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Title

Training for the Real World: Implementing Practical Incident Command Processes for Spills and Contamination Events

Abstract

Effective response to personnel contamination and radioactive spills relies not only on well-written procedures, but on the ability of workers and supervisors to apply Incident Command Processes under operational conditions. Traditional classroom-based training often falls short in preparing staff for the time pressure, communication challenges, and role clarity required during real radiological incidents.

This presentation describes the development and implementation of a hands-on, scenario-based training program focused on Incident Command Process response to personnel contamination and radioactive spill events. The training was designed to translate existing procedures into practical exercises that reflect real operational constraints, using realistic scenarios, defined roles, and facilitated debriefs.

Key elements of the program include scenario design, participant engagement strategies, integration of frontline feedback, and lessons learned from early training iterations. The presentation will highlight how hands-on training helped identify procedural gaps, improve communication and decision-making, and increase participant confidence in incident response.

Attendees will gain practical insight into how effective, resource-conscious hands-on training can be developed and adapted to their own radiation safety programs to strengthen emergency preparedness and safety culture.