

*The following article is an excerpt from Channel 10 News, NBC News Channel for the Providence, RI and New Bedford, MA areas on Wednesday, June 8, 2005. TeamTracer was purchased by the Providence Emergency Management Agency to be incorporated across multiple agencies, and was used in this drill to ID first responders.*

The original web page can be found at:  
<http://www.turnto10.com/news/4584600/detail.html#>

## First Responders Participate In Emergency Drill At Port

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**PROVIDENCE** -- Police and fire personnel filled the area near the Port Of Providence Wednesday morning.

The crews were conducting a chemical spill drill with the help of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security personnel in Providence.

The drill is a way to test the readiness of first responder crews in the event of an actual emergency, according to Newschannel 10 reporter R.J. Heim.



A person who works in the Port of Providence checks in during a disaster drill. The port tested its emergency preparedness with a mock chemical spill.

Surrounding the Port of Providence, in the area off Allens Avenue, there are more than 20 chemical and utility companies.

The drill centered around a mock chemical spill. Employees were evacuated as if the company was under a real emergency.

Once employees were taken out, they were bused to a secure location and the evacuees were processed.

"We are hoping this gives everyone the confidence and abilities to the port facilities that their employees feel confident that when they leave they know where to go to their rally point. They know they've identified an accountability officer that can account for all of them. This could save the firefighters from going into a building where it's not necessary to try to rescue somebody. If we can account for everybody that was supposed to be in the building it will save the fireman's life going in there," said Leo Messier, of the Providence EMA/Homeland Security.

Attending Wednesday's drill were the Red Cross and the Providence police and fire departments.

Officials told Newschannel 10 that the drill was successful.

It is also a way to test the communications systems and according to EMA, everything went off without a hitch.

Wednesday's mock drill was staged not only in the event of a chemical spill, officials said the drill is a good test, just in case a worst-case scenario like terrorism should visit the Port of Providence.

**TeamTracer**<sup>®</sup> from

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