

Hello again, I am Professor Hazmat, I have an interesting incident to tell you about. Also, this incident was the first level B incident in 1999 that allowed the Hamilton County Hazardous Materials Task Force to use the new hazmat truck H71. H71 short for hazmat 71 had been on several other incidents in 1999 such as gas line breaks and fuel spills.

On June 6, 1999 AT 12:07PM THE H71 WAS DISPATCHED TO A CHEMICAL RELEASE AT RIVERVIEW HOSPITAL. UPON ARRIVAL WE WERE ADVISED THAT APPROX 5 GAL. OF FORMALIN SOLUTION 10% (FORMALDEHYDE) HAD BEEN SPILLED IN AN OPERATING ROOM SENDING 2 STAFF TO THE ER. WE WERE PLEASED TO BE INFORMED BY HOSPITAL STAFF THAT THE EMERGENCY HOSPITAL RESPONSE PLAN THAT WE THE (HAMILTON COUNTY HAZMAT TASK FORCE) AND RIVERVIEW HOSPITAL HAD WORKED ON TOGETHER HAD BEEN PLACED IN EFFECT. THAT PLAN IN A TEST TUBE WAS EVACUATE AND ISOLATE THE EXPOSED AREA, SHUT DOWN THE HVAC SYSTEM, AND GO TO FULL OUTSIDE AIR, WHICH PULLS THE INSIDE AIR OUT OF THE EXPOSED AREA AND PUMPS THE FRESH AIR IN THE AREA. MSDS SHEETS WERE OBTAINED AND READY FOR H71 WHEN WE ARRIVED.

NFD HAZMAT TECHNICIANS MADE ENTRY INTO THE AREA IN LEVEL B PPE AND SCBA THE BACKUP TEAM AND DECON WAS IN PLACE. UPON ENTERING THE ROOM THEY FOUND 5 GAL. OF MATERIAL ON THE FLOOR. THE TEAM PLACED ABSORBENT MATERIAL DOWN AND STARTED OVERPACKING AND BAGGING THE MATERIAL. COLORMETRIC TUBES WERE USED AND A READING OF .15 TO 5PPM WAS FOUND. THE TEAM BAGGED ALL MATERIALS AND REMOVED THEM FROM THE ROOM. THE ENTRY TEAM WAS THEN DECONED AND EQUIPMENT WAS DECONED.

HOSPITAL STAFF TOOK CHARGE OF THE BAGGED MATERIALS ONCE THEY WERE OUT OF THE ROOM. THEY SAID THEY WOULD HAVE THEIR CLEANUP PEOPLE TAKE CARE OF THE CLEANUP. THE MATERIALS WERE TAKEN TO THE AMBULANCE BAY WHERE THEY REMAINED UNTIL THE CLEAN UP COMPANY ARRIVED.

THE TEAM THEN HAD VITALS TAKED AND RETURNED TO STATION AND SHOWERED ONCE AGAIN AT STATION.

WE ADVISED HOSPITAL STAFF TO KEEP VENTING AREA AND WEAR PPE WHEN CLEANING THE ROOM. H71 WENT BACK INSERVICE.

THE HAMILTON COUNTY LEPC ALSO HAD A REPP ON THE SCENE.