**Hazardous Materials: Managing the Incident, Fourth Edition**

**Chapter 1: The Hazardous Materials Management System**

**Chief Concepts**

* The primary target audience for this text includes HMTs, the On-scene Incident Commander, the Hazmat Officer (aka Group Supervisor or Branch Director) and members of organized HMRTs.
* Hazardous materials: Any substance that jumps out of its container when something goes wrong and hurts or harms the things it touches (Benner).
* A hazardous materials incident can then be defined as the release, or potential release, of a hazardous material from its container into the environment (Benner).
* SARA, Title III is the primary federal legislation that directly affects the local hazardous materials emergency preparedness program. Responders should identify the local agency responsible for the coordination of the LEPC, as well as who represents the emergency response community.
* OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (29 CFR 1910.120) is the primary federal law that directly affects hazmat emergency response and training activities in both the public and private sector.
* OSHA 1910.120 is the LAW of the land. NFPA 472 is a VOLUNTARY consensus standard. However, if you meet the requirements of NFPA 472 you will exceed the OSHA HAZWOPER emergency response training requirements (paragraph q.6).
* The NFPA publishes a number of voluntary consensus standards that directly influence hazmat/WMD emergency response, training, and certification throughout North America. These include:
  + NFPA 472 (training)
  + NFPA 473 (EMS training)
  + 1991 (chemical vapor protective clothing)
  + 1992 (chemical splash protective clothing) and
  + 1994 (chemical protective clothing—CBRNE terrorism scenarios).
* Standard of Care represents the minimum accepted level of hazardous materials emergency service that should be provided regardless of location or situation. It is established by existing laws and regulations, and is also influenced by legal findings and case law precedents.
* The two key elements of planning and preparedness activities are the hazards analysis and contingency planning processes.
* Hazmat prevention activities include:
  + (1) hazmat process, container design, and construction standards
  + (2) inspection and enforcement
  + (3) public education
  + (4) handling, notification, and reporting requirements
* Hazardous Materials Response Teams (HMRT) are defined as an organized group of trained response personnel, operating under an emergency response plan and applicable standard operating procedures, who perform hazardous material technician-level skills at hazardous materials/WMD incidents. The HMRT members respond to releases for the purpose of control or stabilization of the incident. Among the specialized equipment carried by an HMRT are reference libraries, computers and communications equipment, personal protective clothing and equipment, direct-reading detection and monitoring equipment, control and mitigation supplies and equipment, and decontamination supplies and equipment (NFPA 472).
* Although emergency responders are typically not responsible for clean-up and recovery operations, they are responsible to ensure there is a safe and effective transfer of command to the lead agency responsible for post-emergency response operations.