

So Long AR 385-11 - Hello AR 11-9

This coming May 2000 would have been the 20th birthday of AR 385-11 (Protection from Ionizing Radiation) which spelled out radiation safety requirements for the Army. The new AR 11-9 "The Army Radiation Safety Program" replaced this venerable regulation last year. The move from the 385 series (Safety) to the 11 series (Army Programs) was intended to emphasize that radiation safety is something the entire Army needs to be interested in and not just safety staff officers. The summary of the new AR-11-9 states, "This regulation contains management control provisions and identifies key management controls that must be evaluated."

This means that commanders should become actively in-

involved in radiation safety at their installations. They are specifically required to address key portions of the regulation to satisfy the Army management control requirements.

One of the first things people have noticed is that AR 11-9 dispenses with the jargon of "Radiation Protection Officer". In its place the new regulation adopts the title "Radiation Safety Officer" bringing the Army into line with accepted terminology of the Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations.

Another very noticeable change is that the AR 11-9 has no requirement for an Alternate Radiation Safety Officer (ARSO) at the installation. This is justified because the NRC does not ask



for an Alternate RSO to be named for any license application. In part, this is because the NRC wants one person, whom it knows, to be in charge. The question is frequently asked, "can an alternate installation RSO be justified any longer?" The answer to that would be the same one that the NRC gives on that subject. There has to be continuous coverage of the radiation safety program

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even in the absence of the RSO. Therefore, if the person who wears the RSO hat is gone for any length of time, then a trained person must be appointed in their place. This is why, during inspections, TACOM Rock Island types still will be asking about someone that sounds like an alternate RSO at the Installation. They will ask who covers the program in the absence of the RSO. If the answer

comes back – “we don’t need one by the reg” – it will be wrong.

These are just a couple of the changes that the new AR brings us. As time allows in future editions of this news letter we will delve into more of them and discuss how we see the changes affecting our license.

RADIATION SAFETY CONTINUITY BOOK

In a recent inspection of the 25th ID (L) and U.S. Army Hawaii we noted that the use of continuity books greatly improved their program from previous years. We asked Charles Gerrer, the Installation RSO, to write an article on how this program works.

The 25th ID (L) & USARHAW Radiation Safety Office uses a continuity book as a centralized system to control the required radiation

safety documentation at any level of a Installation Radiation Safety Program.

The Installation Radiation Safety Officer (IRSO) maintains the master continuity book for the 25th ID (L) & USARHAW (installation). 25th ID (L) & USARHAW Reg 385-1, Chapter 8, “Radiation Safety Program”, and Appendix G, “Program Checklist”, provide guidelines and requirements for continuity books.

Continuity books are maintained at all command levels. The books are divided into the following parts:

Tab 1. Local Radiation Safety Officer (LRSO) appointment orders, training certificates, and LRSO class training request(s).

Tab 2. Copy of 25th ID (L) & USARHAW Reg 385-1, Chapter 8 and Appendix G and unit level Radiation Safety SOP. It

should be noted that several brigade sized units have made the brigade level Radiation Safety SOP applicable down to company level for subordinate battalions/companies, eliminating the need to

develop a battalion or company level SOP. AR 11-9, USARPAC Reg 385-1, and applicable TOs/TMs are stored in a separate binder.

Tab 3. Copies

of the last two annual inventories of radioactive material stored in the brigade. For Units with non-ionizing radiation producing equipment, a list of items is also stored at this tab.

Tab 4. Copies of completed sampling results for TACOM or local labs (leak tests, wipe tests, etc.).

Tab 5. Copies of inspection reports.

Tab 6. Filing of informational items such as the quarterly TACOM Bulletin, PM Magazine items, etc..

Tab 7. The unit commander's program review signature page. On this page the LRSO and the commander sign in their respective block that the LRSO has briefed the commander on the status of the unit's program on at least each six months.

Brigade size unit books contain information on subordinate battalions and separate companies.

Battalion level books are set up in the same manner as a brigade level book except at one level lower and just for each assigned company.

Company level books are the basic program books containing the seven sections. In this infantry division, over sixty percent of the company level LRSOs are also the company NBC NCO. In many companies the continuity book combines the two duties' records in one location. It gives the NBC NCO a place to store LRSO/NBC appointment orders, training certificates, SOPs, and maintenance reports. It is a secondary benefit to the Brigade/Battalion NBC NCO and the Division Chemical NBC NCO to centralize documentation.

