



Military Improved Response Program

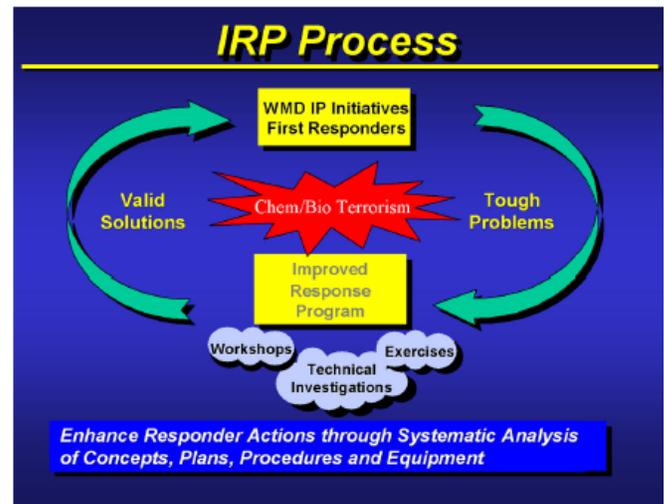
The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) is the U.S. Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering, and services. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for national defense, civilian needs, and industrial competitiveness, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

ECBC's Homeland Defense Business Unit (HLDBU) creates and implements integrated programs that address weapons of mass destruction (WMD) installation preparedness, improve response to WMD incidents, and provide technical assistance for preparing for and protecting against such threats.

The Military Improved Response Program (MIRP) is part of the HLDBU at ECBC. The MIRP identifies previously unsolved issues/problems related to critical responses to chemical or biological incidents through workshops that integrate core civilian and military response capabilities and that involve representatives from the broad response community (i.e., fire, HazMat teams, law enforcement and security, base operations, disaster management, mass fatality management, emergency medical services, public health, and civilian communities surrounding partnering installations). The workshops have the following objectives:

- Identify, assess, and prioritize areas with potential for improvement
- Develop, test, and evaluate response improvement concepts
- Emphasize first responder protection
- Enhance cooperation between military and civilian communities, and consider the overlapping response

Once issues have been identified, techniques are developed, knowledge is gained, and testing is conducted to produce a proposed solution to the issue. The solution is then provided to the user



community for operational consideration. The following products were developed under the Domestic Preparedness Program and the MIRP:

- Mass casualty decontamination
- Firefighter clothing protection assessments
- Positive pressure ventilation as a mitigation tool
- Personal protective equipment for law enforcement and emergency medical personnel
- A generic medical response template to handle massive numbers of chemical casualties
- A generic response template for an incident involving biological weapons
- Law Enforcement Officer's Guide for Responding to Chemical Terrorist Incidents
- Criminal and Epidemiological Investigation Handbook
- Quick Response Guidelines for Suspected Chemical and Biological Attacks
- Dispatcher's Guide to CBRNE Incidents (upcoming)

The MIRP, by building on the expertise and knowledge acquired through the Domestic Preparedness Program, helps to enhance the Department of Defense community's response to a terrorist use of biological or chemical weapons and helps military installations raise their security and readiness profiles, especially regarding best

practices relating to chemical, biological, and nuclear attacks.

With the continued assistance of the Services' protective programs, the Military Improved Response Program will develop best practices and guidelines. In addition, through technical initiatives and exercises, the program will meld the results into a coherent improved response for CB incidents.

in the civilian sector upon execution of a support agreement and the provision of funding.

For more information, contact the Homeland Defense Business Unit, U.S. Army ECBC at (410) 436-3674 or visit the web site at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/hld>.

The MIRP is also available to help solve problems