

FEMA



# CDP Alumnus

Center for Domestic Preparedness – Anniston, AL

## CDP Mission

The CDP develops and delivers training for emergency response providers from state, local, and tribal governments and, when appropriate, the federal government, foreign governments, and private entities.

## CDP Vision

An emergency response community prepared for and capable of responding to all-hazards events.

## CDP Training Tally

792,453 as of Sept. 14, 2013

## Feedback

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Tribal healthcare professionals respond to a mass-casualty event in the emergency department of the Noble Training Facility (NTF) at the CDP. The NTF is the only hospital in the nation solely dedicated to preparing the healthcare, public health, and environmental health communities for mass-casualty response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster. More than 20 Native American tribes recently attended training at the CDP.

## Native Americans Prepare for Disaster Response

Tribal members representing 23 American Indian tribes attended training at FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) recently. This was the first all-tribal course taught at the CDP where members from 10 different states participated in a single course focusing on a mass-casualty healthcare response.

After more than seven months of planning, the 56 students joined in training at the CDP's Noble Training Facility (NTF), the only hospital in the nation solely dedicated to preparing the healthcare, public health, and environmental health communities for mass-casualty response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster.

"I'm impressed with the model used in training here," said Tom Dressler, tribal leader and council member representing the Reno Sparks Indian

Colony in Nevada. "This training can be applied in every situation not only during a crisis. I wish there were more of these courses geared for tribal people – it is very important that we protect our safety. There is value here."

Tribal members and personnel attended the Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL) course. During the four-day class the students trained on providing a realistic medical response in an actual treatment facility. The NTF provides the perfect setting to mirror an emergency department surge and the activation of a hospital's command center.

"It is very important that I know this information so I have an idea of how to operate a [Command Center] and what Indian Health Services can do to support a crisis," said Myles Jones, chief executive officer of Lockport Indian Health



Services from New York. “The training here is realistic and it seems like the event is really happening. I have no doubt that what we are learning will actually make a difference.”

Organizing a tribal-specific delivery of the HCL took seven months to arrange. Gina Marotto, acting director for the Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission in Sparks, Nev., helped coordinate. She was asked to come on board by two colleagues at the Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center who had completed CDP training more than a year ago. Marotto notified tribes and tribal organizations nationwide about the possible training and learned that the interest was very high.

“I want tribal leadership to support Emergency Management (EM) training efforts,” said Marotto. “I hope they support training. Emergency Management in Indian Country is in the intermediate phase. Some tribes have nothing; others have phenomenal [EM] departments. Structured training such as this – with a facility to practice all positions and coordinate in a position we may not be comfortable with – is key to any sort of effective training. I hope these tribes recognize they are either not prepared, or they recognize that their level of preparedness may need improvement.”

The students did make suggestions and noted areas for improvement during the 32-hour course. The training scenarios did not fully resemble a tribal community. Incidents that typically occur in urban America may not fit into the infrastructure found on a reservation.

“We are going to relook how our scenarios are developed and consider changes that resemble a crisis event Native American responders may experience,” said Chuck Medley, assistant director of Training and Education. “The CDP’s hands-on training and realistic scenarios are popular among emergency responders and if we can tailor an exercise or classroom lecture to better suit the needs of tribes, we will look at every possibility and we welcome all suggestions for future course deliveries from the tribal community.”

“The fact that our class is dedicated to tribal is



Tribal members, representing 23 Native American tribes, operate in the hospital command center at the CDP. These healthcare professionals were responding to a simulated hospital surge following a catastrophic event. During the four-day class the tribal members trained to provide a realistic medical response in an actual treatment facility.

immeasurable,” said Michael Youngblood Konkle, from the California Tribal Emergency Response and Relief Agency. “The Native American community is getting more involved and it is nice to see the [Federal] government sharing this training with us. The scenarios could include more Indian titles and maybe use casinos [in place of shopping malls] or something relevant to tribes; but, this is more complete

than any other training I’ve experienced.”

Several of the students from the various tribal nations have already expressed an interest in scheduling training for members of their tribes on a regular basis, according to David Hall, CDP’s Western Region Training Coordinator, who participated in the training coordination.

“If an organization does not take advantage of the training they are missing out on a great opportunity,” said Garrica Bateman, a nurse with the Muscogee Creek Nation in Oklahoma. “I gained a lot of good information we can use when I get home to finish up our plans. This is an extraordinary feat to get all these tribes here for a single course.”

