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Radiological Detection: Instrumentation Available at NO COST

Agencies have a new source for equipment—the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) program. Jointly sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) and the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Assets Utilization, National Center of Excellence for Materials Recycle, the program provides surplus radiological detection instrumentation and other equipment and needed training and technical support. All excess Federal Government equipment available through the program has been rehabilitated and is available to first-responder agencies across the Nation at no charge.

Mobile teams from ODP's Domestic Preparedness Equipment Technical Assistance Program (DPETAP) will offer onsite equipment and maintenance training and provide technical information. (Training covers the classes of available equipment, not specific makes and models.) Also, volunteers from local chapters of the Health Physics Society, a nonprofit scientific professional organization whose mission is to promote the practice of radiation safety, can perform field checks and basic maintenance, provide hands-on refresher training, and answer questions. The volunteers also will check the equipment when agencies receive it. Available items include—

- Handheld dose rate meters (ionization chambers).
- Electronic pulsers.

- Microrem meters.
- Count rate meters for contamination surveys.
- Instrument probes (alpha and gamma scintillation and Geiger Mueller [G-M] probes).
- Pocket ionization chambers (self-reading pocket dosimeters).

Actual items available at any particular point in time will vary; quarterly inventory lists will be provided. Agencies may request items every quarter, but HDER reserves the right to limit the items given to a particular agency or agencies to ensure equality in distribution.

For more information about the HDER program, call the ODP Helpline, 800-368-6498. For more information about DPETAP training, visit www.nlectc.org/equipment/hder.html.



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