

## APPENDIX N: ACRONYM LIST AND GLOSSARY

### ACRONYM LIST

ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Services
BLEVE	Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion
CAMEO	Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or Explosive
CEPR	Commission on Emergency Planning and Response (Kansas)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Emergency Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund)
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CSR	Code of State Regulations (Missouri)
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DOT	Department of Transportation
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EHS	Extremely Hazardous Substance
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management
HMEP	Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning
IC	Incident Commander
ICS	Incident Command System
KAR	Kansas Administrative Regulations
KDEM	Kansas Division of Emergency Management
KDHE	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
KSA	Kansas Statutes Annotated
LEOP	Local Emergency Operations Plan
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LEPD	Local Emergency Planning District
MERC	Missouri Emergency Response Commission
MDNR	Missouri Department of Natural Resources
SDS	Material Safety Data Sheet

NIMS	National Incident Management System
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NRC	National Response Center
NRC	National Response Center
NRT	National Response Team
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PIO	Public Information Officer
RCG	Regional Coordination Guide
RHMEPP	Regional hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Plan
RHSCC	Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee
RMP	Risk Management Plan
RQ	Reportable Quantity
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
SEMA	State Emergency Management Agency (Missouri)
SOG	Standard Operating Guide
TPQ	Threshold Planning Quantity
TRI	Toxic Release Inventory
WMD	Weapon of Mass Destruction

## GLOSSARY

The purpose of this glossary is to provide common and readily understandable definitions to facilitate communications and operations among emergency responders when dealing with hazardous materials incidents. This glossary is not intended as a legal or scientific reference.

**Acceptable Risk** – A risk judged to be outweighed by corresponding benefits or one considered to pose minimal potential for adverse effects.

**Assessment** – The process of determining the nature and degree of hazard of a hazardous material or hazardous materials incident.

**Assisting Agency** – Any agency that assists the agency having jurisdiction at the scene of a hazardous materials incident by providing a service or support not within the immediate responsibility or capability of the agency having jurisdiction.

**Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion (BLEVE)** – A container failure with a release of energy, often rapidly and violently, which is accompanied by a release of gas to the atmosphere and propulsion of the container or container pieces due to an overpressure rupture.

**Catastrophic Incident** – An event that significantly exceeds the resources of a jurisdiction.

**Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Number** – A numbering system assigned by the American Chemical Society and often used by local and state hazardous materials compliance legislation for tracking chemicals in the workplace and in the community.

**Chemical Transportation Emergency Center (CHEMTREC)** – The Chemical Transportation Center, operated by the Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA), can provide information and technical assistance to emergency responders.

**Command Post** – The location from which all incident operations are directed and planning functions are performed. The communications center is often incorporated into the command post.

**Community Right-to-Know** – Legislation requiring business establishments to provide chemical inventory information to local agencies or the public.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)** – Known as CERCLA or SUPERFUND, it addresses hazardous-substance releases into the environment and cleanup of inactive hazardous waste sites. It also requires those who release hazardous substances, as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), above certain levels (known as "reportable quantities") to notify the National Response Center.

**Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO)** – A computer data base storage- retrieval system of pre-planning and emergency data for on-scene use at hazardous materials incidents.

**Contamination** – An uncontained substance or process that poses a threat to life, health, or the environment.

**Decontamination** – The physical and/or chemical process of reducing and preventing the spread of contamination from persons and equipment used at a hazardous materials incident (also referred to as "contamination reduction").

**Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)** – A document that identifies the available personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources in a jurisdiction, and states the method or scheme for coordinated actions to be taken by individuals and government services in the event of natural, human -made, and attack-related disasters.

**Emergency Response Personnel** – Personnel assigned to organizations that have the responsibility for responding to different types of emergency situations.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** – The purpose of the EPA is to protect and enhance our environment today and for future generations to the fullest extent possible under the laws enacted by Congress. The EPA's mission is to control and abate pollution in the areas of water, air, solid waste, pesticides, noise, and radiation. EPA's mandate is to mount an integrated, coordinated attack on environmental pollution in cooperation with state and local governments.

**Evacuation** – Removal of potentially endangered, but not yet exposed, persons from an area threatened by a hazardous materials incident.

**Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS)** – EPA uses this term for chemicals that must be reported pursuant to SARA, Title III. The list of these substances and the threshold planning quantities are identified in 40 CFR 355. Releases of extremely hazardous substances as defined by EPA must be reported to the National Response Center.

**First Responder, Awareness Level** – Individuals likely to witness or discover a hazardous substance release and who have been trained to initiate an emergency response sequence by notifying the proper authorities of the release.

**First Responder, Operations Level** – Individuals who respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances as part of the initial response to the site for the purpose of protecting nearby persons, property, or the environment from the effects of the release. They are trained to respond defensively without trying to stop the release. Their function is to contain the release from a safe distance, keep it from spreading, and prevent exposures.

**Hazard** – Any situation that has the potential for causing damage to life, property, and/or the environment.

**Hazard Assessment** – A process used to qualitatively or quantitatively assess risk factors to determine incident operations.

