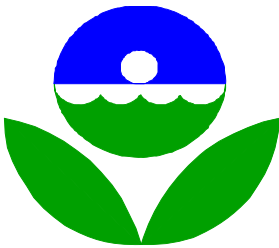


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
EPCRA NEWSLETTER



Vol. 2, No. 1 January-February 2008

www.epa.gov/region4/air/epcra

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**Inaugural U.S. EPA Region IV
Chemical Emergency Conference
November 14-16, 2007 Tampa, Florida**

U.S. EPA Region IV held its **Chemical Emergency Conference** in Tampa, Florida, on Wednesday through Friday, November 14-16, 2007. The conference was held in conjunction with the Clean Gulf Conference at the Tampa Convention Center. The Clean Gulf Conference focused on topics about oil spills whereas the EPA Conference focused on topics about chemical emergencies.

The conference was a lively forum for information-sharing, networking, and the examination of recent issues and events among federal, state, and local emergency agencies, as well as private entities in the chemical emergency field. Several state and federal member agencies of the Federal Region IV Regional

Response Team (RRT) were in attendance, including the EPA RRT Co-Chair as well as the Chairman of the Florida SERC and both the Regional Administrator and the Deputy Regional Administrator of U.S. EPA Region IV.

The topics covered and the speakers, respectively, are listed on page 7. U.S. EPA Region 4 is most appreciative of the efforts given by all of the speakers, without which the conference would not have been possible. We thank all of the speakers for their presentations.

Join Us At The
**20TH ANNUAL NASTTPO
CONFERENCE
AND
HMPE GRANTS
ASSISTANCE WORK-
SHOP**
**April 8-11, 2008
Savannah, Georgia**

**Hilton Garden Inn, Savannah
Midtown**
**5711 Abercorn Street
Savannah, Georgia 31405**
Telephone: 912-652-9300
Fax: 912-652-9301

FOR INFORMATION GO TO
<http://www.nasttpo.org>

Special Points of Interest

Visit <http://www.nasttpo.org/> for information on the upcoming The National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) Mid-Year Conference to be held in Savannah, GA in April 2008.

Visit <http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html> for more information on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and how it provides new information on industries.

Envirofacts (<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/index.html>) allows you to search for environmental information in your neighborhood.

MEET THE REGION-4 EPCRA STAFF

Our EPCRA Program Manager, Mr. Robert Bookman is a native of Tallahassee, Florida, and has resided in Atlanta, Georgia since 1981. He is a graduate of the University of South Alabama with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, the University of Florida with a M.E. in Engineering and most recently New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary with a MDiv. Robert assumed the duty of EPCRA Program Manager in 1992, and continues to be committed to leveraging resources to ensure EPCRA compliance is maintained throughout Region 4.

Robert began his federal career with the US Geological Survey, and later completed 11 years of service with the Army Corps of Engineers, as a Structural and later Environmental Engineer. Robert joined EPA in 1989, as a Remedial Project Manager in the Waste Division, with responsibility for hazardous waste cleanup of National Priority Listed sites in the state of Florida. Robert then moved to the Air Division to assume the role of Unit Chief in the Pesticides Section where he was responsible for enforcement and program activities for the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina. He later joined the EPCRA enforcement program where he gained extensive experience in both enforcement and program matters.