“All we can do is prepare,” said Jessica Tsingine, Safety Officer at Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation located in Tuba City, Ariz., on the Navajo Reservation. “We can’t prepare for everything, but we can be a little more ready. Preparation for emergencies will protect not only our people, but will protect our land as well.”



Tribal members participate in an exercise involving a healthcare response during a disaster. More than 20 tribes, representing 10 states, came together at the CDP for a four-day class consisting of only tribal nations.

# CDP News

## California Army National Guard Preps at CDP

Two U.S. Army National Guard units from California trained at the CDP. The companies represented military police and chemical response units.

### Military Police Prepared to Support State

The National Guard supports its state in a variety of roles. Recently, California's 870th Military Police Company spent its annual training at FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP). The company traveled with 93 soldiers and spent two weeks attending more than six courses focusing on effective use of law enforcement tactics in a contaminated crime scene and response actions following a terrorist attack.

"Our company is different from other companies," said 1st Sgt. Brock Kelly, Company First Sergeant. "We are the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) for Northern California; if anything happens, our company is the first [unit] to get called from the state."



Military Police with the California National Guard 870th Police Company search for suspects in the fictitious town of Northville, located at the CDP. The unit sent 93 soldiers for annual training at the CDP.

ing inside an area contaminated with chemical and biological hazards.

"We are prepared to deploy in support of state and local law enforcement," said 1st Lt. Keith Frederickson, one of the company's platoon leaders and a



A Military Police soldier secures a potential crime scene as a suspect is taken into custody during training. The soldier is part of the California National Guard's 870th Police Company that trained at the CDP.

The company also received advanced training employing crowd control measures, understanding protester tactics, incident management, and operat-

need and I feel ready."

Part of its role as a combat force, the 870th is charged with providing disaster relief in the event of earthquakes, fires, floods, and also respond to terrorist events and civil unrest.

The unit is always prepared for response to a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear event (CBRN). While at the CDP, the soldiers had the opportunity to train at the Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, and Radiological (COBRA) Training Facility. The COBRA offers the only

deputy sheriff with the Alameda Sheriff's Office. "We serve as a force multiplier during a natural disaster or civil unrest. We have experienced protest from the [so called] Occupy Movement and, most recently, from the Zimmerman trial. This training makes us all more proficient MP soldier[s] and helps us communicate more effectively with local law enforcement."

"I feel more confident going shoulder-to-shoulder in support of civilian law enforcement," said Spc. Gabriela Toruno, a Military Police soldier and juvenile probation officer when not in military uniform. "I know I can be effective if the QRF is deployed. Before, most of us would simply do what we were told; now the learning curve is lessened and I know what to do without specific guidance [from local or state law enforcement.] The hands-on training gave us the confidence we



Military Police with the California National Guard 870th Police Company survey the area of a simulated civil disorder at the CDP. The soldiers attended more than six courses, ranging from law enforcement tactics in a contaminated crime scene to advanced training in employing crowd control measures.

# CDP News

National Guard  
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program in the nation featuring emergency response training exercises using nerve agents and biological materials.

“The CBRN training can’t be forgotten — if there were a major hazardous materials incident I know the National Guard would be called out,” said Frederickson. “The CBRN training here is extensive and as military policemen we would be expected to wear protective equipment and enter a contaminated area to triage survivors, collect evidence, and maintain security of contaminated crime scenes.”

“This is non-traditional annual training for any Guard member,” said Kelly. “We plan to include this training for more of our companies. The soldiers are more confident and we learned that our operating procedures need to mirror the local law enforcement we will support. We also plan to integrate local law enforcement into our training and gain a better understanding of each other’s capabilities.”

The soldiers of the 870th gained valuable knowledge and confidence during CDP training. As military police they return home better prepared to provide support as required by their state.

## Chemical Company Tests CBRN Mission

The United States Army National Guard 140th Chemical Company from Los Alamitos, Calif., spent two weeks at the CDP recently. The unit brought 38 soldiers to the CDP to attend advanced-level training on handling hazardous materials.

As emergency responders for their state, the



Military Police with the California National Guard, 870th Police Company employ crowd control measures during an exercise at the CDP.

140th’s mission is to detect and mitigate CBRN incidents to include Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) events. The men and women of the 140th attended two CDP courses—the Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE (ERHM) Incidents course and the Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT) course.

