

Prevention is Better than Cure

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AFAC Hazardous Material Working
Group

BULK TANKER EMERGENCY RESPONSE

sharing lessons and improving outcomes

20th October
Melbourne Park Function Centre

Hosts



National Bulk Tanker Association

AFAC HMWG

- Represents the states and territories fire services hazardous materials business units
- These units manage capability of the fire services in personal protective equipment related to hazardous materials incidents, SCBA, chemical clothing, detection and containment
- Research, develop and manage SOG and interagency activity

Turf War or Interoperability

- NSWFB History 1884 from individual insurers to state run capability
- Community infrastructure and environment is precious and capability management of protecting such is involved and requires a coordinated approach in 2010

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Coordinated Approach to Response

- There can only be one Incident controller.
- There needs to be a multi – agency incident management team which brings together capability to achieve the numerous objectives
- Ensure Safety is the number one priority at and around the scene.

On Incident Controller



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PPRR the Emergency Managers Bible

- **Prevention** we are in it together
- Lessons Learnt is the path to informed prevention
- Being **prepared** ensures the cure is effective and efficient
- **Response** needs to be coordinated and safe
- **Recovery** is easier if the above is in place and lessons are learnt from the event

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Prevention is Better



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Obligations

- We need to practice as we intend to play
- TISC & CROIERG have made progress to standardise training
- Evidence of a coordinated, efficient, effective and safe activation of TERP is low. (from 2005 – 2010)
- This needs to be a coordinated approach and the difficulty of a national industry as opposed to individual state & territory police and emergency agencies will cause issues and AFAC may ease that issue to a degree.

Effective Prevention

- Well informed industry friendly regulation
- Research into accidents shared between all parties involved
- Empathetic approach to each others needs and a safer community, work place and cleaner environment which will result in less incidents.

The Preferred Option

- Cost of developing and managing numerous state based emergency response teams
- Coordinated response from Industry and Government

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Sometimes the opportunity to respond and recover is not an options hence prevention is the cure

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