and release mechanisms impact reaerosolization?
- > What is necessary to quantify reaerosolization?



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#### **Experimental Focus**

- > Determine if *Ba* reaerosolizes
- > Identify non-pathogenic simulants for Ba-Ames
- Identify the most important test surface characteristics that affect Ba reaerosolization
- Identify the most important factors, such as spore type, preparation, and method of deposition, that affect Ba reaerosolization



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Simulant for Ba reaerosolization in a wide-area urban release











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# Potential Experimental Variable Features for a Spore Reaerosolization Study

Particle Properties			
Feature Potential Experimental Variables			
Spore typeB. anthracis Ames, B. thuringiensis var kurstaki (bar coded), B. atrophaeus subspecies globigii			
Prep	Wet powder, powder (milled paste), refined powder		
Agglomeration	omeration Singles versus agglomerate, packing/surface density		
Surface Structure Chemistry, geometry, electrostatic properties, hydrophilic/ hydrophobic, coating, roughness			
Concentration	Colony-forming unit per unit mass or volume, viable fraction		
Additives	Mixers, buffers, reagents		



### Potential Experimental Variable Features for a Spore Reaerosolization Study

Test Surface Properties			
Feature	Potential Experimental Variables		
Material	Glass, concrete/cement, asphalt shingles		
Intrinsic physical chemistry	Chemical reactivity, hygroscopicity, wettability, electrostatic properties, moisture content		
Surface roughness	Porosity, asperity height		
Jet velocity	Speed magnitude and direction, speed variability, turbulence		
Atmospheric conditions	Temperature, relative humidity		
Time	Length of time since spore deposited on surface and time for jet to remove particle		

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- > Maximize number of data points collected by using a small wind tunnel
- Minimize common errors in reaerosolization experiments by measuring and controlling variables
- > Collect total reaerosolized matter to avoid sampling errors
- > Use an air jet to provide a wide range of energies (detachment forces) under controlled and repeatable conditions
- Test a variety of controlled surfaces similar to those found in the outdoor urban environment
- Conduct highly controlled and reproducible experiments from which data can be used for future non-dimensional analysis

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# Wednesday, November 6, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 3**

# Chemical Agent Fate, Persistence, and Transport

#### Predictive modeling of transport processes at environmental interfaces following chemical contamination

James R. Hunt, Beaufort, NC (formerly UC Berkeley)

Adam H. Love, Roux Associates, Inc., San Francisco (formerly Johnson Wright Inc.)

US EPA Decontamination Conference, Nov. 2013

#### Goal:

Utilize experimental data to develop predictive models Calibrate and then predict under different conditions

Approach:

Data determine modeling complexity

Illustrative examples:

Wind tunnel evaporation data for HD Coupon evaporation data for HD, GB, and VX

#### Observation:

Need better integration of modeling and experimentation



#### 1. Edgewood 5 cm wind tunnel evaporation of HD

Model Calibration of Lumped Parameter (k<sub>o</sub> A<sub>o</sub>)



Data from Brevett et al. (2008, ECBC)

Scaling for Different Temperature (15, 35, 50°C), Wind (0.22, 1.8, 3.6 m/s) and Agent Volume (1, 6, 9  $\mu$ L)

•Temperature only controls vapor pressure

$$C_{HD}^{o}(T_{k}) = \frac{P_{HD}^{o}(T_{k})MW_{HD}}{R T_{k}}$$

•Velocity sets shear velocity,  $u^*$ , and  $k_{mt} \sim u^*$  $u^* = u^* (U_j)$ 

$$k_j = k_o \frac{u^*(U_j)}{u_o^*}$$

•Initial drop volume, V, determines surface area

$$\mathbf{A}_{i} = \mathbf{A}_{o} \left(\frac{\mathbf{V}_{i}}{\mathbf{V}_{o}}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

Predictions using lumped parameter  $k_o A_o$  and scaling relationships:

$$M_{HD}(t) = M_{HD}(0) - k_o A_o \left[ \frac{u^*(U_j)}{u_o^*} \right] \left( \frac{V_i}{V_o} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} C_{HD}^o(T_k) t$$

$$M_{HD}(t) = M_{HD}(t=0) [1 - t/t_{life}]$$

Model Testing at the Extremes



Data from Brevett et al. (2008, ECBC)

Model Testing at the Extremes



Data from Brevett et al. (2008, ECBC)



Model Generalization of 54 Experimental Runs of HD on Glass



Data from Brevett et al. (2010, ECBC)

2. Agent Evaporation from Surfaces at LLNL





Model for agent evaporation from a shrinking hemi-sphere



$$\begin{split} M_{i}(t) &= M_{i}(t=0) \left(1 \, - \, \frac{2 \, k_{mt} C_{i}^{0}}{\rho_{L} \, d_{d}(t=0)} \, t \right)^{3} \\ & \left[\frac{M_{i}(t)}{M_{i}(t=0)}\right]^{\frac{1}{3}} = 1 - \frac{t}{t_{life}} \end{split}$$

Calibration of mass transfer model for HD at 22°C



#### LLNL HD Results:

Calibration on 22°C Data and Prediction at 50°C



GB evaporation at 22°C



The longer term GB persistence might be from either

- Inert, nonvolatile material, or
- Diffusion limitations within residual liquid


### VX Evaporation at 22°C Data suggests VX removal by reaction

Summary:

- Liquid agent evaporation did not depend upon impermeable surface type (glass, metal)
- Predictive models under laboratory conditions are good to ±50% for HD
- Data for other agents suggest Presence of other chemicals Transport limitations within residual drops Reactivity
- Modeling and experimentation must be coupled
- Issues that were not addressed
  - Liquid water
  - Permeable, porous, polymeric surfaces

Contact information:

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The United States Environmental Protection Agency through its Office of Research and Development funded and managed the research described here. It has been subjected to Agency's administrative review and approved for publication.

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Agency. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

#### Background

- Hot air decontamination has been proposed as a low cost approach to remove chemical agent ("decontaminate") from a facility through increased volatilization of the chemical agent with temperature
- Considered a valid option for more volatile chemical warfare agents (CWAs)
  - GB, HD;

25 °C	Vapor pressure (mm Hg)
GB	2.9
GD	0.4
HD	0.08
vx	0.0007

- Not likely effective for VX (within 24 hr)
- A maximum temperature for hot air decontamination has been recommended of 55 °C (131 °F) based on incompatibility with

e.g. electrical wiring in facility at higher temperatures



### Impact / Objectives

Questions to ask when implementing hot air decontamination:

- If carbon filters are present (e.g., in HVAC system), can they be used safely (at higher T,RH) to capture CWAs?
- If no carbon is present in HVAC system or carbon needs to be selected in e.g. negative air machines, what carbons are suitable?

**Objectives:** 

- Determine the impact of temperature and relative humidity (RH) on the ability of a carbon bed to absorb chemical agent (absorption phase)
- 2. Determine if off gassing from carbon beds occurs once absorption process ends (desorption phase) as when carbon filters are being removed from service



### Experimental Constrains when working with CWAs

- Duration of test
  - Need to conduct experiments on relative short timescale (<1 day)</li>
    - > Cannot use low CWA concentrations during absorbing phase
- Need to limit amount of CWA being used
  - 1. Carbon bed size
    - > As small in diameter as possible to reduce amount of carbon
      - □ ASTM Standard Guide for Gas-Phase Adsorption Testing of Activated Carbon, D5160-95 (Reapproved 2008):
        - Bed diameter at least 12x the largest carbon particle diameter
        - A 4 cm bed diameter used
          - ✓ Meets criteria for carbons with mesh number ≥6
  - 2. Carbon bed depth
    - > Representative of typical HVAC filter thickness: 2.5 cm [at onset of exp.]
    - > Amount of carbon to create 2.5 cm bed is 14-20 g, depending on carbon











Loading the carbon test cell with lonex<sup>™</sup> 03-001 carbon (8 x 16 mesh) : (A) mesh screen in bottom cell piece and O-ring in the well at the top of the cell (B) pre-weighed carbon loaded into bottom cell piece (C) cell bottom with level and packed loaded carbon

- (D) mesh screen on top of carbon bed
- (E) top cell piece screwed on using locking ring

#### Test Variables

- Carbon types / sizes
- GB, HD agent
- Environmental conditions (T and RH)

#### Fixed conditions:

- Nominal challenge concentrations GB: 1,500 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; HD: 500 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Nominal gas flow rate: 9.0  $\pm$  0.2 LPM
  - Face velocity: 12 cm/s (residence time of ~0.28 sec in 2.5 cm bed)
- Preconditioning of carbon bed prior to absorption test under same T/RH conditions as actual test
  - Equilibrium times determined prior to tests by measurement of carbon weight gain with time

Test Matrix						UNITED STATES	
Carbon Type	Mesh	Agent	T / RH 25 / dry	T / RH 55 / dry	T / RH 55/ Humid	Bed depth (cm)	Agent Delivery
ASZM-TEDA™	6x16	GB	Х			2.5 3.5	Bubbler
IONEX™ 03-001	8x16	GB	х	х		3.5	Bubbler
ASZM-TEDA™	12x30	GB	х	х	X [50% RH]	2.5	Syringe
Vapure™ 612	6x12	GB	х	х		3.5	Bubbler
ASZM-TEDA™	6x16	HD	х			2.5	Syringe
IONEX™ 03-001	8x16	HD	х	х	X [50% RH]	2.5	Syringe
ASZM-TEDA™	12x30	HD	х	х	X [20% RH]	2.5	Syringe

#### Carbon characteristics:

ASZM-TEDA™ carbon, Calgon Carbon Corporation (Pittsburgh, PA). Coal based activated carbon impregnated with chemical compounds containing copper, silver, zinc, molybdenum and triethylene diamine (TEDA)

Ionex™ carbon, IONEX Research Corporation (LaFayette, CO), Cocoanut shell based activated carbon; not impregnated

Vapure<sup>™</sup> 612 carbon, Norit (Marshall, TX). Coal based carbon; not impregnated













Desorption phase / 55 °C enlarged

time (min)











				MANTAL PROTECTION	
n Agent	T / RH 25 / dry	T / RH 55 / dry	T / RH 55/ Humid	Bed depth (cm)	Agent Delivery
0 HD	Х	Х	X [20% RH]	2.5	Syringe
100000000000000000000000000000000000000	h Agent 10 HD	h Agent T / RH 25 / dry 10 HD X HD challenge cou	h Agent T/RH T/RH 25/dry 55/dry 10 HD X X HD challenge concentratio	h Agent T/RH T/RH 25 / dry 55 / dry 55 / Jry 10 HD X X [20% RH] HD challenge concentration: 500mg/r	h  Agent  T / RH  T / RH  T / RH  Bed depth    25 / dry  55 / dry  55 / Humid  (cm)    10  HD  X  X  [20% RH]  2.5    HD challenge concentration: 500mg/m <sup>3</sup>



Before



- $\succ\,$  Discoloration only observed for HD; picture following 25 °C / dry test.
- > Thiodiglycol byproduct observed, indicative of HD hydrolysis







# Thursday, November 7, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 4**

Biological Agent Persistence





### PERSISTENCE OF VEGETATIVE BACILLUS ANTHRACIS (AMES)

Thomas Kelly, Andrew Lastivka, and Morgan Wendling, Battelle

Joseph Wood, U.S. EPA National Homeland Security Research Center

EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference Research Triangle Park, NC November 5-7, 2013

### **Acknowledgements and Disclaimer**

- ✓ Work conducted under EPA Contract EP-C-10-001 with Battelle.
  - Battelle is a contractor to U.S. EPA and provided technical support for the work described.
- ✓ For intellectual input to project direction
  - >EPA: Worth Calfee, Shawn Ryan, Leroy Mickelsen
  - >Battelle: Young W. Choi
- ✓ Disclaimer
  - Reference herein to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government, and shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes.

### Why Should We Care about Vegetative B. anthracis?

- ✓ Germinants may be used to convert *B. anthracis* spores to vegetative cells, facilitating possible decontamination with the use of non-sporicidal techniques
- Vegetative *B. anthracis* may die off on its own without the use of decontaminants
  - >What environmental conditions and materials contribute to its persistence or lack thereof?



### Production of Vegetative B. anthracis (Ames)

### Highly Pure Vegetative B. anthracis (Ames) at 10-Hour End Point



### Non-UV Persistence Testing

- ✓ Four coupon materials
  - > Topsoil, glass, bare pine wood, concrete
- ✓ Tests to Date
  - > 1 to 120 hours duration
  - > 36% to 75% RH
  - > 1 to 4 materials at a time
  - > Ambient lab temperature



- Persistence determined by extracting, plating, and enumerating *B. anthracis* (Ames) from test coupons
  - > Comparison to cell inoculation onto coupons
  - Heat shocked every sample to confirm presence of only cells and no spores



Persistence on topsoil over 1 hour at 36% RH, ambient temperature

Persistence on glass increases with higher humidity (1 hour at 36% and 75% RH)





Persistence on topsoil over 1 hour increases slightly with higher humidity



### UV Exposure (simulated sunlight) Testing

- ✓ Persistence of vegetative *B. anthracis* under UV exposure on topsoil at ≈ 60 %RH
  - >120 hours with Low UV-A/UV-B ratio
  - >120 hours with High UV-A/UV-B ratio
- ✓ Low UV Ratio:
  - >100 µW/cm<sup>2</sup> UV-A (320 400 nm)
  - $> 44 \ \mu W/cm^2 UV-B \ (290 320 \ nm)$
- ✓ High UV Ratio
  - > 1,785  $\mu$ W/cm<sup>2</sup>UV-A
  - > 44  $\mu$ W/cm<sup>2</sup>UV-B

### **UV Exposure Test Procedures**











How reproducible are persistence results for vegetative *B. anthracis* (Ames) in topsoil?

