

The InfoGram



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Recognizing homemade explosives and precursors

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) has several openings in its upcoming course "[Homemade Explosives \(HME\) and Precursor Awareness](#)" (PDF, 193 KB).

This course provides foundational knowledge on HME and common precursor materials. Participants will learn:

- How to define HME.
- How HME are used in an attack.
- How to identify common precursor chemicals and materials used to make HME.

This is an hour-long course in the Virtual Instructor Led Training (VILT) program and is taught by a live instructor to students at remote locations. Information about the technology requirements to access the course are listed on the course flyer. Those interested may [apply through the Center for Domestic Preparedness website](#).

This course is one of many in the OBP VILT catalog. OBP VILT courses support the DHS efforts to counter improvised explosive devices.

In addition to their virtual training, [OBP offers on-site training around the country](#). The target audience for these courses include first responders and emergency managers, not just law enforcement. These courses are on demand and also focus on IEDs and bomb-making awareness. Those interested in scheduling training or finding out what is being offered regionally should contact their local [Protective Security Advisor](#) or email the OBP at OBP@hq.dhs.gov for more information.

(Source: [OBP](#))

Seven ways to fail as a leader

Occupational Health and Safety online magazine recently published "Anatomy of a Failing Leader," an article about leadership mistakes to avoid.

Leadership articles usually focus on the best ways to excel, but this view from the other side is good food for thought and may help people identify areas for improvement. See the full "[Anatomy of a Failing Leader](#)" article for details, but the seven traits in a nutshell:

- No/know - know-it-all; overconfident and often incurious.
- In their own world - don't listen or take feedback well, can lash out.
- Takes all the credit - claims any gains as their own.
- Command and (illusion of) control - motivate people through fear, guilt and intimidation.
- Stuck in the good old days - holds on to what worked in the past, unwilling to acknowledge change or the march of time.
- Leader of the back - they do as they do, not as they say.



Highlights

Recognizing homemade explosives and precursors

Seven ways to fail as a leader

Hurricane season is just around the corner

EMS Week: Beyond the Call

Cyber Threats

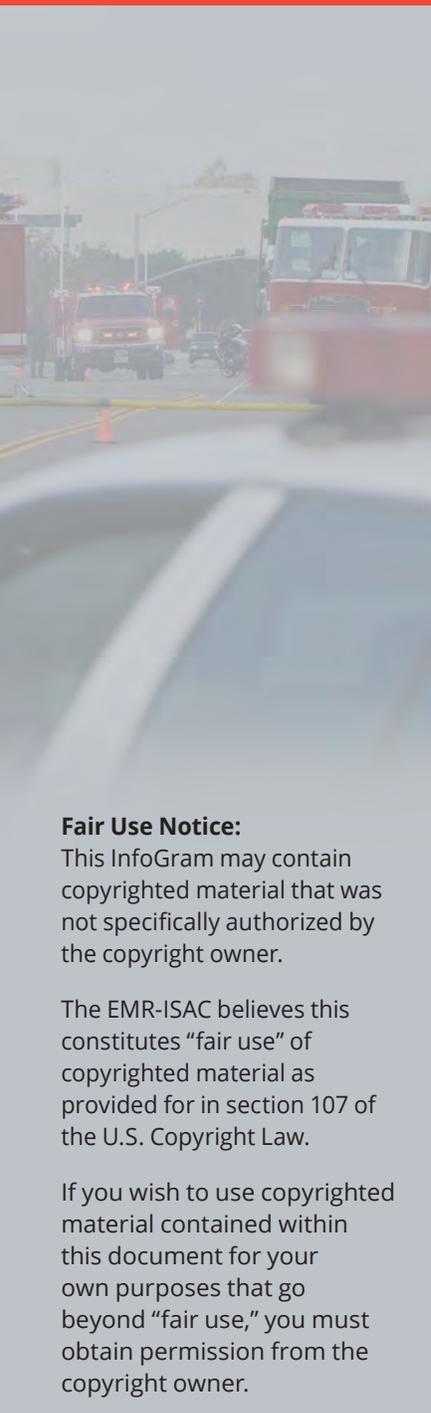


U.S. Fire Administration

The U.S. Fire Administration operates the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC).

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

[Subscribe here](#)



- Externally driven - see others as cogs or tools to be maneuvered.

(Source: [OHSONline](#))

Hurricane season is just around the corner

Hurricane season begins Saturday, June 1. [Scientists are still making forecasts for 2019](#), but the Atlantic was already active this week with Andrea, the first named storm of the season. This is the fifth consecutive year a named storm has formed before the official start of hurricane season.

