

September 2005

## September 11, 2001...Never to be Forgotten!



September — a month that brings memories of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Four airplanes were hijacked by an organized group of terrorists. Two planes struck the World Trade Center Towers in New York City — causing both to tragically crash to the ground. A third struck the Pentagon in Washington, DC, and a fourth crashed in a field in Pennsylvania. Thousands of lives were lost along with billions of dollars in property damage amidst untold human suffering. The efforts of the emergency response organizations were truly heroic and played a major role in restoring order out of the chaos.



### What Has Happened Since...

*There have been a number of actions by governments, trade and professional associations and individual companies, including:*

- ▲ the U.S. federal government created the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which continues to aggressively improve security systems across the country
- ▲ State and local governments have reviewed their security systems and have made a variety of significant improvements
- ▲ the U.S. Coast Guard and Department of Transportation have published federal regulations dealing with security issues
- ▲ AIChE's Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS) developed and distributed "Guidelines for Analyzing and Managing the Security Vulnerabilities at Fixed Chemical Sites"
- ▲ American Chemistry Council members have implemented the Security Code of Responsible Care
- ▲ Many chemical facilities globally have completed a Security Vulnerability Analysis (SVA) and have implemented recommendations

### What You Can Do

An informed, watchful workforce is a major element in any site's security effort.

- ▲ Question things that look out of place — packages, people and transportation vehicles should have been "requested" by someone at your site. If they are present for no apparent reason, there is immediate cause for concern. Get the right people involved in investigating these questionable activities and events.
- ▲ Your site may have a variety of security procedures dealing with suspicious packages, bomb threats, emergency response and others. Take time to read them and understand your role in carrying them out.
- ▲ Be particularly diligent if your site handles hazardous chemicals. These facilities are especially sensitive and should receive special attention.
- ▲ Housekeeping is an important element in site security. A clean plant is a plant where "unusual items" are readily detected.
- ▲ Recognize that increased security may result in increased inconveniences. Be tolerant of them.

**STAY ALERT! Our collective watchfulness creates the foundation for our future well being.**

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