- Compare log reduction over time in three tests:
  - > Test 1: Test coupons in 120 hr topsoil persistence test (No UV)
  - $\succ$  Test 2: Control (non-exposed) coupons in 120 hr topsoil test with Low UV-A/B
  - > Test 3: Control (non-exposed) coupons in 120 hr topsoil test with High UV-A/B

#### Persistence on topsoil in three comparable tests





Persistence in replicate runs is reproducible within about 1 Log

### **Preliminary Conclusions**

- ✓ Vegetative *B. anthracis* (Ames):
  - Persistence the greatest on topsoil, for up to 120 hours, at ambient lab temperature and RH
  - > Persists < 1 hr wood, concrete; < 8 hrs on glass</p>
- Exposure to simulated sunlight (UV-A/B) reduces persistence on topsoil only slightly
  - May not be significant
- ✓ Higher RH enhances persistence
- Heat shocking of all samples showed that vegetative *B.* anthracis (Ames) either die off or persist, but do not sporulate







# Thursday, November 7, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 4**

Water and Waste Water Management

CONCURRENT SESSION 4 | 11



# UK capability to manage contaminated water

Dr Carmel Ramwell, Dr Paul Robb, Dr Nigel Cook (Fera) Dr Hasmitta Stewart, Dr Tony Arkell (GDS)

2013 EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference



# Why contaminated water?

• Part of a suite of investigative work









# Contaminated water treatment



- Chemical & biological agents
- Decontaminants
- To what extent can different processes treat these challenges
- What processes exist & where STW and WTW
- Theory vs Practice







- WCITinvaluable!
- Disinfection byproducts.



# What WTW processes are where?





### Groundwater

- Groundwater relatively clean
- Lower standard of treatment processes
- WTW less likely to be able to treat
- Contaminated water
  Impact likely to be delayed, so time to implement mitigation
- Technology exists for treating contaminated groundwater
  - Legacy of contaminated land from industries



# Summary – WTW

Know what processes likely to treat which chemicals

We have the technology

- Water Co. know processes at any individual works.
- 26 different Co. no data harmonisation
- Need detailed information of actual capacity at works to identify any areas at risk

# fera

# Sewage Treatment Works

- Activated sludge
- Few data on the fate of agents in activated sludge
  - EMPA < 30% degraded
  - Bacillus spp. exists in sewage
  - Unlikely to be an effect of sludge on Biological agents
- Extrapolate from other chem/bio 'classes'



# Chemical dissipation in STW

		Benzene	83 - 99	Volatilisation
		Napthalene	85 - 95	Soration
РАПS	Anthracene	32 - 80	Sorption	
	Fluoranthene	66 - 97	Diodogradati	
		Lindane	45 - 80	Diouegradat
	Isoproturon	< 10		
		Diuron	< 10	Water solut
Pesticides	Alachlor	< 10	Low sorption po	
	Simazine	< 40	Volatile	
	Atrazine	< 40	Volutio	
		Chlorpyrifos	0	
	Chlorfenvinphos	0% (30 mg/L) to 83% (3.4 μg/L)		
	Source: Seriki et al	(2008)		

Sorption
Biodegradation
Water soluble
Low sorption potential
Volatile

# Industrial Wastewater **Treatment Works**



### Tried & tested methods for chemical and pharmaceuticals

- Supercritical wet oxidation
- Wet air oxidation (prior to conventional sewage treatment)
- Activated carbon
- · Nanofiltration and reverse osmosis expensive
- Chemical hydrolysis pilot study required

 Technology exists to treat chemical contaminated water by STW, but....



# Do decontaminants have an impact?

• On microflora in sludge

	Dose with low impact	
Hypochlorite	$< 6~{\rm kg}~{\rm Cl}_2$ / $10^3~{\rm kg}$ sludge / day	Already used to maintain the efficacy of activated sludge.
Chlorine dioxide	<10 mg ClO <sub>2</sub> /g dry sludge < 2.5 mg ClO <sub>2</sub> /g TSS	Research
Hydrogen peroxide	?	
Ozone	< 20 mg O <sub>3</sub> /g TSS	Research
Peracetic acid	< 80 g PAA/kg dissolved solids	Research
Sodium hydroxide	?	Already used to control pH of influent

Conditions not tested at full scale!



# Impact of decontaminants





# Potential Issues

- How much chlorine/chlorite can be:
  - Stored on site
  - Administered
- · Alkaline decon can reduce the efficacy of CI
  - On-site monitoring could correct CI levels
- Alkalinity can increase the production of THMs.



## Data gaps

- The dose is key!
  - Contaminant & decon








- Protecting drinking water and wastewater infrastructure
- Indoor and outdoor clean-up following an attack, natural disaster, industrial accident, etc.
  - can use millions of gallons of water
  - can result in even more contaminated wastewater
- Development of a nationwide laboratory network
- Reducing vulnerability of chemical & hazardous materials
- Cyber security







#### Decontamination Website

- Provides background on decontamination activities during remediation and WSD's mission and priorities for decontamination
- Includes Guidance Documents and Additional References tab with links to key documents and tools for the Water Sector



 Includes Laboratory Resources tab with links to Laboratory Compendium, WLA, WLA Response Plan, ERLN and ICLN

http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/emerplan/decon/index.cfm







# What is included in the Disposal Guide?

- Decision–making flowcharts for containment, treatment, and disposal of contaminated water
- Options for containment, treatment, disposal, storage and transportation of water



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 Information on 69 CBR contaminants of concern to the water sector 11/20/2013 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency







- Factsheet to help utilities identify laboratory resources during a contamination event
- Includes a flowchart with key process steps in identifying appropriate laboratory support

http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/waters ecurity/wla/upload/epa817f12003.pdf

How Can Water Utilities Obtain Critical Assets to Support Decontamination Activities?



- A Factsheet for utilities for identification of critical assets during pre-incident planning and in response to a contamination event
- Includes a flowchart demonstrating the general coordination between Local, State, and Federal Levels

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# How Can Water Utilities Obtain Critical Assets to Support Decontamination

Activities?

#### What is a critical asset?

- Personal protective equipment
- Sampling teams with up-to-date environmental technique training
- Qualified analytical laboratory personnel
- Fate and transport modeling and samplingdesign experts
- Data management and documentation specialists
- Decontamination teams capable of verifying decontamination, treating contaminated water, and decontaminating sites or items
- · Chemicals for treatment









11/20/2013

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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# Report on Progress of 2008 CIPAC Recommendations

Agencies include:

- EPA OW and NHSRC
- Department of Homeland Security
- · Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- American Water Works Association
- Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
- National Association of Clean Water Agencies
- Water Environment Federation
- Water Sector Coordinating Council

11/20/2013

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



















- exercises
- Update of **WCIT** with decontamination information
- Coordination with: 2013 Water Laboratory
   Alliance (WLA) Summit









# Thursday, November 7, 2013

# Concurrent Sessions 4

Chemical Agent Decontamination



# Developing Decontamination Tools and Approaches to Address Indoor Pesticide Contamination from Improper Bed Bug Treatments

2013 International Decontamination Research and Development Conference November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013

#### **Pesticide Misapplication/Remediation Project**

-Improper pesticide use indoors is a ongoing problem resulting in:

- adverse health effects,
- -occupant displacement from dwelling,
- property damage and contamination,
- -litigation.

-Responding agencies need effective methods and tools to evaluate and remediate indoor settings.





#### Research

#### Developing Remediation Tools and Approaches to Address Indoor Contamination from the Misuse of Pesticides for Bed Bug Control Transdisciplinary Project Team\*

- Region 5, Pesticides Section <u>Amy Mysz</u>
- Office of Research and Development
  - Homeland Security Research Center Emily Snyder, Lukas Oudejans, Paul Lemieux, Timothy Boe
  - National Exposure Research Laboratory (NERL) <u>Daniel Stout</u>, James Starr, Haluk Ozkaynak, Kristin Isaacs
  - National Risk Management Research Laboratory Dennis Tabor
- Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
   Office of Emergency Management, Consequence Management Advisory Team – Jeanelle Martinez

\* Technical Support from NERL's Scott Clifton and ARCADIS's Barbara Wyrzykowska



# 1) Develop sampling and modeling approaches to evaluate surface residues

 to determine if surface residues left after decontamination are below a health-based threshold value

**Project Goals** 

- 2) Develop surface threshold values
  - to determine if remediation is needed
- **3)** Determine efficacy of decontaminants on surfaces contaminated with pesticides
  - using decontaminants developed for cleaning chemical warfare agents on surfaces

#### Goal 1: Sampling and Extraction Methods to Evaluate Surface Residues

 Provides a standard surface sampling methodology for malathion and carbaryl contaminated surfaces



# AHHS HARD SURFACE SAMPLING PROCEDURES FOR PESTICIDES

Sample collection kits consisted of :

-Nitrile gloves

-two, 6-mL vials of IPA (wetting agent)

-two, 4 in X 4 in surgical gauze sponges (solvent extracted in Hexane and DCM)

-aluminum template (929 cm<sup>2</sup> X 2 =  $1858 \text{ cm}^2$ )



#### WIPE PROCEDURE



-A single wetted wipe was used per sample location.

-Two sample locations were wiped at each home.

-Samples were aggregated into a single collection jar.

#### Sampling and Extraction Methods to Evaluate Surface Residues

Issues:

- -Methods developed were not validated for malathion and carbaryl.
- -The methods were developed for trace level analysis.
- -Cheap, validated, standardized, materials available.
- -Formulations need to be considered.
- -Surface influence on sampling efficiency.



#### Wipe Sampling, Extraction, and Analysis Results

-Surfaces fortified with standard solutions prepared from pure chemical. -Wetting agent was isopropanol. -Three similarly wetted wipes.



Developing a strategy to calculate a site-specific threshold concentration value using a multimedia chemical fate and exposure model (SHEDS-Lite) with a simple interface that utilizes user-provided wipe sampling data

# SHEDS-Fugacity/SHEDS-Lite

- Fugacity-based, compartmental, source-to-concentration module (SHEDS-Fugacity) predicts concentrations of chemical in various environmental media
- Measured wipe sample concentrations can be used as initial conditions for SHEDS-Fugacity; predicted distributions of air and surface concentrations within the home at subsequent points in time can be calculated based on chemical properties and housing characteristics (e.g. estimated air exchange rates, home volumes, room surface areas etc.)
- Exposure distributions can be calculated from media concentrations using probabilistic SHEDS-Lite methods; exposures are based on inhaling contaminated air and touching contaminating surfaces.
- The general probabilitistic SHEDS methodologies are described in the SHEDS-Multimedia documentation at <u>http://www.epa.gov/heasd/research/sheds.html</u>. SHEDS-Lite is a reduced version of SHEDS-Multimedia that is currently in development.

#### Preliminary Input GUI for Stochastic Human Exposure and Dose Simulation (SHEDS)-lite Application

form in						
Jare w	۱					
General Information Pesticide Cyflutryn	Room Inform Room Type Kitchen	Carpet	Room Treated	Application Frequency	Treated Areas Baseboards	Component of
Application Method Spray	(					
Application Date	Room Type	Room Treated	Carpet	Application Frequency	Treated Areas	Component of
MM/DD/YYYY						
Apartment within single family home						
O Single family home						
<ul> <li>Apartment in apartment building</li> </ul>						
Was the air conditioning used after application of the pesticide?	-					
ON6						
(e) Yes				-		
What is the age of the home (years)?						
The area of the home will be measured by: 0						
Square footage (ft2)						
O Number of rooms						
Have the windows of the home been open for an extended period since						

# Challenges with Application of SHEDSlite to Pesticide Misuse Application

- Tool did not have an existing GUI
- Difficult to balance input needs versus realistic expectations for level of detail available
- Difficult to evaluate model because sampling data frequently lacks the metadata that is needed (location, was sample taken in area where pesticide applied) for this evaluation

## GOAL 3: WHAT IS THE EFFICACY OF DECONTAMINANTS ON SURFACES CONTAMINATED WITH PESTICIDES?

#### **Decontamination Testing Laboratory-Scale**

- Test 2-4 decontaminants for use against malathion, carbaryl, fipronil, permethrin, and deltamethrin\* deposited on building materials (plywood, stainless steel, vinyl flooring)
- Test 1 decontaminant against malathion and carbaryl commercially available formulations
- Analyze for efficacy and toxic byproducts

\*Standard solutions prepared from pure chemical.





