

JOB AID

**HAZMAT Transportation – Part 7**  
**Security Awareness**

# HAZMAT Transportation - Part 7 - Security Awareness

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Hazardous materials are essential, but they can also be deadly weapons in the hands of a terrorist.

## Security Requirements

People who may transport or distribute hazardous materials must take general security awareness training, security plan training and any other hazmat training required by a location. Companies should train employees to recognize abnormal behavior.

## Security Plans

Companies who transport or distribute hazardous materials must have **security plans** that cover topics such as personnel issues, how to limit access to hazardous materials, and how to ensure the safety and security of shipments. Security plans must be in writing and kept up-to-date.

Facility security plans should account for:

- Area surrounding the facility
- Hazardous materials present
- Physical barriers to entry
- Means of detecting intrusion attempts
- History of unauthorized entries
- Regulatory requirements

## Potential Targets

Potential targets for hazardous material terrorism may include the environment or man-made targets, such as:

- Sensitive infrastructure like bridges, tunnels and dams
- Locations for public gatherings, venues, historic monuments and skyline landmarks
- Stationary targets like chemical plants, tank farms and loading areas
- Public utilities such as water, electrical and natural gas plants

## Potential Threats

Terrorists may be external and able to patiently blend in, or internal (such as disgruntled employees). Be suspicious of anyone around hazardous materials and **ALWAYS GUARD YOUR PRODUCTS AND CARGO!**

Checking loading orders and other documents. Be aware that cargo is often stolen with forged documentation including bills of lading, certifications or personal identification. Writing the driver's identification number on shipping orders or bills of lading and have drivers print and sign their names.

## Planning a Safe Route

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ARE MOST VULNERABLE WHEN IN TRANSIT.** Let your coordinator know anytime you have concerns about a route. When you plan a route:

- Take the shortest route possible
- Avoid high-population areas
- Avoid routes through tunnels and over bridges
- Ensure there is good lighting at stops
- Maintain visual contact with your vehicle at stops
- Time your routes to avoid high or peak traffic times

## Keep People and Cargo Secure

To keep yourself and your cargo secure:

- Be aware of your surroundings and suspicious of unusual behavior or events
- Complete pre-trip vehicle inspections, as well as storage area inspections and inventories
- Don't pick up hitchhikers
- Follow attendance, driving and parking rules and regulations
- Know your customers (report lack of knowledge, unusual purchases and odd behavior)
- Report estimated time of arrival (ETA), route, layovers, delays and modal transfers
- Report suspicious activity or behavior
- Secure rigs and storage areas (keep everything locked, restrict access, have a single point-of-entry)
- When stopped, be sure all doors are locked, and cargo is secure
- Never talk about your cargo or destination where an unauthorized person could overhear you, including on a cell phone or radio

When shipments or equipment are lost or stolen, the first thing drivers should do is call the carrier's 24-hour hotline.

## How Carriers Can Help

Hazardous material carriers should:

- Install global positioning system (GPS) tracking
- Check in with drivers at established points or times
- Help establish safe routes away from population centers, tunnels and bridges
- Report lost or stolen shipments or equipment
- Provide drivers with a 24-hour hotline to call for reporting incidents
- Use tamper-proof alarms and locks to secure cargo
- Train drivers and reinforce driver security responsibilities
- Inspect equipment to ensure it will not fail (driver should check this)

## Identify Vulnerabilities

Companies can identify vulnerabilities by using vulnerability assessments and security checklists. Companies should only share the results of their vulnerability analyses with people who need to know and should keep assessment results in a secure place.

Companies and drivers should be aware of increase their level of security when:

- A terrorist attack occurs
- The government begins military actions in foreign countries
- Government officials declare a heightened state of alert

## Hiring Practices

Employers should:

- Look for gaps in employment and changes in employment
- Check employment and personal references, all names used by the applicant, criminal history and government driver safety scoring
- Verify residence information, licenses and accreditations, and hazardous material endorsements
- Conduct interviews to appraise personality, character, motivation, honesty, integrity and reliability