

Environmental Response Team Special Team Under the National Contingency Plan

Established 1978

ERT Operations

Harry R. Compton - Director

Marc S. Greenberg, Deputy Director - East

Dennisses Valdés, Deputy Director - West



U.S. EPA Environmental Response Team

- ▶ Established Under the NCP in 1978 (40CFR300.145)
- ▶ ERT Staff - Expert Assistance to OSCs/RPMs/Foreign Governments
- ▶ Access to 100+ Technical Support Contractor Staff
- ▶ Focus: “classic environmental” emergencies and site remediation
 - Characterization
 - Sampling / monitoring
 - Hazard evaluation
 - Risk Assessment
 - Health and Safety
 - Decon/Disposal
 - Remediation



ERT Office Locations



Staff by Location (as of 7/24/12) – Includes SEEs

Edison, NJ (24)

Research Triangle Park, NC (1)

Cincinnati, OH/ Erlanger, KY (2/4)

Las Vegas, NV (12)



ERT FTE By Color of Money (as of May 2012)

- ▶ 19.5 Homeland Security
- ▶ 10.0 Removal
- ▶ 6.8 Remedial



ERT Priorities

- ▶ Emergency Response and Preparedness
- ▶ Innovative Technical Assistance to Regions
- ▶ Expanding Technical Expertise and Increase Experience Base on Innovative Technologies and Procedures
- ▶ Work on Precedent Setting National Priorities – policy and technical
- ▶ Provide Training in Technical and Health and Safety Areas to Improve Response Effectiveness
- ▶ Coordinate with other Agency Teams – CMAT, RERT, NCERT, NHSRC.



Programs ERT Supports

- ▶ Response to Environmental Emergencies – Oil and Hazardous Materials
- ▶ Removal Actions in Support of OSC's
- ▶ Homeland Security – Emergency Preparedness
- ▶ Oil Spill Program Training and Preparedness
- ▶ Remedial site support to RPM's
- ▶ Brownsfield (EPM)
- ▶ Enforcement (Air/CERCLA/Oil)
- ▶ Climate Change and Carbon Sequestration (related to Site Clean-up)
- ▶ Office of International and Tribal Affairs ((OITA) – capacity building and response)



ERT Participation in Removal/ER/Oil/Homeland Security Preparedness Activities

- ▶ National Incident Coordination Team (NICT) Representative for OSRTI
- ▶ Emergency Response Technical Workgroup (ERTG)
- ▶ ERT (Kovak) Serves as the Designated Safety, Health and Environmental Management Official (DSHEMO) for all of OSWER
- ▶ Serve on the OSC Readiness Training Board
- ▶ Serve on the OSC Readiness Task Force
- ▶ Serve /Chair National Response Team Subcommittees
- ▶ Annual Panama Canal Exercise Planning and Execution
- ▶ Member Homeland Security Collaborative Network (HSCN)
- ▶ Radiation Activities – FRMAC, Dose Assessment, Health and Safety, Exercises, Rad Response SOP Development, Radiation Task Force Leader (RTFL) Training
- ▶ Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center (IMAAC)
- ▶ Agency Dive Safety Board – Director of Special Operations
- ▶ Asbestos TRW
- ▶ Natural Resource Trustee Coordination
- ▶ OSWER Contact on Tribal Science Issues (Nat'l Tribal Science Council)



ERT Participation in Removal/ER/Oil/Homeland Security Preparedness Activities (Cont'd)

- ▶ Regional Response Teams (RRT)
- ▶ CoreNAR Development
- ▶ Environmental Response Training Program (ERTP)
- ▶ Agency Incident Command System (ICS) Development and Implementation and NIMS Integration Team
- ▶ COOP/COG Planning
- ▶ Regional Exercise development and Implementation
- ▶ Predeployments
- ▶ Field Communications
- ▶ Support and Collaboration with ASPECT
- ▶ Biowatch
- ▶ PARTNER Program (formerly known as TRIO)
- ▶ Oil Area Contingency Plan Development
- ▶ Oil Spill Response Training