#### Decontamination Testing Laboratory-Scale Approach

- Contaminated 3 test coupons, 2 positive controls, and 1 procedural blank per pesticide-decontaminant pair decontaminant.
  - Test coupons decon applied and allowed to sit for 18 hours then extracted.
  - Positive controls set for 18 hours prior to extraction.
  - one 10 µL droplet of 4 mg/mL malathion or 24 mg/mL carbaryl in hexane applied per coupon (simulates misapplication cases)
- A laboratory blank coupon (1 per matrix point) was included.
- Coupons extracted through sonication in hexane (50 mL)
- Used GC-MS for malathion analysis
- Carbaryl extracts reconstituted to H2O:Methanol, 3:7 (V:V) for LC/MS/MS analysis

Conditions for GC MS Analysis					
Parameter	Condition				
Conditions for LC MS/MS Analysis					
Parameter	Condition				
Mobile Phase	5 mM ammonium acetate in water : MeOH, 3:7. Run time =7 minutes				
Column flow rate and injection volume	400 μL/min, 5.0 μL				
Ionization	Electrospray				
Mode	Negative Ion				
lon pair (Q1/Q3)	219.26/145.04				



# Laboratory Scale Malathion Results

Laboratory-Scale Results Decontamination of Carbaryl via Easy Decon® DF-



# Issues – Laboratory Scale Surface Decontamination Studies



# Conclusions

- Wipe sampling, extraction, and analysis
  - Wipe sampling efficiencies vary as a function of concentration for malathion and carbaryl therefore it will be difficult to do quantitative efficacy studies at the pilot scale.
  - As implemented in this project multiple wipes are required.
- Risk based surface clean up values
  - SHEDS-lite combined with fugacity module will result in ability to estimate expected concentrations.
  - The GUI interface tailored to model with user provided input and easy interface.
- Decontamination studies
  - Some of the tested decontaminants were efficacious (best performer varied by surface)
  - Not clear that reapplication significantly improves efficacy (for carbaryl appears to help for some decontaminant-surface combination)
  - Surface type plays a role in efficiency of agent to degrade target pesticides (stainless steel and vinyl easier to decon than plywood).
  - Malathion was easier to decontaminate than carbaryl could be a solubility issue

# Future Work – Pilot Scale Decontamination Testing

- Larger pilot-scale testing efficacy assessed using residues via surface wipe sampling
  - Will be done for malathion and carbaryl commercially available formulations on two surfaces for one decontaminant
- Qualitatively assess effects on building materials through visual inspection



# Disclaimer

• Reference herein to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government, and shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes.





#### CHALLENGES IN LEWISITE DECONTAMINATION STUDIES

Harry Stone\*, Emily Snyder<sup>†</sup>, Lukas Oudejans<sup>†</sup>, Sarah Perkins\*, and Autumn Smiley\*

\*Battelle †U.S. EPA, National Homeland Security Research Center

#### **Overview**

- Purpose
- Lewisite and Byproducts
- Extraction and Analysis
- Approaches and Results
- Summary

Note: Presentation reports the current project status and includes preliminary data that have not been through a full quality assurance review.

## Purpose and Introduction of Agent

 Develop a method for extraction and analysis of Lewisite that can be used to evaluate decontamination efficacy



#### **Common Degradation Byproducts**



#### **Extraction and Analysis**

- Coupons: 1.5 x 3.5 cm
  - Sealed concrete
  - Wood flooring
  - Galvanized metal ductwork
  - Glass
- Spike: 1 µL drop per coupon
- Extraction:
  - · 10 mL toluene, hexane, or acetone
  - shake by hand 5 10 sec
  - sonicate (40 60 kHz) 10 min
- · Quantify chemical agents in extract
  - GC/MS (L1, L2, L3)
  - Cool on-column GC/MS (L1, L2, L3)
  - Derivatize with butanethiol; GC/MS [(CICH=CHAs(SR)<sub>2</sub>; (CICH=CH)<sub>2</sub>AsSR]
  - LC/MS (CVAOA; CVAA)

#### Common Degradation Byproducts







# Cool On-Column Inlet (GC/MS)

#### Cool On-Column GC/MS Calibration



#### % Recovery of L1 Analyzed By Cool On-Column GC/MS



#### Extraction Efficiencies by Material and Solvent





- Yellow: Derivatized products for L1 and L2
- · Pink: Can be derivatized but is not soluble in solvent





## % Recovery of Derivatized L1 Using GC/MS



# Recoveries and MDL\* for Derivatized Lewisite

Sample Source	Average % Recovered, n=10	%RSD	MDL, μg/mL
Solution (no extraction)	78	7	1.3
Extracted from Glass	77	6	1.1
Extracted from Wood	43	17	1.7

\*MDL was calculated following the single concentration design estimator (40 CFR Part 136, Appendix B [1984]):

- · Standard deviations of replicate measurements were calculated
- MDL = Student's t-value appropriate for a 99% confidence level and standard deviation estimate with n-1

## CVAOA Measured by LC/MS



## **Common Degradation Byproducts**



# Future Work – Decontamination and Arsenic Removal Studies

- Determine decontamination efficacies of four solutions for decontamination of identified surfaces contaminated with Lewisite
  - Water
  - Hydrogen peroxide solution
  - Bleach
  - EasyDECON<sup>®</sup> solution
- Evaluate arsenic removal methods with and without residual decontaminant present
- Use a combination of derivatization followed by GC/MS and LC/MS for residuals and byproduct detection

## Summary

- Extraction efficiency for L1 varied by material and solvent combination
- High recoveries of L1 were achieved from glass
- Low extraction efficiencies may be due to physical factors and/or chemical change
- Cool on-column GC/MS measured L1 and L2; can be combined with derivatization and GC/MS to distinguish L1 and L2 from hydrolysis byproducts, e.g., CVAA
- LC/MS can detect CVAA and CVAOA
- Methods are sufficient to extract Lewisite and detect L1 and byproducts at 2.5 µg/mL in extract samples

#### Acknowledgment and Disclaimer

These are preliminary data that have not been through a full quality assurance review.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, through its Office of Research and Development, funded and managed this investigation through Contract No. EP-C-11-038 Task Order 0007 with Battelle. This document has been subjected to the Agency's review and has been approved for presentation. Note that approval does not signify that the contents necessarily reflect the views of the Agency.

Mention of trade names or commercial products in this document or in the methods referenced in this document does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

Questions concerning this presentation or its application should be addressed to Lukas Oudejans, National Homeland Security Research Center, Office of Research and Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 109 TW Alexander Dr., Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, 919-541-2973.

Battelle The Business of Innovation



# Advanced Absorbent Wipes for personnel and personal equipment decontamination

Dr Stuart Notman



# Outline

- Brief introduction and overall aim
- Experimental methods
- · Flat surface experimental results
- Complex surface experimental results




#### Introduction

- Number of technologies have the potential to be used as CWA decontaminants for personnel and personal equipment
  - Wipes
  - Powders
  - Lotions
- Patent literature shows that industry has invested heavily to develop Commercial-Off-The-Self (COTS) wipes
  - Personal care
  - Household cleaning
  - Industrial cleaning

**AIM** - Determine whether or not modern textile technology could be used as an alternative to fullers' earth



#### **Methods**

- Rotary wiping rig developed
- Wipe turned through 180°
- Aluminium plates, silicone (skin simulant)
- Contamination density 10 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- · Evaluated decontamination efficacy using
  - 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 x 180° turns
  - Blot and 1 8 x 180  $^\circ$  turns
  - Blot
- Decontamination efficacy determined from the amount of agent remaining on the plate







#### **Analytical methods**

- Methyl Salicylate (MS) (a sulfur mustard (HD) simulant)
  - Solvent extracts analysed by UV-vis spectroscopy or GC-FID
  - 0.5 %w/w Tinopal added to MS to use an image analysis technique
- HD, GD and VX
  - Solvent extracts analysed by GC-FPD







#### **Wipes**

- Personal care
  6
- Household cleaning 10
- Industrial cleaning
  11
- Specialist materials
  6
- FE pad and FE powder in a puffer bottle





#### Initial evaluation of six wipes

- Six wipes three personal care wipes and three industrial cleaning wipes
- · Selected based on the wipes capacity for absorbing water
- · Rotary motion had little effect on performance of selected wipes
- Order of performance (MS) CRW>PB, SEW, VF>ODF, SF



#### Agent evaluation of six wipes

- · Chemical agent HD
- · Wipes not as effective against HD as MS
- Order of performance CRW>VF>PB, SEW, SF>ODF





#### Wipe screening

#### **Development of decontamination process**

- Aluminium plates contaminated with MS were used to
  investigate the affect of different variables on decon efficacy
- Localised saturation can effect efficiency using two wipes one to blot and a second to wipe – significant improvement
   Length of blot for the first wipe was also significant
- The effect of pressure is dependent on material of construction and on contaminant
- Addition of solvent to dry wipes apparent improvements were not significant
- · Drying out wet wipes showed mixed results
- · Drop size had no significant effect on performance of CRW



#### **Agent experiments**

- Procedure used blot 10 s and wipe with clean pad 8 x 180° turns
- To compare performance of the materials
  Pads of wipes dimensions of FE pad
- 8 wipes compared to the FE pad removal of CWA from flat aluminium plates

Wipes					
CRW					
EPeC					
SF-dry					
SMF					
WX80-iu					
AC Fibre 1					
AC Fibre 2					
KPW					





#### **Agent experiments**

- HD
  - FE pad removed 99.9895 % of 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> challenge
  - 4 candidate wipes removed HD to below the Limit of Quantification (LoQ) 99.9997 %
  - 3 wipes were not evaluated using nerve agent
- GD
  - FE pad removed 99.76 % of 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> challenge
  - 3 candidate wipes removed GD to below LoQ 99.997 %
- VX
  - FE pad removed 99.75 % of 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> challenge
  - Only a microfibre cloth performed better than the FE pad 99.89%



#### Geometrically complex surface

- · Personal equipment list
  - Range of equipment
  - Types of materials
- To be able to compare performance of the different wipes
  - Aluminium plate
  - Manual wiping
- Contamination densities
  - $3 g/m^2$
  - 10 g/m<sup>2</sup>





Ministry of Defence

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#### **Geometrically complex surface**

- · Removal method required for contaminated FE powder
- At the lower contamination density the FE powder and paint brush was found to be the best option

Removal method	Decon Efficacy (%)	S.E.
Paint brush	84.3	4.1
FE pad	63.9	8.8
EPeC	74.4	4.7

• Dosing single channel

Decontaminant	Channel width (mm)	Decon Efficacy (%)	S.E.
EBoC	1	37.4	9.4
Erec	2	83.9	2.6
FE powder + Paint	1	86.7	4.8
brush	2	98.1	0.5



#### **Geometrically complex surface**

#### • 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> contamination density

Decontaminant	Decon Efficacy (%)	S.E.
EPeC	85.8	1.23
FE powder + EPeC	46.8	0.12

· Performance of the dual technology option reduced





#### Silicone skin simulant

- · A silicone polymer was used as a skin simulant
- For decon of the silicone it was found that the blot/wipe process was not any better than a blot process
- For 10 g/m<sup>2</sup> contamination density the EPeC wipe out performed the FE pad at removing HD from the surface



#### Conclusions

#### We have:

- Developed a selection of processes to identify COTS wipe(s) that are suitable for surface decontamination
- Identified important factors for decontamination of a nonabsorbent surface – blot wipe method
- Identified a wipe that performs as well as an FE pad at removing HD, GD and VX from a flat surface
- Developed a complex surface that can be used in assessing decontamination effectiveness relevant to personal equipment

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#### **Questions ?**





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CONCURRENT SESSION 4 | 65



## Thursday, November 7, 2013

### **General Session 4**

Low Tech/Self Help

GENERAL SESSION 4 | 1

Assessment of RDD Contamination Removal From Laundering Soft Porous and Bulky Materials

2013 U.S. EPA Decontamination Research and Development Conference, November 2013

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#### **Existing Guidance**

- Current recommendation for handling radioactively contaminated clothing – take off clothing and bag\*
- Outside the exclusion zone cleaning activities, such as laundering, will occur
- Washing clothing and other soft porous items may help people living outside of exclusion zone reduce their exposure to radiation

\*CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Emergency Preparedness and Response [online]. Available at: http://www.bt.cdc.gov/radiation/contamination.asp.





#### **Previous Work Objectives**

- Determine efficacy of washing to remove radioactive contamination from soft porous materials
- Examine fate of radioactive contamination after washing regular clothing under typical
  - conditionsIn wastewater
    - Within the washing machine





P	Previous Work – Results								
	Laundering of Contaminated Swatches								
	Material	Wash/Rinse Temperature	Average* Percent Removal	Av Decontan	verage* hination Fac	ctor			
	Cotton	Hot/Cold	94% ± 0.46%		18				
	Cotton	Cold/Cold	96% ± 0.97%		25				
	Polyester	Cold/Cold	97% ± 0.28%		30				
	Cotton**	Cold/Cold	92%		12				
	*Five replicates ** <u>Without</u> detergent				Ν	/laterial Balan	ice		
					Material	Wash/Rinse Temperature	Average Material Balance		
					Cotton	Hot/Cold	96%		
					Cotton	Cold/Cold	92%		
					Polyester	Cold/Cold	95%		







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Material	Swatch Size	Wash/Rinse Temperature	Other Conditions	# ofTest Swatches
Polyester	6 in x 6 in	Cold/Cold	No detergent	5
Cotton	6 in x 6 in	Hot/Cold	No detergent	5
Cotton	6 in x 6 in	Hot/Cold	Include other clothing; Rewash other clothing	5
Polyester	6 in x 6 in	Cold/Cold	Include other clothing	5
Bulky Cotton Towel	12 in x 12 in	Cold/Cold	Detergent	5
Bulky Cotton Comforter	12 in x 12 in	Cold/Cold	Detergent	5





#### **Experimental Results - QC Samples**

✓ Positive Controls

 Contaminated and handled in same manner as Cs-137 spiked test swatches; processed through all procedures except washing (drying after contamination, measurement of radioactivity before and after run load)

Positive Control Sample	Prior Activity (µCi)		Post Activity (µCi		y (µCi)	
Polyester ND/WC*	1.9	±	0.10	1.9	±	0.10
Cotton ND/WC	1.9	±	0.10	1.9	±	0.10
Cotton WC	2.0	±	0.10	1.9	±	0.10
Polyester WC	2.0	±	0.10	1.9	±	0.10
Cotton Comforter	2.0	±	0.14	2.0	±	0.15
Cotton Towel	1.8	±	0.13	1.9	±	0.14
ND/WC – No Detergent/With Clothing						

#### **Experimental Results - QC Samples**

#### ✓Procedural Blanks

- Not spiked with Cs-137
- Washed with each Cs-137 spiked test swatch

#### ✓ All post-laundering activities well below

#### 2 µCi spike level

- Highest values seen in cotton towel swatches which had an average activity of 0.0309  $\mu$ Ci



Laundering of Contaminated Swatches								
Material	Wash/Rinse Temperature	Other Conditions	Average* Decontamination Factor	Average* Percent Removal				
Polyester	Cold/Cold	No Detergent	17	94%				
Cotton	Hot/Cold	No Detergent	11	91%				
Cotton	Hot/Cold	Other Clothing	22	95%				
Polyester	Cold/Cold	Other Clothing	36	97%				
Cotton Comforter	Cold/Cold	None	35	94%				
Cotton Towel	Cold/Cold	None	7.5	68%				
*Five replicates								

Activity of	Washing I	Machine Wa	stewater
Material	Wash/Rinse Temperature	Average Activity for 5 Individual Washes (pCi/mL)	Average Total Activity/ Load (µCi) <sup>a</sup>
Polyester	Cold/Cold	83 +/- 1.9	1.7
Cotton	Hot/Cold	84 +/- 1.9	1.6
Cotton	Hot/Cold	65 +/-2.1	1.2
Cotton <sup>b</sup>	Hot/Cold	12 +/-0.7	0.19
Polyester	Cold/Cold	57+/-2.0	1.1
Cotton Comforter	Cold/Cold	66 +/-2.1	1.4
Cotton Towel	Cold/Cold	34 +/- 1.5	0.76
<sup>a</sup> Based on 20 L colle <sup>b</sup> Rewashed cotton	ected		



#### Conclusions

- These additional experiments confirm earlier results that suggest laundering potentially contaminated clothing might assist people living outside of an exclusion zone in reducing their exposure to
  - radiation
- Some decrease in washing efficacy appears to result from laundering without Tide HE
- Laundering removed more than 90% of the Cs-137 from all material swatches studied except the cotton towel



#### Disclaimer

The United States Environmental Protection Agency through its Office of Research and Development funded and managed the research described here. It has been subjected to Agency's administrative review and approved for publication. The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Agency. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.



