



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY TIP

HAZMAT EMERGENCY FACT-GATHERING ENDEAVORS

Three clear priorities exist during a hazardous materials emergency response:

FIRST, protect and preserve **LIFE**.

SECOND, protect and preserve the **ENVIRONMENT**.

THIRD, protect and preserve **PROPERTY**.

To address these three priorities in the proper sequence, hazardous materials emergency actions are grouped into two categories of focus: **PRIMARY** actions and **SECONDARY** actions. Primary actions are the **INITIAL SAFETY MEASURES** taken that first prioritize LIFE. Then, secondary actions include the **FACT-GATHERING ENDEAVORS** that prioritize the ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY.

IMPORTANT! Perform fact-gathering endeavors only after all initial safety measures to protect and preserve life have been performed.

Fact-gathering endeavors during a hazardous materials emergency response should focus on the following:

1. **TRAIN**
 - a. EQUIPMENT – Determine whether locomotives and railcars are upright or turned over
 - b. CONSIST – Ascertain whether hazardous materials are present on the train
2. **SURROUNDINGS**
 - a. LOCATION – Establish milepost, roadway intersections and cross streets
 - b. ENVIRONMENT – Establish whether commodities or fuel/oil has been released into the environment
3. **COORDINATION**
 - a. MUSTER – Determine where the train crew will meet first responders
 - b. COOPERATION – Gather all paperwork and cooperate fully with first responders

IMPORTANT! Treat the incident as if a fire or vapor cloud is visible if you encounter unusual smells, noises, or a hazardous material release during the inspection.