

The background features a large, semi-transparent hazard diamond logo. The diamond has a red and white vertical striped pattern. In the center is a black flame icon. Below the flame, the text 'FLAMMABLE SOLID' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the diamond, a large black number '4' is displayed. Along the bottom edge of the diamond, the text 'UN 1242' and 'NET WT 1000g' is visible.

US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce and Operation Respond

A Bi-National Partnership for Emergency Response Technology Deployment

Concept Briefing

May 14, 2015



Operation Respond Background

- **Operation Respond:** Not-for-profit company founded in 1995, based on earlier Houston, TX demonstration project to improve hazmat information for First Responders along the Houston Ship Channel
- **Primary Focus:** Needs of response community for on-scene, real-time First Responder guidance in hazmat accidents and incidents
- Project participants included area railroads, tank truck lines, intermodal carriers and several Channel petrochemical industry members, in cooperation with local fire/police departments
- Since then, ORI developed emergency response software to assist surface carriers in data communications as outreach to North American emergency responders: The Operation Respond Emergency Information System (OREIS™)
- Recently, ORI worked with CSX Transportation to build a special wireless version of OREIS™: The ***CSX-Operation Respond*** software



The North American Emergency Response Environment: The Realities and the Needs

Emergency Responders (Fire, Rescue, EMS, Police, etc.) are faced with multiple responsibilities for assuring public safety and protection for their communities

- The public's awareness of risks and hazards has raised expectations for safe and efficient emergency responses at all levels; a welcome byproduct of today's unprecedented record of transport and overall logistics safety: incidents are the *exception* – not the rule
- Available responder resources must be spread out across all identified needs and requires consistent recruitment, training and updated equipment and techniques; stand-downs to catch up are not acceptable
 - Leaders/Incident Commanders shoulder special responsibilities
- All-hazards responses are the bedrock of today's planning; **"...expect anything at any time..."**
 - Hazmats can be involved in many seemingly unrelated events: natural disasters, structure fires, floods, accidents, medical emergencies
- The growth and specialization of interstate and international logistics chains produce constant change in urban-rural freight patterns, shipment sizes and larger facilities and vehicles
- Minimizing any impact on the environment is a major goal

Emergency Responders are expected to be ready to go 24/7/365, be well trained and prepared, and be able to "size up" any incident situation in a quick and accurate manner after they arrive



The North American Emergency Response Environment: The Realities and the Needs

- First Responders are trained to deal with hazmat emergencies at the scene of an incident in a step-by-step decision making environment. An environment that puts a very high premium on decisive, swiftly implemented first actions.
- Those first actions are intended to lead to – *and not delay or hinder* – a successful, more comprehensive incident response and follow up, minimizing any environmental impact
- Responders must find out if there are any dangerous materials at the scene, and that they quickly know – for certain – what they are. This includes taking the precautionary steps to make sure that they are not the first casualty
- The Binary Decision: *Go/No Go* – Action Checklist
 - Reliable, accurate information must be available as fast as practicable
 - Few situations allow for the luxury of an on-the-spot “research project” or extended literature search
 - Dependence upon good, useful data, without extended caveats, disclaimers or footnotes
 - Whatever you do, **don't be the First Casualty -- so don't presume -- confirm**



The North American Emergency Response Environment: The Role of Wireless Information Technology

The focused use of modern wireless technology will bridge the information and guidance gap present in many emergency response scenarios today

- Responders increasingly want on-scene resources and accessible information and guidance to be available to them at the scene on their web-enabled Smart phones
 - Secure ID and PWD Web basing is deemed more flexible and robust than an app
- Web-based software and focused guidance helps set up quick – but **safe** – actions at the scene to minimize inaction, wrong responses or delays due to lack of information about the presence of hazmats and/or basic response information
- Pushing down accurate information to responders at the scene can also reduce liabilities and exposures due to elimination of data relay and confirmation delays
- Enables commanders to stay in contact with incident responders at the scene, and send important messages or bulletins that have an increased likelihood of being read because they are directly accessible on responders' wireless devices



US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce and Operation Respond Bi-National Partnership

- **Partnership Objective:** Jointly develop and deploy, as a USMCOC initiative, a bilingual, wireless web-based software suite to assist emergency responders in the US and Mexico to safely and effectively respond to intermodal hazmat incidents, natural disasters and industrial, agricultural, environmental and public health emergencies.
- The software will be developed in both English and Spanish, and integrated with the existing Operation Respond Emergency Information System (OREIS™), secure platform accessible by all Internet-capable devices. Emphasis will be on formatting displays for direct field access using Smart phones, pads or laptops.
- Partnership will focus on critical bilingual information on dangerous materials, environmental guidelines and stewardship and other information useful in emergencies and afterwards, and the enhancement and deployment of a bilingual version of the Operation Respond Emergency Information System (OREIS™) that can be readily accessed from the field using either language.



US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce and Operation Respond Bi-National Partnership

Software Features and Capabilities

- OREIS™ databases will be enhanced to be useful to most USMCOC members and supporters: industrial, agricultural, logistics, and medical, public health and environmental
- Operation Respond will develop a special OREIS™ Main Menu in Spanish, screen-switchable to English and databases will be translated from English into Spanish
- Will help emergency responders in both the US and Mexico deal efficiently and safely with emergencies involving hazardous materials, especially along the International Border;

Development will be guided by the **USMCOC's "Seven Principles of Environmental Stewardship"** to help ensure safe, responsible and sustainable economic development and will incorporate Government of Mexico and US environmental, medical, OSHA and public health guidance and information, as appropriate

EXAMPLE: OREIS™ Main Menu



OREIS™ MobileWeb
Operation Respond Emergency Information System

Welcome to OREIS™ MobileWeb! You login as OREIS.
[Main Menu](#)

You have the following options:

- ➔ [Top Hazard Commodities](#)
- ➔ [Search UN ID](#)
- ➔ [Railcar ID Search](#)
- ➔ [Placard Symbols](#)
- ➔ [Chemical Database](#)
- ➔ [IED Safe Standoff Distance](#)
- ➔ [Water Reactive List](#)
- ➔ [Schematic Diagrams](#)
- ➔ [Virtual Damage Assessment Tool \(VDAT\)](#)
- ➔ [Railroad Emergency Contact Numbers](#)
- ➔ [My Profile](#)
- ➔ [Change Password](#)
- ➔ [Sign Out](#)

For a poison exposure or question call your local poison center at 1-800-222-1222

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Placard Symbols Search

[Click on selected placard for response information](#)

Guide # 111

Mixed Load / Unidentified Cargo



Guide # 112

Explosives*: Division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5 or 1.6



Interactive
Placard
Display
Example