#### Evaluation of Compressed Air Dusting and Vacuuming for Radiological Decontamination of Sensitive Equipment

Ryan James and Ryan Stowe, Battelle John Drake and Emily Snyder, EPA National Homeland Security Research Center

> EPA Decontamination Conference Research Triangle Park, NC November 7, 2013

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#### Disclaimer and Funding Acknowledgements

• DHS's Federal Emergency Management Agency funded this project through its Nuclear Incident Response Team Program.

• The United States Environmental Protection Agency through its Office of Research and Development funded and managed the research described here performed under Contract No. EP-C-10-001 with Battelle. It has been subjected to Agency's administrative review and approved for publication. The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Agency. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

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#### **Improvised Nuclear Device (IND) Scenarios**

- Possibility of IND attacks comes with the reality of fallout/contamination
  - -Need for immediate recovery tools
  - -Need to minimize dose to 1st responders
- What decontamination approaches would be used?
- How effective are they?





#### **Urban Surface Decontamination** Decontamination of urban building material surfaces using physical and chemical decontamination technologies



Urban surface coupons used for RAD decon testing









RAD decontamination testing of Wash Aid

# Sensitive Equipment Decontamination

- Some types of sensitive equipment necessary for 1<sup>st</sup> responders in a rescue/recovery scenario
  - Pulse oximeter
  - Handheld radio
  - > Cell phone
  - Numeric keypad (simulating a computer)
  - > Responder bag
  - Automated external defibrillator (AED)



Representative types of sensitive equipment

# Decontamination Technologies

- High efficiency particulate air (HEPA) vacuum (VAC)
  - Omega HEPA Vacuum, Atrix International Inc., Burnsville, MN
  - 99 cubic feet per minute
  - 110 volt power
  - Carrying case for disposable canister and accessories
- Compressed air duster (CAD)
  - Ultra Duster, AW Distributing, Inc., San Francisco, CA
  - 10 ounce can
  - Contains difluoroethane



VAC with accessories



Compressed air duster



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- Particles must be generated that are similar in size and chemical composition to actual fallout
  - -Attempted to simulate the particle size distribution used in Oak Ridge Isotope Generation (ORIGEN) (based upon Nevada Test Site Data) in the radiologically tagged simulated fallout material (RTSFM)



Default PSD for Fallout Model. (Oak Ridge National Laboratory)





#### **Experimental Design**

- Contaminate sensitive equipment
  - Target activity of  $\ge 0.6 \ \mu$ Ci (ranged from 1 to 10 g per sample to ensure detectability
  - Distribute particles evenly across surface of equipment
  - Transported in static-free bags to minimize loss of particles from surfaces
- Measure pre-decontamination activities
  - 100 second measurements of contaminated samples to ensure detectability in shortest feasible time (90 samples)
  - 200 second measurement of post-decon activity to measure removal in reasonable time



Application of particles to AED



Insertion of contaminated handheld radio into bag



Pre-decon activity measurement

#### SEPA United States Environmental Prot Agency

#### **Experimental Design**

- VAC canister located outside of glove bag; hose inserted with opening sealed around hose
- Glove bag vented to prevent glove bag collapse
- VAC used to prevent gross contamination during CAD decontamination





Ongoing decontamination test with QA oversight



#### **Experimental Design**

- Decontaminate in glove bag with VAC and CAD
- VAC moved across surface of equipment first in one direction, rotated 90 degrees, and repeated
- CAD initial "gentle" back and forth flow across surface with capture into bag
- · Completed decon with "fullflow" across full surface



Responder bag readied for VAC decontamination



Pulse oximeter readied for CAD decontamination



#### **≎EPA** Visual Decontamination Efficacy



Example contaminated numeric keypad



Example contaminated AED



Example decontaminated numeric keypad









#### **Removal Results**

#### Vacuum (% removal $\pm$ SD)

	Pulse Oximeter	Handheld Radio	Cell Phone	Numeric Keypad	Responder Bag	AED
Large	>95	>95	>95	75 ± 8	>95	>99
Medium	>94	>94	>92	67 ± 9	>92	>98
Small	>96	>95	>95	64 ± 9	>94	>99

#### Compressed Air Duster (% removal $\pm$ SD)

CAD	Pulse Oximeter	Handheld Radio	Cell Phone	Numeric Keypad	Responder Bag	AED
Large	>96	93 ± 1	>96	$69 \pm 6$	93 ± 2	>98
Medium	>94	91 ± 1	>94	63 ± 8	>92	>98
Small	>95	93 ± 1	>95	64 ± 9	93 ± 1	>98













	Product	Vendor	Active Ingredients	Components	EPA Registration	Contact Time (min)
Γ	Clorox Healthcare™ Bleach Germicidal Wipe	Clorox® Professional Products Co.	Sodium hypochlorite	Sodium hypochlorite 0.1-1.0%, sodium metasilicate 0.1-1.0%, sodium hydroxide 0.1-1.0%	67619-12	3
	Sani-Cloth® Bleach Germicidal Disposable Wipe	Professional Disposables International, Inc.	Sodium hypochlorite	Trisodium phosphate dodecahydrate 1-2.5%, sodium hypochlorite <1%	9480-8	4
Sporicidal —	Dispatch® Hospital Cleaner Disinfectants Towels with Bleach	Clorox® Professional Products Co.	Sodium hypochlorite	Sodium hydroxide <0.2%, sodium metasilicate <0.6%, sodium hypochlorite <1.0%	56392-8	5
	Steriplex® SD Wipe	SteriScience, Inc.	Hydrogen peroxide, peracetic acid	Two separate component solutions: A: silver 0.015%, ethanol 10% B: hydrogen peroxide 22%, peracetic acid 15%, acetic acid 15%	84545-4	5
	Lysol® Disinfecting Wipe	Reckitt Benckiser North America	Alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride	Alkyl (C14 50%, C12 40%, C16 10%) dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride 0.1-1.0%	777-114	10
Disinfecting -	Clorox® Disinfecting Wipe	Clorox® Professional Products Co.	Alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride	Alkyl (C14 60%, C12 5%, C16 30%, C18 5%) dimethyl benzyl anmonium chloride 0.145%, alkyl (C14 32%, C12 68%) dimethyl ethylbenzyl anmonium chloride 0.145%	5813-58	4
Disinfecting -	Lysol® Disinfecting Wipe Clorox® Disinfecting Wipe	Reckitt Benckiser North America Clorox® Professional Products Co.	Alkyl dimethyl benzyl anımonium chloride Alkyl dimethyl benzyl anımonium chloride	acetic acid 15%, acetic acid 15% Alkyl (C14 50%, C12 40%, C16 10%) dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride 0.1-1.0% Alkyl (C14 60%, C12 5%, C16 30%, C18 5%) dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride 0.145%, alkyl (C14 32%, C12 68%) dimethyl ethylbenzyl ammonium chloride 0.145%	5813-58	10

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		ENAL PROTECTION	
Ranking	Test Wine	Log Reduction	
1	Dispatch®	$\geq 6.09 \pm 0.12$	
	Clorox® Germicidal	$\geq 6.05 \pm 0.30$	
	Sani-Cloth®	$\geq 6.12 \pm 0.11$	
4	pH-amended bleach wetted wipe	$6.23 \pm 0.17^{\text{\frac{4}{5}}}$	
5	Clorox <sup>®</sup> Disinfecting	0.01 ± 0.18	
6	Steriplex <sup>®</sup> SD	$\leq 0^{\S}$	
	Lucal®	< 08	

<sup>5</sup> Amount of spores recovered exceeds amount recovered from positive controls.

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#### Large scale protocol: 14" x 14" coupon

 Inoculate coupon using an MDI through aerosol deposition apparatus (ADA). Allow spores to settle for ~18-24 hrs.





2. Fold towelette 2 times. Wipe surface of sterile coupon using sporicidal towelette. With each of the 3 wipe directions, fold towelette inward each time before use. Save towelette in 40 ml of appropriate neutralizer (wipe extract).











rge scale: RESULTS							
				OR PROTECTO			
	<b>a</b>			** ) )			
Test material	Clorox® Germicidal	Sani-Cloth®	Dispatch®	pH-amended bleach			
Stainless Steel							
Glass	$7.47 \pm 0.09^{\text{F}}$	$\geq$ 7.50 ± 0.04	$7.29 \pm 0.30^{\text{V}}$	$3.01 \pm 0.23$			
Composite Epoxy							
Painted Drywall	$7.24 \pm 0.23^{\text{F}}$	$\geq$ 7.34 ± 0.05	$5.71 \pm 1.59$	$3.28 \pm 0.10$			
Low-Density Polyethylene							







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Problem statement. Large quantities of wash water can be generated during remediation of areas contaminated with *Bacillus anthracis* (*B. anthracis*) spores.

How can the water be treated and disposed of in a simple and effective manner?

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## SEPA

## Example: U.S. Capitol Building Cleanup (2001-2002)

- *B. anthracis* spores in 7 of 26 buildings
- 14,235 gallons of wash water
- Wash water Sources:
  - -Personnel decon
  - -Equipment/vehicle decon
  - -May contain B. anthracis spores
- Inactivation protocol used
  - Steam sterilization at Fort Detrick, MD and then disposal at on-site treatment plant





## US National Response Team Quick Reference Guide

Recommended method for inactivating *B. anthracis* in wash water generated from personnel decontamination

For a given volume of wash water

- Add 10% (by volume) of both household bleach and white vinegar
  - -e.g., 80 liters water, 10 liters bleach, 10 liters of vinegar
- Allows for on-site treatment
- Vinegar added to lower pH to ~7
- 1 hour contact time



## **Purpose of Study**

- Evaluate recommended procedure using real world wash water generated from simulated decontamination activities.
  - Procedure originally developed for surface decontamination (e.g., counter tops)
  - Had not been evaluated in water with particulate and organic matter
    - Presence of particulate/organic matter may lower amount of disinfectant available for inactivation
  - -Evaluate in multiple types of wash water
  - -Evaluate using a surrogate for B. anthracis
    - B. atrophaeus spp. globigii (Bg)
      - -Bg is more resistant to chlorine than B. anthracis
      - -Easily identifiable in wash water matrices



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## **Chlorine Basics**

- Source of chlorine: household bleach e.g., Clorox®
- Active ingredient: sodium hypochlorite (NaOCI)
- Bleach used in study contained 6 % NaOCI
- 100% bleach = 6% NaOCI = 6 g NaOCI/100 g solution = 60,000 mg NaOCI/liter ≈ 60,000 mg Cl<sub>2</sub>/liter
- 6% NaOCI ≠ 6% bleach
- 10% bleach solution
  - 90 liters of water + 10 liters of bleach
  - Yields 6,000 mg NaOCI/liter or 0.6% NaOCI
- Newer bleach formulations contain higher amounts of NaOCI



## **Chlorine Basics (cont.)**

- pH of bleach: 11 12
- Lowering pH of bleach solution to ~7 increases germicidal properties
  - -pH = 7, hypochlorous acid is more favored
    - ~75% of chlorine species is in form of hypochlorous acid; 25% in form of sodium hypochlorite
      - -Mixture is ~60 200 times more germicidal
    - Vinegar is added to produce a pH of ~ 7
  - -Lowering pH too much can yield chlorine gas



## **Disinfection Basics**

- Chick-Watson model is assumed
  - $\log_{10}[Bg]_i \log_{10}[Bg]_t = \Lambda Ct$ 
    - $\Lambda$  = Coefficient of specific lethality
    - C = disinfectant concentration
    - t = contact time
    - $(\log_{10}[Bg]_i \log_{10}[Bg]_t)$  known as log reduction.
      - e.g., starting spore concentration 107,
      - final spore concentration 10<sup>2</sup>
      - $\log_{10}[10^7] \log_{10}[10^2] = 5$ , or a 5 log reduction or 99.999% reduction