ERT Participation in Removal/ER/Oil/Homeland Security Preparedness Activities

- ▶ Mercury Response Workgroup
- ▶ Wide Area Response Recovery Project (WARRP)
- ▶ Nuclear Incident Response Team (NIRT)
- ▶ US Army (ECBC) Interagency Agreement – CBRN Reachback
- ▶ Environment Canada Interagency Agreement – CBRN/ER Collaboration
- ▶ Information Technology Forum (IT Forum)
- ▶ Serve as Chair of the United Nations Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies – Steering Committee
- ▶ National and Regional Exercises



2011 Total Expenditures and 2012 Budgeted (includes travel, expenses, contracts, training and working capital fund – does not include salary)

	Dollars	Percentage
REMOVAL	7,067,235.00	49% (FY12 Op – 53%)
HOMELAND SECURITY	1,937,573.00	13% (FY12 Op – 12%)
REMEDIAL	5,580,583.00	38% (FY12 Op – 35%)
TOTAL	14,585,391.00	100%



ERT Base Contract Funding

- ▶ ERT Base Contract Funding has dropped from \$ 24,400,000 in FY 2001 to \$ 20,800,000 in FY 2005 to \$13,900,000 in FY 2012a 57% decrease.



Additional Funds Into ERT In FY2011 (\$8,442,074.00)

Remedial Site - Regions	\$ 3,961, 087.00
Removal Site - Regions	\$ 2,009,960.00
Removal -- From OEM	\$ 315,000.00
Homeland Security -- From OEM	\$ 708,000.00
-- From Regions	\$ 257,460.00
Oil From OEM	\$ 450,000.00 (H and HR)
Oil From Regions	\$ 60,000.00 (Training)
IAG – Funds In	\$ 102,619.00
Other (B,BR,C3, HR)	\$ 577,948.00



Additional Funds In - ERT Since 2001 (Funds Not in Op Plan)

- ▶ As a result of reductions in ERT's base extramural funding, Regions and OEM have provided an average of \$ 6,500,000.00 per year since 2001 to perform additional work.

*Note that in 2006 that figure was \$ 11,000,000.00



ERT Major Contracts and Color of Money – FY2011

		Remedial	Removal	Removal Carry Over	Homeland Security	Homeland Security Carryover	TOTAL
SERAS		2,997,886	3,095,000	11,600	800,000	454,129	7,358,615
RTTS			350,000		350,000		700,000
ERTP		970,000	2,050,366		354,000	3,500	3,378,366
HazTrai			200,000				200,000
IT		113,000	1,114,171	86,500			1,313,671



The Firehouse – The Cost of Readiness – SERAS Core Readiness Work Assignments (Approx \$ 6,982,000.00)

▶ Program Management	1,920,000	Dive Operations	73,000
▶ Laboratory	1,620,000	BTAG	60,000
▶ TAGA	1,000,000	Engineering	30,000
▶ Air Monitoring	840,000	Video	25,000
▶ Las Vegas Operations	600,000	Human Health	12,000
▶ Quality Assurance	300,000		
▶ Health and Safety	240,000		
▶ Geology	132,000		
▶ Bioremediation	130,000		



Environmental Response Training Program (Approximately \$ 3,578,366 – Two Contracts)

- ▶ E RTP Traditional Training - 40 hour hazwoper courses, 8 hour refreshers, air monitoring, groundwater monitoring, ICS, other technical courses
- ▶ E RTP Exercise Design and Implementation - Regional, Local, IMT, and OSC Level A, Liberty Rad Ex
- ▶ OSC Readiness
- ▶ FY 2011 168 classes and trained 4,500 students, 70,000 + hours
- ▶ Attendance 60% Regions, 20% states, 10% Other Feds, 10% locals/tribal
- ▶ Two Contracts – Large Tetrattech and Small Business Set-aside



Information Technology and Management Contracts (Approximately \$ 1,313,671.00)

