Department of Fire Services

* Special Operations *
* Hazardous Materials Response *
* Massachusetts State Police *
Fire Investigation Unit
HDU / Bomb Squad
* Fire Mobilization *
Special Operations

- DFS Special Operations Group
  - 50 members divided in 3 response teams
    - Southeast
    - North/Central
    - West
  - Drivers, Operators, and Technicians
  - Members respond with unit to operate the vehicle and the technology in support of the IC
Special Operations

Special Operations Group can provide the following assistance:

- Enhance Incident Communication
- Firefighter Rehab Support
- Portable Inflatable Tent
- Command Support Functions
- Portable Lighting
- Other Logistical Support
ISU 1 - Stow
ISU 2 - Easthampton
Unified Command Post
Who Pays for a Response?

• There is **NO** cost to any community for a response
• The Department of Fire Services is committed to helping out any community in their time of need
• If any event is reimbursable through state or federal funds, or for Hazardous Materials response with a responsible party, then associated costs will be billed to the responsible party
Types of Responses

- Fires
- Searches
- Hazardous Materials
- Fire Investigations
- Pre-planned events
- Natural disasters
- Request from the Fire Service to support a large scale event
Considerations for Activation

• Call early
  • Consider travel time of vehicle
  • Routes of travel
    • Height of vehicle (REHAB 13’2” and ISU 11’10”)
    • Weight of vehicle (GVW 54,000)
    • Length of Vehicle 40’

• Placement on scene
  • Hose layouts
  • Away from hazards
  • On a firm surface
  • For the ISU – no buildings or obstructions for satellite dish facing south
How Do You Activate a Team?

• For immediate response, call MEMA at 508-820-2000

• For scheduled events, call the Special Ops Office at 978-567-3171
How Can the ISU Help?

- **Communications**
  - On – Scene
  - Create and implement a communication plan
  - Activate additional portable radios

- **Tracking Incidents**
  - On Board Log
  - Photos
  - Command Post
  - Meeting Area
  - Operations
What Comes with the ISU?

• Driver
• Technicians
• 1 – 3 Operators
• All available resources of DFS and other state agencies
Outside Operations
Conference Room
Operations Room
Satellite Dish & Smart Board

Internet Connection
Sending On-Scene Images

Plasma screen allows images to be drawn or written over and saved, as well as a large screen monitor for command viewing of incidents.
Clocks & Video equipment

* All pertinent equipment has clocks that are synchronized for logging purposes

* Video Router * Microwave Link
* Direct TV * VHS Recorders
* HD Recorders
* All images can be shown on any monitor in or outside the truck
Computer Network & Phone system

* Office style phone system
* Works with cell & hard-wired phone lines
* All lines are recorded

Computer network set up for four fixed and mobile stations as well as color and laser printer
Radios

* 14 mobile radios
* Low band up to 800 trunking
* All fire frequencies are pre-programmed
* Others can be done on site as needed
* Both digital and analog compatible
* All radios are recorded
* Cross patching capabilities

* 50 portable units programmed to the state’s 800 MHz system
Rehab Unit
- 19 Seats for rehabilitation
- Liquid replenishment and snack foods
- Climate control
Incident Support Trailer (IST)
What Will it Do?

- Self-sufficient unit
- Remote repeater operations
- Small operations room
- Cache of portable radios
- Generally pre-planned events

Self Supporting Trailer

- Quiet On-board Generator
- Lighting Unit
50’ Antenna Tower

* Heaters * Tents
* Tools * Lighting
* Chairs
Operations Room with HVAC
Portable Operations

- 20’ by 21’ inflatable tent with heat, lights etc.
  - 10 minute setup time
  - Doors on both ends
  - Full interior wall dividers
Lighting Trailers
Quiet Whisper Power plants
Hazardous Materials
Response Division
Hazardous Materials Regional Response

- Six regional teams provide uniform response statewide
- 18 regional response vehicles
- Industrial & transportation chemical emergencies
- Emergency response to terrorism
  - Analysis of threats
  - Response/Impact planning
Tiered Response Levels

- Tier One
  - Hazard & Risk Assessment
- Tier Two
  - Short Term Operations
- Tier Three
  - Long Term Operations
- Tier Four
  - Multiple Team Operations
- Tier Five
  - All Teams (WMD) Response
## Resources per Tier

