

DOT Hazmat Training Requirements – 49 CFR Part 172, Subpart H Training

Training Defined

Training as used in this subpart means a systematic program that ensures a hazmat employee has familiarity with the general provisions of this subchapter, is able to recognize and identify hazardous materials, has knowledge of specific requirements of this subchapter applicable to functions performed by the employee, and has knowledge of emergency response information, self-protection measures and accident prevention methods and procedures.

Who needs this training?

A hazmat employee who performs any function subject to the requirements of Subpart H. Anyone who handles hazardous materials including individuals who ship or receive hazardous materials, prepare hazardous materials for transportation, mark and label containers, complete shipping documents, select packaging and load or unload hazardous materials. If a person only signs the manifest, he/she needs the training. Must be completed within 90 days of hire.

What is a hazardous material?

Hazardous material means a substance or material that the Secretary of Transportation has determined is capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property when transported in commerce

What companies must follow DOT training?

Any company who has employees that perform work that is regulated by the US DOT Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR).

What training is required?

- General Awareness/Familiarization Training
- Security Awareness Training
- Function Specific Training
- Safety Training
- In-depth Security Training



OSHA, EPA, and Other Training may be used to satisfy the training requirements to the extent that such training addresses the training components specified in Subpart H.

Initial Training – May perform functions prior to completion of training

Recurrent Training – at least every 3 years

Relevant Training – from previous employer, must have record provided.

Compliance - Employer is responsible for compliance with the requirements of this subchapter

Three other subparts to this standard will require training.

Subpart D - Marking

Subpart E – Labeling

Subpart F – Placarding



How often must training be updated or repeated?

The training requirements must be repeated every three years. The Office of Hazardous Materials Safety has developed training modules that meet the requirements for general awareness training as prescribed in Title 49 CFR, Part 172, Subpart H. The Hazardous Materials Transportation Training Modules contain an interactive training program for individual instruction. The training modules are available at <http://dothazmat.vividlms.com>

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