

Hazards

Essential Foundation for Planning and Response

The increase in serious chemical accidents throughout the world has heightened public awareness of the potential dangers from accidental release of hazardous substances. More and more, it is incumbent upon organizations to take necessary steps to prevent accidental release of hazards and, if an accident occurs, to minimize the consequences.

DPMS's essential assessment process identifies documents and analyzes hazards, and then serves as the technical basis for emergency planning and preparedness. The assessment reveals opportunities for modifying facilities, processes or procedures to decrease the likelihood or magnitude of accidents. Modifications also aim at improving the recognition and management of possible emergency conditions.

Hazard Survey

The logical first step is conducting a hazard survey of your facility to identify and document all hazards, predict emergency conditions and describe their consequences, and define planning and preparedness requirements. The survey includes a review of documentation, facility walk-through, interviews with your key staff and qualitative analysis of identified hazards.

Hazard Screening

The quantities of hazardous materials identified in your facility are compared to regulatory threshold standards, such as 40 CFR 68, 40 CFR 1910.119 and 40 CFR 355.

Consequence Analysis

Hazardous materials found to pose a risk to the health and safety of your workers and the public are analyzed to determine the combinations of events and conditions that could cause their release and the magnitude of impact. DPMS has extensive experience in analyzing a wide range of hazards and release scenarios. The process may involve fault tree analysis, failure mode effects analysis, barrier failure analysis or other means of appropriately postulating accident scenarios.

Analyses cover the range of credible initiating events and severity levels that potentially could occur at your facility, and postulate the probability of occurrence. The potential consequences of each postulated release are quantitatively estimated through computer models or other methods.

Program Integration

DPMS assists in the daunting task of integrating the highly technical hazard analysis data into your emergency response program. Our experience with large government, military and industrial facilities has enabled us to master the art of technical and administrative program integration. We provide customized solutions appropriate to your needs.