

PRESS ADVISORY

Contact Peggy L. Herman at 719-584-0576 or
Mike Cook at 719-584-1547 at



Pueblo, Colorado 81001
for additional information.



TTCI Receives 2010 Federal Grant for Surface Transportation Emergency Preparedness and Response Training

Pueblo, Colo. – July 1, 2010 – The Department of Homeland Security announced today TTCI will receive a 2010 national training program grant for training state, local, and tribal first responders at the SERTC campus.

TTCI, a subsidiary of the Association of American Railroads, is one of seven members of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium, actively providing world class training in emergency response to the Nation's public safety response communities. TTCI received a similar award in 2009.

“This grant further recognizes the important role TTCI plays in providing vital training not only to our nation’s railroads, but also to the first responders in the communities we serve all around the country,” said Association of American Railroads President and CEO Edward R. Hamberger.

“TTCI strongly supports DHS/FEMA’s efforts in keeping our surface transportation safe and secure,” said Mike Cook, General Manager of the Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC).

“None of this would have been possible without the support of our local, State, and Federal representatives who have visited our site on many occasions and fully understand the value we provide to the emergency response community,” said Cook.

###

Background: DHS/FEMA funds this program through the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC). Transportation Technology Center, Inc. (TTCI) received Congressional authorization to become one of two new members of the seven member consortium on August 3, 2007. The NDPC is a select group of leading organizations having nationally recognized expertise in security and emergency management training and education.

SERTC will manage and present courses focusing on surface transportation response as its contribution to the consortium activities. The classroom, laboratory, and training equipment, including full-scale accident/incident scenarios are available to the NDPC program through the National Center for Emergency Response in Surface Transportation (NCERST), the element of SERTC responsible for managing the NDPC programs.

TTCI received funding for the current program in the latter half of 2009. Extensive work initiated then has been ongoing with the objective of reworking and enhancing four existing, proven private sector courses and progress them through the DHS/FEMA approval and certification process. The Tank Car Specialist course, one of the most popular and well know emergency response training and exercise classes, is the first to be certified by DHS/FEMA. Additional classes to follow the inaugural June 28 class are scheduled, at least monthly, for the balance of 2010. Current funding for the program provides funds for training over 1100 public safety responders, a large fraction of them will join some 1500-1800 private sector graduates of the school this year. The NDPC-funded program is expected to complete the balance of the initial 1100 participants in early 2011. Anticipated 2010 NDPC funding will provide continuing training and additional course development through 2011.