TEPP Exercise Program

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Brief TEPP History

 In 1988, identified need to address emergency preparedness concerns of DOE radiological shipments



- EM established in 1989
 - Identified need for responder training along all transportation corridors as key to EM mission
 - TEPP incorporated into DOE Order 151.1, with responsibility assigned to EM
- WIPP adopted the the TEPP training in 2000, and began using MERRTT along their routes in 2000
 - Created a single DOE radiological transportation training program for the Department



TEPP Exercise Program

- TEPP's exercise program is just one part of an allinclusive preparedness program:
 - Upfront planning tools
 - Needs Assessment
 - Model Plans and Procedures
 - Comprehensive training program
 - Awareness
 - Ops
 - Technician
 - Specialist
 - Hospital

HSEEP compliant drill and exercise program

History of TEPP Exercise Program

- Drill-in-a-Box scenarios were developed in 1998
- TEPP has conducted over 30 full-scale exercises using these scenarios
- Responders have become more advanced in their knowledge and abilities
- TEPP has worked to keep up with the changing skill levels by enhancing the training and exercise programs

National Exercise Program

- In April of 2007, the President approved the National Exercise Program (NEP) Implementation Plan
 - Established under the leadership of the Secretary of Homeland Security
- NEP tools support functionary components, i.e., exercise schedules, policy and guidance, corrective actions, and lessons learned
 - One of the NEP tools is the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP)





- HSEEP is a capabilities and performance-based exercise program
 - Provides a standardized methodology and terminology for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning
- To use DHS grant funding, exercises must follow HSEEP



HSEEP and TEPP

- In 2007, two members of the TEPP support staff became HSEEP Train-the-Trainer certified
- TEPP reformatted the Drill-in-a-Box exercise scenarios to make them HSEEP compliant in 2008
 - TEPP exercises are HSEEP compliant and allows the hosting jurisdiction to take credit for a DHS exercise and to use DHS funding for components of the exercise
 - The TEPP exercise scenario templates are posted on the TEPP website in Microsoft Word format, allowing easy customization



TEPP Exercise Process

- TEPP Model Needs Assessment
- Concepts and Objective Meeting & Initial Planning Conference
 - The beginning of the exercise development phase
 - Identify exercise scope, objectives, and purpose
 - Determine exercise extent of play, time, location, etc.
 - Selecting or customizing Exercise Evaluation Guides
- Mid-Term Planning Conference
 - Comments on draft exercise documentation
 - Construction of exercise timeline or Master Scenario Events List (MSEL)



TEPP Exercise Process

- Final Planning Conference
 - Review all exercise processes and procedures
 - Review all logistical activities (schedule, registration, etc.)
- Conduct Exercise
- After Action Conference
 - Review draft After Action Report
 - Look at development of Improvement Plan



TEPP Exercises

TEPP strives to ensure exercises are realistic

- Use of live fire, if possible
- Victim moulage
- High activity (live) radiation sources





Acoma/Laguna/Cibola County, NM

- After performing Needs Assessment we learned of a Mutual Aid Agreement that existed between 2 Tribal governments and the adjoining county government
- TEPP conducted an exercise designed to test this agreement
- The Tribal police and fire departments were the first responders; they called for assistance from the county HazMat Team





West Valley, New York





Lehigh Valley International Airport





Lincoln, NE





Enhancements in TEPP

- Additional training courses now offered to address the advanced skill levels of responders
 - Technician Level MERRTT
 - Radiation Specialist Program
- Based on end-user feedback, these additional courses include more hands on activities to reinforce learning





Technician MERRTT (TMERRTT)

- NFPA 472 (2008) added Competencies for Responders Assigned Radiological Agent-Specific Tasks (Annex D)
- NFPA Chapter 7 (Technician Competencies) and new Annex D Competencies were crosswalked with the MERRTT objectives
- Crosswalk identified need for technician level training
 - TMERRTT course developed





Technician MERRTT

- TMERRTT is an 8-hour course that combines classroom and hands-on using high activity sources
- 3 teams rotating through 3 mini-drill scenarios:
 - Patient Handling & Decon
 - Accident Scene Survey & Mapping
 - Lost Source Survey







Radiation Specialist

- Developed based on feedback from end-users who wanted more advanced level of training
- Many HazMat Teams were sending members to Radiation Safety Officer training
- TEPP used NFPA 472 Annex G as the source of the course competencies

NFPA® 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents



Radiation Specialist

- The goal of NFPA 472 Annex G is to provide the Radiation Specialist with the knowledge and skills to perform the following tasks safely:
 - Analyze a hazardous materials incident involving radioactive materials to determine the complexity of the problem and potential outcomes
 - Plan a response for an emergency involving radioactive material within the capabilities and competencies of available personnel, personal protective equipment, and control equipment based on an analysis of the radioactive material incident
 - Implement the planned response to a hazardous materials incident involving radioactive material



Radiation Specialist

- Course is 40 hours and uses high activity sources
 - Responders have the opportunity to utilize instruments in a "real" radiation field







TEPP Exercises

- TEPP exercises are conducted to validate a jurisdiction's plans, procedures, and training
- TEPP exercises are HSEEP compliant so the jurisdiction can also take DHS exercise credit
- TEPP planning, training, and exercises have paid off in real-world events