Among the many courses offered at the CDP for emergency response personnel, ERHM is a five-day class providing responders with a combination of lectures and advanced hands-on practical exercises. The responders receive hands-on training in identifying hazardous materials, using advanced surveying and monitoring equipment, selecting and using



A group of emergency responders attending training at the CDP prepare to enter the CDP’s mock subway train system through a simulated street scene used in training.

the appropriate level of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and performing decontamination procedures.

“This training keeps us focused and up-to-date on the latest equipment,” said 1st Sgt. Fernando Ravega, Company first sergeant. “These skills are perishable. If you don’t train, you lose valuable knowledge.”

The HT course includes hazardous materials technical training for operating in an all-hazards environment and the collection of potentially contaminated crime scene evidence. The course presents training that incorporates advanced competencies, technologies, and tactics that focus on the specific threats associated with chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive material.

“Training like this is a dying art and you can’t get it just anywhere,” said 1st Lt. Kristina Tudor, Reconnaissance



A soldier from the United States Army National Guard’s 140th Chemical Company, from Los Alamitos, Calif., decontaminates a teammate after a simulated exercise involving hazardous materials.

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# CDP News

National Guard

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sance platoon leader. “We can’t train like this at home. Having the ability to train with live nerve agents and biological materials like Anthrax is specialized training you can only get [at the CDP]. To have this funded training helps our unit accomplish its training goals and support our state. We had a great opportunity to learn awesome techniques that most people don’t think about.”

Training ended with a day at the COBRA training facility — the only training site of its kind for state, local, and tribal emergency responders. Working with nerve agents GB (Sarin) and VX and biological material, Anthrax, the students trained in a scenario simulating the rescue of citizens, preserving evidence, and locating and identifying the toxic substances.

“We are more confident,” said Sgt. Jose Perez, who will soon be commissioned as a second lieutenant. “We can take this training back to others who could not [travel to Alabama]. This knowledge prepares me more if something were to happen in our city or state.”

“We were able to share a conversation with the instructors and get instant feedback,” said Pfc. Hannah Johnson, CBRNE specialist. “We can’t do this training at home. I am more prepared. We are more prepared. I am more confident. If something were to happen at home now, I feel more confident in my ability to perform.”

The CDP incorporates realistic venues into its hands-on training. Updated training areas enhance a modern learning environment including a sound-effects system, automated smoke delivery, observation cameras, and special lighting — all managed from a central control center. Students navigate dark hallways filled with smoke as they search for survivors, while carefully preserving crime scene evidence. A mock



Emergency responders and soldiers from the United States Army National Guard's 140th Chemical Company pull a survivor to safety during a simulated exercise in the CDP's mock subway train system.

post office, office area, court room, and obstacles they must negotiate, create the setting of a simulated explosion, or chemical or biological release.

“This training improved our unit’s ability to operate the equipment necessary to respond to a CBRNE event,” said Tudor. “Decontamination and survey and monitoring procedures were also reinforced. CDP courses taught us more about setting up a command center and not just in a military setting. It gave us better experience to work with

our civilian counterparts we will support.”

“This training opened my eyes into how our soldiers perform in a chemical environment,” said Ravega. “Most of us are only exposed to [nuclear, biological and chemical training] for a few hours at a time to meet annual qualification requirements. This training shows a larger spectrum and updates us on threats and teaches us how to respond to that threat.”

The CDP plays a leading role in preparing state, local, and tribal responders to prepare for and respond to manmade events or major accidents involving hazardous or toxic materials, to include mass casualties.

Under Title 32 (state support) mission, National Guard soldiers and airmen are eligible to attend fully funded training at the CDP. Department of Homeland Security funds the training, the students’ travel, lodging and meals.



Soldiers from the United States Army National Guard's 140th Chemical Company enter a dark, smoke-filled room during a simulated exercise at the CDP.



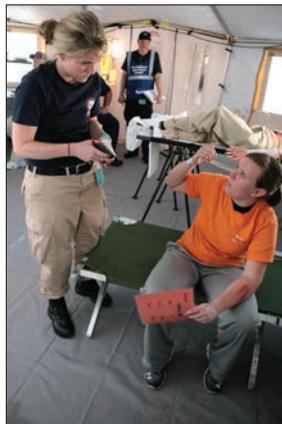
DMAT members treat the symptoms shown by a patient simulator while training at the CDP. A DMAT is a group of professional medical personnel, supported by logistics and administrative teams. The teams are designed to provide medical care during a disaster or other event in support of state and local healthcare agencies.

