

Professional Rescue Innovations

Anhydrous Ammonia: Operations Level

This 4 hour course is designed to give emergency responders basic information concerning anhydrous ammonia including tactical considerations involving outdoor releases at typical storage and transportation situations. Anhydrous Ammonia (NH₃) is a widely used chemical. It is used in many manufacturing processes, such as the manufacturing of nitric acid, which is used in the plastic manufacturing, cleaning fluids, and synthetic fibers. However, the most common use of NH₃ is as a fertilizer. In fact, 80% of all the ammonia produced in the United States is used as fertilizer, or used to make other fertilizer products. Prior to emergency response to a hazardous materials incident, such as an anhydrous ammonia release, responders need to be well trained and equipped to handle the situation. The tactics used in this program have been designed based upon the physical properties of NH₃ and may not be effective or safe given another product and should be considered for outdoor releases only. Performance and training competencies of this program are relative to those found in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 and NFPA 472 Standard.

Objectives

Upon Completion of this course you will be able to perform the following:

In order to safely mitigate an anhydrous ammonia release, emergency responders should understand storage and transportation, as well as other uses.

Understand the physical and health hazards of NH₃. Knowledge of basic tactical considerations and incident management concerns to be discussed and simulated through various exercises.

Demonstrate defensive and offensive skills to control NH₃ releases.

Identify first-aid in order to lessen the effects of the exposure.

Identify public protection actions.

Identify procedures for emergency decontamination.