

Ohio National Guard

Civil Support Team



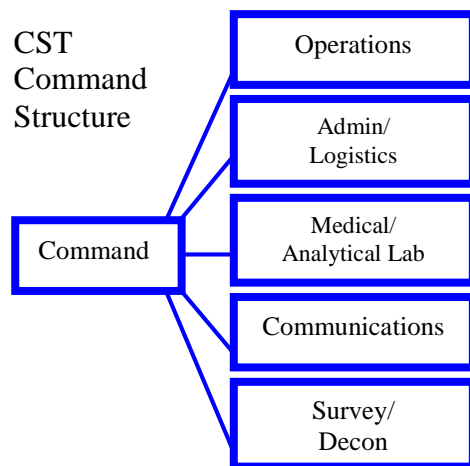
- Identify • Assess
- Assist • Advise

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Requesting 52nd CST

If the Incident Commander would like the 52nd CST to identify, assess, assist and advise them on CBRNE hazards, they simply call the 52nd CST at **1-866-496-3278**. The CST Commander will examine the information provided and offer a **full team response, partial team response and/or technical assistance** over the phone.

The CST also assists local responders with equipment, tactics and maintenance training upon request.



Ohio's CBRNE Response Team

The 52nd Civil Support Team is Ohio's full-time response resource for emergencies or terrorist events that involve unknown hazards associated with Chemical, Biological, Radiological and High Yield Explosive (CBRNE) threat agents. The 52nd is able to rapidly deploy, assist responders in determining the nature of the incident, provide CBRNE specific medical and technical advice and liaison with follow-on federal and military assets. The 52nd CST NEVER replaces first responders, but augments local resources with unique capabilities as the First Military Response.



Tasks are accomplished using the National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). The CST integrates with the local responding agencies under the control of the Incident Commander (IC).



A WMD attack poses unique obstacles – such as identification of an unknown agent, multiple casualties of unknown cause or spread of deadly contamination.



Frequently Asked Questions

How did the WMD-CST program get started?

In 1998, President Clinton announced that the nation would do more to protect its citizens against the growing threat of chemical and biological terrorism. As part of this effort the Department of Defense formed teams to support state and local authorities in the event of an incident involving weapons of mass destruction. Currently, there are 57 CSTs that span the United States and Territories.



What exactly does the 52nd CST do?

What is their mission?

The 52nd CST's mission is to support local and state authorities at domestic WMD/CBRNE or natural disaster incident sites by identifying agents and substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on additional response measures and assisting with appropriate requests for additional state and federal support.

Does the CST compete for funding with other State and Local agencies?

Will the CST bill us?

The CST is federally resourced with funding, training, certifications and doctrine. The CST will **never "bill"** another agency for their services; however, they will provide the Incident Commander (IC) with a total cost roll-up should there be an attempt to recoup funds from the responsible party.

Who staffs the 52nd CST and what type of training do they receive?

The 52nd CST is staffed by 22 full-time Army and Air National Guard personnel covering 14 different military occupations. They complete extensive scenario-based evaluations to be declared operational by the Secretary of Defense. The team has received in excess of 25,000 hours of highly specialized training from military sources like the US Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Disease and the US Army Chemical Corps; and civilian training from agencies like the FBI, Department of Energy, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Environmental Protection Agency and National Fire Academy. There is also extensive manufacturer training of sophisticated equipment. Some of the unique competencies include: hazardous materials modeler, physician assistant, nuclear medical science officer and satellite communication specialists.



What kind of equipment does the 52nd CST bring to an incident?

In addition to the equipment most hazardous materials teams have, such as Level A ensembles and basic chemical and radiation monitoring equipment. The CST brings robust detection, identification, modeling, analytical, medical and communications capabilities. The CST focuses on a broad range of hazards to include: unknown Chemical, Biological, Radiological, High Yield Explosives (CBRNE), Toxic Industrial Materials (TIM), Toxic Industrial Chemicals (TIC), Chemical based explosives and dissemination devices. Most samples are analyzed at the incident site in the Analytical Laboratory System (ALS) using state of the art technologies and commercial equipment.

If the 52nd CST is military, do they provide site security for a WMD event?

No. The Ohio National Guard has the capability to deploy the National Guard Reaction Force (NGRF) comprised of armed Guardsmen that are trained and equipped to work in a chemical or biological environment and assist law enforcement. This asset must be requested by the Incident Commander through OEMA and the Military Support Officer. In most cases, such request would require the Governor to declare an emergency. The 52nd CST can assist in making the appropriate request.



Does the 52nd CST do mass decontamination or remediation?

No. The 52nd CST is equipped to decontaminate it's own personnel, equipment, and samples, but does not have the capacity or personnel to decontaminate large numbers of victims or responders. The CST can conduct minimal hazardous materials mitigation, but cannot undertake complete remediation. The CST can assist the Incident Commander by determining hazardous materials remediation needs and identify appropriate agencies to handle the any given situation.

Does the 52nd CST provide emergency medical treatment to victims?

No. The medical section, which consists of a Physician Assistant and Emergency Medical Technician focuses on healthcare for the 52nd CST members and coordination with local EMS and hospitals. Through coordination with the CST local hospitals receive recommendations on treatment protocols for contaminated patients. The CST can provide limited hazardous materials Advanced Life Support but does not have the ability to transport injured personnel.

