



**United Safety**<sup>™</sup>  
Professionals

**EQUIPNET**

# Calling 911 is Not an Emergency Plan Ensuring Safety for First Responders

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**QUALIFICATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS**

- BS Chemical Engineering – University of Lowell
- MBA – Western New England
- Board Certified Safety Professional (CSP)
- Licensed Professional Engineer – (P.E. Massachusetts – Safety)
- Associate in Risk Management (ARM)
- Certified Chemical Process Safety Professional (CCPSC- American Institute of Chemical Engineers)
- Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer (Construction & General Industry)
- Licensed Insurance Advisor



**United Alliance™**  
Professional Solutions for Workplace Safety  
An EquipNet Company

# United Alliance Services

- Created 2010
- Acquired by Equipnet in 2020
- Three Divisions
- Largest Occupational Safety Advisory Company on East Coast
- Full-Service Safety Services
  - Training (OSHA & Safety)
  - Safety Program Development
  - Onsite Safety & Health Support
  - Onsite Medics



## Overview

- ❖ First responders are the professionals we call in an emergency
- ❖ They are going into places that we are leaving
- ❖ They are highly trained but they are not as well versed of the hazards in every workplace



## Overview

- ❖ Industry has an obligation to train first responders of our hazards and what they can possibly encounter during an emergency
- ❖ Confined spaces, excavations, chemical process hazards, or explosion possibilities, industry must take a role in education prior to calling 911.





# Objectives

- ❖ Discuss that industry has an obligation to educate First Responders on the Hazards in our workplace
- ❖ Identify atypical hazards in the workplace that First Responders might Not be familiar with
- ❖ Review various techniques that can be used to help educate First Responders



# FACTS

- ❖ 85% of Hazardous Incidents occur at Fixed Facilities
- ❖ 10% of Injured People are First Responders
- ❖ Respiratory Injuries - Leading Cause
- ❖ Only 28% of First Responders (Police, Fire, EMT) have received Hazmat Training

