



Mailing Address

The Continuing Challenge

Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Workshop

c/o Don Brazier

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(916) 433-1688

www.hazmat.org

Sponsors

California Conservation Corps (CCC)

California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR)

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

California Department of Transportation HazMat Branch (Cal Trans)

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)

CalEPA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

Cal OES, California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI)

Cal OES, Fire & Rescue Division

California Highway Patrol (CHP)

California State Water Resource Control Board Office of Research, Planning and Performance (ORPP)

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Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

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NES Network Environmental Solutions

Honolulu Fire Department

Office of the State Fire Marshal, (OSFM) State Fire Training

Sacramento County Environmental Management Department

Sacramento Fire Department

US Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IX

US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

June 8, 2026

To Participating Agencies, Departments, and Organizations:

The Continuing Challenge Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Workshop Committee is providing this letter to support the attendance of local, state, Federal, and private employees intending to participate at the September 8-11, 2026, Continuing Challenge Workshop held in Sacramento.

For 37 years, the Continuing Challenge has been at the forefront of hazardous materials emergency response training. Unlike many conferences, the Continuing Challenge puts the "work" in "workshop." Nowhere else can attendees find the basic and advanced information in this rapidly evolving discipline to keep themselves, their co-workers, their communities, and the environment safe during hazardous materials incidents.


There is no better venue for hazardous materials personnel to "demonstrate competency" in their "expected job functions."

We would like to emphasize that the Continuing Challenge Workshop directly supports the training needs of the hazardous materials emergency response community by providing:

- The only workshop of its kind in California focused on hazardous materials emergency response.
- Nearly 100 unique classes on a variety of first responder/HazMat/safety/regulatory enforcement topics so students attend classes which meet the needs of their department.
- The sessions delivered at the Continuing Challenge address many of the annual refresher training required under OSHA and Cal OSHA Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard [HAZWOPER] (29CFR 1910.120, Title 8 CCR 5192. The HAZWOPER standard requires that the "employer shall so certify" compliance with the training requirements. The Workshop is the best venue to provide staff with high quality and up to date training at minimal cost.
- Information and hands-on training on new, life-saving hazard monitoring devices, personal protective equipment, and other safety gear, plus demonstrations from the manufacturers, vendors and end users on how to properly use the devices.
- Useful and practical ways hazardous materials emergency response organizations can operate more safely and save time and money.

If you should have questions, please feel free to contact us at 916/433-1688 or info@hazmat.org

Sincerely,


Dennis Smith, Chairperson
Fire Chief, Retired
Sacramento City Fire Department