## **Experimental Approach**

- Generate water from various decontamination activities
  - Mock decontamination of personnel in personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - Washing of floors and other lab surfaces
    - Tap water
    - Tap water with added hardness
  - Car wash/rinse water
  - Storm water
  - $\bullet$  Evaluate at two temperatures: 20 and 4  $^\circ\,$  C
  - · Wash water typically contained a detergent

#### **CEPA** Line States Approach (cont.)

- Added known amount of spores to a volume of wash water
- Target spore amount was enough to show >6 log reduction
- · Add disinfectant, measure viable spores with time
- · Disinfectant reaction halted by adding quenching agent
- Evaluated effect of prolonged contact between spores and particulate matter in wash water



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## Early Results with Bleach and Vinegar

- Complete inactivation (greater than 5 log removal) in ~1 minute.
- Conclusion: more rigorous than needed
- Try using lower amounts of bleach and eliminating vinegar
  - Simplifies procedure
    - If wash water has buffering agents, then more difficult to add correct amount of vinegar
  - · Results in a less hazardous procedure
    - Minimizes potential of chlorine gas formation



#### **EPA** United States Encircle Protection Inactivation of Bg Spores in 5% bleach

Wash Water	Temp. °C	Time for 6 log kill (min.)	Std. Dev. (n=3)*
Floor wash water (with 1% Alconox <sup>®</sup> )	20	11	2.9
	4	29	21.0
Floor wash water (with 1% Alconox <sup>®</sup> and	20	6	0.2
added hardness)	4	20	6.0
Car wash/rinse water (w/1% Dawn <sup>®</sup> )	20	28	0.6
	4	<b>89</b> †	4.1
PPE wash water with 1% Alconox ®	20	10	3.4
	4	12	1.5
PPE wash water with 1% Alconox <sup>®</sup> and	20	5	0.7
added hardness	4	13	1.8
Stormwater runoff	20	56	26.5**
	4	87	13.8

\*\*n = 5

<sup>†</sup> Extrapolated value; did not achieve ≥ 6 log removal

Wash Water	Time for 6 log kill (min.)	pH initial	pH final	COD mg/L	TSS mg/L	Alka linity mg/l
Floor wash water (with 1% Alconox <sup>®</sup> )	11	9.2	9.5	3,530	318	4473
	29	9.3	9.7	3,457	397	
Floor wash water (with 1% Alconox®	6	8.8	9.3	3,565	487	4590
and added hardness)	20	8.8	9.3	3,600	530	4330
Car wash/rinse water (w/1% Dawn <sup>®</sup> )	28	8	10.0	7,097	324	185
	<b>89</b> †	8.5	10.0	6,770	277	
PPE wash water with 1% Alconox ®	10	9.3	9.3	2,630	38	4030
	12	9.5	8.6	2,490	78	
PPE wash water with 1% Alconox <sup>®</sup> and	5	9	8.9	3,061	74	/190
added hardness	13	9.2	9.2	3,030	25	4190
Stormwater runoff	56	7.8	10.0	157	418	80
	87	7.7	10.2	144	168	

<sup>†</sup> Extrapolated value; did not achieve  $\geq$  6 log removal Blue highlighted data indicates colder (4° C) temperature

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 Adjusting pH will be challenging if wash water has significant buffering capacity

Conclusions

- Potential for chlorine gas formation can be a concern
- 5% bleach with no vinegar is effective for inactivating Bg spores in wash waters tested
  - Colder temperatures will require longer times
- Chlorine demand from wash water constituents was not observed





#### Journal article that summarizes earlier work:

Muhammad, Nur; Gallardo, Vicente J.; Schupp, Donald, E.; Krishnan, Radha; Minamyer, K. Scott; Rice, Eugene, W. 2013. Inactivation of Bacillus Spores in Decontamination Wash Down Wastewater using Chlorine Bleach Solution. *Canadian Journal of Civil Engineering* 



## **Acknowledgements**

- The Shaw Group, A CB&I company, contractor for EPA
  - -Nur Muhammad
  - -Don Schupp
  - -Radha Krishnan
- US EPA
  - -Gene Rice, EPA
  - -Scott Minaymer, EPA
  - -Leroy Mickelsen, EPA
  - -Kevin Rhame, EPA
  - -Rich Rupert, EPA
  - -Dino Mattorano, EPA

DISCLAIMER: The U.S. EPA through its Office of Research and Development funded the research described in this presentation. It has been reviewed by the Agency but does not necessarily reflect the Agency's views. No official endorsement should be inferred. EPA does not endorse the purchase or sale of any commercial products or services.



# Thursday, November 7, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 5**

Biological Agent Decontamination



# Decontamination of Soil Contaminated with *Bacillus anthracis* spores

Joseph Wood (EPA) Morgan Wendling, Andrew Lastivka, Young Choi, James Rogers (Battelle)





Presented at US EPA Decontamination Research Conference, Research Triangle Park, NC, November 5-7, 2013
Office of Research and Development
National Homeland Security Research Center, Decontamination and Consequence Management Division

SEPA United States Eventy Acknowledgements and Disclaimer

Acknowledgements

-Leroy Mickelson, Dino Mattorano, Craig Ramsey

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#### Outline

- Background
- Decon techs evaluated
- Methods
- Results
- References
- Lessons learned



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#### Background

- Remediation efforts could be extensive following an aerosol release of *Bacillus anthracis* (*B.a.*) spores in an urban area and will challenge the capabilities of government agencies and decontamination contractors.
- In such a scenario, many types of materials and environments may need to be decontaminated, including soils.
- Soil materials remain one of the most difficult materials to decontaminate.



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- Chlorine dioxide (ClO<sub>2</sub>) gas
- Aqueous CIO<sub>2</sub> solution
- pH-amended (acidified) bleach
- Sodium persulfate activated with hydrogen peroxide
- Methyl bromide
- Metam sodium



United States Evidency Decon Techs Evaluated (cont.)

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- Tests were conducted with varying operational parameters to assess and improve their effect on decontamination efficacy
- Variables tested depended on decon tech., but included:
  - -contact time
  - -number of applications
  - -decontaminant concentration
  - -temperature, relative humidity (RH)
  - -soil depth





#### **Methods**

- B.a. (Ames strain)
- Bacillus subtilis (B.s.; ATCC 19659)



- Topsoil
  Arizona To
- Arizona Test Dust (AZTD)



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## Methods (cont.)

#### Soil Inoculation:

- 1.5 in glass jars filled with sterile soil to a depth of 1 cm
- Samples inoculated with ~1x10<sup>8</sup> CFU of viable *B. a. or B. s.* spores using 100 µL liquid suspension
- Samples allowed to dry in Class III BSC overnight at ambient temperature and %RH
- Positive controls recovered; test
   samples exposed to decontaminant



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- Extraction
- Serial dilution and plating
- Incubation
- · Colonies enumerated and the CFU/mL determined
- Decontamination efficacy quantified in terms of log reduction (LR)





## **Results – CIO<sub>2</sub> Gas**

- · Nearly all AZTD samples completely decontaminated
- Greater than 6 LR for topsoil at 1 cm depth, 2 hour, both RH levels





## **Results – Aqueous CIO<sub>2</sub>**



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<sup>†</sup> = The decontaminant was applied every 60 minutes until the total number of applications were reached.
 <sup>‡</sup> =The decontaminant was applied on days 0, 2 and 4.

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<sup>†</sup> = The decontaminant was applied every 60 minutes until the total number of applications were reached.
 <sup>‡</sup> =The decontaminant was applied on days 0, 2 and 4.

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<sup>†</sup> = samples dried in oven prior to inoculation.



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\* = 2 mL SFW added to each sample prior to inoculation. † = samples dried in oven prior to inoculation.

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\* 2 mL SFW added to all samples prior to inoculation † 1 mL SFW added prior to addition of metam sodium 2 mL SFW added prior to addition of metam sodium
 3 mL SFW added prior to addition of metam sodium

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Villed States Environmental Protection Agency Results – Metam Sodium



\* 2 mL SFW added to all samples prior to inoculation † 1 mL SFW added prior to addition of metam sodium 2 mL SFW added prior to addition of metam sodium
 3 mL SFW added prior to addition of metam sodium

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#### References

- Poster presented at American Society of Microbiology 2013 meeting
- EPA reports



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#### **Lessons Learned**

- Decon efficacy: > 6 LR for *B.a.* obtained with all decontaminants studied, on both soil types, except pH-amended bleach and aqueous CIO<sub>2</sub>
- Surrogate: *B.s.* not inactivated to a higher degree than *B.a.* in any tests. *B.s.* too conservative a surrogate when using MeBr
- Soil Type: AZTD generally easier to decon, but depends on decontaminant (e.g. sodium persulfate efficacy for *B.a.* similar for both soil types)
- Soil depth: In tests with CIO<sub>2</sub> gas, increasing soil depth significantly impacted efficacy. Further research needed to asses impact of soil depth

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# Soil sanitation study: Effects of chlorine dioxide in gas and liquid phase on sporicidal efficacy

S. Newman Colorado State University Fort Collins, CO and C.L. Ramsey, Debra Newman USDA-APHIS-PPQ CPHST Lab – Fort Collins, CO

## Study objectives

- Determine the soil respiration rates for nine chlorine dioxide formulations
  - Strategic Resource Optimization (SRO) liquid
  - ICA Trinova granule formulations
- Determine the sporicidal efficacy of nine chlorine dioxide formulations
  - Liquid suspension of Bacillus subtilis spores

## Chlorine dioxide description

- Chlorine dioxide (ClO<sub>2</sub>) is a synthetic, green-yellowish gas
- Chlorine dioxide is a small, volatile and very reactive molecule
- Chlorine dioxide is an oxidant, or oxidizing agent, sold as a general use disinfectant
- In diluted, watery solutions chlorine dioxide forms a free radical
- Chlorine dioxide is an unstable gas that dissociates into chlorine gas (Cl<sub>2</sub>), oxygen gas (O<sub>2</sub>) and heat.
- Chlorine dioxide is photo-oxidized by sunlight, and degrades very rapidly
- The end-products of chlorine dioxide reactions are chloride (Cl<sup>-</sup>), chlorite (ClO<sup>-</sup>) and chlorate (ClO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>).

## Study factors

- Three chlorine dioxide formulations
  - ClO2 granules + bisulfate activator granules
  - ClO2 granules in permeable sachets
  - ClO2 as liquid + surfactant
- Three rates of ClO2 for each of the formulations



Chlorine dioxide treatments						
Treatment number	ClO2 description	Rate (g/tube)	Bisulfate rate (g/tube)			
1	Granule	1.5	6			
2	Granule	15	60			
3	Granule	15	0			
4	Gas sachets	3 g of A	3 g of B			
5	Gas sachets	6 g of A	6 g of B			
6	Gas sachets	9 g of A	9 g of B			
7	EB - liquid	600 ppm at 300 ml/tube	Na			
8	EB-liquid	600 ppm at 600 ml/tube	Na			
9	EB-liquid	600 ppm at 900 ml/tube	Na			
10	Autoclaved soil – Negative control	Na	Na			
11	Autoclaved soil + B. subtilis spores	Na	Na			
12	Untreated control – Positive control	Na	Na			

## Methods

- Soil columns
  - Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) tubes
  - resistant to ClO2
- Soil column size 12" long and 4" inside diameter
  - soil column filled up to 4 cm from tube top
  - each tube was capped



## Soil Preparation

- Potting soil mixed with play sand
  - Mixed at a 75 to 25 parts per volume ratio
  - Potting soil Fafard 4-MP
  - Canadian sphagnum peat moss, processed pine bark, vermiculite, and perlite mix.
  - Very high organic matter in soil mix

## Potting soil properties

mmhos /cm       (%)       indext       indext	pН	EC	OM	Sand	Silt	Clay	Texture
6.1       0.4       11.6       82       0       18       Sandy Loam         6.1       0.4       10.4       78       3       19       Sandy Loam         6.1       0.3       27.8       78       4       18       Sandy Loam         6.1       0.3       27.8       78       4       18       Sandy Loam         6.2       0.4       7.7       76       0       24       Loam		mmhos /cm		(%	<b>(</b> 0)		
6.1       0.4       10.4       78       3       19       Sandy Loam         6.1       0.3       27.8       78       4       18       Sandy Loam         6.1       0.3       27.8       78       4       18       Sandy Loam         6.2       0.4       7.7       76       0       24       Loam	6.1	0.4	11.6	82	0	18	Sandy Loam
6.1       0.3       27.8       78       4       18       Sandy Loam         6.2       0.4       7.7       76       0       24       Loam	6.1	0.4	10.4	78	3	19	Sandy Loam
6.2         0.4         7.7         76         0         24         Loam	6.1	0.3	27.8	78	4	18	Sandy Loam
6.2 0.4 7.7 76 0 24 Loam		0.4		-	0		Sandy Clay
	6.2	0.4	7.7	76	0	24	Loam

## Bacillus subtilis efficacy methods

- Bacillus subtilis culture
  - MicroChem lab American Type Culture Collection
- *B. subtilis* spores prepared as a liquid suspension
- Spores were refrigerated to maintain suspension in their spore stage
- 133 ml of *B. Subtilis* added immediately after the ClO2 application

## Measurements

- Soil respiration
  - Measure carbon dioxide flux rate
  - Respiration a function of microbial population and soil decomposition
- Bacillus subtilis sporicidal efficacy
  - Add spore suspension
  - Collect soil at two
    - soil depths (0 6 cm)
  - Assay samples for viable spore counts




















Soil respiration and sporicidal efficacy comparison – 60 - 64 DAT

- Soil respiration
  - TriNova granule (1.5g) 67% reduction
  - TriNova granule (15g) 35% reduction
  - SRO EB (900 ml/tube) 21% reduction
- B. subtilis sporicidal efficacy
  - TriNova granule (15g) 24 28% reduction
  - SRO EB (900 ml/tube) 16 20% reduction

## Soil and oxidant factors

- Chlorine dioxide factors
  - Distribute ClO2 evenly across the entire depth of soil in tubes
  - Estimate ClO2 rates needed to overcome soil organic matter reactivity
- Soil factors
  - Include soil temperature and moisture with respiration data
  - Maintain soil at 10 20% soil moisture to encourage microbial recovery

# Future studies

- Select target pests that do not require Epermits
- Test soil probe/tube application methods at soil depths down to one meter
  - Place pest sachets at selected soil depths 12, 24, and 36" deep in soil
  - Use CIO2 application probes to place CIO2 at selected vertical and horizontal distances from pest sachet in soil – 2, 4, 6, 8" from sachet
  - Estimate ClO2 soil placement and distance effects on pest toxicity levels

# Future studies

- Repeat applications for both liquid and granular applications in greenhouse soil columns
  - Repeat apply for 3 6 times in 14 days
  - Measure soil respiration rates over time to estimate the microbial toxicity effects of each soil application
  - Measure long term (1-3 months) ClO2 toxicity effects on soil respiration
- Test drip irrigation field methods





# Test method development to evaluate hot, humid air decontamination of materials contaminated with *B. anthracis* ΔSterne and *B. thuringiensis* Al Hakam

Alice A. Young Naval Surface Warfare Center – Dahlgren November 7, 2013

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**Objective** 

**Objective:** 

Develop a technology using the synergistic action of heat, humidity and time as a biological decontaminant(s) for sensitive equipment without degradation of the functionality of that equipment. Test the limits of decontamination technology.

