“Collaboration and Teamwork: A CUPA Perspective”

John Misleh, Program Coordinator, HMD
Sept. 11, 2017
Unified Program Mission

CUPAs

To protect public health and safety, and to restore and enhance environmental quality, and sustain economic vitality through effective and efficient implementation of the Unified Program
County Strategic Initiatives

Healthy Families

Operational Excellence

Sustainable Environments

SAFE COMMUNITIES
HMD Staff

• Chief & Secretary
• Program Coordination Group/Enforcement Team
• Operations Group
• Four Unified Program Compliance Groups; Conducts Inspections
• Retail Underground Storage Tank Group
• Emergency Response Team
Environmental Compliance
Unified Program Elements

• Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act
• Accidental Release Prevention Program (CalARP)
• Hazardous Materials Management Plans and Hazardous Material Inventory Statements
• Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventories (HMBPs)
• Hazardous Waste Generation and Onsite Treatment
• Underground Storage Tanks

• Medical Waste Management (adopted by County ordinance)
HMD works to:

• Achieve high levels of compliance with the Unified Programs

• Identify and reduce risk associated with the production, handling and storage of hazardous materials and waste

• Provide continuous expert and efficient chemical, biological and radiological emergency response capability throughout the County
Emergency Response

HMD Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT)

- Supervisor
- Three full day-time responders
- Nine after-hours responders 24/7
- Three technicians
The HMD Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT) consists of California State Certified Hazardous Material Specialists. The team was founded in 1981 by the Unified Disaster Council and is funded by a Joint Powers Agreement. This team services all unincorporated San Diego County areas, 18 municipalities, two military bases, and five Indian Reservations. There are over 400 responses a year in the region. HIRT responds jointly with the San Diego Fire & Life Safety Services Department, Hazardous Incident Response Team.

http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/deh/hazmat/hmd_hirt.html
Disaster Response/Preparedness

• HMD works with stakeholders
• Hazmat reporting
• Release response
• Utility companies
• Local/State/Federal govt. agencies

2007 SD Bay looking east
Working Together

Stakeholders, Industry Sectors
Governmental Agencies
Law Enforcement

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." --Henry Ford
Overview

• Industry Sectors

Industrial Environmental Association of San Diego County

• Coordinate training and seminars
• Annual conference participation
• Legislation
• Changes in regulations
• Identify solutions to tough questions, e.g., hazmat spill reporting
Plating Shop Project

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CUPA
Department of Environmental Health
Hazardous Materials Division

Plating Shop Compliance Manual

"Environmental and public health through leadership, partnership and science"
BIOCOM

• Biotechnology and manufacturing companies
• Major industry sector in San Diego County
• Identify Top 10 violations, publish training materials, online training course, etc.
• EPIC+ program: To reduce the most common hazardous waste, medical waste and hazardous materials violations found in the Biotech and R&D industry sector
Biotech Sector

• Work group meetings
• Process improvements
• Inspector education
• Industry education
• Hazmat workshops and updates
• Online education at HMD webpage
• Reduced inspection frequency for businesses that meet performance standards

http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/deh/hazmat/hmd_epic/training.html
SEMINARS

Cliff Hanna
BIOCOM member
UST Operator Training

Juan Fernández and Amy Seigel
HMD ICC Certified
UST Inspectors
UST Retail Group
Other Sectors
Guidance for Compliance

- Breweries
- Schools
- Retail Facilities
- Hospitals
- Agricultural
- Gun Ranges
- Non-Profits
- Pharmaceuticals
Teaming up for consistency
San Diego CUPA participates

- Cal CUPA Forum Board
- Southern Cal. CUPA Forum Workgroup
- CalARP Administrative Agency Workgroup
- Emergency Response Technical Advisory Group
- Unified Program Training Steering Committee
- Unified Program Data Steering Committee
- Inspection & Enforcement Workgroup
- Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act Advisory Committee
Stakeholder Participation

- Hazardous Waste Tank Workgroup
- First Responders Hazmat Business Plan Workgroup
- Release Reporting Workgroup
- Medical Waste Management Workgroup
- Cost Containment/Industry Coordination Workgroup
- San Diego County Hazardous Waste Task Force
Required Discipline Skilled, Competent and Diverse Workforce Training

- New Inspectors classroom and field training (12+ weeks)
- CUPA Quarterly training for Inspectors
- Bi-annual training at All Hands meeting for all employees
- Customized Individual training plans each year
- REHS Cross-Training
- Hazwoper Annual Safety Refresher
- UST ICC Inspector Certification
- APSA Inspector Certification
- New laws and regulations
OUTREACH

• Annual statewide CUPA Conferences
• HMD staff attend and were presenters at all CUPA conferences

Subjects:
• Wildfire Disaster: Hazmat Cleanups and Recovery
• Air Toxics
• Enforcement & Case Studies
• Basic Hazardous Waste Inspector
• Advanced Hazardous Waste Inspector
• UST Training
• APSA Training
• Hazardous Waste Classification
• Tank Systems
HMD’s Environmental Health Specialists participate in statewide technical advisory groups:

- Hazardous Waste
- Data and Reports Committee
- Training Steering Committee
- UST TAG
- Region 6 LEPC Administrative Agency (CalARP)
- Emergency Response Coordinating Committee
- APSA, CalARP, HMBP
Mexico Border Coordination

• Hazardous Waste, Environmental Challenges
  The HMD is the only CUPA in California that has a contract with the DTSC for the surveillance and inspection of commercial vehicles along the United States-Mexico Border. In addition to the inspection of transporters of hazardous waste, the HMD works closely with state and federal agencies in the United States and Mexico in the investigation of environmental crimes along the International Border and provides workshops to the private and public sectors in Mexico.

• HMD works closely with U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers

• Started in 1992 as a pilot program

http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/deh/hazmat/hmd_hirt/borderprogram.html
County Hazardous Waste Task Force

• Coordinate the investigation and enforcement of environmental crimes

• 30+ years HMD has been a member

• Members include staff from: FBI, United State Attorney, District Attorney, City Attorney, APCD, Sewer agencies, DTSC, US EPA, CHP, Fish and Game, etc.
County Public Health Officer

- HMD works closely with the County Public Health Officer
- White powder incidents in mail
- Disaster recovery
- Weapons of mass destruction
- Public Health Issues
Legislation/Regulations: New and Changes

HMD reviews upcoming legislation to determine local, regional, and statewide impacts

• Work with other CUPA Forum Board members
• Work with Industry Groups to explain changes and implementation
• Feedback is important

Transparency to achieve better compliance
Future Collaboration involving DTSC

- More training offered by DTSC experts of CUPAs, stakeholders
- Written guidance, i.e., facts sheets
- Faster review and feedback from DTSC
- Identify more collaborative issues and consistency
- Publish more online training
Questions?