**Hazard Class** – The eight classes of hazardous materials as categorized and defined by the Department of Transportation in 49 CFR.

**Hazardous Chemical** – A term used by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to denote any chemical that would be a risk to employees if exposed in the workplace. The list of hazardous chemicals is found in 29 CFR.

**Hazardous Material** – A substance (solid, liquid, or gas) capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, environment, or property.

**Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT)** – An organized group of employees, designated by the employer, who are expected to perform work to handle and control actual or potential leaks or spills of hazardous substances requiring possible close approach to the substance. An HMRT may be a separate component of a fire brigade or a fire department or other appropriately trained and equipped units from public or private agencies.

**Hazardous Materials Safety Officer/Official** – A person at a hazardous materials incident responsible for assuring that all operations performed at a hazardous materials incident, by all members present, are done so with respect to the highest levels of safety. The Hazardous Materials Safety Officer has full authority to alter, suspend, or terminate any activity that may be judged unsafe; advises the hazardous materials group supervisor; and responds to the Incident Commander through the Site Safety Officer.

**Hazardous Substance** – Any chemical regulated by both the Department of Transportation (hazardous materials) and the Environmental Protection Agency (hazardous waste)

**Hazardous Waste** – 1. Waste materials or mixtures of waste that require special handling and disposal because of their potential to damage health and/or the environment. 2. The EPA uses the term "hazardous waste" for chemicals regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and listed in 40 CFR 261.33(d). EPA-regulated hazardous waste, when in transport, must also meet 49 CFR parts 170 through 179.

**Hazmat** – Acronym for hazardous materials.

**Incident Commander (IC)** – The person responsible for all decisions relating to the management of the incident within an area, agency, facility, or political subdivision.

**Incident Command System (ICS)** – An organized system of roles, responsibilities, and standard operating procedures used to manage and direct emergency operations.

**Level One Incident** – Hazardous materials incidents that can be correctly contained, extinguished, and/or abated utilizing equipment, supplies, and resources immediately available to first responders having jurisdiction.

**Level Two Incident** – Hazardous materials incidents that can be identified, tested, sampled, contained, extinguished, and/or abated only by utilizing the resources of a Hazardous Materials Response Team requiring use of specialized chemical protective clothing.

**Level Three Incident** – A hazardous materials incident beyond the controlling capabilities of a Hazardous Materials Response Team (Technician or Specialist Level); and/or requiring use of two or more Hazardous Materials Response Teams; and/or requiring additional assistance by qualified specialty teams or individuals.

**Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)** – A committee appointed by a state emergency response commission, as required by SARA Title III, to formulate a comprehensive emergency plan for one or more political subdivisions.

**Safety Data Sheet (SDS)** – A document that contains information regarding the identity of hazardous chemicals, including information on health effects, first aid, chemical and physical properties, and emergency contacts.

**Monitoring** – The act of systematically checking to determine contaminant levels and atmospheric conditions.

**Mutual Aid** – An agreement between two or more agencies, jurisdictions, or political subdivisions to supply specifically agreed-upon aid or support in an emergency situation.

**National Incident Management System (NIMS)** – A standardized systems approach to incident management that consists of five major subdivisions collectively providing a total systems approach to all-risk incident management.

**National Response Center (NRC)** – A communications center in Washington, D.C. operated by the United States Coast Guard. They provide information on suggested technical emergency actions, and must be notified by a spiller within 24 hours of any hazardous substance spill of a reportable quantity.

**North American (NA) Number** – A four-digit number used in the United States and Canada to identify a hazardous material or group of hazardous materials in transportation.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** – Equipment provided to shield or isolate a person from the chemical, physical, and thermal hazards that may be encountered at a hazardous materials incident. Adequate personal protective equipment should protect the respiratory system, skin, eyes, face, hands, feet, head, body, and hearing. Personal protective equipment includes: personal protective clothing, self-contained positive pressure breathing apparatus, and air purifying respirators.

**Public Information Officer (PIO)** – An individual assigned to act as the liaison between an Incident Commander and the news media.

**Reportable Incident** – Any incident that has impacted or may impact public health, safety, or the environment, or is otherwise required by law to be reported.

**Reportable Quantity (RQ)** – The designated amount of a specific material that, if spilled or released, requires immediate notification to the National Response Center (NRC).

**Sheltering-In-Place/In-Place Protection** – To direct people to quickly go inside a building and remain inside until the hazardous materials threat passes.

**Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ)** – The quantity designated for each extremely hazardous substance that requires the facility storing, manufacturing, or using that substance to notify the state emergency response commission that the facility is subject to reporting under SARA Title III.

**Toxic Chemicals** – EPA uses this term for chemicals whose total emissions and releases must be reported annually by owners and operators of certain facilities that manufacture, process, or otherwise use a listed toxic chemical as identified in SARA Title III.

**Vulnerability** – The susceptibility of life, the environment, and/or property to damage by a hazard.