Happenings around the Region

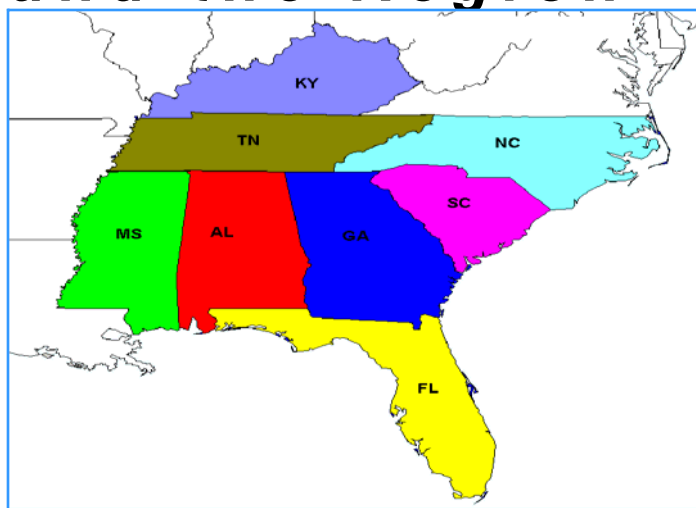
ALABAMA

Alabama SERC Meeting

On December 5, 2007 EPA personnel attended Alabama's SERC meeting. During this meeting Alabama SERC members moved forward with constructing a plan for restructuring their Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC's). They explored many ideas to increase the productivity LEPC's in the State. Continued support was offered by EPA personnel.

GEORGIA

The Columbia County Local Emergency Planning Committee had a stellar year in 2007. Going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure Columbia County is prepared for any local emergency this LEPC had numerous accomplishments. During 2007 Columbia County LEPC conducted twenty-four Public Outreach Programs, fourteen training sessions for EMA, Fire, Law Enforcement, EMS, and other community employees, met all NIMS requirements, and developed a



Do you have a story to tell?

We'd like to know about it. Please send information about activities that you have been involved in, training, good practices, etc. . . We appreciate what you do and want to let others know.

Provide your input to:

r4epcranewsletter@epa.gov

WE'RE WAITING!

Tier I or II Reporting Lead-Acid Batteries

EPA Region 4 has developed compliance assistance tools to assist in the reporting of lead-acid batteries under EPCRA's Tier I/II requirements.

OSHA has determined that lead-acid batteries require an MSDS which, in turn, triggers reporting under EPCRA. The batteries in question are the large batteries used in forklifts and similar applications. Automotive batteries are not included.

A brochure addressing this issue is available on our web site (<http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/epcra>). Hard copies are available and may be obtained by contacting your State Liaison or Bryce Covington at 404-562-9192 or by email at Covington.bryce@epa.gov.

The brochure is also available on the R-4 EPCRA website.

MISSISSIPPI

Investigation of December's chlorine tank leak near the Gulfport Yacht Club was turned over to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

Initially, the Gulfport Fire Department responded to reports of a strange smell in the area and discovered a 150-pound liquid chlorine drum leaking from three small holes at the former Marine Life. Several people were evacuated from the Yacht Club and Port of Gulfport. No one was injured. The chlorine was meant for water purification, said Gulfport Fire Department Chief Pat Sullivan. Leaks such as this happen periodically, he said, and "we don't have any one thing that was a cause."

Cmdr. Leonard Papania said an investigation is under way but it is not necessarily criminal. MDEQ is investigating the demolition contractor who was working with the six tanks, as well as the property owner. Fines are possible. MDEQ does not yet know who owns the tanks, said Eric Dear, chief of Emergency Services at MDEQ.

The cleanup process is straightforward, he said. They removed the tank and are now deciding if they will dissolve the chlorine into water and what they will do with the container. He said if they dissolve the chlorine, it may end up in wastewater treatment.

Exposure to chlorine gas can cause breathing problems and skin and eye irritation. "I don't know the concentration of the chlorine," Dear said, "but there were complaints of burning eyes."

SOUTH CAROLINA

Graniteville community health tracking continues

COLUMBIA – As the third anniversary of the Graniteville train crash and chlorine spill that killed nine and forced thousands from their Aiken County homes nears, work continues to track the health of those affected by the event, the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control reported today.

"The Graniteville Recovery and Chlorine Epidemiology project is a unique partnership among the community and its churches with the University of South Carolina and DHEC," said Erik Svendsen, Ph.D., epidemiologist with DHEC's Bureau of Disease Control. "The goals of the GRACE project are to reduce the impact of the event on the community, identify people who need medical care and get them to local physicians for the care they need."

For the full article check out SCDHEC's website or contact: Thom Berry – (803) 898-3885
E-mail – berrytw@dhec.sc.gov
BNR1823

Happenings around the Region

FLORIDA

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is planning a full-scale exercise for May 2008 in cooperation with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The exercise will involve a chemical bomb explosion on a city bus so that the Sheriff's Office and FBI can conduct evidence collection. Also, law enforcement and a hazardous materials team will enter the house used to manufacture the bomb to decontaminate the house prior to evidence collection at that site. Captain Scott Stiner of the Sheriff's Office will be the exercise director.

