

Draft template for short articles or blog posts on the Train-the-Trainer program

The following information can be used to “drop” into any story relating to the National Traffic Incident Management Responder Training or could be used on its own. Consider using quotes from local or regional representatives along with any success stories or other information related to your audience.

Localize the story in the first three paragraphs:

- X number of responders trained
- Any local “color” – incidents handled differently; lives saved; time savings
- Quotes from responder representatives, such as fire, police, sheriff or others
- Other local or state information

Three injury crashes occur every minute in the United States, putting police, fire, highway workers, tow truck drivers, and other incident responders potentially in harm’s way every day. Congestion from these incidents can generate secondary crashes, increasing traveler delay and frustration. The longer responders remain at the scene, the greater the risk they, and the traveling public, face. Every minute clearing an initial accident increases the chance of a secondary crash by 2.8 percent.

The National Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Responder Training program is building teams of well-trained responders who can work together in a coordinated manner, from the moment the first emergency call is made. They learn the correct deployment of response vehicles and equipment, how to create a safe work area using traffic control devices, and techniques to speed up accident clearance.

The program is sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration, which designed the course as part of the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) to improve highway safety and reduce congestion caused by crashes.

The curriculum is based on extensive and detailed research conducted with TIM responders across the country and is based on a train-the-trainer approach. The FHWA-led 10-hour course builds a team of instructors within each state, region, or agency. They, in turn, train their colleagues using this innovative curriculum. Shorter, four-hour courses and one-hour training modules (available online in late spring 2014) are used to cascade the training and make it available to all responders. Training modules are flexible and can be modified to fit state and local regulations or practices.

The TIM Training program has been endorsed by key agencies involved in incident response, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police, State and Providential Divisions (IACP); International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC); American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO); National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC); and the Towing and Recovery Association of America (TRAA).

More than 60,000 responders have been trained across the country using this curriculum. The results have been very positive. Indiana reported that a multi-vehicle crash on I-70 west of Indianapolis in a driving snow storm was cleared in 5.5 hours – eliminating six additional hours of potential road closures because of the TIM training. Several states are now requiring their state police or highway patrol officers to take the training.

“All of our participants came away with [a] new perspective of our job at the scene and a new understanding of how all the players need to work together to be safe,” said one representative of the towing industry in Montana after taking the course. To generate the strongest teams, representatives from all responder groups train together, including police, fire, sheriffs, emergency medical services, dispatchers, tow drivers, departments of transportation, and public works.

Insert any other local information here.

To find out more about the training opportunities in your region, or to bring the program to your State or agency, contact (Insert local/state implementation committee member or other contact or) TIMTraining@dot.gov at FHWA.