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Vehicles</th>
<th>Personnel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 TOMs or Squad</td>
<td>5 Techs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 TOMs and/or 1 Squad, 1 ORU</td>
<td>16 Techs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1 TOMs and/or 1 Squad, 1 – 2 ORU, TSU</td>
<td>30 – 45 Techs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>As requested</td>
<td>As Requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3 TOMs and 1-2 Squads, 5 – 7 ORUs (Initial Response), TSU</td>
<td>90- 135 Techs (Initial Response)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What You Need to Know

- Requested Response Tier
- Incident Location
- Incident Description
  - Type of release
  - Chemical(s) if known
  - Size of Release
  - Casualties
- Staging Area for Team
- Contact information for IC

Don’t guess at the chemical or product involved. There are millions of chemical compounds and a slight error in reporting can change the entire picture.
Tiered Response

• The tiered response system is designed to provide the Incident Commander with the right tools.
• Responses do not have to start at “1.”
• The initial response can be at any level from 1 – 5 based upon need.
• Tier 3 is always your fastest response as it does not activate by group. If a true emergency exists, (i.e. chemically contaminated casualties) a minimum Tier 3 should be requested.
Tier 1

- Minimum Response of the team
- Tier 1 is defined as Hazard and Risk Assessment.
- It is also the response for a suspicious substance or package (bio-threat)
- Tier 1 does not (except for bio-threat) include entry into a hot zone.
Tier 2

• Limited Response
• Provide sufficient resources for short term entry operations, e.g.:
  • Metering to determine the presence of a release
  • Uncomplicated mitigation actions
  • Small release mitigation
• Response is part of one team and activated by groups that are either geographic or rotational in the district
Tier 3

- 1 Full Team Response
- Up to 45 Hazmat Technicians
- Fastest response as it activates the entire district team
- Long term, single operational period, operations
- Used when mitigation actions require multiple entries and/or operating conditions are extremely hazardous
Tier 4

- Multi-Team Response
- Not generally requested by I/C
- Usually used for expansion for multiple operational periods
- Managed by the team to request specific requirements (manpower, supplies, etc)
- If requested, be prepared to describe exact requirements to control center
Tier 5

- Full System Activation
- Based on WMD Scenario, but may be used in non-terrorism catastrophic release.
- 3 Teams respond directly, 3 go into active staging around the state
- Also adds Bomb Squad and Civil Support Team
Hazardous Materials Regional Response

Statewide Mass Decontamination System

- 92 Mass Decon Units
- 17 district decon companies
- 74 “hospital” decon companies
- 1 unit at DFS for training and support
Mass Decontamination Units

- Custom designed by the Massachusetts fire service
- High capacity for mass decon
- Can be used to support other fire service operations
Hazmat/Bomb Squad Interface Team for Incidents involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive materials

- Combines expertise and capabilities for multi-threat scenarios
- Provide an integrated assessment/ mitigation capability where explosives and other hazardous materials present as concurrent threats
- Increase the safety for responders when faced with a mixed CBRNE hazard potential
Massachusetts State Police
Fire Investigation Unit
&
Hazardous Devices Unit
Fire Investigation Unit

Nationally certified accelerant and explosives detection canines

State’s most experienced team of fire, arson, and explosion investigation teams
Certified bomb technicians used in the investigation, removal, and disarming of suspicious packages and other explosive devices.
Hazardous Devices Unit
Improvised Explosive Device (IED)

Equipment:
- Bomb Suits
- X-ray equipment
- Robots
- Response truck
- Post-blast investigation training
- Bomb detection K-9s

Investments from HLS funding
Massachusetts Fire and Ambulance Mobilization Plan

Executive Order #221
Acts of 1950
Creation of a comprehensive fire mutual aid plan
Creation of Fire Districts & Fire District Control Points
Fire Mobility Committee

Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts has responsibility of maintaining and improving the Fire Mobilization Plan, its activation & use

* Chief Edward O’Brien (Holbrook FD); Chairman
  * 4 Regional Fire Mobilization coordinators
  * Department of Fire Services member
    * MEMA member
For more information, contact:

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Thank You!