Per Department of HHS

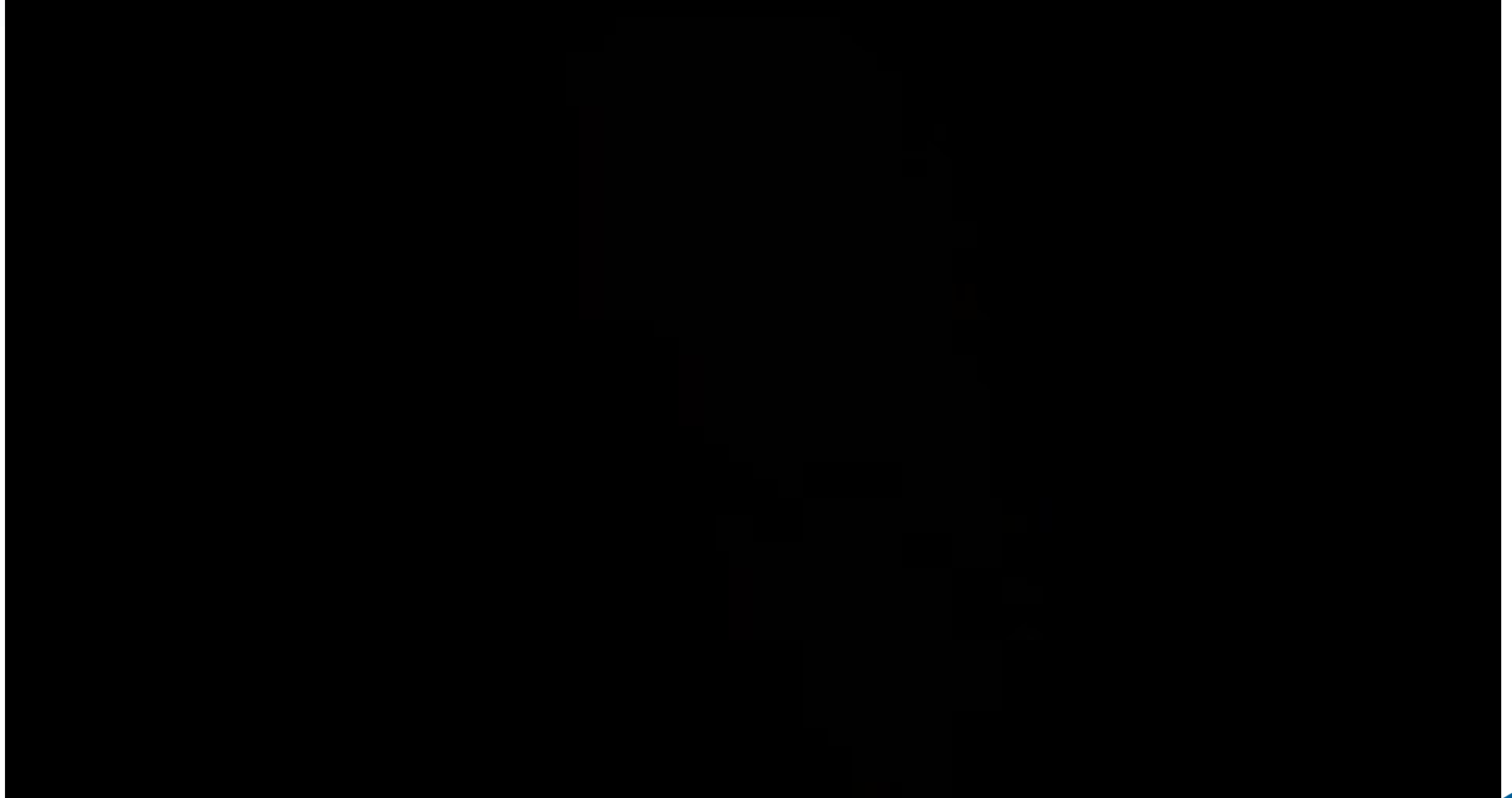


## How Does the Public View Industry following an Incident?





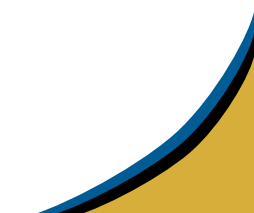
# The Front Fell Off???



A decorative graphic in the top left corner consisting of a cluster of blue and white hexagons of varying shades and sizes.

# **My Own VPP Story**

## **Plant Safety Manager – OxyChem Petrochemicals – Lake Charles, LA**

- ❖ Ethylene & Propylene Manufacturer
  - ❖ Sulphur, LA
    - ❖ Built by Citi Services
    - ❖ Worked at Plant – 1990-1993
  - ❖ Led Plant's efforts to be First Plant in SW Louisiana to obtain VPP STAR Status
    - ❖ Two Years of Work
    - ❖ Out Reached to Local & State First Responders
- 
- A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner consisting of a curved shape with a blue outer border and a yellow inner fill.

