fire protection guide to hazardous materials

fire protection guide to hazardous materials is essential for ensuring safety in environments where dangerous substances are present. Hazardous materials pose unique risks, including flammability, toxicity, and reactivity, which require specialized fire protection strategies. This guide covers critical aspects such as identifying hazardous materials, understanding fire risks, implementing preventive measures, and responding effectively to emergencies. It emphasizes regulatory compliance, proper storage, fire suppression systems, and personnel training. By addressing these components, facilities can minimize fire hazards and protect both people and property. The following sections provide a detailed overview of fire protection practices tailored specifically for hazardous materials management.

Understanding Hazardous Materials and Their Fire Risks

Hazardous materials encompass a wide range of substances that can pose significant threats when exposed to fire or heat. These materials include flammable liquids, gases, combustible solids, oxidizers, and toxic chemicals. Recognizing the properties and classification of hazardous materials is fundamental to developing an effective fire protection plan. Fire risks vary depending on factors such as chemical reactivity, ignition temperature, and vapor pressure. Understanding these characteristics aids in risk assessment and hazard mitigation.

Classification of Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials are classified by organizations such as the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) based on their physical and chemical hazards. The primary classes related to fire protection include:

- Class 3: Flammable liquids (e.g., gasoline, solvents)
- Class 2: Flammable gases (e.g., propane, hydrogen)
- Class 4: Flammable solids and spontaneously combustible materials
- Class 5: Oxidizers that may increase fire intensity

Identifying these classes helps determine appropriate storage, handling, and firefighting methods.

Fire Risks Associated with Hazardous Materials

Fire risks linked to hazardous materials include rapid ignition, explosion potential, toxic smoke generation, and chemical reactions that exacerbate fires. Flammable vapors can accumulate in confined spaces, leading to flash fires or explosions. Some oxidizers can intensify combustion, increasing fire severity. Awareness of these risks is critical for implementing targeted fire protection measures.

Fire Prevention Strategies for Hazardous Materials

Implementing robust fire prevention strategies is vital to reducing the likelihood of fire incidents involving hazardous materials. Prevention focuses on controlling ignition sources, proper storage, ventilation, and housekeeping practices. These strategies minimize the chances of accidental fires and help maintain a safe working environment.

Control of Ignition Sources

Eliminating or controlling potential ignition sources is a primary fire prevention tactic. Common ignition sources include open flames, electrical sparks, static electricity, and hot surfaces. Measures to control these sources include:

- Using intrinsically safe electrical equipment in hazardous areas
- Grounding and bonding containers to prevent static discharge
- Prohibiting smoking and open flames near hazardous materials
- Regular maintenance of machinery to prevent overheating

Proper Storage and Handling

Safe storage of hazardous materials reduces fire risks by minimizing exposure to heat and ignition. Storage guidelines include:

- Segregating incompatible materials to prevent dangerous reactions
- Storing flammable liquids in approved safety containers and cabinets
- Maintaining proper labeling and signage for hazardous materials
- Ensuring adequate ventilation to disperse flammable vapors

Adhering to these practices prevents accidental ignition and limits fire spread potential.

Fire Protection Systems and Equipment

Specialized fire protection systems and equipment are necessary to control and extinguish fires involving hazardous materials. These systems are designed to detect fire early, suppress flames effectively, and protect personnel and property from harm.

Fire Detection and Alarm Systems

Early detection is critical for prompt response and minimizing fire damage. Smoke detectors, heat detectors, and flame detectors are commonly used in hazardous material storage and processing areas. Alarm systems alert occupants and emergency responders to fire incidents, facilitating rapid evacuation and intervention.

Fire Suppression Systems

Choosing the appropriate fire suppression system depends on the type of hazardous material and fire risk. Common suppression methods include:

- **Sprinkler Systems:** Automatic water sprinklers can control many types of fires but may be unsuitable for certain chemical fires.
- **Foam Suppression:** Aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) is effective for flammable liquid fires by creating a barrier between fuel and oxygen.
- **Dry Chemical Systems:** These systems use powders like monoammonium phosphate to interrupt chemical reactions in fires.
- **Gaseous Agents:** Clean agents such as FM-200 or inert gases suppress

fires without damaging sensitive equipment.

