



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY TIP

HAZMAT EMERGENCY INITIAL SAFETY MEASURES

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.

Perform the following initial safety measures in the following order:

1. **INITIATE** an emergency radio transmission
2. **DETERMINE** the status of crew members
3. **ASCERTAIN** the presence of fire, smoke, vapor cloud or odor
4. **WARN** bystanders to stay away

Taking the following specific actions when a fire or vapor cloud is visible can be life-saving:

- **TAKE** train documentation and ERG
- **MOVE** uphill and upwind
- **DON'T** smoke or use fuzees or other ignition sources
- **WARN** bystanders to stay away
- **PROVIDE** supervision with all available information

If a fire or vapor cloud is not visible, review paperwork for hazmat and inspect the train if it is safe to do so. **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.