Emergency Responder Information Sheet

In the event of damage or theft this info sheet can be given to Emergency Responders to aide in their understanding of the material. Print copies and place them in the gauge case info packet.

This portable nuclear gauge uses small amounts of radioactive material, Cesium 137 (8-10 mCi) and Americium 241 (40-50 mCi), to produce radiation that measures the density of soils and asphalt.

The radioactive source material is bonded into a ceramic pellet that is the size of a small pebble. The sources are contained in laser-fused, double encapsulated steel housings that make them virtually impenetrable and indestructible. The bonded material is not subject to leaking, oozing, melting or powdering. The steel canisters are further shielded inside the gauge’s steel source rod and surrounded by lead and tungsten bio-shields.

Although there have been catastrophic incidents where gauges have been demolished by tractor-trailers and heavy construction equipment, or melted down in fires, there has never been an instance where the damage has compromised the shielding to the point that contamination was released or caused harm to anyone.

Gauge workers are trained to call their company Radiation Safety Officer and/or State Regulatory Agency. Gauge manufacturers also supply emergency numbers. The gauge brand, model & UN 3332 number, as well as details of the damage and survey meter readings, if available, are necessary pieces of information. Gauge operators are required to have a HAZMAT Bill of Lading and Emergency Response Sheet readily available. These documents list emergency procedures.

Gauge Manufacturer Emergency Contact Numbers:

CPN/InstruTek - 800-424-9300 Humboldt – 800-535-5053

Troxler – 919-549-9539 Seaman – 414-762-5100

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Emergency Number 301-816-5100

USDOT HAZMAT Emergency Number 800-424-8802