The Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute (HMTRI) was established in 1987 to promote worker protection and the maintenance of a clean and safe environment through education and training. To deliver state-of-the-art curriculum and staff development programs, HMTRI maintains one of the most robust environmental, health and safety programs in the nation. The institute offers open-enrollment courses and contracts with business and industry to deliver customized worker training on-site. HMTRI delivers courses to an average 3,500 students and instructors each year. HMTRI sponsors a national consortium of colleges and universities funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) that has trained more than 200,000 students in hazardous materials safety since 1987. More information: www.hmtri.org/hmtri/index_hmtri.htm.

The Community and College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST) provides grant-funded train-the-trainer courses in hazardous materials safety. It is one of 20 national consortia funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) that has trained more than 200,000 students in hazardous materials safety since 1987. More information: www.hmtri.org/hmtri/index_hmtri.htm.

The Agroterrorism Preparedness Center for First Responders is funded by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to deliver grant-funded train-the-trainer courses in agroterrorism prevention, deterrence, response and recovery for the nation’s first responders and their training officers. The center uses the instructional capability of: (1) the 100-member Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST), funded by NIEHS since 1992 to deliver hazardous materials training; (2) AgrowKnowledge, funded since 2001 by NSF to support the nation’s agriculture technology instructors; and (3) a national clearinghouse of accessible databases of relevant just-in-time information (HaRT, described below). Curriculum developed and used by the center is approved by the DHS and USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). It is available electronically to all responders. More information: http://www.agterror.org.
The Midwest OSHA Education Center provides OSHA Training Institute (OTI) train-the-trainer courses in Hazardous Materials; Respiratory Protection; Permit-Required Confined Space Entry; Excavation, Trenching and Soil Mechanics; a Trainer Course in Occupational Safety and Health Standards for the Construction Industry; a Trainer Course in Occupational Safety and Health Standards for General Industry; Updates for Construction Industry Trainers, and Updates for General Industry Trainers. The center serves OSHA’s four-state Region VII and is one of 28 OTI Education Outreach Centers in the nation. Partners are Kirkwood, St. Louis University and the Omaha Safety Council.

Kirkwood’s National Mass Fatalities Institute (NMFI) was founded in 2000 with a congressional grant administered through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. NMFI’s mission is to prepare communities for the effective management of mass fatalities events. The institute provides guidance and training on the development of comprehensive mass fatalities incident response plans. These plans support multi-disciplinary, multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional response efforts that are integrated at all governmental levels. The goal of the institute is to assist community leaders, through a collaborative planning process to assess, establish and maintain integrated community resources that will facilitate recovery and healing following a mass fatalities event. More information: www.nmfi.org.

Environmental Technology Online (ET Online) offers over 60 courses via the Internet at www.et-online.org. Courses include Homeland Security/Terrorism, Hazardous Waste, Water/Wastewater, Solid Waste and OSHA modules. All are available to partner schools through the League for Innovation’s Project SAIL. Since 2000, ET Online has over 4,000 courses to 160 partner community colleges and universities.

The National Science Foundation funded Kirkwood in 2003 to support instructors preparing college students in agriculture, industry and municipal services to assist their future employers to prepare for, control and respond to terrorist attack. A series of five online credit courses have been developed and are being used by community colleges and universities across the county. Courses include Perspectives on Terrorism; Biological Agents; Chemical Agents; Facility Security and Deterrents; and Terrorist Agent Monitoring and Detection. Courses are available through www.et-online.org.

Hazard Response Technology (HaRT) was funded by the Department of Justice in 2003 to support a national clearinghouse of searchable databases related to chemical, biological and nuclear hazards to provide just-in-time information for incident response. The grant also supported terrorism awareness training across the state of Iowa.

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