

SAFETY ABSTRACT

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Triodyne Inc.

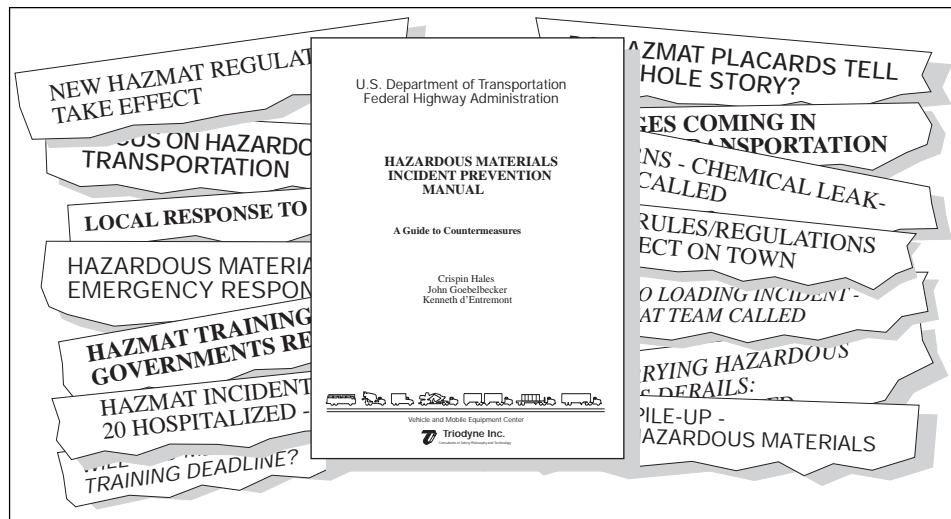
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Hazardous Materials Incident Prevention Manual

by Crispin Hales, Ph.D., C.Eng.¹

ABSTRACT

Despite the introduction of updated regulations, the accident rate for commercial vehicles remains higher than acceptable. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has mounted a concerted effort to address this problem through the use of *Countermeasures*. Countermeasures are intended to promote driver and carrier conduct which leads to a reduction in the number of preventable accidents and hazardous materials incidents. The *Commercial Vehicle Preventable Accident Manual* and the *Hazardous Materials Incident Prevention Manual* were developed by Triodyne under contract to the DOT for use by Office of Motor Carrier Safety Specialists in assisting companies to improve their safety performance.

The *Hazardous Materials Incident Prevention Manual* contains a table of typical hazardous materials "incidents," together with a supplemental table of "high risk situations." Each incident and high risk situation has a pictogram associated with it for easy reference and for each one some potential causes and suggested countermeasures are listed. Each countermeasure referenced in the table is fully described on an individual sheet. The sheet contains questions and tips intended to prompt the reader to consider what steps could be taken to counter the incident or high risk situation. Since circumstances vary widely, countermeasures should be considered as guidelines for developing into strategies appropriate to the particular company.

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The Hazardous Materials Incident Prevention Manual will be available from the Triodyne Safety Information Center for a cost of \$12.00. In addition, *The Commercial Vehicle Preventable Accident Manual* and the pocket version *The Professional Driver's Preventable Accident Manual* are also available. Call (847) 677-4730 ext. 114 for information.

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