



PA HAZMAT TECHNICIANS CONFERENCE

08.20.26-08.23.26 / ALTOONA PA

In Partnership with the Pennsylvania
Emergency Management Agency

the future of hazmat CLASS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY AUGUST 20

BALLROOM 3

10-11am

OPENING ADDRESS:
Nashville Christmas Bombing
Scott Burgess, Steve Curry

BALLROOM 1

1-5pm

G320/MERRTT - Part 1
Joey Pordash,
Ben Herskowitz

BALLROOM 2

1-4pm

**Mercury Response
& Cleanup**
Robert Wise

207/208

1-2:30pm

Reactive Chemical Response - Polymerization Short Stop
Sam Simon, Mike Armstrong

3:30-5pm

Why Do We Care? The Periodic Table
Bobby Salvesen

FRIDAY AUGUST 21

BALLROOM 1

8:30-10am

**A Handful of Thumbs & 2
Left Feet: Responding to
Radiological Incidents**
Scott Burgess, Steve Curry

10:30am-12pm

**How Not to Suck
When Teaching
HazMat**
Bobby Salvesen

1:30-4:30pm

**From the Backstep to the Brass -
HazMat Tactics & Fire Department
Lessons from the Road**
Adam McFadden, Chris Pfaff

BALLROOM 2

9-10am

**Chiefs
Round
Table**
Mike Taylor

10:15-11am

**NWS HazMat
Support
Updates**
John Bowen

11:30am-1pm

**Operational Lessons Learned from a
5,000-Gallon Formaldehyde Release: A Rail
Tank Car Incident in Lebanon County, PA**
Gary Verna Jr.

1:30-4:30pm

**Mercury
Response
& Cleanup**
Robert Wise

202

8:30am-3pm

Advanced Air Monitoring Concepts - AAMC - 1011
PA State Fire Academy

203/204

8:30-11:30am

**Hold My Matches
& Watch This**
Brian Ramsey

12:30-2pm

**Overview of Several Lithium-Ion
Battery Incidents in PA (Highway,
Battery Warehouse)**
Ben Russell, Mike Rissel

2:30-5:30pm

**HazMat By the Numbers -
Turning HazMat Terms into
Life-Saving Decisions**
Chris Hawley

205/206

9-10:30am

**Lithium-Ion Battery
Air Monitoring**
Chris Pfaff

11am-12:30pm

**Instructor "Rehab": Enhancing Firefighter
Instruction Through Effective Learning Objectives**
Joe Scaglione, Albe Bassett

1:30-5:30pm

**CNG Class
- Part 1**
Tim Ferretti

207/208

8:30-10am

**Reactive Chemical
Response -
Polymerization Short Stop**
Sam Simon, Mike Armstrong

10:30am-12pm

**Fire on the Factory Floor!
Rapid Fire & Spill Response
for Industrial Facilities**
Adam McFadden

1-2:30pm

**Advanced
Tech Reg**
Bobby
Salvesen

3:30-5pm

**Pseudoscience
& Myths of
HazMat V3.0**
Bobby Salvesen

SATURDAY AUGUST 22

BALLROOM 1

8:30am-12:30pm
CNG Class - Part 2
Tim Ferretti

1-5pm
G320/MERRTT - Part 2 & RODEO
Joey Pordash, Ben Herskowitz

BALLROOM 2

8:30-10am
**Why Do I Care?
Chemical &
Physical
Properties**
Bobby Salvesen

10:30am-12pm
**The Hidden
Language of
HazMat Meters:
Are You Fluent?**
Bobby Salvesen

1:30-3pm
**Seconds From Chaos: HazMat
Technician Strategies for Bomb
Threats, Suspicious Package &
Explosive Device Calls**
Adam McFadden

3:30-5pm
**Battery
Bombs &
Beyond**
Adam
McFadden

202

1-5pm
Advanced Air Monitoring Concepts - AAMC - 1011
PA State Fire Academy

203/204

8:30-11:30am
**Tactical
Response to
Explosive Gas
Emergencies**
Jerry Knapp

12:30-2pm
**HazMat on the Highway:
Managing the Most
Dangerous Incident
You'll Ever Work**
Todd Leiss

2:15-3:45pm
**Your Friends on the Inside:
The Importance of Working
with On-Site Industrial
Response Teams**
Kevin Herzog

4-5:30pm
**Container
Safety
Devices**
Jim Leer

205/206

9-10:30am
**From Recon to Identification:
A Systematic Approach to
Chemical Detection**
Scott Burgess, Steve Curry

11am-12:30pm
**HazMat Mapping - From
Emergency Management
to Emergency Response**
Chris Pfaff

1:30-4:30pm
**Grounding & Bonding:
Understanding Risks
Handling Flammable Liquids**
Brian Ramsey

207/208

8:30-10am
**Hazardous
Materials
Gerrymandering**
Ben Herskowitz

10:30am-12pm
**ARFF Meets HazMat:
Response Priorities, Tactical
Decision-Making & Reality for
Career & Rural Firefighters**
Greg Scott

1-2:30pm
**Risk-Based Response:
Turning Meter
Readings into
Real Decisions**
Chris Hawley

3:30-5pm
**HazMat
Response
to Smells**
Chris
Hawley

SUNDAY AUGUST 23

BALLROOM 3

9-11am
CLOSING SPEAKER:
Seconds to Safety: Hazards, Risks & Consequences in HazMat Events
Brian Ramsey



**PA HAZMAT
TECHNICIANS
CONFERENCE**

08.20.26-08.23.26 / ALTOONA PA



Pennsylvania
Emergency Management Agency



For more information, visit the **PAHMT website** by scanning the QR code to the right.