First Quarter - January - March 2004

Staff attended the, LEPC Staff and Chairs Meeting, and the State Emergency Response Commission Meeting on January 8-9, 2004 in Key West. The Tampa Bay LEPC met on January 21, 2004 and March 31, 2004 at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.

HMEP Training continued with Hospital Awareness/Operations training conducted at the Bay Pines VA Medical Facility on March 9-11, 2004. Additionally, a 4-day Train-the-Trainer Course for Medical Personnel was held at the Tampa Bay RPC on March 23-26, 2004. Planning activities centered around How-to-Comply Workshops with 16 being held in January and February.


The LEPC in conjunction with CSX Railroad and DuPont CAER Car, sponsored a TRANSCAER training week in the Tampa CSX Rail yard February 9-13, 2004. It was highly successful with approximately 110 first responder personnel registered to attend the 4-hour awareness training sessions and the 8-hour technician-level course.

EPCRA Awareness Week was promoted region-wide with both the LEPC and the TBRPC providing proclamations. Additionally, communities were receptive with all four county commissions and 16 cities and towns issuing proclamations. Several facilities also provided either EPCRA displays or special EPCRA emphasis in staff meetings.

Staff participated in two RMP Audits - the City of Largo WWTP on March 4th and the Dunedin Coca-Cola (Minute Maid) plant on March 5th.

A considerable effort was spent assisting the Regional Domestic Security Task Force (Region 4) in exercise planning with five extensive planning sessions held during the quarter. Attended the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) training in Chicago March 24-26, 2004.