Example of a Need:

There are no/limited sporicidal decontaminants that can be used on aircraft interior and/or sensitive equipment

U.S. Navy ships use hypochlorite despite >\$1trillion annual cost due to corrosion in the U.S.



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# Isolating spores as an independent variable

- Single spore preparation method developed for both test strains
- Quantity and Quality Objectives for Test Material
  - Threshold titer of 10<sup>8</sup> spores per mL<sup>-1</sup>
  - At least 90% phase-bright spores
  - Heat resistance at 65C for 30 minutes
  - Demonstrate Uniform spore size with Coulter analysis

Strain (Number of Independent Preparations)	Titer (spores mL <sup>-1</sup> ) Before Processing (65°C, 30 min)	Titer (spores mL <sup>-1</sup> ) After Processing (65°C, 30 min)	Phase-Bright Spores (%)
B. anthracis ∆Sterne (12)	$4.8 \times 10^8 \pm 3.0 \times 10^8$	$4.3x10^9 \pm 1.1x10^9$	97.6 ± 1.6
B. thuringiensis Al Hakam (14)	$8.2 \times 10^8 \pm 1.8 \times 10^8$	$4.9 \times 10^9 \pm 1.7 \times 10^9$	98.0 ± 1.8

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Isolating *B. anthracis*  $\Delta$ Sterne

spores as an independent variable



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# Isolating *B. thuringiensis* Al Hakam spores as an independent variable

Species - B. thuringiensis		Spher	ical Diamete	er (µm)
Al Hakam	Number	Mean	Median	Mode
10/19/2010 AAY	76,998	$1.23 \pm 0.17$	1.20	1.19
10/26/2010 AAY	9,264	1.43±0.71	1.25	1.18
11/02/2010 AAY	12,468	1.45±0.71	1.26	1.19
11/02/2010 ZAM	86,499	1.22±0.14	1.20	1.19
11/09/2010 AAY	101,021	$1.21 \pm 0.17$	1.18	1.19
11/09/2010 ZAM	71,097	$1.22 \pm 0.17$	1.19	1.18
11/16/2010 ZAM	47,690	1.53±0.11	1.29	1.20
12/03/2010 AAY	27,918	1.48±0.64	1.27	1.19
12/07/2010 ZAM	24,181	1.63±0.93	1.30	1.19
12/14/2010 TB/AAY	75,728	$1.20 \pm 0.15$	1.18	1.19
12/14/2010 DM	74,948	$1.21 \pm 0.16$	1.19	1.19
12/14/2010 ZAM	37,355	$1.43 \pm 0.57$	1.24	1.19
12/21/2010 TB/AAY	85,737	$1.20 \pm 0.17$	1.18	1.19
12/21/2010-200 TB/AAY	43,160	$1.26 \pm 0.38$	1.16	1.13
Combined	1,560,000	1.28±0.38	1.20	1.19



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#### Validation of Temperature/RH





#### Step-by-Step Decontamination Method



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#### **Biological Experimental Design**

	Dried S	Dried Spores		ores	Number for	
Coupon Type	Test	RT	Test	RT	Each Test Run	
APC	10	10	0	0	20	
Wiring						
Insulation	10	10	0	0	20	
InsulFab	10	10	0	0	20	
Anti-skid	10	10	0	0	20	
Nylon	10	10	0	0	20	
Plastic	10	10	10	10	40	
Total					140	





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#### *B. anthracis* ∆Sterne – 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration of DOE

				Rel	ative humidity	(RH) and time	of decontamir	nation		
		90% RH	90% RH	90% RH	75% RH	75% RH	75% RH	60% RH	60% RH	60% RH
Coupon Material	Temp (°F)	1 day	4 days	7 days	1 day	4 days	7 days	1 day	4 days	7 days
APC	170	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	6.2	NA	0
APC	155	NA	0	NA	3.1	0.3	0	NA	3.6	NA
APC	140	6.5	NA	0	NA	3.9	NA	7.2	NA	5.3
Wiring insulation	170	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	6.1	NA	0
Wiring insulation	155	NA	0	NA	0.3	0	0	NA	0	NA
Wiring insulation	140	5.7	NA	0.2	NA	0	NA	7.2	NA	4.5
Nylon	170	0	NA	0	NA	3	NA	7.3	NA	6.3
Nylon	155	NA	4.2	NA	7.1	7	6.6	NA	7	NA
Nylon	140	7.1	NA	6.9	NA	6.4	NA	7.3	NA	6.9
Insulfab	170	0.6	NA	0	NA	0	NA	5.6	NA	0
Insulfab	155	NA	0	NA	0.4	0.3	0	NA	1.4	NA
Insulfab	140	5	NA	0	NA	0.4	NA	6.6	NA	5.5
Anti-skid patches	170	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	5.6	NA	0
Anti-skid patches	155	NA	0	NA	3.9	0.8	0.1	NA	2.8	NA
Anti-skid patches	140	4.6	NA	0.8	NA	3.3	NA	6.9	NA	5.1
Plastic	170	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	6	NA	0
Plastic	155	NA	0	NA	6.2	5.1	0	NA	0.3	NA
Plastic	140	7.1	NA	4.5	NA	5	NA	7.2	NA	6.4
Wet	170	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	0
Wet	155	NA	0	NA	0	0	0	NA	0	NA
Wet	140	7.2	NA	2.8	NA	0	NA	7	NA	1.7



2D contour plots for *B. anthracis*  $\Delta$ Sterne on APC at 48 hours of treatment with hot humid air. The solid contour lines are log odds of inactivation. The shaded area on the upper right represents a log reduction of greater than or equal to 6 logs of the fitted equation. The left plot shows average values. The right plot shows the 90% lower confidence limit for the average.

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2D contour plots for *B. anthracis*  $\Delta$ Sterne on APC at 4 days of treatment with hot humid air. The solid contour lines are log odds of inactivation. The shaded area on the upper right represents a log reduction of greater than or equal to 6 logs of the fitted equation. The left plot shows average values. The right plot shows the 90% lower confidence limit for the average.



#### Hot Humid Air Decontamination



2D contour plots for *B. anthracis*  $\Delta$ Sterne on APC at 7 days of treatment with hot humid air. The solid contour lines are log odds of inactivation. The shaded area on the upper right represents a log reduction of greater than or equal to 6 logs of the fitted equation. The left plot shows average values. The right plot shows the 90% lower confidence limit for the average.

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#### **Next Step**

- · Laboratory-Grade High purity spores
  - · Testing completed
  - · Isolation of spores as an independent variable
- · Field-Grade Spores + dirt debris
  - · Currently being tested
- Crude Preparation or Organic Burden-Grade Spores + food debris (prime example is agar)
  - · Currently preparing to test
- · Need:
  - Compare laboratory-grade spores to spores with each of the additives, in order to determine impact of debris and additives for neutralization;
  - · Many potential options, so must be selective



## Acknowledgements

• DTRA - Dr. Charles Bass, Dr. Glenn Lawson, Mark Morgan

NSWC-Dahlgren – Dr. Tony Buhr,
 Alice Young, Claire Wells, Zach Minter,
 Dr. Derrell McPherson, Chris Hooban
 Dr. John Crigler, Ed Prokop III – Statisticians

Materials
 Tim Provens and Bill Culhane at Wright-Patterson AFB

SAND2013-9345



# Aerosol Delivery of Liquid Decontaminants: A Novel Approach for Decontamination of Complex Interior Spaces

Presented by: Mark D. Tucker, Ph.D. Sandia National Laboratories

Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.















#### A rotary atomizer was found to be the best device for dispersal of liquid decontaminants



decontaminants

**m** 





Test chamber

Advantages of this technology include: 1) Droplet size (~3-5 µm), 2) Ability to charge droplets, and 3) Uses a mechanical process to create droplets and does not require large volume of air.





			1.2	22		See.			SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES
2.2	Decont	aminar	nt: N	Nod	lifie	d S	and	dia	DF-200
-			G	Ð	,	лх	ŀ	ID	Percent decon
		Decontaminant	10 Min.	60 Min.	10 Min.	60 Min.	10 Min.	60 Min.	(stirred reactor tests using
$\geq$		D\$2	>99.9	>99.9	>99.9	>99.9	>99.9	>99.9	EasyDECON™- 200 Lot 3829 at
R.I.		DF-200	>99.9	>99.9	97.8	>99.9	84.8	99.9	25°C).
HOMELAND SECUT	DF-200: An aqueous- based formulation containing ~3.5% hydrogen peroxide	Dem Dem 7 6 5 7 1 0 0 Control		ted effi	icacy a cacy a	gainst	CW ag BW ag	gents (l gents (l gents (l strain Strain Strain	DoD testing) DoD testing) Residual spores on CARC (SL: 10 <sup>7</sup> spores; CT: 30 minutes)
		Control	MDF-200	(MREF)	MDF-200 (Dahlgren)	EasyDEC (MRE	ON-200 Ea: F)	syDECON-20 (Dahlgren)	0



0	Description	Bio	-Efficacy T	rial	Conclusions
Sample	Description	38	39	40	<ul> <li>Nearly uniform coverage</li> </ul>
	Process D	ata	_		achieved with certain dro
	Charge (KV)	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	parameters (size, charge
	Aerosol Concentration mg/m <sup>3</sup>	207.8	76.8	39.6	concentration)
	Log CFU Re	sults			<ul> <li>Spatially (droplet penetra</li> </ul>
47-56	Controls (Avg. of 10)	6.32	6.28	6.23	<ul> <li>On all surface orientation</li> </ul>
1-12	Wall Samples	0	0	0	Excellent kill rates can be
13	Top Sample, Stand A	3.42	4.07	0	even in confined spaces
14	Bottom Sample, Stand A	0	2.64	0	<ul> <li>Required surface covera</li> </ul>
15	Top Sample, Stand B	3.39	3.01	0	less than foam application
16	Bottom Sample, Stand B	5.14	3.31	0	Changes in parameters s
17	Timed Sample (30 min)	4.20	5.70	5.69	effects results
18	Timed Sample (60 min)	0	4.15	4.27	<ul> <li>– Size, charge, concentrat</li> </ul>
19	Timed Sample (90 min)	0	0	4.00	<ul> <li>Only a few conditions has</li> </ul>
20	Timed Sample (120 min)	0	0	3.44	examined
21	Timed Sample (150 min)	0	0	0	<ul> <li>Many additional conditio</li> </ul>
27-46	Hamster Tube Samples	0	0**	0	and should be examined

\*\*One out of 20 Hamster tube samples showed very mild growth.

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- can be oplet Э,
  - ation)
  - ns
- e achieved using DF-200
  - age is ~100 times ons
- significantly
  - tion
  - ave been
  - ons are possible

L.

