

# Mobile Command Post



Capability/What can it do?

The Mobile Command Post provides a facility for operational planning and command and control for an incident or event. The vehicle includes meeting space, computers, satellite-based phone, internet, TV, and radio communications.

Role in ER/HS

Provides decision makers, scientists and other personnel with a flexible, enclosed environment to direct field activities.

Other roles

Provides on-scene facilities for routine field support.

Recent example

Used at the Los Alamos, NM fire in 2000 as an EPA command and control center and at several exercises and emergency responses, e.g., Preservation Aviation in CA in 2004, and Nevada Highway Hazmat incident in 2007.

What makes this asset unique?

The Mobile Command Post's comprehensive data and communications capability can be rapidly established on-site and can be self-powered by an on-board generator. The interior also includes a bathroom and shower.

# Mobile Environmental Radiation Lab (MERL)



Capability/What can it do?

The MERL is a mobile, self-contained radiation analysis laboratory capable of providing a wide range of radiation analyses at typical fixed-lab sensitivities.

Role in ER/HS

Provides radiation analyses for samples collected at an incident scene.

Other roles

Used at Superfund removal sites for characterization studies and can be used to prepare samples for cleanup verification.

Recent example

The lab was being used for a characterization study at a Superfund site in Odessa, TX, (with the Sample Prep Lab) when it was deployed to New Mexico to analyze samples from the Los Alamos fire in 2000 and to Gulf Nuclear, Incorporated (GNI) of Louisiana, Houston, TX as requested by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6 in 2002/2003

What makes this asset unique?

The MERL maintains a continuous state of readiness. The MERL's analytical capabilities are actively used and maintained on a daily basis and always prepared for rapid deployment. There are few mobile laboratories that have the capability and capacity of the MERL. Key features include: a HEPA filtration system for protection from particulate radiation; a pressurized ion chamber to monitor background radiation levels outside of the lab; a gamma alarm system to prevent high activity samples from being inadvertently brought to close to the MERL; a pass-through port to minimize lab egress and reduce the possibility of contamination; redundant communications equipment; and uninterruptable power supplies. The MERL is certified U.S.A.F. air-transportable.

# Sample Preparation Laboratory



Capability/What can it do?

The Sample Preparation Lab is used to prepare environmental and other samples to be analyzed in the Mobile Environmental Radiation Laboratory (MERL) and is capable of handling and safely storing hazardous and radiological materials.

Role in ER/HS

Provides radiation analyses for samples collected at an incident scene.

Other roles

Used at Superfund removal sites for characterization studies and can be used to prepare samples for cleanup verification.

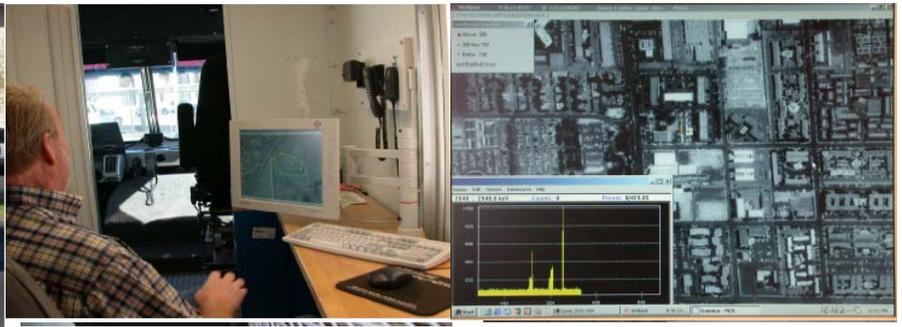
Recent example

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What makes this asset unique?

It provides a separate field capability for sample preparation, protecting R&IE's sensitive and costly mobile analytical lab from contamination.

# Mobile Scanner Van



Capability/What can it do?

The Scanner Van assists in the discovery of anomalous radiation sources. As the van travels over its route, real-time radiation and global positioning system (GPS) data are combined with notations added by the operator. Staff with hand-held radiation survey instruments can follow up at precisely identified locations to determine the source of radioactivity.

