

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Program Update

Electric Vehicle Training Program

Approximately 120 instructors participated in the train-the-trainer program. Of those twelve were actively training their own departments. One instructor, from Carlsbad, California has trained other departments outside his own. One class is tentatively scheduled for Penryn Fire Department in November 2002.

Hybrid Electric Vehicles

An East Coast training company has put together an emergency program for the Toyota and Honda hybrid electric vehicles. For more information visit www.extrication.com.

Electric Bus Update

Funding from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Electric Power Research Institute facilitated an update to the original EV training program to include information regarding electric and hybrid electric buses. The update includes a new section to the original text and a self-contained slide presentation. The original course can now be taught as an 8-hour class or as a 16-hour program with the inclusion of the electric bus information.

Natural Gas Vehicle Program

Funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety to the California Energy Commission is being used to develop and deliver an emergency response training program for compressed and liquified natural gas vehicles. The program will be modeled after the "Emergency Response to Electric Vehicle" training materials. The program will be similar to but not as inclusive as the propane safety training program now available from www.propanesafety.com.

Fuel Cell Vehicles

Emergency response organizations are making inquiries about this up-coming vehicle technology. This will be a natural follow-up to the emergency response guides described above.

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