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United States
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Office of Research and Development
National Homeland Security Research Center
Cincinnati, OH 45268

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EPA/600/F-05/019
February 2006

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

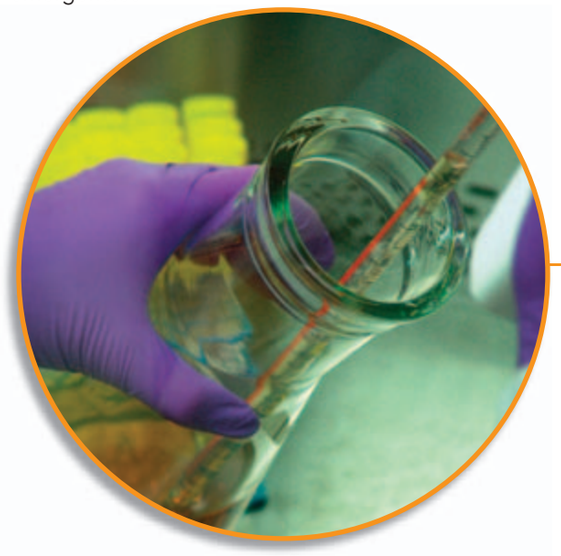
OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

National Homeland Security Research Center

ADVANCING OUR NATION'S SECURITY THROUGH SCIENCE

The National Homeland Security Research Center Mission

The National Homeland Security Research Center's (NHSRC's) goal is to develop and deliver reliable, responsive scientific expertise and products. These are widely used to prevent, prepare for, and recover from public health and environmental emergencies.



NHSRC researchers use proven scientific methods in their work to ensure that their results are sound, whether testing drinking water delivery systems, or sampling and testing contamination sites.

The NHSRC Approach

NHSRC develops its research plans in two important ways. The first involves envisioning various circumstances under which attacks may occur. These circumstances, or threat scenarios, are analyzed to determine which could have the greatest consequences. Research is directed to address these high-consequence scenarios to ensure that we get the most valuable information within an appropriate time frame. Secondly, research is prioritized by seeking the advice of experts. NHSRC scientists and engineers routinely meet with representatives from the water and building industries, security specialists, public health officials, and other government agencies to understand their research needs and technical challenges. NHSRC is dedicated to solving real-world problems and putting technology in the hands of those who need it.

NHSRC Research Areas

- Detection/Characterization
- Prevention/Containment
- Decontamination/Mitigation
- Disposal of Residues
- Risk Assessment
- Technology Verification
- Technical Assistance/ Technology Transfer

NHSRC Supports Five Major Research Areas

Threat and Consequence Assessment addresses human exposure to chemical, biological, and radiological contaminants to define dangerous levels of these contaminants and help establish protective cleanup goals.

Decontamination and Consequence Management provides support for the decontamination and restoration of indoor and outdoor areas purposefully contaminated with biological, chemical, or radiological hazards. Safe disposal of contaminated food and agricultural products are also addressed.

Water Infrastructure Protection is charged with protecting the nation's drinking water supplies and infrastructure, as well as wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems.

Response Capability Enhancement works directly with emergency responders and local governments to provide tools and information needed to make informed decisions in the event of an attack.

Technology Testing and Evaluation evaluates technologies that show potential for use in homeland security applications. These evaluations are used by water utilities, building owners, emergency responders, and others to make informed decisions when purchasing security technology.

The Andrew W. Breidenbach Environmental Research Center located in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Key NHSRC Research Products

- A Web-based catalog of technical resources
- A compendium of sampling and analysis methods
- Design and operational guidance for building and water system protection
- Decontamination and disposal technical guidance
- An interactive database and expert system for rapid risk assessment
- Technology Testing and Evaluation Program (TTEP) reports for commercially available detection, containment, and decontamination technology

For additional information on NHSRC products, go to *www.epa.gov/nhsrc*.