The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council is sponsoring the following Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant training classes in the second quarter: six 4-hour Hazardous Materials Awareness Level classes January 19-21, 2008 in the Town of Palm Beach; 2 Hazmat IQ classes scheduled for February 21-22, 2008 in Stuart; and two 8-hour HAZWOPER classes to be held in St. Lucie and Martin counties. The LEPC will consider additional requests for training when submitted.

KENTUCKY

Thanks to Barbara Yates, SARA Title III Planner, the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management, SARA Title III website <http://kyem.ky.gov/planning/saraplan.htm> contains several items which would be of interest to all EPCRA reporters and not just those located in Kentucky.

NORTH CAROLINA

Guildford County (including Greensboro and High Point) requests *electronic submission of Tier 2 Submit files directly to E-Plan*. By submitting directly into E-Plan you do not have to submit separately to the Guildford County LEPC. The E-Plan filing fulfills the requirements for filing with the LEPC and the Fire Department.

TENNESSEE

The State of Tennessee was recently awarded full accreditation for meeting national standards for disaster preparedness from the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). The state is one of only 15 states in the nation to achieve accreditation. "States that work toward and achieve compliance with these standards are at the forefront in ensuring their residents are served by a comprehensive system to deal with disasters," said, Dewayne West, chairperson of the EMAP Commission. Accepting the award, Governor Bredesen stated, "Tennesseans should be assured of our continued commitment to readiness and to maintaining a first-rate system for handling disasters." EMAP is a voluntary process that local and state emergency management agencies can use to evaluate their programs to coordinate, prepare, and respond to emergencies and disasters. The process evaluates compliance with 15 functional areas of an emergency management organization, including planning, training, exercises, resource management, and communications.

<http://www.tnema.org/>

NASTTPO

The National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) is made up of members and staff of State Emergency Response Commissions (SERCs), Tribal Emergency Response Commissions (TERCs), Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), various federal agencies and private industry. Members include state, tribal or local government employees with Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know (EPCRA) program responsibilities, such as health, occupational safety, first response, environmental, and emergency management agencies. Associate members are welcome and include anyone with an interest in effective EPCRA implementation. The membership is dedicated to working together to prepare for possible emergencies and disasters involving hazardous materials, whether they are accidental releases or a result of terrorist acts.

2008 Annual Conference

NASTTPO's Annual conference will be held in Savannah, Georgia in April of 2008. Please check their web site for more information.

WWW.NASTTPO.ORG

Do You Have A News Item, Training, or Other Announcement?

If so, then please submit them for inclusion in our next issue. This newsletter may be published by Region 4 but it is really for all of you EPCRA Planners and Emergency Responders out in the various States, Counties and Tribal areas located within Region 4. So, if you have something that you would like to share with others in the community please send them to r4epcranewletter@epa.gov. THANKS!

EPA Proposed Rules Affecting EPCRA Reporting

On December 20, 2007, EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson signed a proposed rule to establish an administrative reporting exemption for releases of hazardous substances from animal waste at farms. EPA published the proposed rule in the Federal Register on December 29, 2007.

The proposed administrative reporting exemption is limited to releases of hazardous substances to the air where the source of those hazardous substances is animal waste at farms. EPA has stated that this proposed rule would reduce the burden on the regulated community of complying with CERCLA and EPCRA reporting requirements, and has argued that these reports are unnecessary because there is no reasonable expectation that Federal, state or local emergency responders would respond to such reports. The public comment period will be closed on March 27, 2008.

The two main issues that EPA wants public input on are the definitions for "animal waste" and "farm". The current definitions are:

Animal Waste--means manure (feces, urine, other excrement, and bedding, produced by livestock that has not been composted), digestive emissions, and urea. The definition includes animal waste when mixed or commingled with bedding, compost, feed, soil and other materials typically found with animal waste.