Proper system selection and regular maintenance ensure optimal fire protection performance.

Emergency Response and Fire Safety Procedures

Effective emergency response plans and fire safety procedures are crucial for mitigating the impact of fires involving hazardous materials. These protocols guide personnel actions during incidents, ensuring safety and minimizing damage.

Emergency Planning and Preparedness

Developing comprehensive emergency plans includes identifying fire hazards, assigning roles, and establishing communication protocols. Key components include:

- Evacuation routes and assembly points
- Emergency shutdown procedures for hazardous processes
- Access for fire department and emergency responders
- Availability of fire extinguishers and personal protective equipment (PPE)

Firefighting Techniques for Hazardous Materials

Personnel should be trained in appropriate firefighting techniques tailored to specific hazardous materials. This includes understanding which extinguishing agents to use and recognizing when to evacuate and call professional firefighters. Safety equipment such as chemical-resistant suits and breathing apparatus may be required for safe fire suppression.

Regulatory Compliance and Training Requirements

Compliance with federal, state, and local regulations is mandatory for managing fire risks associated with hazardous materials. Regulatory agencies set standards for storage, handling, fire protection systems, and emergency planning to protect workers and the public.

Key Regulations and Standards

Important regulations relevant to hazardous materials fire protection include:

- OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (HazCom)
- NFPA codes such as NFPA 30 (Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code) and NFPA 400 (Hazardous Materials Code)
- EPA regulations on hazardous waste and chemical storage
- DOT requirements for transportation and labeling of hazardous materials

Adherence to these standards ensures legal compliance and enhances safety protocols.

Training and Education

Regular training programs are essential to equip employees with knowledge of fire hazards, prevention, and emergency response related to hazardous materials. Training should cover:

- Hazard recognition and proper material handling
- Use of fire extinguishers and suppression systems
- Emergency evacuation procedures
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) use

Ongoing education maintains readiness and promotes a culture of safety within organizations handling hazardous substances.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the primary fire hazards associated with hazardous materials?

The primary fire hazards include flammability, combustibility, reactivity, and potential for explosive reactions when hazardous materials are exposed to heat, sparks, or open flames.

How can proper storage reduce fire risks in facilities handling hazardous materials?

Proper storage reduces fire risks by segregating incompatible materials, using appropriate containers, maintaining adequate ventilation, and following guidelines for temperature control and spill containment.

What role does labeling play in fire protection for hazardous materials?

Labeling provides critical information about the hazards, handling precautions, and emergency measures, enabling workers and emergency responders to identify risks quickly and take appropriate fire protection actions.

Which fire suppression methods are most effective for fires involving hazardous materials?

Effective fire suppression methods depend on the material but commonly include using foam, dry chemical extinguishers, CO2, or specialized agents designed for flammable liquids, gases, or reactive substances.

Why is employee training essential in fire protection for hazardous materials?

Employee training ensures that personnel understand the risks, proper handling procedures, emergency response actions, and use of fire protection equipment, significantly reducing the likelihood and impact of fire incidents.

What are the key components of a fire protection plan for facilities with hazardous materials?

Key components include hazard assessment, proper storage and labeling, fire detection and alarm systems, fire suppression equipment, emergency response procedures, regular inspections, and employee training programs.

Additional Resources

1. *Fire Protection Guide to Hazardous Materials*
This comprehensive guide provides detailed information on the properties, hazards, and fire protection measures for a wide range of hazardous materials. It is an essential resource for fire fighters, emergency responders, and safety professionals. The book covers identification, handling, storage, and response protocols to minimize fire risks and ensure safety.

2. *Hazardous Materials Fire and Explosion Prevention*
This book delves into the principles of fire and explosion prevention specifically related to hazardous materials. It offers practical strategies for risk assessment, hazard identification, and control measures in industrial and emergency settings. Readers will find valuable case studies and regulatory insights to enhance safety practices.

3. *NFPA 704: Standard System for the Identification of the Hazards of Materials for Emergency Response*
Published by the National Fire Protection Association, this standard outlines the widely recognized hazard identification system used by emergency responders. The guide explains the color-coded diamond system for indicating health, flammability, instability, and special hazards. It is a crucial reference for understanding and communicating risks associated with hazardous materials.

