



The IUOE National Training Fund National HAZMAT Program's Responder Alliance Initiative

Construction firms can help during a disaster their community and their business.

Dealing with disasters

No community is immune from disasters, either natural or terrorism-related. Ground Zero appalled the entire nation and Hurricane Katrina reminded us how much destruction nature can wreak. Everyone wants to help, but we often don't know how. Locals of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) are building partnerships with State Urban Search and Rescue Teams to quickly provide their communities with skilled operators and heavy equipment in those critical hours when rescues are possible. Construction firms are playing a critical role in this effort, assisting with rescue and recovery by moving debris and helping to lift collapsed structures. Having equipment and staff on site during the rescue also positions the firm to help with the later phases as the site transitions to cleanup. Consequently, being on the list of available contractors is good for the community – and for business.

What you can do

Consider joining the Responder Alliance Initiative. Construction workers are recognized by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration as skilled support personnel who will be called upon by emergency responders to help during disasters. The Department of Homeland Security, under a presidential directive, has formally recognized heavy equipment operators as “first responders” because of the critical skills they bring to a disaster response. Your employees can be responders, too, as long as they are properly trained and your firm has established an emergency contact mechanism.

A long union history of disaster response

Operating Engineers have repeatedly responded to disasters including the San Francisco and Los Angeles earthquakes, the Midwest Region Flood of the Mississippi River, the Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City, the World Trade Center (WTC) and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.



The benefits of joining an alliance

The IUOE and the National HAZMAT Program support OSHA's goal "to encourage the development of a cadre of workers who are highly trained to respond safely to natural and man-made disasters." To reach that goal, the IUOE offers a broad range of **free** health and safety training to construction firms participating in alliances. The following training is being made available through IUOE local unions:

- Fork Lift Training
- Extrication Techniques
- Rigging and Lifting
- Hand Signals
- Crane Safety Awareness

OSHA issues a Disaster Site Worker Training Program card (the "Program Card") for workers who complete all three of the following courses available through the National HAZMAT Program:

1. OSHA 10-Hour Construction Outreach Training Course;
2. The OSHA 16-Hour DSW Course #7600; and
3. Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (40-Hour HAZWOPER) training.

States like New Jersey require the OSHA Program Card for any heavy equipment operator to be allowed on a disaster site to help with the rescue. Across the country, governmental organizations are working to limit the liability of contractors who have entered into agreements to respond during disasters.

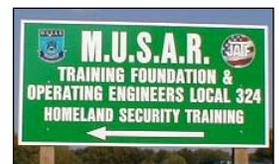
What it will require of your firm

Besides having your workers and supervisors trained in at least the OSHA 10-hour Construction Outreach course and the 16-hour Disaster Site Worker course, you will probably be asked to do the following:

1. Provide a list of the specific types of equipment your firm owns and could make available on short notice;
2. Provide a mechanism for contacting a member of the firm during off-hours; and
3. Participate in planning and mock disaster exercises to understand how your firm may be used.

To get further information

The National HAZMAT Program is coordinating this national effort. Call them at 304-253-8674 and ask to speak to someone about the Responder Alliance Initiative. You can also fax a request to 304-253-7758, or send an email request to hazmat@iuoeiettc.org.



Construction of the Michigan Urban Search & Rescue Homeland Security Training Facility in Howell, Michigan.

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The IUOE has a proud history of serving this nation during disasters. Become part of it.

A new initiative

Operating Engineers have repeatedly responded to disasters including the San Francisco and Los Angeles earthquakes, the Midwest Region Flood of the Mississippi River, the Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City, the World Trade Center (WTC) attack and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. But to better prepare, IUOE locals have been building partnerships with State Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Teams to quickly provide their communities with skilled operators and heavy equipment in those critical hours when rescues are still possible. The National HAZMAT Program is coordinating this initiative with funds from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). There is important work for both H&P and stationary locals that can help your community and your members.