Role in ER/HS

Can be used to find radiation sources from a suspected terrorist activity in the environment.

Other roles

Used to look for radiation around Superfund "offsite" areas.

Recent example

The van has performed scans at several sites across the U.S. (California, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, AZ). Anaconda Copper Mine in Yerington NV April 2005 EPA Scan Van Survey of approximately 250 miles of roadways in Yerington Area

What makes this asset unique?

This one-of-a-kind vehicle allows scanning of large areas much faster and with more sensitivity than with a field team with survey instruments.

# Enhanced Radiological Ground Scanning (ERGS) System



Capability/What can it do?

The ERGS System has the capability of providing detailed information about gamma radiation on a site without sampling or the use of earth-moving equipment.

Role in ER/HS

Could be re-configured to perform vehicle monitoring in an emergency more rapidly than survey instruments.

Other roles

This system will allow for gamma radiation screening at Superfund sites without requiring excavation or sampling.

Recent example

2006-2007 Region 9 support – the Halaco Beach Area Investigation. The Halaco Project, is a metal reclaiming facility on the 43-acre site located in Oxnard.

What makes this asset unique?

Systems such as these usually have serious limitations due to weight and terrain; the compact and extremely mobile ERGS System will be extremely useful for screening at difficult sites.

# Environmental Field Assessment and Monitoring Program Sampling Vehicle and Equipment



Capability/What can it do?

The sampling vehicle and equipment are used to monitor radiological contamination in water from previous underground nuclear tests. The sampling system can accurately determine water levels within inches and collect samples to depths of approximately a mile below the surface.

Role in ER/HS

Long-Term/Recovery Phase

Other roles

Used to sample deep wells.

Recent example

The vehicle and equipment are used to collect water samples from former underground test sites in MS, CO, NM and NV.

What makes this asset unique?

The calibrated sampling rig on the vehicle can accurately sample wells approximately a mile deep. Sample collection at depth can be controlled from the surface.

# Tractors and Generators



Capability/What can they do?

The tractors and generators are used to support emergency response and site characterization activities.

Role in ER/HS

The tractors are used to move a variety of trailers and can haul regular freight when not being used for mobile laboratory movement. The generators have the capability to handle the electrical needs of ORIA's emergency response vehicles.

Other roles

Can be used for a variety of environmental studies.

Recent example

The tractors and generators were used to support the emergency response at the Los Alamos, NM area fire in 2000 and in support of Long-Term Field Monitoring and Environmental Assessment Program.

What makes this asset unique?

EPA owns and maintains these assets which are available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. Licensed R&IE emergency response personnel serve as drivers.

# Monitoring Equipment



Capability/What can it do?

R&IE owns enough radiation survey and air sampling equipment to place 10 teams in the field to perform radiation monitoring. Our deployable equipment is capable of performing air sampling and monitoring and in-situ measurements .

Role in ER/HS

Equipment is used by staff to monitor environmental levels of radiation.

Other roles

Equipment has been used at various removal sites around the country.

Recent example

Sampling Equipment was used to support the emergency response at the Los Alamos, NM area fire in 2000 and at the NV Test Site vicinity fire in 2005, and at several Superfund sites in Region 6.

What makes this asset unique?

This equipment is maintained and available within EPA.

# Communications Equipment



Capability/What can it do?

R&IE owns satellite telephones, satellite internet systems and satellite radio systems.

Role in ER/HS

These assets can be used in lieu of compromised communications systems at an emergency response site.

Other roles

Have been used in training and testing modes at various Superfund sites.

Recent example

Our entire communications system was set up and demonstrated at various On-Scene Coordinator's Readiness Conferences, exercises and actual incidents.

What makes this asset unique?

EPA owns and maintains its own systems.

# Staging Tents



Capability/What can it do?

These are rapidly-erected room tents available for emergency response support.

Role in ER/HS

Used for equipment storage and to provide staging areas for emergency response activities.

Other roles

Used for equipment storage and staging for site studies.

Recent example

These tents were used during our response to the Los Alamos, NM area fire in 2000 and in various multi-agency training and exercises.