4. *Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)*
The ERG is an essential manual for first responders dealing with hazardous materials incidents. It provides quick reference information on initial response actions, evacuation distances, and protective measures. The guide is organized by material identification numbers and includes valuable tips for fire protection and containment.

5. *Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Hazardous Materials Regulations Handbook*
This handbook compiles OSHA regulations related to hazardous materials handling, storage, and emergency response. It serves as a key resource for ensuring workplace safety and compliance with federal standards. Fire protection professionals will benefit from its detailed guidelines on hazard communication and control.

6. *Industrial Fire Protection Engineering*
This book covers the engineering principles and design considerations for protecting industrial facilities from fire hazards. It includes chapters on fire detection, suppression systems, and the management of hazardous materials. The text is geared towards engineers, safety managers, and fire protection specialists working in industrial environments.

7. *Hazardous Materials Chemistry for Emergency Responders*
Focusing on the chemical properties and behaviors of hazardous substances, this book aids emergency responders in understanding fire and explosion risks. It explains the science behind hazardous reactions and provides guidance on appropriate firefighting agents and techniques. The content enhances responders' ability to make informed decisions during emergencies.

8. *Fire Safety Management Handbook*
This handbook offers a broad overview of fire safety principles, including risk assessment and fire protection strategies for hazardous materials. It emphasizes the development of effective fire safety programs and emergency planning. Fire safety managers and professionals will find practical tools for managing fire risks in various settings.

9. *Hazardous Materials Incident Response: Strategies and Tactics*
This tactical guide provides detailed procedures for responding to hazardous materials incidents involving fire risks. It covers incident command, containment, decontamination, and fire suppression techniques. The book is designed to support first responders and incident commanders in managing complex hazardous materials emergencies safely and efficiently.

Fire Protection Guide To Hazardous Materials

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Fire Protection Guide to Hazardous Materials

Imagine this: A fire erupts involving hazardous materials. Chaos ensues. Lives are at risk. Your response is critical, but are you equipped to handle the unique challenges posed by these dangerous substances? The wrong action can escalate a minor incident into a catastrophic event. Are you confident in your ability to protect yourself, your team, and the environment?

Many professionals face the daunting task of managing fire safety in the presence of hazardous materials. Understanding the specific risks and implementing the right safety protocols is crucial, but navigating the complex regulations and varying material properties can feel overwhelming. Insufficient knowledge can lead to costly fines, legal repercussions, and, most importantly, serious injury or even death. Finding clear, concise, and practical guidance tailored to your needs is a significant hurdle.

This ebook, "Fire Protection Guide to Hazardous Materials: A Comprehensive Handbook for Safety Professionals," provides the essential knowledge and actionable strategies to overcome these challenges.

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Contents:

appropriate PPE for various hazardous materials incidents.
Chapter 4: Fire Suppression Techniques for Hazardous Materials: Strategies for extinguishing fires involving different classes of hazardous materials.
Chapter 5: Emergency Response Planning and Procedures: Developing and executing effective emergency response plans.
Chapter 6: Post-Incident Procedures: Cleanup, investigation, and reporting after a hazardous materials incident.
Chapter 7: Regulatory Compliance and Legal Aspects: Understanding relevant regulations and legal liabilities.
Conclusion: Reinforcing key takeaways and emphasizing ongoing training and preparedness.

Fire Protection Guide to Hazardous Materials: A Comprehensive Handbook for Safety Professionals

Introduction: Defining Hazardous Materials and the Importance of Specialized Fire Protection

Hazardous materials (hazmat) encompass a vast range of substances posing significant risks to human health, the environment, and property if improperly handled or involved in a fire. These materials are classified based on their physical and chemical properties, with each class demanding unique safety protocols. Failing to understand these nuances can have disastrous consequences. A typical fire response may be inadequate or even exacerbate the situation when dealing with hazmat. Therefore, specialized fire protection training and procedures are crucial for effective mitigation and emergency response. This guide will provide the essential knowledge and practical strategies to protect yourself and others when facing a fire involving hazardous materials.