## National Disaster Medical System Builds Capabilities

More than 50 healthcare professionals and trainers with the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) trained at the CDP recently. The NDMS employed Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) from 10 different states to attend the pilot fundamentals course.

“We have 8,000 employees combined into 86 response teams around the country,” said Dr. Andrew Garrett, a physician and Director of the NDMS. “Our overall mission for DMATs is to support communities with medical care after a disaster. We have collaboratively developed and are testing a workable model for training and the CDP provides the perfect location for us to do so. I think we are close to having a turnkey solution to executing a modern and effective training strategy that will serve NDMS and the public very well.”

The goal of the training is to develop capability and consistency within the teams. DMAT teams are located across the United States, so training all of them presents some logistical challenges. Offering a unified training course, attended by multiple professionals from multiple regions will establish an effective, reproducible training standard.



A DMAT member listens to medical problems from a role player during a scenario-based exercise at the CDP.

“This is the first baseline course that will prevent 80 different training programs,” said Lou DeGilio, NDMS Section Chief for Training. “It is important we have one national, accredited training program we can validate.” The NDMS is charged with augmenting the nation’s medical response in support of state and local authorities. To accomplish its mission, DMATs have been formed across the nation and consists of professional medical personnel, supported by logistics and administrative teams. A ma-

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NDMS

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major mission of the DMAT teams is to support healthcare facilities during a disaster or other event that overwhelms operations.

“This course is a huge asset to us,” said Keith Lindsay, commander of the Massachusetts-1 DMAT team. “NDMS provides great patient care and learning one standard with the equipment we will deploy with is critical. The different teams we have here are finding one way to operate and are working together as one unit, not 10 different units.”

“The CDP understands our needs and offers a mechanism and facility to train in a single location,” said Garrett. “We also aren’t contracting out a facility, and that saves federal dollars and achieves critical readiness goals.”

“The training here this week is realistic,” stated George Watson, from the Alabama-3 DMAT team. “Normally we train with our regional teams, but during a large deployment we will function with teams from different regions. This is very real, and everyone is learning, especially the new members here, who may not always



DMATs deploy in support of state and local healthcare systems following a disaster. DMATs arrive with sufficient supplies and equipment to sustain themselves for a period of 72 hours while providing medical care at a fixed or temporary medical site.

deploy with their home team. They are going to have to work together for a common goal.”

The CDP provided classrooms, infrastructure, and field sites to accomplish the NDMS training goal. The NDMS medical personnel were introduced to a realistic training scenario using role players and sophisticated computerized patient simulators.

“This is important to the citizens of our nation,” said Gary Kruschke, commander of the Florida -1 DMAT. “If a disaster causes a hospital overload someone has to care for the citizens and that is exactly what we do. To be prepared we need this training to uncover our strengths and weaknesses.”

The NDMS is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. Teams consist of physicians, nurses, EMTs, paramedics, fire fighters, and other emergency response disciplines that would deploy and provide medical care. The CDP training is the result of an agreement between the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Health and Human Services.



A DMAT member intubates a patient simulator during a training exercise at the CDP.



A role player simulating a disaster survivor is escorted to a DMAT treatment site. The NDMS employed Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) from 10 different states to attend the pilot fundamentals course at the CDP.

# CDP News

## CDP Looks Forward to Savings Through Facility Projects

Government facilities nationwide continue to seek new strategies to save dollars and stretch smaller budgets. Over the past two years, the CDP Facilities staff has worked closely with the FEMA Energy Office to modernize systems throughout the 900,000 square feet of facilities on the CDP campus.

The Center's aim is to reflect the DHS Efficiency Review and create energy savings. In 2010, the DHS Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan was released. The plan highlights Executive Order 13514, outlining Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance. Inside the document, the President has made energy savings a priority in the United States Government.

The CDP upgrades include the modernization of critical infrastructure that heat and cool the facilities. In many cases, these new systems replace heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems that are in excess of 20 years old.

The goal is to reduce consumption of electricity and natural gas throughout campus. Over the past two years, the CDP has completed several energy conservation projects. These projects were made possible thanks to collaboration with FEMA Support Services and Facilities Management Division.