- ▶ Web EOC
- ▶ Scribe and Scribe.NET
- ▶ EPAOSC.ORG and Associated Websites
- ▶ Removal Cost Management System (RCMS)
- ▶ Telemetry Support (Viper and Rat)
- ▶ Help Desk – 800 Number
- ▶ Emergency Response – “In the Field” set up of systems and trouble shooting
- ▶ Unique Designs for Specific Sites
- ▶ Information Technology/Management Evaluation and Development - Innovation



Erlanger RTTS Contract and Warehouse (Approximately \$ 700,000.00)

- ▶ Emergency Response Support
- ▶ Radiation Preparedness and Response
- ▶ Predeployment technical support
- ▶ Equipment Readiness
- ▶ Field mapping support
- ▶ Radiation Task Force Leader Training
- ▶ Conflict of Interest Backup



Interagency Agreements

- ▶ Funds IN and Funds Out IA's
- ▶ Nuclear Regulatory Commission – Multi –Agency Radiation Survey of Materials and Equipment (MARSAME)
- ▶ Air Force – Eco Risk/Site Assessment
- ▶ Env Canada – sharing of field technology
- ▶ ECBC – quick access for WMD data and response support
- ▶ USFWS – assessment support



ERT Support to Sites

- ▶ *Definition of ERT Site Support - technical support that ERT provides for an emergency response, removal and remedial site, oil spill response and predeployment which may last for a few days to several years depending on the nature and complexity of the support requested by the OSC's and RPMs*

Program Supported in FY 2011	Number of Sites
Emergency Response	16
Removal Sites	58
Remedial Sites	45
Oil Spill Sites	11
Predeployments	2
TOTAL	132



International Responses and Site Support

- ▶ Turkey
- ▶ Taiwan
- ▶ Brazil
- ▶ Australia
- ▶ El Salvador
- ▶ Russia
- ▶ Kuwait (Operation Desert Storm)
- ▶ Haiti (Earthquake and Kian Sea)
- ▶ Romania
- ▶ Thailand
- ▶ Vietnam
- ▶ Uzbekistan
- ▶ Nigeria
- ▶ Mozambique
- ▶ Sudan
- ▶ Ethiopia
- ▶ Philippines
- ▶ Costa Rica
- ▶ Honduras
- ▶ Israel
- ▶ China
- ▶ Mexico
- ▶ Venezuela
- ▶ Cameroon
- ▶ Latvia
- ▶ Kenya



ERT Contributions to the Agency's Emergency Response, Removal, and Homeland Security Programs – A Look at the Past – That Has Already Shaped Your Future

- ▶ The “Gold Standard” for Data Management Information Management and Delivery (Scribe, Scribe.NET, epaosc.org, RCMS, WebEoc, etc)
- ▶ Health and Safety SOPs, Chapters and Levels of Protection (ABCD)
- ▶ Vapor Intrusion Investigations (formerly known as soil gas surveys)
- ▶ The only real time.....mobile laboratory that can detect compounds down to parts per trillion and parts per quadrillion – TAGA
- ▶ Activity based asbestos sampling techniques
- ▶ Analytical Method Development
- ▶ Oil Spill Response – SMART and SCAT
- ▶ Biosolids for mining sites
- ▶ Bioremediation for wood treating sites
- ▶ Mercury response and cleanup
- ▶ Training development and delivery based on the body of work that ERT and the Regions perform



Major ERT Contributions (Cont'd)

- ▶ Mechanism for video documentation of hazardous waste site and emergency response operations (ERTV)
- ▶ Low Mass High Velocity destruction of laboratory chemicals
- ▶ Implementation of telemetry aspect of remote data collection and delivery (Viper)
- ▶ Robotics investigation and evaluation
- ▶ Development of the Agency's Incident Command System and training delivery
- ▶ International responses
- ▶ Served as contact for White House water emergencies and other incidents
- ▶ Agency's first Bio response – Salk Institute - Pennsylvania



Thank You