Chapter 1: Classification and Identification of Hazardous Materials

Understanding how hazardous materials are classified is the first step in effective fire protection. The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) provides a standardized framework, categorizing materials based on their inherent dangers. Key hazard classes include:

Flammable Solids: Materials that can easily ignite and burn.
Oxidizers: Substances that enhance combustion, often intensifying fire.
Toxic Substances: Chemicals that can cause serious health effects through inhalation, skin contact, or ingestion.
Corrosives: Materials capable of causing damage to living tissues or metal.

Explosives: Substances that readily detonate or undergo rapid decomposition.
Flammable Liquids and Gases: Materials with low flash points that readily ignite.
Radioactive Materials: Substances emitting ionizing radiation, posing long-term health hazards.

Safety Data Sheets (SDS): SDS are crucial documents providing comprehensive information on a hazardous material's properties, hazards, and safety precautions. Every workplace handling hazmat should have readily available and up-to-date SDS for all materials on-site. Understanding how to interpret an SDS is paramount for effective fire protection. It details:

Identification: Name, synonyms, and supplier information.
Hazard Identification: Health, physical, and environmental hazards.
Composition/Information on Ingredients: Chemical composition and concentration.
First-aid measures: Immediate actions in case of exposure.
Fire-fighting measures: Suitable extinguishing agents and precautions.
Accidental release measures: Containment and cleanup procedures.
Handling and storage: Safe handling and storage practices.
Exposure controls/personal protection: PPE requirements.
Physical and chemical properties: Relevant physical and chemical data.
Stability and reactivity: Stability, reactivity, and incompatibility information.
Toxicological information: Health effects and toxicity data.
Ecological information: Environmental impact and fate.
Disposal considerations: Safe disposal methods.
Transport information: Regulations for transportation.
Regulatory information: Relevant regulations and compliance information.

Chapter 2: Fire Behavior of Hazardous Materials

The fire behavior of hazardous materials varies drastically depending on their chemical and physical properties. Some materials may ignite easily and burn rapidly, while others may react violently with water or other extinguishing agents. Understanding these differences is critical for selecting the appropriate fire suppression techniques. Factors influencing fire behavior include:

Flash Point: The lowest temperature at which a liquid produces enough flammable vapor to ignite.
Autoignition Temperature: The minimum temperature at which a substance will ignite spontaneously.
Boiling Point: The temperature at which a liquid changes to a gas.
Vapor Pressure: The pressure exerted by a vapor in equilibrium with its liquid or solid phase.
Reactivity: The tendency of a substance to undergo chemical reactions, potentially leading to explosions or toxic gas release.

Specific hazardous materials may exhibit unique combustion characteristics. For example, some materials may produce toxic fumes upon burning, requiring specialized respiratory protection. Others may react explosively with water, necessitating the use of alternative extinguishing agents.

Chapter 3: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Respiratory Protection

Appropriate PPE is crucial for protecting firefighters and emergency responders from the hazards of hazardous materials. The selection of PPE depends on the specific materials involved and the nature of the incident. Essential PPE includes:

Protective Clothing: Flame-resistant suits, boots, and gloves designed to protect against thermal hazards, chemical splashes, and physical contact with hazardous materials.
Respiratory Protection: Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) is often essential when dealing with toxic fumes or oxygen-deficient environments. Different types of respirators are available, depending on the specific hazards.
Eye Protection: Safety goggles or face shields are vital to protect against splashes and airborne particles.
Hearing Protection: Hazardous materials incidents can involve loud noises from explosions or equipment, necessitating hearing protection.

Chapter 4: Fire Suppression Techniques for Hazardous Materials

Extinguishing fires involving hazardous materials often requires specialized techniques and equipment. Traditional firefighting methods may be ineffective or even dangerous. Key considerations include:

Extinguishing Agents: Water may be ineffective or even dangerous with certain materials. Foam, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, and halon are alternative agents, each suitable for different classes of hazardous materials.
Cooling: Cooling the surrounding area can prevent the spread of fire and reduce the risk of ignition of nearby materials.
Containment: Preventing the spread of hazardous materials is crucial. This may involve using dikes, absorbents, or other containment measures.
Dilution: Diluting the concentration of hazardous materials can reduce their flammability or toxicity.