Installation level units, such as Directorate of Logistics Fire Control Shop 5, use the company level format.

A 3-inch loose-leaf binder is usually used at brigade and battalion level books. A 1-inch binder is normally used for company level continuity books.

For an e-mail file detailing exactly how the books are set up, contact Charles S. (Chuck) Gerrer at saferpo@schofield-emh1-army.mil.

“In this infantry division over sixty percent of the company level LRSOs are also the company NBC NCO. In many companies the continuity book combines the two duties’ records in one location.”

If you have a good idea you would like to share with please let us know and we can print it in a future edition of our bulletin

Do I Have a Deal for you

The United States Army has made a commitment to training that is unmatched in modern times. That commitment, although commendable, is sometimes hard to adhere to.

Training is mandated by this program, training is mandated by that program, keeping up to date on all the training requirements could drive unit Training Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers to distraction.

How much would you pay for a program you could be in full compliance with at a cost of only minutes per year?

Would you pay \$129.99? NO!

Would you pay \$79.99? NO!

Would you pay \$19.99?

Well, you don't have to. This program is absolutely free.

How can this be you ask?

For the Installation RSO this is very easy. The standard Army training at the unit level can be used to meet the annual training requirement for users of TACOM-RI commodities. Everything from

transportation classes to hazardous communication briefings can be used. Providing adequate documentation of the training is your only task. So, when your units train with their devices, have them document (by roster) the individuals who attended the training



and safety briefings. Maintaining this documentation in your training files provides proof of training and cost you only the times it takes to file!

You can use this method with Sergeant's

Time, Common Task Test training, METL training, NCO and Officer development classes, and in-services.

Annual user training and indoctrination of new personnel into license operations is a program issue. You've already taken care of the annual refresher training, but what about the indoctrination training?

To help you with this issue TACOM-RI will provide you with a training CD so that the installation RSO or his representative can conduct this training. Or, we can come to your installation and present the training ourselves.

Remember, call now, operators are standing by! Call Wayne Cook at DSN 793-2429 or (309) 782-2429 to schedule training. You can also visit our web site at <http://www-acala1.ria.army.mil/LC/R/RS/rad-safe.htm> for links to training and our CD.

Not all presentations will be free of charge. Classes will be scheduled on a first come - first served basis. Multiple classes can be scheduled at one location

New Leak Test Kit

The Rock Island Arsenal (RIA) Radiation Test Laboratory and SBCCOM developed a standard leak test kit used in *leak testing* the Chemical Agent Monitor (CAM/ICAM) and Automatic Chemical Agent Detector Alarm (M22/M88). This kit contains all the supplies you need to perform 10 *leak tests* including plastic scintillation vials, filters, survey form which is to be returned with the samples, and return mailing address for the RIA Radiation Test Lab. You can order the kit through the supply system using national stock number (NSN) 6665-01-447-5639. The cost of the kit is approximately \$8.50. More information about the leak test kit can be found in Maintenance Advisory Message 99-02 (<http://aeps2.ria.army.mil/sbccom/msgpubs/mam/CamWTPMAM.cfm>).



The paper filters used in the kit have several alternate commercial sources. The major scientific supply companies that will stock the Whatman No. 1 paper filter (4.25 cm diameter) are: VWR Scientific 1430 Waukegan Road, McGaw Park, IL 60085, (847) 578-6858, catalog number 28450-026 (~\$4.00 per 100); Fisher Scientific, (800) 766-7000; Cole Palmer, (800) 323-4340; and Thomas Scientific, (800) 345-2100. The liquid scintillation vial of choice is manufactured by National Diagnostics, 305 Patton Drive, Atlanta, GA 30336, (800) 526-3867. The part number is SVC 20 at a cost of approximately \$ 65 per 1000.

Note: For *leak testing* the M8A1/M43A1, the q/tip applicators must be

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TACOM-WARREN Has A Web Site Too

TACOM-Warren's Web Page "www.tacom.army.mil/safety" has been updated to provide even greater support to the field in their radiation safety program involving TACOM-Warren radioactive commodities.

