

Q&A

- **Indianapolis Fire Department:** Just dry particles? No liquids?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** Correct.
- **SOARescue:** Anything close to silicon dust?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** All our testing has been in the laboratory with fabric squares. We would love to experiment in a real-world environment.
- **Indianapolis Fire Department:** How portable is it?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** I would not use the word 'easy,' but it can be done. We have two blowers on wheels which can be wheeled into a truck with a lift. The enclosure is probably the most portable part now; two people can easily lift and carry it. It has an electric vacuum motor that blows, so it is intended to be fully portable. The blowers are the bulkiest piece.
- **SOARescue:** Have you tested it with anything that uses 40 cfm?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** We have only tested using blowers. Some types are not useful, but for this blower – 1 psi does not sound like a lot – it does the job moving large quantities of air. We replaced our nozzles with a more flexible material and added a bar across the middle so that it would not gap, and just by reducing the area by that small amount, we increased the rate of our stream of air.
- **Exposure Reduction Consultants, LLC:** Did you test the turbulence inside?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** We would recommend safety glasses and hearing protection.
 - **U.S. EPA:** it might be a better design to elongate it along the side.
- **Attendee:** When you are doing a test, can you make sure that nothing is penetrating that system?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** We did measure some pressures inside and verified that we were getting pressures less than atmospheric inside.
- **Attendee:** Did you test for particle size?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** We did measure particle size, and 99% was smaller than 10 microns when we measured.
- **Attendee:** How do you contain the contaminant?
 - **Barbara Alexander:** That is a consideration. The enclosure itself could be decontaminated, but talking to people who supply emergency response shelters, people generally dispose of them. There is a HEPA filter inside. Depending on how much you trust your decontamination method, you could just replace the filter. The blower uses fresh air supply and is positive.

Commented [BC1]: Confirm.