Chapter 5: Emergency Response Planning and Procedures

Effective emergency response planning is essential for mitigating the risks associated with hazardous materials. A comprehensive plan should include:

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment: Identifying potential hazards and assessing the risks associated with handling and storage of hazardous materials.
Emergency Response Procedures: Defining clear procedures for responding to different types of incidents, including evacuation plans, communication protocols, and first aid procedures.
Training and Drills: Regular training and drills are crucial for ensuring that personnel are prepared to respond effectively in an emergency.
Communication Plan: Establishing a clear communication plan for disseminating information during an emergency.
Emergency Contacts: Maintaining a list of emergency contacts, including fire departments, hazmat teams, and medical facilities.

Chapter 6: Post-Incident Procedures

Following a hazardous materials incident, proper post-incident procedures are essential for ensuring the safety of personnel and the environment. These procedures include:

Cleanup and Decontamination: Removing hazardous materials and decontaminating affected areas.
Investigation: Determining the cause of the incident to prevent future occurrences.
Reporting: Reporting the incident to regulatory authorities.
Documenting: Maintaining detailed records of the incident, including actions taken, personnel involved, and lessons learned.

Chapter 7: Regulatory Compliance and Legal Aspects

Handling and storing hazardous materials are subject to strict regulations, which vary depending on location and the specific materials involved. Understanding and complying with these regulations is crucial to prevent legal liabilities. Key regulations include:

OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration): Sets standards for workplace safety and health.
EPA (Environmental Protection Agency): Regulates the handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials to protect the environment.
DOT (Department of Transportation): Sets regulations for the transportation of hazardous materials.
Local and State Regulations: May impose additional requirements specific to the jurisdiction.

Conclusion: Reinforcing Key Takeaways and Emphasizing Ongoing Training and Preparedness

Effective fire protection for hazardous materials requires a multi-faceted approach. This guide emphasizes the importance of understanding hazard classification, material properties, fire behavior, PPE, suppression techniques, emergency planning, post-incident procedures, and regulatory compliance. Continuous training, drills, and review are vital for maintaining preparedness and mitigating the risks associated with hazardous materials. Proactive measures, diligent adherence to safety protocols, and a culture of safety are essential for protecting lives, the environment, and preventing catastrophic consequences.

FAQs:

1. What is the difference between a flammable liquid and a combustible liquid? Flammable liquids have a low flash point (below 100°F), while combustible liquids have a higher flash point.
2. What are the common extinguishing agents for hazardous materials fires? Foam, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, and halon are common agents, the choice depending on the specific material involved.
3. What is the role of a Safety Data Sheet (SDS)? An SDS provides crucial information on a hazardous material's properties, hazards, and safety precautions.
4. What types of respiratory protection are used in hazmat incidents? Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) is commonly used, along with other respirators based on the specific hazard.
5. What are the key components of an emergency response plan for hazardous materials? Hazard identification, emergency procedures, training, communication, and emergency contacts are key components.
6. What are the legal and regulatory implications of handling hazardous materials? Strict regulations exist at local, state, and federal levels (OSHA, EPA, DOT), and non-compliance can result in penalties.
7. How do I determine the appropriate PPE for a specific hazardous material? Consult the SDS and relevant regulations; the type of PPE depends on the specific hazards involved.
8. What post-incident procedures are essential after a hazardous materials fire? Cleanup, decontamination, investigation, reporting, and documentation are crucial steps.
9. Where can I find more information and training on hazardous materials fire safety? OSHA, NFPA (National Fire Protection Association), and local emergency services offer resources and training.

Related Articles:

1. Understanding Hazardous Material Classifications and Labels: A detailed explanation of the GHS system and hazard classes.
2. Choosing the Right Fire Extinguisher for Hazardous Materials: Guidance on selecting appropriate extinguishers for different hazmat fires.
3. Developing a Comprehensive Emergency Response Plan for Hazmat Incidents: Step-by-step guide to creating a robust emergency plan.
4. Effective PPE Selection and Use in Hazardous Materials Incidents: In-depth look at selecting and utilizing appropriate PPE.
5. Post-Incident Procedures and Reporting for Hazardous Materials Releases: Detailed explanation of post-incident steps and regulatory requirements.
6. The Importance of Ongoing Training and Drills for Hazardous Materials Safety: Highlighting the need for continuous training to maintain preparedness.
7. The Role of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) in Hazardous Materials Management: Comprehensive

explanation of how to interpret and utilize SDS information.
8. Fire Behavior of Common Hazardous Materials: Analyzing the unique combustion characteristics of different hazardous materials.
9. Legal and Regulatory Compliance for Hazardous Materials Handling and Storage: Comprehensive review of relevant regulations and legal liabilities.