The National Hurricane Center director recently spoke about the [high death toll due to flooding and storm surge](#) from hurricanes. It is important to get the message out to your communities about early evacuation and to never drive on water-covered roads.

Here is a list of resources to help fire departments, emergency management agencies and communities better prepare for, respond to and recover from hurricanes:

- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) released the [2019 Hurricane Outlook](#) today, calling for a near-normal season.
- [Hurricane Seasonal Preparedness Digital Toolkit](#), free tools for agencies looking to streamline risk communications and social media messaging.
- An excellent article on [hurricane preparedness for fire departments](#) from Columbia Southern University.
- Information on flood insurance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) [National Flood Insurance Program](#).
- [FEMA's mobile app](#) provides real-time alerts, emergency safety tips, emergency shelter locations more.
- [Ready.gov](#) offers individuals and businesses information on hurricane preparedness and other hazards hurricanes bring such as flooding or tornadoes.
- [Preparation tips for communications resilience](#) from the Federal Communications Commission.

Also a reminder, first responders should ensure the safety and security of their own families as it will put your mind at ease when responding to hurricane-related calls.

(Sources: Various)

EMS Week: Beyond the Call

It is [National EMS Week](#) and communities are calling out EMS personnel to honor their dedication in providing day-to-day lifesaving services on medicine's front lines.

President Gerald Ford declared the first EMS Week in November 1974. After a lapse of a few years and jumping from month to month, EMS week finally settled permanently into the third week in May in 1992.

Take this time to [bring more visibility to the men and women serving your community's need for emergency medical response](#). Social media campaigns are quick to put together and it's easy to put names and faces into the public eye, bringing individuals to the forefront. Don't forget to celebrate with them, too; a simple group breakfast or family picnic can go a long way to promote teamwork.

(Source: [EMS Strong](#))

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Cyber Threats

What makes a strong cybersecurity program

New research by Deloitte and the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center highlights **key traits of successful cybersecurity programs**, namely: support and involvement of executives and the board and tying cyber risk management to business strategy. Although this research focused on financial institutions, [the findings can apply to any industry or sector, including state and local government](#).

(Source: [HelpNetSecurity](#))

Webinar: SLTT using grants to pay for cybersecurity measures

Join experts from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Multi State Information Sharing and Analysis Center and State, Local, Tribal and Territorial (SLTT) partners for a [webinar on May 29, 2019](#), from 1- 2 p.m. Eastern to learn how **SLTT governments are investing in cybersecurity using FEMA Preparedness Grants**.

[Representatives will discuss how grants can be leveraged to support cybersecurity investments \(PDF, 454 KB\)](#), as well as grant requirements and assistance available to applicants.

For questions related specifically to cybersecurity and developing the cyber-focused investment justification, please contact SLTTCyber@hq.dhs.gov and include “FEMA Grant” in the subject line.

(Source: [FEMA](#))

Major uptick in Internet of Things-related breaches and attacks

Researchers have identified a **significant uptick in breaches and attacks related to the internet of things (IoT)**, according to a new Ponemon Institute report, “The Third Annual Study on Third Party IoT Risk: Companies Don’t Know What They Don’t Know.” Released today by the Santa Fe Group, the study yielded 35 key findings on IoT risks stemming from a lack of security in IoT devices. Ponemon Institute identified a [sizable increase in the number of organizations reporting an IoT-related data breach](#). In 2017, only 15% of survey participants had suffered an IoT-related data breach. That number jumped to 26% in this year’s report, which surveyed 625 risk management and governance experts.

(Source: [Infosecurity Magazine](#))

Hactivist attacks dropped by 95 percent since 2015

A new report by IBM X-Force sheds light on the dramatic decline of hacktivism over the last few years. [Since 2015, the number of hacktivism-related security breaches has dropped by a whopping 95 percent](#). In 2017 there were only five such incidents, down from 35 in 2015. The number dropped to two incidents in 2018, and none so far in 2019.

This doesn’t mean that hacktivists no longer carry out attacks. For instance, when the Ecuadorian government terminated Julian Assange’s political asylum last month, leading to the Wikileaks founder’s arrest by UK police, hacktivists launched 40 million cyberattacks against Ecuadorian government websites in a week.

(Source: [zdnet](#))

Cyber Information and Incident Assistance Links

[MS-ISAC](#)

SOC@cisecurity.org
1-866-787-4722

[IdentityTheft.gov](#)

[IC3](#)

[Cybercrime Support Network](#)

General Information Links

[FTC scam list](#)

[CISA alerts](#)

[Law Enforcement Cyber Center](#)

[TLP Information](#)

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.