This method can potentially work with other types of liquid decontaminants

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	Initial Test Results									
Ì	<ul> <li>Our procest cost, non-f</li> </ul>	ss employ toxic and i	s a novel ( non-corros	germinatio sive chemi	n solutio cals.	n consisting of low-				
A RAT Y A	<ul> <li>We have to delivery of</li> </ul>	ested both the soluti	direct sur ions.	face applie	cation an	d charged-aerosol				
			-	-						
	Germination Solution	Kill Solution	Time Exposed	Time Exposed	Log CFU's					
	Germination Solution (GS) PBS (Control)	Kill Solution (KS)	GS -	KS -	Log CFU's Remaining 6.27	Kill of Bacillus cereus				
DEC	Germination Solution (GS) PBS (Control) None	Kill Solution (KS) None	GS -	KS - 60 min	Log CFU's Remaining 6.27 6.41	Kill of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> spores (an anthrax				
D > E C	Germination Solution (GS) PBS (Control) None None	Kill Solution (KS)           None           3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 6% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	GS - -	Fime Exposed KS - 60 min 60 min	Log CFU's Remaining 6.27 6.41 6.42	Kill of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> spores (an anthrax surrogate) with and				
N D D D E C	Germination Solution (GS) PBS (Control) None None 5% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O	Kill Solution (KS)           None           3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 6% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	GS - - - 60 min	Fime Exposed KS - 60 min 60 min 60 min	Log CFU's Remaining 6.27 6.41 6.42 2.55	Kill of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> spores (an anthrax surrogate) with and without the addition of a germination solution				
EAND SEC	Germination Solution (GS)           PBS (Control)           None           None           S% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O           10% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O	Kill Solution (KS)           None           3% H2O2           6% H2O2           3% H2O2           3% H2O2	GS - - - 60 min 60 min	Fine Exposed           KS           -           60 min           60 min           60 min           60 min	Log CFU's Remaining 6.27 6.41 6.42 2.55 2.22	Kill of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> spores (an anthrax surrogate) with and without the addition of a germination solution (CFU's = colony				
ELAND SEC	Germination Solution (GS)       PBS (Control)       None       None       5% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O       10% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O       15% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O	Kill Solution (KS)           None           3% H2O2           6% H2O2           3% H2O2           3% H2O2           3% H2O2           3% H2O2           3% H2O2		Fine Exposed           KS           -           60 min           60 min           60 min           60 min           60 min           60 min	Log CFU's Remaining 6.27 6.41 6.42 2.55 2.22 1.99	Kill of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> spores (an anthrax surrogate) with and without the addition of a germination solution (CFU's = colony forming units).				
METAND SEC	Germination Solution (GS)         PBS (Control)         None         None         5% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         10% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         15% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         20% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O	Kill Solution (KS)           None           3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 6% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> 3% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>		Time Exposed           KS           -           60 min	Log CFU's Remaining 6.27 6.41 6.42 2.55 2.22 1.99 1.59	Kill of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> spores (an anthrax surrogate) with and without the addition of a germination solution (CFU's = colony forming units).				
OMETAND SEC	Germination Solution (GS)         PBS (Control)         None         None         5% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         10% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         15% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         20% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         20% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O         25% of GS Mix in DI H <sub>2</sub> O	Kill Solution (KS)           None           3% H2O2           6% H2O2           3% H2O2		Time Exposed           KS           -           60 min           60 min	Log CFU's           Remaining           6.27           6.41           6.42           2.55           2.22           1.99           1.59           0	Kill of <i>Bacillus cereus</i> spores (an anthrax surrogate) with and without the addition of a germination solution (CFU's = colony forming units).				













# Thursday, November 7, 2013

# **Concurrent Sessions 5**

Water and Waste Water Management

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Selected Projects of EPA's Homeland Security Research Program for Water and Wastewater Treatment and Decontamination



2013 EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference 11/7/2013



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## New experimental facility

# Water Security Test Bed

- Distribution system from aged ductile iron pipe with connectors, valves, pumps, hydrants, tanks, etc.
- Investigate chem, bio, and rad detectors, decontaminants, and decon procedures
- 100 x 500 ft under construction at Idaho National Lab



Office of Research and Development Homeland Security Research Program



# **Selected Projects**

- Irreversible wash aid additive for Cs-137 contamination – See Mike Kaminski's talk later in this session
- Inactivation of Bacillus spores in decontamination wash down wastewater using chlorine bleach solution

   If you missed it, see proceedings for Vince Gallardo, 9:15AM Nov. 7
- Inactivation of bacterial bioterrorism agents in water
- Investigation of advanced oxidation processes (AOP) for treatment and disposal of contaminated water prior to release into public sewer (collection) systems

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 Fate of organophosphates (OPs) in municipal wastewater treatment systems





http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/si public file download.cfm?p download id=511103



## Background

- Problem: How to deal with decon waste water, which can represent significant waste management challenges
  - Incinerate water?
  - Haul thousands/millions/billions of gallons long distances to specialty facility?
  - Drain disposal to local wastewater plant?
- Objectives: Investigate Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) for dealing with large volumes of decon wash water and contaminated water and wastewater to enable drain disposal.

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Development of Technica	Approach
<ul> <li>Workshop with wastewater industry considered requirements for wastewater treatment plant acceptance of AOP-treated contaminated water         <ul> <li>Biological treatment processes not compromised</li> <li>Receiving waters not affected</li> <li>Infrastructure not affected</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Expert Workshop on Toxicity Testing of Water Undergoing Advanced Oxidation Processes Prior to Discharge Project No. WERFSW11
<ul> <li>What tests are needed?</li> <li>Monitoring the effectiveness of AOPs in real-time</li> <li>Verification of degradation of target contaminants</li> <li>Protect the microbial community of the biological treatment process</li> <li>Prevent environmental toxicity to receiving water organisms</li> </ul>	December 2011 Water Environment Research Foundation 635 Slaters Lane, Suite G-110 Alexandria, V4 23314-1107 Tel: (571) 384-2100 Fax: (703) 299-0742 www.wert.org wertgwert.org 15

# Technical Approach

- Investigate different AOP technologies for the treatment and disposal of drinking water contaminated with toxic chemicals into public sewer (collection) systems
- Perform toxicity tests for wastewater plant organisms and receiving waters
- Designed experiments so results will be useful in assessing impacts of an incident and selecting effective methods for handling contaminated water or wastewater.

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# **Toxicity Testing**

#### Nitrification Inhibition testing

- Nitrifying bacteria in mixed liquor sample exposed to test samples
- Rate of decrease of ammonia measured
- Indicator of toxicity to wastewater biological treatment

#### Microtox Toxicity Test

- Luminescent marine bacteria
- Indicator of eco-toxicity for the possibility of discharge







#### Background

- Problem: OPs, including pesticides and nerve agents, could enter waste water treatment plant (WWTP) during decon operations. If not degraded or removed, they may enter the environment or drinking water supplies through effluent discharge and in land applied sludge.
- Objectives: Examine experimentally the capability of municipal WWTP activated sludge to degrade and remove OP compounds in bench-scale studies



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## Background

- Problem: Drinking water pipes can sorb contaminants that are introduced either accidentally or by some purposeful means.
- Objectives: Provide data to help decision makers develop a decontamination strategy for contaminated pipe materials



















**Objective:** Integrate a suite of cutting-edge, automated modeling, simulation, and optimization tools into a user friendly software tool in order to support rapid and effective water utility decision making

#### WST helps identify:

- Best sensor locations to detect contamination
- Origin of contamination in network
- Best sampling locations to confirm contamination or clean-up
- Tanks and/or areas that need to be isolated
- Best injection location of chlorine or other decontaminating agents to neutralize and/or inactivate contaminant
- Region of system that needs public notification
- Best hydrants to flush out contaminated water



## **Research Collaborators**

- Argonne National Lab – Mike Kaminski, Ph.D.
- Carol Mertz, Ph.D.
- Battelle
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## NHSRC Drinking Water Infrastructure Decontamination Overview

Jeff Szabo EPA's Homeland Security Research Program November 7, 2013



Office of Research and Development National Homeland Security Research Center

www.epa.gov/nhsrc



## **Presentation Overview**

- Summary of the decon scoping report
- The current state of NHSRC's drinking water decontamination research
- Future NHSRC decontamination research with the Water Security Test Bed



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## Decon Literature Review and Summary Report

- Decontamination of Drinking Water Infrastructure: A literature review and summary
- Publications from EPA represent the majority of research in some areas
- Provides data for decontamination resources
- Reference key to literature
- · Gap analysis to guide research



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### **Report Considerations**

- Chemical: inorganics (As, Hg), petroleum products, toxins, CWA, pharmaceuticals, organics (chlordane, chloropyrifos, parathion, sodium fluoroacetate and p-dichlorobenzene)
- · Biological: spore forming bacteria, vegetative bacteria, viruses
- · Radionuclide: cesium, strontium, cobalt
- Infrastructure materials: unlined iron (corroded), cement-mortar lined iron, PVC (plastic), copper
  - Other materials were included if compelling data was identified
- · Type of experimental system: how representative of reality is it?



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## **Bench Scale Devices**

- Flow cells
- CDC reactors
- Biofilm annual reactors
- Stagnant water pipe
- Homemade designs







United States Environmental Protect	Report Results Summary
Chemical Agents	<ul> <li>Chemical agents are the broadest category with the least drinking water data</li> <li>Data available for inorganics (Hg, As), organics (including chlordane) and gasoline</li> <li>No useful data found on pharmaceuticals, toxins and CWA (no data found)</li> <li>Validated chemical sampling methods from surfaces is needed</li> </ul>
Biological Agents	<ul> <li>Bacillus spores are persistent, HOCI effectiveness was limited, ClO<sub>2</sub> is promising.</li> <li>Effective decon methods for spores could also be used for vegetative bacteria</li> <li>Little data available for viruses</li> <li>Specific disinfectants (ClO<sub>2</sub>, PAA, ozone, etc.) should be explored further</li> </ul>
Radiological Agents	<ul> <li>Most data comes from bench scale experiments or the nuclear industry</li> <li>Cs, Sr and Co persistence data on cement-mortar and PVC is needed</li> <li>More research with real radionuclides is needed</li> <li>Decontamination of Co with acidification was effective</li> <li>Cs, Sr less persistent than Co, decon with low pH and competing ions proposed</li> </ul>



- The report identifies gaps in the current literature with respect to contaminant-infrastructure persistence data that is not available
- Suggestions for future decontamination work are presented in areas where persistence is observed
- The report will be updated and reissued periodically as new data is published
- EPA/NHSRC will perform research to fill those gaps
   We hope others will too
- · What kind of work will NHSRC focus on in the future?





- Located at Idaho National Lab (INL)
- The WSTB is composed of used 8-inch drinking pipe and is roughly oriented in the shape of a loop with a cross in the middle
  - NHSRC's research focus is drinking water contamination
  - The WSTB can support a broad range of drinking water related research
- The goal of this presentation is:
  - Describe the WSTB features and what it will look like in the future
  - Inform you about NHSRC's planned work
  - Promote collaborative research efforts

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- Drinking water pipe that was in service from the early 1970's until a few years ago
- The pipe was in good condition when it was excavated
- The pipe was partially filled with water, but no major leaks were found



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## What will the WSTB look like?

- The pipe will be positioned in a rough loop with lines crossing in the middle
- · Pipe will be constrained (braced)
- · Service connections will installed
- · Water will be pressurized (40 psi)
- Pipe will be elevated and leak containment will be installed
- Pumps will circulate the water (1 ft/sec)
- · Water will empty into a flush tank for collection, sampling, pre treatment and disposal
- · Water supply is chlorinated ground water

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## Sampling interior pipe surfaces

- Many of the samples from the WSTB will be water samples
- Interior pipe wall samples will also be available
- We may have coupon samples in multiple locations around the WSTB
- Coupon extraction procedure will be adapted from pilot scale decontamination studies at EPA







#### Water Sampling

- Water samples will be common during contamination/decontamination experiments
- For biological samples, we will use the water sample concentrator
  - Uses ultrafiltration to concentrate microorganisms
  - Field portable
  - Easy and cheap to use
  - Built at INL



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## **SEPA** Flushing hydrants and sensors

- The WSTB will be equipped with two fire hydrants, one with automatic flushing
- Sensors will include:
  - Standard water quality sensors (chlorine, pH, turbidity)
  - S::CAN water security panel (light-spectrum based)
  - Hydrant pressure sensors
  - Hydrant RFID tamper alarms
  - Flow meters (standard and specialized)
  - Event detection algorithms (CANARY and S::CAN)



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## Utility room and bathroom

- Utility room (top picture, bottom floor) will contain:
  - Hose bib

SEPA

- Utility sink
- Hot water heater (tank and ondemand)
- Washer/dryer connection
- Water meters
- Bathroom (bottom picture, top floor) will contain:
  - Shower, sink and toilet
  - Vinyl, tile, carpet and wood flooring
  - Exhaust fan
  - Tented enclosure for a decon line

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#### **Future Plans**

- Tracer experiments are planned for late summer 2014
- Contamination and decontamination experiments in late summer/early autumn 2014
  - Bacillus spores and chlorine dioxide will be tested first
  - Surrogate radionuclide experiments are planned for 2015
  - Chemical experiments are planned for 2016 (organophosphate or hydrocarbon)
- Contamination/decontamination experimental protocol will be modeled on our pilot scale work at the Test and Evaluation facility.
- Detection of contaminants with water quality sensors and testing the triggering of novel flushing fire hydrants (summer/autumn 2014)

Exposure during showering and household plumbing studies (autumn 2014)
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#### **Future Plans**

- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems
  - A functioning SCADA system similar to what is in place at a water utility will be installed
  - City of Idaho Falls water department is providing technical assistance
- Cybersecurity
  - Are water utilities in the United States aware of the vulnerabilities in their SCADA systems?
  - What commercial tools are available to help protect utility SCADA systems from unwanted intrusion?

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## **Questions?**

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Demonstration of Unit Operations for the Irreversible Wash Aid Additive for Cs-137 Contamination

Michael Kaminski,<sup>1</sup> Matthew Magnuson,<sup>2</sup> Jack Schwalbach,<sup>3</sup> Dennis Barkenmeyer<sup>4</sup>

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**ENERGY** 

Irreversible Wash Aid Additive for Cesium



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## **Decontamination Using Wash Aid**



Salt and Sequestering Agents - Kinetics and Equilibrium



## Wash Aid Formulated On-Site and Distributed



## Rapidly Deployable Barriers and Earth





## **HESCO Barriers Deployed**







# Construction of the Barrier and Spread of Sequestering Agents



## Decontamination and Wash Collection



## Slurry Filtration



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Δ		10

## Filter Skid





## Solid-Liquid Separators

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#### LAKOS centrifugal separator

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The Nautilus Bag<sup>™</sup> and the Truck Bag <sup>™</sup> for transporting radioactive packages by Strategic Packaging Systems LLC.

