

Security Plans — Transportation of Hazardous Materials

Description:

Regulations issued by the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) of the Department of Transportation require propane marketers and transportation companies to develop written hazardous materials security plans, and to train hazmat employees to comply with the elements of the security plan.

Regulatory Reference

49 CFR § 172.704 Training requirements

49 CFR Part 172, Subpart I Security Plans

49 CFR § 172.800 Purpose and applicability

49 CFR § 172.802 Components of a security plan

49 CFR § 172.804 Relationship to other Federal requirements

Applies to:

The regulations apply to transportation of LP-gas and all hazardous materials. Propane transportation companies (common carriers and bulk transporters) and propane marketers must develop written security plans by September 25, 2003. Hazmat employees must be aware of the company's security plan and how to implement its elements.

General Requirements:

- (1) 49 CFR § 172.704(a)(4)&(5) require hazmat employee *security awareness training* no later than the date of the first scheduled recurrent hazmat employee training after March 25, 2003, and no later than March 24, 2006 for all hazmat employees. After March 25, 2003, all new hazmat employees must receive security awareness training within 90 days after employment. By December 22, 2003, each hazmat employee must be trained (*in-depth security training*) concerning the company's security plan and its implementation.
 - (a) *Security awareness training* must include a component that identifies security risks associated with hazardous materials transportation, methods to enhance transportation security, and how to recognize and respond to possible security threats.
 - (b) *In-depth security training* must include company security objectives, specific security procedures, employee responsibilities, actions to take in the event of a security breach, and the organizational security structure.
- (2) 49 CFR § 172.800 requires designated persons or firms who offer or transport hazardous materials in commerce to develop and adhere to a security plan by September 25, 2003. For propane and LP-gases, security plans are required for any person or firm who ships in or on a vehicle requiring placarding for any shipment of hazardous material. The security

plan must include an assessment of possible transportation security risks for shipments of hazardous materials and the following components or features:

- (a) *Personnel security.* The plan must detail measures to confirm information provided by job applicants applying for hazmat employee positions or positions involving access to and handling of hazardous materials.
- (b) *Unauthorized access.* Measures to address the assessed risk that unauthorized persons may gain access to the hazardous materials covered by the security plan or transport vehicles must be described in the security plan.
- (c) *En route security.* The plan must describe measures to address the assessed security risks of shipments of hazardous materials while en route from origin to destination, including materials stored on-site in bulk plants or other locations incidental to movement.
- (d) The security plan must be
 - in writing,
 - retained as long as it is in effect,
 - available to the employees responsible for implementing it
 - consistent with personnel security clearance or background investigation restrictions and a demonstrated need to know,
 - revised and updated as necessary to reflect changing circumstances
 - maintained so that all copies are as of the date of the most recent revision.

Training Requirements:

Hazmat employee training must conform to the requirements of 49 CFR § 172.704; initial and recurrent training must be documented. Hazmat employee training is required in the first 90 days for new hazmat employees, at least every 3 years as recurrent training, or at anytime that the employee's job description or assigned duties reflect significant change with regard to function specific training requirements. Other affected employees should be trained as appropriate and their training documented.

Maintenance and Review

The security plan should be periodically reviewed and revised as necessary. Employee training files should be periodically reviewed to ensure that documentation of required training is kept current.

Additional Information and Resources

The Department of Transportation and the National Propane Gas Association have published security plan development guidance materials. Internet addresses:

www.rspa.dot.gov

www.npga.org