Farm--means (a.) any place whose operation is agricultural and from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year. Operations receiving \$1,000 or more in Federal government payments are counted as farms, even if they have no sales and otherwise lack the potential to have \$1,000 or more in sales; or, (b.) a Federal or state poultry, swine, dairy or livestock research farm. Also, the Agency recognizes that Federal and state research farms utilizing farm animals are subject to the conditions experienced on other farms; therefore, EPA proposes to include Federal and state poultry, swine, dairy and livestock research farms.

EPA intends to issue the final rule before the end of calendar year 2008.

E-PLAN NEWS

WHAT IS E-PLAN?

"E-Plan is - The Nation's Largest Database of Chemical and Facility Hazards Data with over 90,000 facilities and 22,000 unique chemicals.

It is free, simple and easy for First Responders and State and Federal users to use.

E-Plan is a proven system that provides First Responder and others with on-site hazardous chemical information for facilities around the United States. It utilizes emergency contact and hazardous material information submitted under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations and sends it via the Internet to First Responders just when they need it the most.

E-Plan provides Tier II reporting data and other important information instantly such as

Maps of the area surrounding a fixed facility showing schools and hospitals and other Tier II reporting facilities,

Chemical Hazards Response Information System (CHRIS) data,

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS),

Chemical profiles,

Facility Emergency Response Plans,

Federal Area Contingency Plans, and

Chemical data from Risk Management Plans (RMPs).

It has nationwide coverage in all 50 States and four U.S. territories.

In emergency situations, the E-Plan system can make the difference between life and death for First Responders and victims of the emergency. E-Plan has been enthusiastically embraced by fire fighters and hazmat response teams, nationwide wherever it has been introduced. Without E-Plan, this information is currently available only in paper form and retrieving this information from a file storage room during an emergency is a difficult, lengthy process if even possible at all. Instant access to the critical hazmat information provided by E-Plan makes it an invaluable tool for First Responders."

(Source: E-Plan Home Page (<https://erplan.net/eplan/login.htm>))

Other features of E-Plan

E-Plan was developed through a cooperative agreement between USEPA and the University of Texas at Dallas with input from local, state, and federal agencies of the Region 6 Response Team.

E-Plan is funded by the Department of Homeland Security through an Interagency Agreement with the EPA and is available without charge to users.

Contains RMP facility data and Tier 2 records.

Data sources: NFPA, DOT-ERG, MSDS, NIOSH and CHRIS.

Interoperable with Tier 2 Submit and CAMEO.

Security features include: Individual User IDs and Passwords, Local or State User Authorization, Role-based permission levels, Secure physical location, Firewalls, and 128k encryption.

E-Plan Contacts

Jim Staves, EPA Region 6, Staves.james@epa.gov, 214-789-3417

E-PLAN NEWS

E-Plan User's Group Conference Planned for April 22-23, 2008



We are planning the first ever E-Plan User's Group Conference for **April 22-23, 2008** at The University of Texas at Dallas in Richardson, Texas to get together, network and share best practices and develop ongoing strategies for the E-Plan program. We are letting you know early about this planned conference so that you can budget travel money for the Conference. Conference Registration fees will be about \$50 per person to cover the costs for breakfast, breaks, and lunch. Great hotels in the Richardson, Texas area (Renaissance, Radisson) are about \$85 per night.

We expect the conference to be about 1 1/2 days in length, so that you can travel home the afternoon of the second day.

- Tuesday, April 22, 2008: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM (tentative)
- Wednesday, April 23, 2008: 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM (tentative)

Top-notch keynote speakers will be invited and included on the program.

Preliminary agenda items include:

- ◆ E-Plan Best Practices
- ◆ E-Plan Success Stories
- ◆ How are users utilizing E-Plan?
- ◆ Review E-Plan features
- ◆ Review how Tier2 Submit works
- ◆ What new E-Plan features are needed?
- ◆ Demonstration of E-Plan (for new users)
- ◆ E-Plan electronic Bulletin Board
- ◆ E-Plan issues/problems?



We are looking for speakers and session leaders for this conference!