The web page now provides the following:

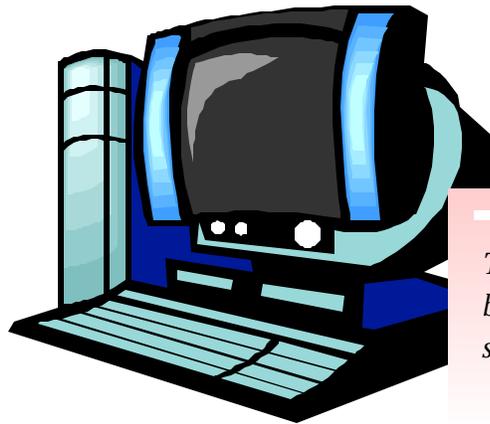
1. Copies of TACOM-Warren's Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Licenses.
2. A hot link to a new AR/Pam for handling equipment contaminated with DU or radioactive commodities.
3. A hot link to obtain the MC-1 Tester TM and TACOM-Warren's TB on radioactive commodities to include changes to the documents.
4. Under the category of training resources, a hot link to the DU

Awareness training and a schedule of Radiation Safety Officer training courses at Ft. Leonard Wood can be found.

5. Posting documents for the MC-1 Tester can be obtained with the exception of the "Caution Radioactive

Material" sign.

6. MC-1 Tester requirements for requisitioning it and for overnight missions are stated.



TACOM-Warren's Web Page has been updated to provide even greater support to the field...

New M1A2 Collimator Uses Led Technology

The New M1A2 Collimator (NSN 1240-01-465-5452) is the result of the U.S. Army's effort to Eliminate Radioactive Light Sources in its fire control instruments. This has been accomplished by the use of highly efficient light emitting diode (LED) technology. The M1A2 collimator contains no radioactive material. The tritium vial has been replaced by a Lighting Kit that contains two batteries, the off/on switch and the LED itself. This assembly attaches to the back of the scope assembly and is hinged to allow ambient light during day light usage. The M1A2 collimator comes with a new, molded one-piece Collimator Case Assembly. This new case has a built in carrying handle.

The following is provided for your information:

Power: The Lighting Kit is powered by two "C" cell size, 3.6 volts Lithium (NSN 6135-01-456-2924) commercial batteries. The reason for the Lithium

battery is that they have a wide operating temperature range (good to at least -55 degrees F); they are hermetically sealed (laser welded and glass to metal seal); and they have an outstanding storage capability (up to 10 years). The Lighting Kit will function with C cell Alkaline/Carbon-Zink or Ni/Cd, but at reduced efficiency. These later batteries could leak and corrode, therefore, we recommend them for emergency use only. The Lighting Kit is warranted for a two-year period after it leaves the plant, but the warranty will be voided if the cause of the malfunction is caused by corrosion.

The Lighting Kit is turned on and off by a push button switch located between the batteries on the battery pack area. Once the switch is turned on the LED will function for a duration of 12.5 hours plus 2 hours minus .5 hour if not turned off; this is considered to be one cycle. The Lighting Kit may be turned off at any time during the cycle by pushing the button. Note: the unit is

equipped with a three second delay function on the switch, actually there is a printed circuit board build in the unit and three seconds are needed to reset the timing function. What this all boils down to is: don't continuously turn the switch on/off or it may lead you to believe the unit is malfunctioning. If this does happen, just wait a few seconds and push the switch again.

The unit should function for at least 325 cycles with the Lithium Battery, (a year of use). When the battery life is near the end of its useful life, the light will begin a recognizable strobing to indicate at least 12 hours of battery life is remaining in the Lithium Battery. This is the time to change batteries. Never mix/use different kinds of batteries in the same unit.

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used. Do not use the commercial brand q/tips; order NSN 6515-01-234-6838 instead. For more information, see Safety of Use Message 98-02 (http://aeps2.ria.army.mil/Commodity/Soum/Tacom_RI/98_02/soum98_02.html).

Other Uses for the Leak Test Kit

The new kit can also be used for area *wipe tests* involving tritium/nickel, or *wipe tests* of tritium containing devices. The distinction between "*leak test*" and "*wipe test*" terminology is: "*leak tests*" are required by the license to examine source integrity while "*wipe tests*" are a general check for contamination (see TB 43-0197, <http://aeps2.ria.army.mil/Services/Radiation/rad.cfm>).

