In fiscal year 2000, the United States Congress directed the Department of Defense to “establish a cost effective counterterrorism training program for first responders and concurrent testing of response apparatus and equipment at the [West Virginia] Memorial Tunnel.”
The CNR is a weapons of mass destruction (WMD) consequence management (CM) and counterterrorism (CT) training and testing facility for local, state, Federal, agencies and departments. Within the CNR are realistic venues, props, and special effects to enhance the testing and training experience.
HAZMAT/Highway Venue

- HAZMAT, Accident, or Terrorist Event
- Props include cars, a bus, fire engines, and/or a tractor-trailer
Restaurant Venue

- Family style Italian restaurant overlooking subway/train tracks
- Multiple entrances and exits
Subway Venue

- Real subway car
- 200-feet of track
- Subway platform
- Accessible electrical and ventilation rooms
Illicit Laboratory Venues

- Three different levels of sophistication
- Simulates biological, chemical, or illicit drug labs
- Contain real equipment and many precursors
Cave Venue

- Simulates an underground or mountainous system of narrow tunnels.
- Props include manuals, weapons, and laboratory equipment.
Post-Blast Rubble Venue

- Partially collapsed building with hazards and vehicles
- Second story accessible via stairwell or elevator shaft
Confined-Space Egress Trainer

- Three-level structure
- Near zero light, confined-space operating environment
- Debris within creates additional challenges
Our Mission

To evaluate the utility of equipment, technology, and apparatus to materially aid emergency response personnel in a WMD-contaminated environment.
Our Goal

Our goal is twofold:

• Allowing emergency responders to operationally test equipment in a realistic WMD environment prior to purchase so that they are able to identify equipment that meets their needs.

• Provide manufacturers with test results and feedback from the testing organizations, which presents them with product strengths and ways in which they can improve their product.
Examples of Equipment Tested

- Personal Protective Equipment
- Detectors (Chemical, Biological, and Radiological)
- Communications Equipment (Wireless Video and Radio)
- Decontamination (Berms, Foam, and Tents)
- Robotics (EOD and Search and Rescue)
- Thermal Imagers and Night Vision Equipment
Selection of Equipment

Equipment is selected in a number of ways:

- Requested by emergency responders training at the CNR
- Manufacturer requests the their equipment be operationally tested and evaluated
- CNR personnel select equipment rationally
OTEP Process

Center for National Response
Operational Test Plan
Prepared by:
Center for National Response
Operational Test and Evaluation Program

Operational Testing

Center for National Response
Operational Test Report
Test Series CNR0X-XX-XX
Prepared by:
CNR Operational Test and Evaluation Program
Prepared for:
National Guard Bureau

Limited Distribution
Test Plan

- Analyze all available information on the equipment
- Determine the goals and standard operating procedures (SOPs) of the test operators
- Subject matter experts are consulted regarding test procedures
- Script procedures and protocols so that they are (1) set in a realistic WMD response scenario, (2) bound within the documented capabilities of the equipment, and (3) bounded within the test operators SOPs
Independent tests are conducted on a selected day and/or incorporated into an exercise.

Prior to testing, the manufacturer provides briefing, demonstration, and hands-on training.

Occurs in a controlled environment.

All testing conducted by appropriate, qualified emergency responders.

OTEP controllers record all relevant results and interactions.
Test Report

- All relevant test conditions, outcomes, measurements, findings, and results are provided
- Focuses on the capabilities and limitations of the UUT
- “Just the facts ma’am” approach
- Final test report is sent to the NGB, the manufacturer, and the test operators
- Goal is to place all Test Reports in the public domain
OTEP Results

Summary of results per emergency responders:

- Finding equipment does not meet their needs, expectations, or SOPs before they purchase it
- Selecting better equipment to meet their needs
- More aware of equipment available to them

Summary of results per equipment manufacturers:

- Redesign of equipment
- Development of new applications for equipment
Point of Contact

The CNR is committed to providing the best operational test and evaluation environment to meet your needs. For additional information on operational testing of equipment at the CNR, please contact:

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Questions?

Prepared For Tomorrow Through Testing Today

Thank you.