# The Results in 1993!





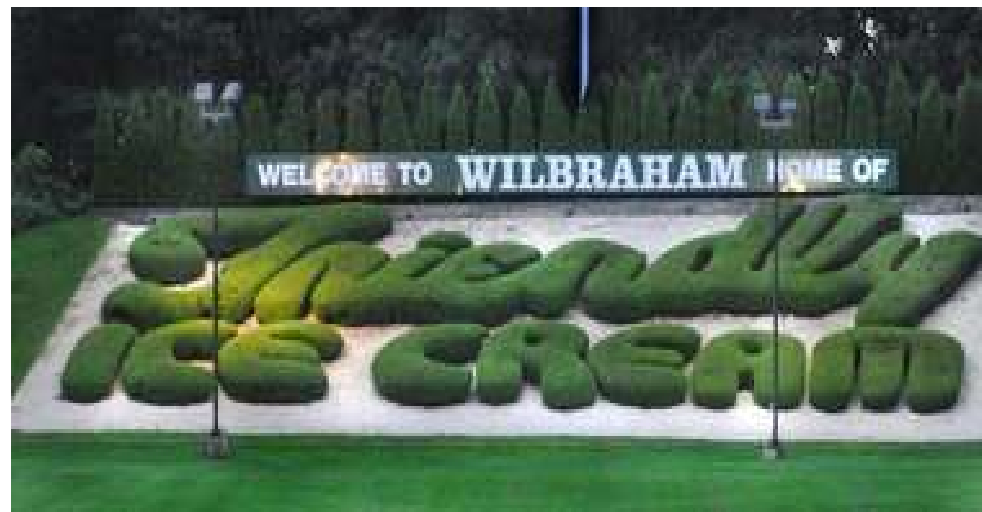


# My Own Story

## Corporate Safety Manager – Friendly Ice Cream

### Part 2

- ❖ Two Manufacturing Plants – MA & OH
  - ❖ 200K & 150K Pounds of NH<sub>3</sub> onsite respectfully
- ❖ FIC Wilbraham, MA
  - ❖ Built 1960
  - ❖ Chemical Release Profile - One Mile Dead Zone – Encompasses Mass Turnpike, Minnechaug High School & Eastfield Mall
- ❖ Met with Fire Chiefs of Springfield & Wilbraham, MA & LEPC to Discuss their Response Plans



# Our Meeting

I Asked What Their Response Plan for Ammonia Leak at Ice Cream Plant?



# What are you Putting in the Ice Cream?



# Unaware of NH3 Dangers

## Most used Refrigerant in the Food Industry

### Hazards

Inhalation  
Explosion  
Chemical burns  
Pressurized gas





## My Presentation to the Officials Included These Incidents



# Anhydrous Ammonia



# Ice Cream Manufacturer



# What Happened following my Meeting with Western Mass Safety Officials

- ❖ Conducted Tours of Plant for all First Responders
- ❖ Trained all First Responders on Anhydrous Ammonia
  - ❖ Dangers & Response Scenarios
  - ❖ Emergency Shut Offs
  - ❖ Proper PPE
  - ❖ Purchased Equipment for them (NH3 Meters)
- ❖ Conducted Plant Wide Drill of Major Release – Plant Staff, Springfield, Wilbraham, LEPC & Media