If you have suggestions for the agenda, or would like to volunteer to lead a session, please contact us by using the **"Contact Us"** button on the E-Plan homepage at <http://erplan.net> or

- **By e-mail:** eplan@utdallas.edu
- **By phone:** 972-883-2631
- **By fax:** 972-883-4441
- **By mail:** The University of Texas at Dallas
CyberSecurity and Emergency Preparedness Institute
Attn: E-Plan WT-11
800 West Campbell Road
Richardson, TX 75080

TRAINING AIDS, REFERENCE MATERIALS and OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT LOW, OR NO, COST TO THE EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMUNITY

EPA and DHS Announce Partnership in Support of E-Plan

In a joint letter dated January 14, 2008, EPA and DHS announced that the two agencies are working in partnership to support, enhance, and deliver E-Plan. "Our partnership will create a strong supporting framework that is committed to growing and developing E-Plan as a dynamic and essential no-cost tool...providing current and accurate information to local, state, and Federal partners whose mission is to protect our Nation...", the letter explains.

To read the entire letter, go to: <http://eplannews.utdallas.edu/outreach/EPADHSPartnershipLetter.pdf>.

E-Plan Contacts

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Vinson Poole, EPA Region 4, Poole.vinson@epa.gov, 404-562-9186

Shane Hitchcock, EPA Region 4, Hitchcock.shane@epa.gov, 404-562-8718

USEPA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LAUNCHES A NEW WEB SITE

EPA's Office of Emergency Management is launching a new, redesigned web site to improve the experience for everyone looking for information about EPA's prevention, preparedness and response programs. Our goal is to ensure that the web site continues to provide relevant, up to date, and accessible information to all of our users. The new site is easier to navigate and find information. To help users who may have bookmarked specific pages, we have developed topical error pages for the different programs. These pages provide a list of links that will redirect users looking for specific information to a page on the new site that has the information on that topic.

Over the next year, we will continue to make improvements to the site, including making updates to Office of Emergency Management publications. We invite you to explore our new site and let us know if you have any suggestions for making it better. Email us at OEM_Homepage@epa.gov or visit our new site at: <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies>

FEMA TRAINING CATALOG NOW AVAILABLE

Training and Exercise Integration (TEI) Course Catalog

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Preparedness Directorate (NPD), National Integration Center (NIC), Training and Exercise Integration (TEI) is pleased to announce the availability of the TEI Course Catalog (PDF Format Only).

The TEI Course Catalog provides valuable information about TEI's training courses and prerequisites, training providers, including how to schedule and attend courses. TEI serves the nation's first responder community, offering more than 100 courses to help build skills that responders need to effectively function in mass consequence events. Course subjects range from Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) terrorism, cyber-security, and agro-terrorism to citizen preparedness.

TEI training partners provide training at low or no cost to the individual or the individual's agency. In order to attend a training class delivered by one of the TED's training partners, the State Administrative Agency (SAA) Training Point of Contact must coordinate the request through the NPD Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID). To obtain the name of the SAA TPOC in your state, please contact CSID at ASKCSid@dhs.gov or by phone 1-800-368-6498.

http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/training_catalog.htm

AGENDA FOR INAUGURAL EPA REGION 4 CHEMICAL EMERGENCY CONFERENCE

HELD IN TAMPA, FLORIDA, NOVEMBER 2007

WELCOMING REMARKS

Jimmy Palmer, Regional Administrator, EPA Region 4

Craig Fugate, Chair, Florida SERC

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Drilling for Oil Off the Coast of Cuba

Mr. Kirby Jones

Founder and President of the U.S. Cuba Trade Association, Board Member, Center for Cuban Studies (in New York), and

President of Alamar Associates

Reimbursement of States & Locals

for Chemical Emergency Clean-ups (CERCLA) & Oil Spill Responses (OPA)

Terrence Byrd, On-Scene Coordinator, EPA Region 4

Homeland Security Grants

Shelley Boone, FEMA Region 4

NIMS Compliance

Rupert Dennis, FEMA Region 4

Panel of Local, State, & Federal Responders:

Strengthening Response Through Collaboration and Partnerships

Shane Hitchcock, EPA Region 4 & EPA RRT Co-Chair

E-Plan

Jim Staves, EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX

Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigations

The Honorable William B. Wark, Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, Washington, D.C.

