

The logo for the Michigan Hazmat Responder Conference is a diamond shape divided into four quadrants: red (top), blue (left), white (bottom), and black (right). The Michigan State Police seal is in the blue quadrant. The text 'MICHIGAN HAZMAT RESPONDER CONFERENCE' is written across the diamond. To the right of the logo, the text 'Pre-Conference Workshops Thursday, April 16, 2020 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN' is displayed in black on a yellow background.

Pre-Conference Workshops
Thursday, April 16, 2020
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN

Tactical Technician

Instructors: Chris Weber and Richard Dufek

Tactical decisions at hazardous materials emergencies are heavily influenced by the chemicals and their properties involved in the incident. This workshop will use NFPA 472 Chapters 19 and 21 as the framework for the class. Using this information to make tactical decisions at hazardous materials incidents fall into place. Using chemical demonstrations, scenario-based exercises, hands-on activities, and chemical identification exercises using a variety of air-monitoring and sample identification equipment. The class is highly interactive with students leading the direction of the class as we discuss multiple scenarios culled from the news and experience.

Richard Dufek retired from the Carmel Fire Department in Indiana as a Battalion Chief/HazMat Team Coordinator after 33 ½ years of service. He has been an instructor for the National Fire Academy for the last 20 years teaching the Chemistry for Emergency Responders and Hazardous Materials Operating Site Practices classes. He is a trainer for Smiths Detection and O8 Devices, and trains on their emergency response equipment.

Dr. Chris Weber is the President/CEO of the hazardous materials and counter-terrorism training and consulting firm Dr. Hazmat, Inc. He is also a firefighter and hazardous materials technician with the Hygiene (Colorado) Fire Protection District. Chris' experience includes serving on the Washtenaw County (Michigan) Hazardous Materials Response Team for over a decade in positions that include hazmat technician, training officer, and deputy director. He has been a firefighter for over 25 years and has extensive experience involving hazardous materials chemistry, including a Ph.D. in cellular and molecular biology and biological chemistry from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He can be reached at cweber@drhazmat.com. Chris has authored the following Pearson/Brady books: Pocket Reference for Hazardous Materials Response; Hazardous Materials Operations (textbook); and Hazardous Materials Technician (textbook).

HazMat IQ "Above the Line/Below the Line"

Instructors: TBD

The HazMatIQ Above the Line/Below the Line System is a patented program developed by experienced hazardous materials responders, taught in a straightforward, easy to understand methodology. This cornerstone course lays the foundation for all HazMatIQ Courses. With simplified flow charts, personnel can safely and efficiently respond to any known or unknown chemical / mixture. Students will be trained to size-up (physical state, hazards, initial hot zone, correct meters and PPE) of any chemical in seconds. The system uses a streamlined methodology to build upon the initial size up, preparing them to immediately go to work when they arrive on a Hazardous Materials/WMD event.

Mayday and Hazmat

Instructors: Jeffrey Zientek and Darrell Wiseman

A MAYDAY during a hazmat incident is a complex and dangerous problem. HAZWOPER and NFPA 472 require "backup teams", but do not provide many details or even a definition. Many programs use a 2-member entry team and a 2-

member backup team to meet this requirement, but there are many differing opinions on configuration, equipment, and where to stage the backup team. In addition, there is more to consider for an effective and safe rescue. Is your backup team within eyesight of the entry team, in CPC and on air? Or is your backup team waiting outside the Hot Zone 50% dressed? What about EMS? Current research is developing Best Practices during a hazmat MAYDAY. Key hands-on evolutions will demonstrate safe and efficient operations to remove a downed hazmat team member. Instructors will provide a brief overview of the development of current MAYDAY best practices, cover the unique considerations for hazmat emergencies and introduce the Rescue Team concept. Participants will use a flowchart identifying the roles and responsibilities of the Backup Team to select the correct option. This course will have some classroom instruction, but most of it will be hands-on. Please plan on bringing a change of clothing.

Jeffrey Zientek is a retired captain who served 33 years with the Phoenix Fire Department. He is a trained Technical Rescue Technician (TRT), Hazardous Materials Technician (HMT), and helicopter rescue crew chief. Jeff has acted as the responding Safety Officer to all Special Operations incidents and greater alarm fires for the entire Phoenix region covering over 2,000 square miles. He was also responsible for instructing hazardous materials, technical rescue, and helicopter rescue classes for new and current firefighters.

Jeff has taught classes for the International Association of Firefighters and was a member of Arizona Task Force 1 (FEMA). In his time with FEMA, he managed the hazardous materials cache, conducted continuing education classes for FEMA team members, and was a member of the FEMA Hazmat working group. He has been deployed to serve at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, the 2005 hurricanes Katrina & Rita, and the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York City.

Jeff continues to instruct in the Special Operations field and is an avid trail runner/hiker and road and mountain biker.

Darrell Wiseman recently retired as a 32-year veteran Fire Captain with the Phoenix Fire Department and a member of their Special Operations Team as a Hazardous Materials & Technical Rescue Technician, and Helicopter Rescue Crew Chief. Darrell was a member of the FEMA team, Arizona Task Force 1 (AZTF-1) from 1997-2019 deployed to Salt Lake City Olympics and New Orleans after hurricane Katrina. Darrell was assigned as the Special Operations Safety Officer and Hazardous Materials Continuing Education Manager at retirement.
