

Project Summary:

Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse Program

Location:

Oak Ridge Associated Universities
(Oak Ridge, TN)

Government Agency:

U.S. Department of Energy/U.S. Department of Justice

Project Timetable:

2002 to 2006

The HDER program was cited by former Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham as a program to *“help ensure that our law enforcement and emergency personnel have the necessary equipment...to respond effectively and thoroughly to any emergency.”*

Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) began working collaboratively with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and U.S. Department of Justice (later with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security) in a cooperative effort known as the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse Program (HDER). Historically, as DOE sites were cleaned up and closed, remaining equipment was considered excess or surplus and disposed of as waste at considerable cost to American taxpayers. In 2002, with our country's renewed commitment to homeland security, DOE began putting the equipment to new use in defending our nation.

One of the goals of the HDER program has been to provide surplus radiological detection and other equipment to emergency responder agencies nationwide to strengthen their domestic preparedness capabilities. ORAU's role was to sustain this federal effort by continuing to assist in providing better equipment and training to our nation's emergency first responders.

Following the program's inception, ORAU:

- Provided project management and technical oversight in the receipt, evaluation and rehabilitation of excess equipment from DOE sites.
- Oversaw the assembly and completion of final equipment checks of requested radiological instrumentation kits and prepared “instrument kits” for shipment to the first responder community.
- Teamed with an ORAU sister program to provide training on the use of the equipment to emergency responders through the development of a training CD-ROM.



Partnerships for Innovation

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