Chemical Emergency Case Study - Apex, NC

Mark Haraway, Fire Chief; Apex, NC and Dr. Jim Webster, OSC, EPA Region 4

Chemical Emergency Case Study - Graniteville, SC

Michael J. Spradlin, SC DHEC and Glenn Adams, On-Scene Coordinator, EPA Region 4

Hurricane Katrina - - Lessons Learned

Eric Dear, MS DEQ and Dr. Jim Webster, OSC, EPA Region 4

Panel of LEPC Members: Public Outreach: One Key to Successful LEPCs

Bill Lofgren, Moderator & LEPC Staff Contact; Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

Dwayne Mundy; North Central Florida LEPC; Gainesville, Florida

Don Pugh, Tuscaloosa County LEPC; Tuscaloosa, AL

Ron Crabtree, Deer Park LEPC; Deer Park, TX

Chemical Sector Security

William A. "Tony" Deas, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security

CAMEO LIBRARY ON-LINE

We're pleased to announce the release of CAMEO Chemicals -- an easier-to-use version of the most popular components of the CAMEO program. Find it online at

<http://cameochemicals.noaa.gov/>.

The website provides access to the same CAMEO database of over 6,000 hazardous materials. The revised search engine is much faster and the new search results ranking makes finding your chemicals more straightforward. The CAMEO Chemicals datasheets

contain most of the same information you are used to seeing in CAMEO, but in an easier-to-read layout. Also, the website makes it simpler to mix chemicals and read reactivity hazard predictions. Best of all, you don't have to download or install anything, and you can bookmark frequently referenced datasheets.

Please help us get the word out by sharing the CAMEO Chemicals URL with your response and planning colleagues.



(Sacramento, Calif.) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received the annual Innovation and Technology Award on Sept. 5 from the 2007 Continuing Challenge HazMat Emergency Response Workshop held in Sacramento. The award to the CAMEO Team at NOAA and EPA was for the development and promotion of the Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations software commonly called by its acronym, CAMEO.

The CAMEO Team was nominated for the award by Deputy Fire Marshal Kevin Smith of the Chino Valley Fire District in Calif.

CAMEO of m 2008 TRAIN-THE-TRAINER COURSES

As a result of resources being shifted in FY 2008, EPCRA will provide capacity-building to state and local governments utilizing train-the-trainer CAMEO workshops. These train-the-trainer workshops will enable states and local governments to design, train, evaluate and follow up effective training programs. They will also learn how to design training of any length for groups of varying sizes, learning styles and experience. Two training opportunities will be delivered per state. These will be the final opportunities for CAMEO training through EPA Region 4. Please stay tuned for training dates and locations.

CAMEO is also offered through The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Preparedness Directorate (NPD), National Integration Center (NIC), Training and Exercise Integration (TEI). Please access TEI's website at, http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/training_catalog.htm for their training opportunities.

CAMEO LISTSERVE

The CAMEO News Service is a one-way listserv which serves as a communication tool for CAMEO managers and developers to communicate important information to the CAMEO community.

Communications from the CAMEO team will provide users with an up-to-date status on various aspects of the CAMEO/MARPLOT/ALOHA software, such as updates, "bug" notification and quick fixes.

If you would like to subscribe to the CAMEO News Service and stay up to date on what's happening in CAMEO, send an email to join-cameo@lists.epa.gov.

Also, be sure and check the CAMEO website often for guided tours of the programs, FAQ and technical support.

www.epa.gov/ceppo/cameo

Need Information? The Region 4 Contact is:

Bryce Covington

Telephone at 404-562-9192 or email: Covington.bryce@epa.gov

EPA Region 4 EPCRA Staff Contacts and Related Information

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Chemical Emergency Preparedness & Prevention Office (CEPPO)

<http://www.epa.gov/ceppo> or <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oswer/ceppoweb.nsf/content/index.html>

EPCRA Section 313 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Homepage

<http://www.epa.gov/tri>

Compliance and Enforcement

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/index.html>

National Response Center (NRC) - <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil> or 1-800-424-8802

US EPA EPCRA, RCRA, and Superfund Hotline (800) 424-9346

LEPC Information Exchange - <http://www.lepcinfoexchange.com/>

Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse - <http://cfpub.epa.gov/clearinghouse/>

Region 4 EPCRA - <http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/epcra/index.htm>