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Amy Beasley Spencer, 2002 The six NFPA documents that make up this guide can be used to identify the hazardous properties of most of the chemicals in commercial use today, as well as many that are available only in laboratory sample quantities. The three chemical matrixes are new to this edition. Matrix one lists the major chemical entries and references the appropriate NFPA data document. Matrix 2 lists common synonyms and references official chemical names and the appropriate NFPA data document. Matrix 3 is a numerically ordered list of Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) numbers and references the chemical name and the appropriate NFPA data document.

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fire protection guide to hazardous materials: Traffic Incident Management in Hazardous Materials Spills in Incident Clearance Transportation Dept (U S), 2012-12-13 NOTE: NO FURTHER DISCOUNT FOR THIS PRINT PRODUCT-- OVERSTOCK SALE -- Signficantly reduced list price In the U.S., the response to an incident is regulated under many statues and many government agencies. It is important for responders to at least understand the basis of these regulations because they dictate everything, from how they manage a spill to the disposal of the spilt material. These regulations stipulate who should be notified and when it is not necessary, as well as what resources or assistance are available to local and state entities if the containment of a spill is beyond their capabilities. Other related products: Traffic Incident Managment Systems can be found here: https: //bookstore.gpo.gov/node/38666/edit Hazard Mitigation Field Book: Roadways --Spiralbound format can be found here: https: //bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/064-000-00052-7 --ePub eBook format is available from the Apple iBookstore. Please use the 9780160915611 to search for this product in their platform. National Traffic Incident Management Responder Training Program: Train-the-Trainer Guide is avaialble here: https: //bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/050-001-00347-3 Public Roads print magazine subscription is available here: https: //bookstore.gpo.gov/products/sku/750-005-00000-4 Transportation Security resources collection can be found here: https: //bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/security-defense-law-enforcement/trans... Roads & Highways product collection can be found here: https: //bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/transportation-navigation/roads-highways

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current laws and regulations, including those governing emergency planning and workplace safety. Subsequent chapters provide in-depth information about personal protective equipment and its limitations; protective actions ranging from site management and rescue through evacuation and decontamination; product control including the use of carbon monoxide detectors; responses to terrorism and terrorist groups; law enforcement activities such as SWAT operations and evidence collection; and more! A key resource for every fire, police, EMS, and industrial responder, Hazardous Materials Incidents is one of the few books available today that is modeled on current ways of thinking about HazMat and terrorism responses and operations.

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appeals to chemists, chemical engineers, toxicologists, and forensic scientists, as well as industrial hygienists, occupational physicians, Hazmat professionals, and others in related fields.

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designing fire safety management programs that not only protect an organization's assets but also ensure the safe evacuation of all involved. Fundamentals of Fire Protection for the Safety Professional takes an in-depth look at fire hazards in the workplace—from the substances required to do business to the building construction itself—and provides practical fire safety principles that can be applied in any work environment. Readers will learn how to develop emergency action plans and fire prevention plans, implement effective alarm and detection systems and fire extinguishment systems, and develop a comprehensive fire program management plan that is in compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and National Fire Protection Association standards. Each chapter includes a chapter summary and sample problems, making this an ideal training tool in the workplace or the classroom. Answers to chapter questions and a comprehensive glossary and index are provided at the end of the book.

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these purposes. A method to improve the recording of hazardous materials behavior in accident investigations that will improve preplanning and tactical decisionmaking for hazardous materials emergencies was identified and has been adopted as a tentative accident reporting standard by the Safety Board for accidents involving hazardous materials. Immediate and potential uses for the standardized hazardous materials behavior maps are identified and implementation problems are discussed.

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