Success stories

For years, Local 825 has been building a relationship with New Jersey's US&R team, New Jersey Task Force One, that has resulted in the creation of new and innovative techniques for emergency response scenarios. They train together and have been responding to disasters together since the Tropicana Hotel parking garage collapse in 2003. Local 324 has been working with the Michigan Urban Search and Rescue Team (MUSAR) since 1999, developing a partnership that has culminated in the creation of the MUSAR Homeland Security Training Facility on the Howell training site owned by Local 324. Operating Engineers were onsite when L'Ambiance Plaza collapsed in Bridgeport, Connecticut in 1987, killing 28 construction workers. They went to work immediately removing rubble. They now have a partnership with Connecticut Task Force One (CT-TF1), the State US&R team. Stationary locals have a critical role, too. Local 835 worked with responders to a gas line fire at Temple University in Philadelphia in 2004. A building engineer who had been trained in hazmat and incident command by the National HAZMAT Program met the responders to explain the systems of threatened buildings and warn of infectious disease hazards in an adjacent research building.



New Jersey Task Force One training with Local 825



Dedication of MUSAR Homeland Security Training Facility, September 7, 2005, Howell, Michigan



Connecticut Task Force One (CT-TF1) practicing trench rescue

Where should IUOE Locals start?

Start with the National HAZMAT Program in Beckley, West Virginia. Call them at 304-253-8674 or email them at hazmat@iuoeiettc.org to fully appreciate the benefits of this program and the important services your Local can provide to your community. The National HAZMAT Program has created for your assistance:

- A major guidance document on building alliances;
- An information packet you can provide to members of the emergency response community explaining the importance of forming a relationship with your Local;
- A PowerPoint program about this initiative that can be delivered by IUOE instructors as part of the OSHA Disaster Site Worker course; and
- An agreement with OSHA to use the National HAZMAT Program's training database to quickly identify members who are currently eligible for the OSHA Disaster Site Worker Program Card and get them a card with minimal paperwork.

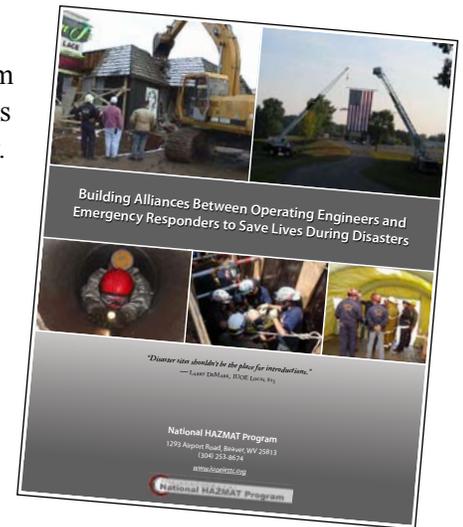
The Program Card should be proof of sufficient training for Operating Engineers to get onto nearly all disaster sites because it requires completion of the OSHA 7600 Disaster Site Worker Course, the OSHA-10 hour and the 40-hour HAZWOPER.

The National HAZMAT Program has been reaching out to US&R teams across the country to make them aware of this alliance initiative. We will work with you to initiate a contact with the nearest US&R team. If your state doesn't have a US&R team, the HAZMAT program can work with you to facilitate contact with the most appropriate organizations in your state, such as:

- Department of Emergency Management;
- State Homeland Security Office;
- Public Safety Office at the State level;
- International Association of Fire Fighters Locals;
- Local Emergency Services (Fire, Police);
- Local politicians; and
- Local news media for coverage of the program you establish.

How will it help your Local?

1. Your members can get free training from the National HAZMAT Program leading to the OSHA Disaster Site Worker Training Program card, which states like New Jersey require to be allowed on a disaster site;
2. Your Local will be able to establish ties with contractors who may work on disaster sites; and
3. Being present on a site during rescue and recovery makes it more likely to continue working during the cleanup phase.