"The CDP is striving to find attainable initiatives that create energy efficiencies and allow savings to influence training dollars for emergency responders," said Mike King, CDP Acting Superintendent. "These are lean times and we had to take a hard look at where we could save. The last thing we wanted to do was cut back on our resident training programs our state, local, and tribal responders depend on. We're following the DHS plan to create energy efficiencies that not only maintain our training programs, but create a stronger response community and protect the environment."

CDP training focuses on incident management,



The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) operates 900,000 square feet of facilities throughout its training campus. The CDP's goal is to reduce consumption of electricity and natural gas throughout the campus. Over the past two years, the CDP has completed several energy conservation projects. These projects were made possible thanks to collaboration with FEMA Support Services and Facilities Management Division.

mass casualty response and emergency response to catastrophic natural disasters or terrorist acts. The center trains an average of 12,000 responders in its resident programs each year. The completed efficiency projects are projected to save \$75,000 that the CDP can redirect towards training operations.

"The CDP continues to work with FEMA's Energy Office to update antiquated systems with new technology that creates more

efficient energy consumption," said Bruce Bush, CDP Director of Business Operations. "We are fortunate to have such great support from both FEMA Facilities and the Energy Office. They conducted detailed energy assessments on each facility to ensure we are taking the right steps to modernize our infrastructure systems to further increase efficiencies and provide even more savings. We are working very closely with FEMA Headquarters to meet the energy reduction goals set out in Executive Order 13514."

The CDP has completed 10 energy conservation projects. Projects range from simple to sophisticated, such as motion-sensitive lighting, energy-efficient lighting, energy-efficient windows, energy-efficient boilers and chillers, as well as virtual computer servers that provide better service using fewer servers. All of these projects contribute to reducing the CDP's energy consumption.

Researching methods that save operating dollars allow organizations to direct those cost savings to other critical mission areas that could otherwise be impacted by funding shortages. The inclusion of energy efficiencies in operations permits the CDP to continue meeting national training needs, contributes to less energy consumption, and demonstrates the center's ability to reduce energy using modern methods that benefit the CDP's budget and the environment.

*We need your story. If you have used CDP training during a real-world event we want to know about it. You might be featured in future Stories From the Field. We will do the work. Just let us know.*

*Email: [pao@cdpemail.dhs.gov](mailto:pao@cdpemail.dhs.gov) or call (256) 847-2212.*

# CDP News

## CDP Tackles Ready Alabama at Auburn University

Auburn University served as the setting for Alabama's tenth Ready Alabama Day. The CDP joined more than 40 emergency response and volunteer organizations in displaying the latest in response capabilities and training opportunities.

Part of the ongoing efforts to stress readiness and preparedness throughout the state, Alabama highlights its campaign each year by celebrating Ready Alabama Day as part of September's National Preparedness Month. This year's celebration was held Sept. 11, in coordination with the National Day for Service and Remembrance.

Nearly 1,000 emergency responders and youth from area schools took to the Auburn University campus to receive a firsthand look at response equipment, interactive demonstrations, and training courses that stress the importance of preparedness.

Emergency agencies provided large exhibits and realistic presentations that captured the attention of many in attendance. The CDP travelled with its Mobile Command Vehicle to demonstrate a field command center and provided displays used to train first responders across the nation for mass casualty or Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive events.

The goal of Ready Alabama Day is to increase public awareness regarding citizen preparedness for any disaster or emergency, as well as demonstrating



Robi Mobley, CDP Human Patient Simulator Specialist, explains how a patient simulator can replicate the sound of a human heart during Ready Alabama Day.



Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley addresses the crowd of emergency responders and school-aged children during his proclamation of Ready Alabama Day held at Auburn University. Gov. Bentley urged Alabamians to not be complacent and prepare now for the next emergency.

Serve Alabama, Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Volunteer Service. "This is the ninth year to hold Ready Alabama and the CDP has supported every event. Ready Alabama is the perfect setting for recognizing National Preparedness Month, and what the CDP does to prepare first responders, not only from Alabama, but across the nation."

Other CDP displays contained an information booth providing CDP training information for first responders and Ready Kit information for both children and adults. A highlight for all age groups was the Human Patient Simulators the CDP uses in its healthcare courses.

