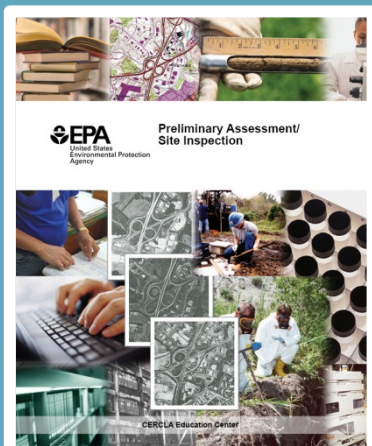


# Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection



*Course manual for Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection*

## COURSE OUTLINE

### Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection

- I. Introduction to Site Assessment under CERCLA
- II. CERCLA Statutory and Regulatory Background
- III. Overview of Site Assessment Process under CERCLA
- IV. Basics of Performing CERCLA Site Assessments
- V. Conducting the PA
- VI. Site Evaluation and Scoring for a PA
- VII. PA Scoring Exercise Using Quickscore
- VIII. Conducting the SI
- IX. SI Strategies
  - A. Site Sources
  - B. Groundwater Pathway
  - C. Surface Water Pathway
  - D. Soil Exposure Pathway
  - E. Air Pathway
  - F. Summary

Appendix A: Radiation Contamination

## Course Description and Objectives

Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection (PA/SI) provides an introduction to the Superfund site assessment process and describes the preliminary assessment and site inspection phases of this process. By taking the course, participants will achieve the following objectives:

- **Explain when, where, why and how site assessments are performed under the authorities of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).** The course provides an overview of key provisions of CERCLA and the response process established by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The purpose, scope and requirements for performing a remedial preliminary assessment (PA) and remedial site inspection (SI) at sites regulated by CERCLA are explained as well as recognizing if threats exist that could warrant a removal action.
- **Prepare for, conduct and report the results of a remedial PA.** The course identifies and explains procedures for performing a remedial PA, including determining whether a PA is appropriate, planning for and conducting the remedial PA, preparing a preliminary Hazard Ranking System (HRS) score for the site, using checklists and documenting results so that a decision can be made about the site.
- **Determine the need for, conduct and report the results of a remedial SI.** The course identifies the step-by-step activities for conducting a remedial SI, including discussion of health and safety considerations for field activities, establishing data quality objectives and developing sampling strategies to obtain data for HRS scoring, validating data and preparing a final report to document the decision-making process.
- **Identify and use guidance, software and other tools to successfully meet the requirements for conducting a remedial PA and SI.** The course will identify guidance and policies issued by the EPA applicable to conducting a remedial PA and SI, explain the basic structure and scoring factors of the HRS and introduce site investigators on how to use EPA's Quickscore software program.

## Target Audience and Registration Information

PA/SI is a 3-day training course designed for personnel who are required to compile, draft and review PA, SI and HRS documentation records and packages submitted for sites proposed for the National Priorities List (NPL). This course is open to EPA, federal, state, tribal and contractor personnel who support site investigation programs.

Visit [www.trainex.org](http://www.trainex.org) and select the CERCLA Education Center to view the current schedule of offerings and register to attend. There are no tuition costs or prerequisites for this training course. Participants will receive reference material, including a detailed manual, to continue their education after the course ends.

## Other CERCLA Education Center Courses

- **Hazard Ranking System:** Provides a detailed review of the HRS model and how the model is applied to various site conditions. The course is designed for personnel who are required to compile, draft and review PA, SI and HRS documentation records and packages submitted for sites proposed for the NPL.
- **Fundamentals of Superfund:** Provides an overview of the purpose, legal framework, and implementation of CERCLA and the NCP for newly hired RPMs and OSCs.
- **Remedial Process:** Provides a comprehensive examination of the technical and regulatory issues that must be addressed during remedial response efforts at Superfund sites. This training is designed primarily for RPMs and other environmental professionals in the Superfund program who are responsible for or need to know about remedial activities under CERCLA.

## Online Resources

### TRAINEX

The Training Exchange website

provides a wide range of training information for staff involved in hazardous waste management and remediation. The site provides up-to-date course information and training schedules for classroom and internet-based courses.

[www.trainex.org](http://www.trainex.org)



### OTHER SOURCES FOR INFORMATION

#### HAZARDOUS WASTE CLEAN-UP INFORMATION (CLU-IN)

[www.clu-in.org](http://www.clu-in.org)

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGERS (NARPM) ANNUAL TRAINING PROGRAM

[www.epanarpm.org](http://www.epanarpm.org)

#### TRIAD RESOURCE CENTER

[www.triadcentral.org](http://www.triadcentral.org)

#### GREEN REMEDIATION

[www.clu-in.org/greenremediation](http://www.clu-in.org/greenremediation)

#### BROWNFIELDS AND LAND REVITALIZATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT CENTER (BTSC)

[www.brownfieldstsc.org](http://www.brownfieldstsc.org)

#### ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRAINING PROGRAM (ERTP)

[www.trainex.org](http://www.trainex.org) and select the ERTP

#### INTERSTATE TECHNOLOGY & REGULATORY COUNCIL

[www.itrcweb.org](http://www.itrcweb.org)

#### FEDERAL REMEDIATION TECHNOLOGIES ROUNDTABLE

[www.frtr.gov](http://www.frtr.gov)

#### TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION PROGRAM HOME PAGE ON EPA'S WEBSITE

[www.epa.gov/superfund/remedytech](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/remedytech)

#### TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROJECT

[www.epa.gov/superfund/remedytech/partner.htm](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/remedytech/partner.htm)

## ABOUT THE CERCLA EDUCATION CENTER

The CERCLA Education Center (CEC) is a unique training forum implemented by EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. CEC courses have been developed cooperatively by the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation; the Office of Emergency Management; the Office of Acquisition Management; the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance; and the Office of Research and Development. Site managers from EPA regions provide technical advice, comment and support. The CEC's structured curriculum, designed primarily for EPA hazardous waste site managers and responders, enables participants to attend training that is of particular interest to them and most appropriate for their projects and workloads.

### UP-TO-DATE COURSE INFORMATION

*For information about course schedules, visit EPA's Training Exchange at [www.trainex.org](http://www.trainex.org).*