Local 324 and MUSAR team members at the dedication of the MUSAR Homeland Security Training Facility



The IUOE National Training Fund
National HAZMAT Program's
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US&R teams and Operating Engineers: A natural partnership that can save lives and money.

Why include Operating Engineers on your team?

Operating Engineers have repeatedly responded to disasters including the San Francisco and Los Angeles earthquakes, the Midwest Region Flood of the Mississippi River, the Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City, the World Trade Center (WTC) attack and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Teaming and training with Locals of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) can ensure access to skilled operators and heavy equipment in those critical hours when rescues are still possible. The National HAZMAT Program of the IUOE National Training Fund, located in Beckley, West Virginia, is coordinating this important effort. With funds from OSHA, they are making it easier and quicker for emergency managers to build an alliance with an IUOE local, both heavy equipment operators (hoisting and portable) and building engineers (stationary engineers). This effort is from the bottom up, forging relationships at the local level – where all disasters start and end.

Success stories

These partnerships work. For years, New Jersey's US&R team, New Jersey Task Force One, has been building a relationship with Local 825 that has resulted in the creation of new and innovative techniques for emergency response scenarios. They train together and have been responding to disasters together since the Tropicana Hotel parking garage collapse in 2003. The Michigan Urban Search and Rescue Team (MUSAR) has developed a partnership with Local 324 that has culminated in the creation of the MUSAR Homeland Security Training Facility on the Howell training site owned by Local 324. When L'Amiance Plaza collapsed in Bridgeport, Connecticut in 1987, killing 28 construction workers, Operating Engineers from Local 478 were onsite and went to work immediately removing rubble. They now have a partnership with Connecticut Task Force One (CT-TF1), the State US&R team. Stationary Locals, like 835 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have provided key information about buildings to responders during fires and chemical releases.



New Jersey Task Force One training with Local 825



Dedication of MUSAR Homeland Security Training Facility, September 7, 2005, Howell, Michigan



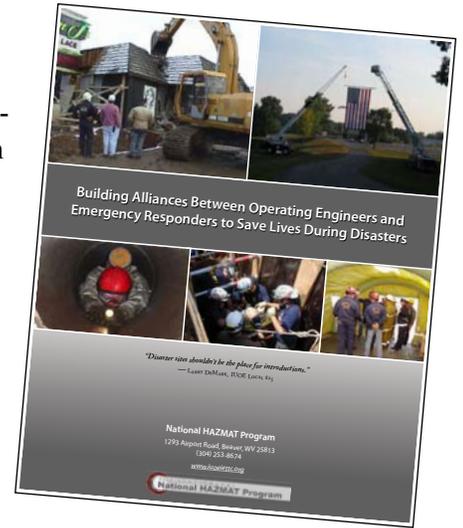
Connecticut Task Force One (CT-TF1) practicing trench rescue

Where should US&R teams and other emergency responders start?

Start with the National HAZMAT Program in Beckley, West Virginia. Call them at 304-253-8674 or email them at hazmat@iuoeiettc.org. They have the following materials in whatever quantities you need to explain and promote this program:

- A major guidance document on building alliances;
- An information packet you can use to explain the importance of forming a relationship with an IUOE local near you; and
- A PowerPoint training program of 1-2 hours in duration that can be incorporated into a course and used in conjunction with the guidance document.

The National HAZMAT Program has been reaching out to US&R teams across the country to make them aware of this program. We will work with you to initiate a contact with the nearest local union.



How will it help your US&R Team?

1. Your team will have access to much more expertise in responding to building collapses and other disasters that require quick and effective removal of debris;
2. Individual team members can take advantage of excellent training available at no cost from the National HAZMAT Program or from nearby IUOE Locals; and
3. Major scenarios and training evolutions can be conducted with much greater realism using heavy equipment operated by the IUOE Local members who may respond with the team during real events.



Images of the response by New Jersey Task Force One and IUOE Local 825 to the Tropicana garage collapse in Atlantic City in 2003. Operators, along with their tower cranes and other equipment, were already on site because it was a construction project.