# Results

Friendly's Plant in Wilbraham

Named Safest Worksite in Massachusetts

Massachusetts Safety Council

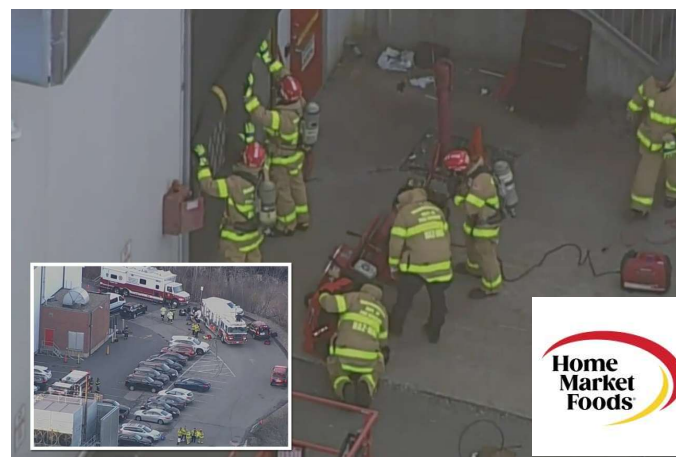
Circa 1995



*Friendly's*



## Unfortunately These Incidents Keep Happening



## Lets Review These Incidents



Fertilizer



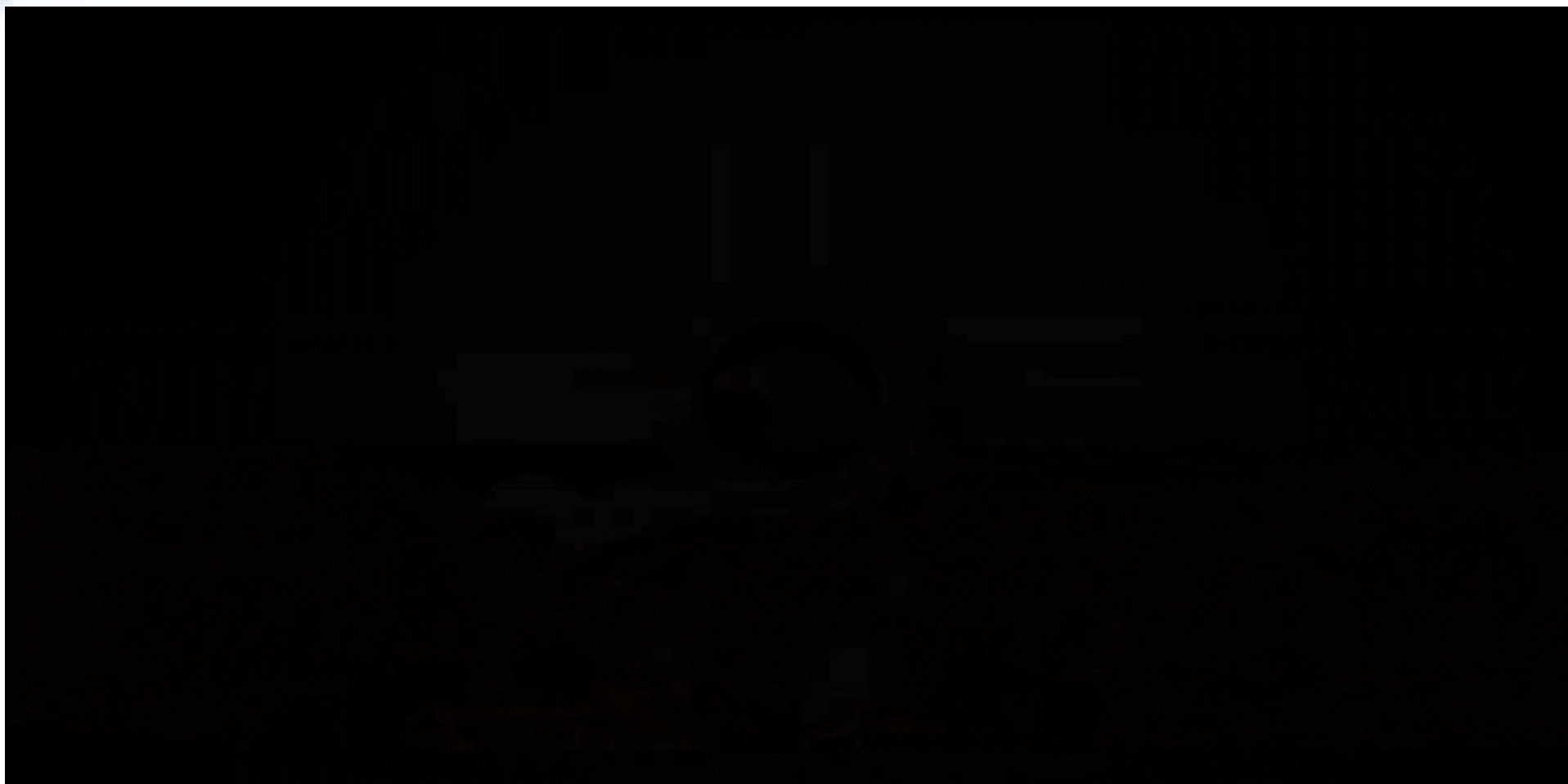
Various



Solvents



# West Texas, TX





## Lets Review These Incidents



Fertilizer

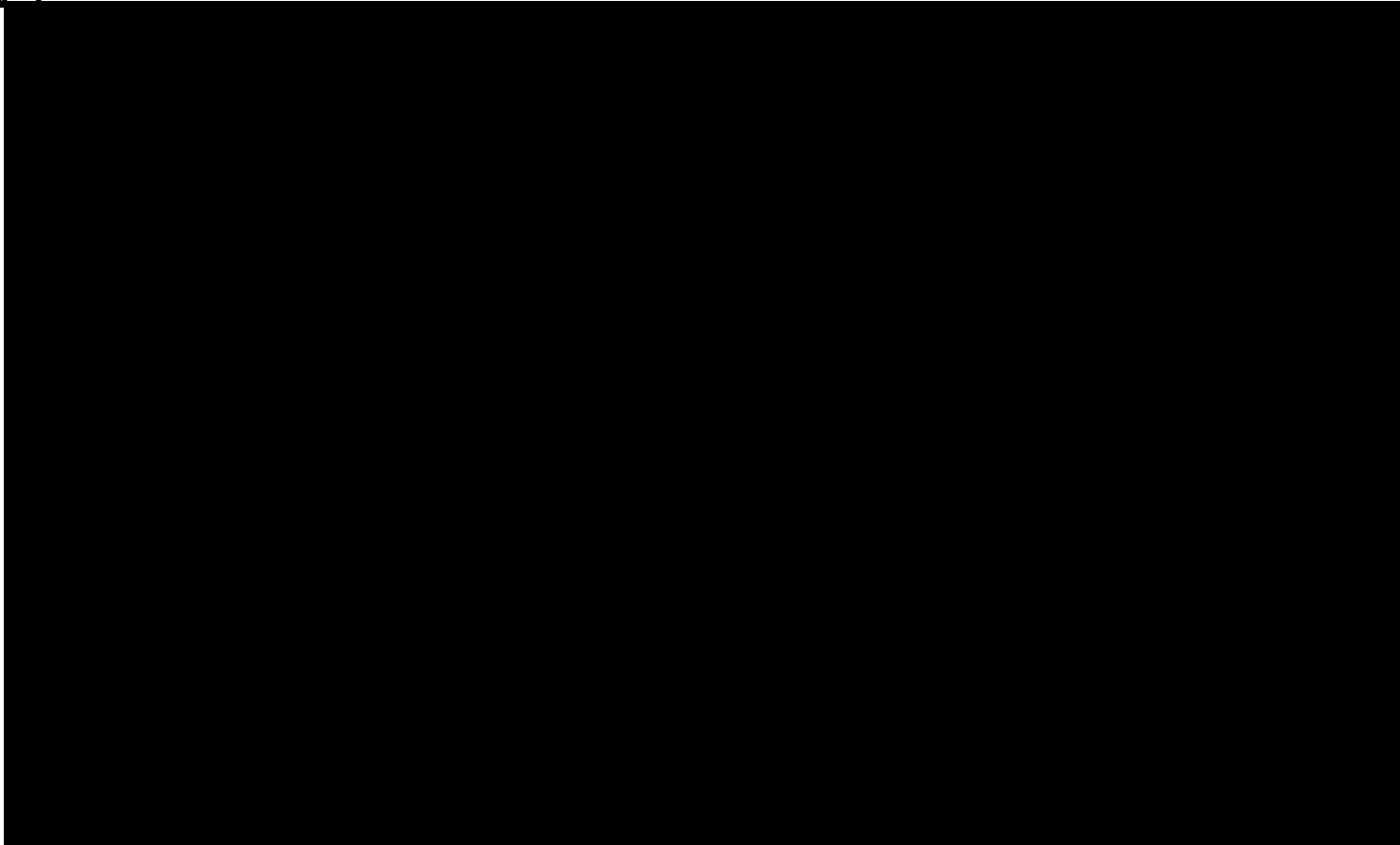


Various



Solvents

BLEVE



## Lets Review These Incidents



Fertilizer



Various



Solvents

# Confined Space Rescue



# Summary

- ❖ Industry has an Obligation to Educate First Responders on the Hazards in their Plants
- ❖ Invite them in – Walk them Through Your Processes
- ❖ Highlight the Hazards & Your Expectations if They are Needed
  - ❖ Confined Space Rescue, Chemical Release, Rescue of your Workers
  - ❖ Ensure they Have the Equipment Necessary to Perform their Jobs in your plant (Atmospheric Meters, Confined Space Rescue Equipment, Etc.)
  - ❖ Have Subject Matter Experts ready to assist to help in an expert capacity.





# QUESTIONS

Thank you  
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