"The patient simulators are always an attention grabber for the kids and grownups," said Robi Mobley, Human Patient Simulator Specialist. "They are impressive units that respond and sound like actual people and bringing them as a display here shows the public

and responders how the CDP uses modern technology in teaching.

Ready Alabama is always a great opportunity to show everything the CDP does to train and prepare emergency responders."



Marc Lugo, CDP instructor, listens to questions from students attending Ready Alabama Day.

"The CDP has made terrific leaps to improve its training such as introducing biological agents to the nerve-agent training it already provides," said Mason. "These are threats we could face in Alabama, or anywhere in the United States and the CDP leads the way. The patient simulator technology and hands-on training are more examples. We are proud to have a national training facility like this as part of Alabama."

# What's New

## Noble EOC Commands Hospital Patient Surge

The CDP recently opened a new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or hospital command center used by emergency responders during training. The EOC provides a modern learning environment with technology commonly found in EOCs nationwide.

The EOC serves as a critical location for key organizational personnel. Operational decisions that influence tactical decisions in the field are driven from the EOC. As improvements in CDP training venues continue, the EOC provides healthcare workers the capability to coordinate hospital functions during a patient surge.

The EOC is located at the Noble Training Facility (NTF) and serves as the hospital's central command and control during student training exercises. The NTF is the only hospital facility in the United States dedicated solely to training. There, healthcare, public health, and environmental health professionals train for mass casualty events.

The enhanced EOC measures approximately 4,500 square feet and is arranged in three separate command groups: the center group is on a raised platform and is operated by the central Incident Command leadership. Public Health, facilities and security share the two remaining areas. Additionally, the EOC has a watchroom, a large conference room, two private offices, and a break area.



Key members of a hospital's leadership and management team occupy seats in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or hospital command center used by emergency responders during training at the CDP.



Healthcare professionals attending training at the CDP staff the hospital's command center during a simulated exercise. The newly renovated area serves as an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or command center during healthcare training.

and Education. "The EOC is an upgrade from the small room we used in the past and gives our healthcare students a dynamic EOC environment to assist them in refining their operational capability."

The EOC, during any disaster or incident, provides a central location to direct and manage response and recovery operations. Like a traditional EOC, the NTF operations center is organized by top-level emergency managers to first-line super-

visors. From the Incident Commander to the logistics staff, each person involved in directing and decision making has a place and a role in the EOC.

This EOC is equipped with 33 computers that operate on a central server. Students also have 67 hand-held radios to maintain communications between EOC members and other classmates responsible for carrying out a realistic response during an end-of-course exercise.

The EOC is equipped with more than 30 landlines so that students can make and receive calls from within the NTF. The EOC is also equipped with four projectors and large-screen LED televisions that allow EOC staff to present and receive professional briefs and updates. The center also has a fully operational media center with the capability to conduct live closed-circuit press broadcasts throughout the operation. Furthermore, students also have access to a printer, fax machine, and Internet service.

"I like the arrangement or separation of the command staff and other sections," said Ginger Sharrow, director of nursing for the Maniilaq Health Center, Kotzebue, Alaska. "I'm from a very small hospital and I'm not familiar with something this large. I think this is impressive and everyone would like to have [an EOC] like this."

Healthcare courses at the CDP are taught at the Noble Training Facility (NTF). The former U.S. Army hospital was converted into a training site for health and medical education in disasters and mass casualty events.

"The NTF provides our healthcare community an opportunity to experience an actual surge of patients from a mass casualty event," said Chuck Medley, assistant director of Training

# What's New

## Northville Improvements Continue



Last quarter the CDP Alumnus displayed the dramatic progress to the CDP's fictitious town of Northville. COBRA graduates know Northville all too well — sitting on a plot of about one-and-a-half acres, Northville allows emergency responders to train in a realistic, small-town setting.

Over the past few months, improvements to the exterior of its buildings continued and new signage and building awnings complete the outward appearance.

Northville is part of the Chemical, Ordnance, Biologi-

cal, and Radiological (COBRA) Training Facility, a training venue at the CDP that uses actual nerve agents and biological materials in training.

Six buildings make up the town, each given a unique role: a school, fire department, police department, sandwich shop, florist, newspaper stand, and bus depot.

Interior décor completes the realistic venue, adding realism to the scenarios students participate in.