Note: Area *wipe tests* involving gross alpha/beta or alpha emitters (M8A1/M43A1) should be done using a durable filter that will not break down or be-

come distorted from the wiping procedure. The RIA Radiation Test Lab recommends the Nucon Smear (trade name) filter from Radiation Service Organization, Inc., P.O. Box 1526 Laurel, MD 20725-1526, (888) 723-5463, part number AC-RW500 (~\$40 per 500).

Army RSO Conference Agenda Is Here!



The welcome mixer commences at 19:00!

Army RSO Conference Agenda is Posted

We have completed our list of speakers and organized our conference by theme. The new agenda is posted on the TACOM-RI website, <http://www-acala1.ria.army.mil/LC/R/RS/conf.htm>. This site also has the list of individuals who have registered for the meeting, registration pages, area links, and a link to last year's conference site.

The new agenda is posted on the TACOM-RI website, <http://www-acala1.ria.army.mil/LC/R/RS/conf.htm>.

RSO Conference to get your room at per diem rates. Our

arrangement with the hotel calls for free

room upgrades, if available, so register early and get here as soon as possible.

There is a \$100 conference registration fee payable at check-in. Cash is appreciated.

Conference Social Events

The Army RSO Conference will kick-off with a no host mixer featuring hot hors d'oeuvres at the hotel between 19:00 and 22:00. Plan to be there if you can. We will have two luncheons built into the conference. Day 3 of the conference will conclude with a banquet. Col. Eric Daxon will present the keynote address on the use of Depleted Uranium. The cost of the luncheons and banquet are included in the conference registration fee. Additionally, we are planning an optional riverboat dinner cruise featuring prime rib and live entertainment.

The price per person will be between \$28 and \$32 dollars including tax and tip. The boat has requested 10 days advance notice so please let us know if you plan to take the cruise.



The conference concludes with a

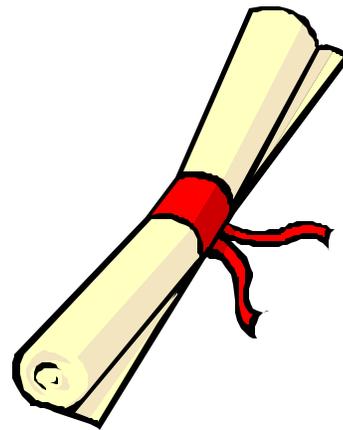
Commander
U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command
ATTN: AMSTA-LC-RS
Rock Island, IL 61299-7630

TACOM-Rock Island Safety Office
Phone: 309-782-6499
DSN: 793-6499
Fax: 309-782-6758/DSN 793-6758

RSO Conference
2000

CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

We have applied for continuing education units for the conference. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the conference. Each conference day will conclude with a Train the Trainer class. Certificates should be made available for each of these sessions, as well.



Not Another New License Amendment!

Yep! Every so often we like to make incremental improvements to license 12-00722-06 just to keep everyone on their toes. Usually, we try to make things simpler. The latest amendment issued by the NRC incorporates the changes listed below.

It removed the "40 hour" training requirements for Installation RPO/RSOs (Item 8, paragraph 1.c). However, the subject matter training requirements are still required, i.e., hazards and biological effects; emergency procedures; detection and measurement of radioactivity; calculations based on measurements; good radiation program practices for storage; monitoring; decontamination; and disposal of radioactive waste. Plus, in the process of removing the "40 hour" requirement, we committed to having at least one examination to assess the adequacy of the RSO training material.

It removed the reference to "Maintenance Advisory Messages" (Item 10, paragraph 2a) and clarified that "officially issued supplementary technical instructions" are limited to Technical Manual (TM) changes, Safety of Use Messages (SOU), and Ground Precautionary Messages (GPM). All other forms of communication such as Maintenance Advisory Messages, Technical Bulletins, and DA Pamphlets are in-

tended to recommend good practice but are not considered directive.

If you are an installation RSO, recommend obtaining the latest Amendment 37 from: <http://www-acala1.ria.army.mil/LC/R/RS/postings.htm> (TACOM-RI NRC License: 12-00722-06). You may also obtain an updated copy of the license application that incorporates all changes to the original application (<http://aepe2.ria.army.mil/Services/Radiation/rad.cfm>).