## Conclusions and Lessons Learned from Demonstration

- We completed the demonstration without complication.
- The materials arrived as planned and the various partners were wellcoordinated under the guidance of Briese and Associates.
- We were able to show the set-up of the system, demonstrate its operations, and assess the additional operations for removal of materials and clean-up of the site.
- From this experience, there were several lessons learned from this demonstration.
  - Logistics
    - Just how do you coordinate and train individuals needed to transport the berm and fill materials and assemble them in a hazardous and radiation area?
    - Where exactly do you set up the berms and how much water is needed to accomplish the mitigation goal?
    - Given the limited footprint in the affected zone, where do you assemble the support equipment (salt and surfactant storage, pumps, filtration trucks, front-loaders, bladder tanks, collapsible tanks, fire trucks, etc.)?

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## Conclusions and Lessons Learned from Demonstration

- Logistics (continued)
  - Do you permit units to set-up in a radioactively-contaminated zone or do you wash the staging area first and then proceed with mitigation operations at the target zone?
  - Next, it was clear that a more detailed system for reuse of wash water needed to be drafted. This system would need to include monitors to check the water quality before reuse to ensure the absence of radioactivity.
- Separations

Δ

- Slurry intake was not controlled leading to a highly variable solids concentration at the inlet to the LAKOS separator. As a result, the solids concentration was too high in the discharge from the LAKOS (the feed into the Separmatic pressurized, bag filter unit).
- Extremely high slurry concentrations begs for a series of LAKOS units.
- Another option is to consider leaving the clay in the reservoir since it settles readily by gravity and simply pull the supernatant wash into the filtration units or collect the wash water in a series of drain tiles. Then, after drawing most of the water you could suction the concentrated slurry into a receiving truck for removal.

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#### **Acknowledgments**

- Work supported by Technical Support Working Group.
- The U.S. EPA through its Office of Research and Development funded in part the research described in this presentation. It has been reviewed by the Agency but does not necessarily reflect the Agency's views. No official endorsement should be inferred. EPA does not endorse the purchase or sale of any commercial products or services.

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## Radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt sorption/desorption on components of drinking water distribution systems



#### Konoplev A.<sup>1</sup>, Popov V.<sup>1</sup>, <u>Stepina I.<sup>1</sup></u>, Szabo J.<sup>2</sup>

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EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference, North Carolina, Durham November 5-7, 2013



## **Possible contamination ways:**

- Accidents at nuclear power stations
- •Leaks from radioactive wastes storage

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Acts of terrorism

## **Objective**

investigation the fate of dissolved radiocesium, radiostrontium and radiocobalt deposited on components of drinking water distribution systems for developing effective decontamination techniques and strategies











## Scheme 1 for desorption experiments

1. Experiments with <sup>137</sup>Cs :

Sequential desorption by : tap water, tartaric acid

2. Experiments with <sup>60</sup>Co :

Sequential desorption by : tap water, tartaric acid, EDTA, acetic-ammonium buffer

3. Experiments with <sup>85</sup>Sr

Desorption of <sup>137</sup>Cs

Sequential desorption by : tap water, tartaric acid

Pipe	Replica- tion	Sorption, %	Desorption by water, %	Desorption by tartaric acid, %
Plastic	1	2.9	2.5	-
Iron	1	29	7.5	8.4
Concrete lined iron	1	90.5	7.1	12.7
Common	1	8.3	4.3	
Copper	2	5.5	1.7	-

Values of  $^{\rm 137}{\rm Cs}$  sorption and sequential desorption, % of applied radioactivity



 $\bigcirc$  - plastic,  $\triangle$ - copper,  $\diamondsuit$ - iron,  $\triangleright$  - concrete lined iron

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Desor	ptio	n of <sup>60</sup> 0	Со			
Pipe	Repli- cation	Sorption, %	Desorption by water, %	Desorption by tartaric acid, %	Desorption by EDTA, %	Desorption by acetic- ammonium buffer, %
Plastic	1 2	93.5 94.7	1.6 -	91.8 -	-	-
Iron	1 2 3 4	96 98.3 93.9 93.5	- 1.8 0.64 -	- - 58.6	- 83 79 30.6	- 0.7 - -
Concrete lined iron	1 2 3	98 96 94.4	- 5.9 -	- 53.4 -	- - 70.1	- - 1.8
Copper	1	9.8	3.2	-	-	-

Values of  $^{60}\mathrm{Co}$  sorption and sequential desorption, % of applied radioactivity



 $\bigcirc$  - plastic,  $\triangle$ - copper,  $\diamondsuit$ - iron,  $\triangleright$  - concrete lined iron

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Pipe	Replica tion	Sorption, %	Desorption by water, %	Desorption by tartaric acid, %
Plastic	1	11.1	-	-
Iron	1	80.4	4.6	68.5
Concrete lined iron	1 2	88.3 92.8	- 2.4	- 7.6
Copper	1 2	5.9 4.3	-	-

Values of <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption and sequential desorption, % of applied radioactivity <sup>14</sup>

## Scheme 2 for desorption experiments

#### 1. Experiments with <sup>85</sup>Sr :

Sequential desorption by : EDTA, KCI, NH<sub>4</sub>CI, CaCI<sub>2,</sub> acetic-ammonium buffer

#### 2. Experiments with <sup>137</sup>Cs

Sequential desorption by : EDTA, CaCl<sub>2</sub>, KCl, NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, acetic-ammonium buffer

Desorption of <sup>85</sup> Sr (scheme 2)							
Pipe	Sorption %	Desorption by EDTA, %	Desorption by KCl, %	Desorption by NH <sub>4</sub> Cl, %	Desorption by CaCl <sub>2</sub> , %	Desorption by acetic- ammonium buffer, %	
Concrete lined iron	82.2	23.2	8.3	7	0.5	15.4	

Values of  $^{85}\mathrm{Sr}$  sorption and sequential desorption, % of applied radioactivity

	Des	orption	of <sup>137</sup> (	<mark>Cs</mark> (sch	eme 2)	
p						
Pipe	Sorption %	Desorption by EDTA, %	Desorption by CaCl <sub>2</sub> , %	Desorption by KCl, %	Desorption by NH <sub>4</sub> Cl, %	Desorption by acetic- ammonium buffer, %
Concrete lined iron	<b>88.</b> 7	23	6.9	50	9.9	1.4

Values of <sup>137</sup>Cs sorption and sequential desorption, % of applied radioactivity

# Experimental results with a open chemical reactor

The values of <sup>60</sup>Co surface distribution coefficients K<sub>s</sub> and <sup>60</sup>Co desorption in the open chemical reactor experiments

Pipe	К <sub>s</sub> , см	Desorption by 0.1 M EDTA , % of sorbed activity
Plastic	0.39	80.5
Iron	8.23	100
Iron Concrete	27.19	77.6
	$A_{s}$	

$$K_{S} = \frac{A_{S}}{C_{in}S}$$

 $A_s$  is the activity of the sorbed radionuclide, Bq;  $C_{in}$  is the specific activity of radionuclide in the source solution, Bq/cm<sup>3</sup>; S is the inner surface of the pipe, cm<sup>2</sup>.

### Additional experiments

- 1. <u>Determination of <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption on the components of</u> <u>closed chemical reactor without a pipe</u>
- Results: the activity of initial <sup>85</sup>Sr solution decreased by 17% for the 5 days. It was shown that reduction in activity is due to <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption on the colloids formed in the solution and precipitated on the walls of the container.
- 2. <u>Determination of radionuclides sorption by the plastic</u> <u>container (open chemical reactor)</u>

Results:

- the <sup>137</sup>Cs sorption by the container didn't occur for the 18 days of experiment
- the activity of initial <sup>60</sup>Co solution decreased by 96% for the 4 days of experiment
- The <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption by plastic container didn't exceed 25% of applied radioactivity for the 11 days of experiment <sup>20</sup>
#### Conclusions

1. Sorption of radionuclides by pipes (closed chemical reactor):

•the  $^{137}$ Cs sorption is decreased in number of: concrete lined pipe (91%) > iron pipe (30%) > plastic and copper pipe (3-8%)

•<sup>60</sup>Co is sorbed by iron and plastic pipes almost completely (95-98%). The <sup>60</sup>Co sorption by copper pipe was low

•<sup>85</sup>Sr is sorbed by iron pipes significantly (80-93%). The <sup>85</sup>Sr sorption by copper and plastic pipes was low

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#### Conclusions

2. Desorption of radionuclides (closed chemical reactor):

•For <sup>137</sup>Cs decontamination from concrete lined pipe the most effective reagent is 1 M KCl solution, from iron pipe- 0.1 M tartaric acid.

•For <sup>60</sup>Co decontamination from iron and concrete lined pipe the most effective reagent is 0.1 M EDTA, from plastic pipe- 0.1 M tartaric acid.

•For <sup>85</sup>Sr decontamination from iron pipe the most effective reagent is 0.1 M tartaric acid, from concrete lined pipe- 0.1 M EDTA and 0.2 M acetic- ammonium buffer

#### Conclusions

3. Radionuclide sorption and desorption (open chemical reactor):

<sup>60</sup>Co is well sorbed by the iron pipe with concrete coating. For plastic pipe and the iron pipe without coating the <sup>60</sup>Co surface distribution coefficients were lower. Using 0.1 M EDTA solution as a desorbing agent was effective for all types of pipes.

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# Thursday, November 7, 2013

# **General Session 5**

Foreign Animal Disease Research

### Decontamination of Agricultural Facilities Following a Bioterrorism Attack or Disease Outbreak: Learning from Outbreaks of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Virginia

#### Gary A. Flory

http://garyflory.com <u>Gary.Flory@deq.virginia.gov</u> 2013 U.S. EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, U.S. 5 - 7 November, 2013













## Moving from Infected to Disinfected

Dispose of the infected carcasses
Apply insecticide, close the barns and maintain 100° F for 72 hours
Leave undisturbed for 21 days
Remove all residuals such as manure and feed
• Disassemble equipment as necessary
Disinfection of premises
Test for disease agent

Lessons Learned and their Relevance to an Agroterrorism Attack or other Foreign Animal Disease Outbreak























Let's collaborate! Gary A. Flory Gary.Flory@deq.virginia.gov http://garyflory.com



































#### Background

#### Air Curtain Burners

- General Design
  - Open-topped
  - Generator/blower
  - Fixed plenum pointed downward
  - Biomass as aux. fuel
- Primary Uses
  - Storm debris
  - Animal carcasses
- Monitoring Approach
  - Opacity of Offgas



#### Question to be Answered

 Can ACB air pollutant emissions be used as a conservative indicator of pathogen destruction (i.e., if ACB emissions deteriorate to unacceptable level, is pathogen destruction still being achieved)?









#### **Testing Approach**



- Scoping tests to identify appropriate baseline conditions (wood, poultry feed rate)
- Tests to identify near-failure conditions at which the ACB still operated, but emissions were significantly higher than baseline
- Tests at baseline conditions (wood:poultry ≈ 2:1) with wood/poultry (1 bird/10 min)
- Tests at near-failure conditions (wood:poultry ≈ 0.66:1) with wood/poultry (1 bird/4 min)



#### **Test Procedure**



- Initiate gas monitors; wait for stabilization
- · Initiate wood feed; wait for stabilization
- Initiate poultry feed
- Initiate extractive sampling procedures
- · Feed wood/poultry for test duration as per QAPP
- · Cease extractive sampling
- · Cease poultry feed
- Continue wood feed for 1 hr
- · Cease wood feed; wait overnight
- · Recover ash, floor sweepings, wipe samples
- Decontaminate Burn Hut with Spor-Klenz®











nissio	n Fa	ctors						1ROMARK FR
Condition	CO (ppm)	HC (ppm)	PM (mg/m³)	Σ PAH (µg/m³)	CO (mg/kg total fuel)	THC (mg/kg total fuel)	PM (mg/kg total fuel)	Σ PAH (µg/kg total fuel)
Wood Only	55	12	NA	NA	11,500	3,900	NA	NA
Wood + 1 Bird/10 min	140	45	19	499	18,300	9,200	2,200	57,200
Wood + 1 Bird/4 min	401	231	45	1623	33,900	30,700	3,300	119,900

# Results: Emissions of Spores

Results: Estimated

- Viable spores not detected in the air emissions in any test
- Small amounts of viable spores detected in residual poultry bones (1 of 8 tests)
- Small amounts of viable spores detected in floor sweepings at low poultry feed rate condition (2 of 4 tests) and high poultry feed rate condition (1 of 4 tests)
- Viable spores not detected in the residual ash in any test
- Viable spores not detected in any of the postcombustion wipe samples of Burn Hut walls

#### Results: Positive and Negative Controls



- Positive Control 1: Injection of inoculum directly into Burn Hut exhaust duct (no combustion)
  - Viable spores found on wall wipe samples
  - 149% recovery of spores in SKC Biosampler
- Positive Control 2: Injection of inoculum directly into Burn Hut (no combustion)
  - Viable spores found on wall wipe samples
  - 96% recovery of spores in SKC Biosampler
- Positive Control 3: Injection of inoculum directly into Burn Hut exhaust duct (with combustion)
  - No viable spores found on wall wipe samples
  - 43% recovery of spores in SKC Biosampler



#### Potential Future Work



- Increase inoculum concentration to achieve better quantitation levels of residual spores
- Investigation into use of alternate auxiliary fuels for ACB (e.g., coal)
- Evaluate viral surrogates
- Evaluation of different carcass feedstock
- Full-scale testing in the field

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