*Did you know the CDP on average saves \$75,000 dollars a year on production costs? This savings is widely due to the incorporation of iPad technology into training. Of the courses offered at the CDP, 10 courses fully use the iPad to provide instructional materials in class, about 25 percent of the courses currently conducted at the CDP. The iPads also provide Internet access for students to follow in class and research discussion topics. Each time an iPad is issued an IT specialist completely reimaged and loads appropriate course materials. More than 45 iPads can be reimaged and loaded simultaneously. iPads take a shower after each use — that is an Ultraviolet (UV) Level C Light Shower. Each iPad is cleaned with micro-fiber wipes, then the UV light completes the sanitization process. The CDP hopes the modern training method enhances adult learning and continues to reduce the amount of paper and other student materials commonly used in the classroom.*

# Worth Repeating

## Training to be Prepared

"I think this training has increased my knowledge base and provides me an opportunity to expand my professional development and understand other positions in the emergency management field. This training increases my ability to be an asset to my department and also safely mitigate emergencies. I think the CDP will broaden the experience for everyone in emergency response with everything they teach about homeland security. In today's world, with bombings and other threats, I think training helps us become more prepared and will benefit any first responder."

Adrian Hairston, Fire Fighter, Atlanta, Ga.

## Always Ready

"This training provided by the Department of Homeland Security gives us an edge and prepares us to handle any situation. This training increases my knowledge to handle certain situations without hesitation. I will be able to analyze and react quicker than others because of this training. We are fighting a war that doesn't have a designated front line. Anything can happen. It can happen overseas; it can here."

Rafael Torruellas, Master Patrol Officer, Washington, D.C.

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# CDP

# Region Map

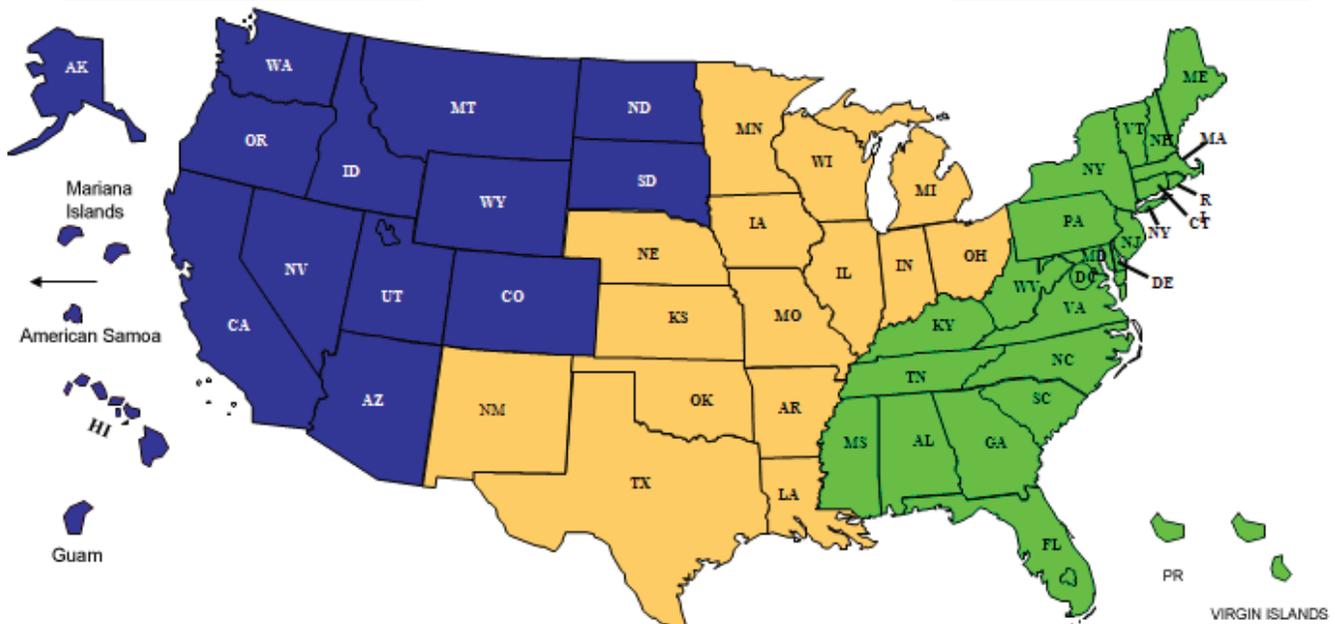
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