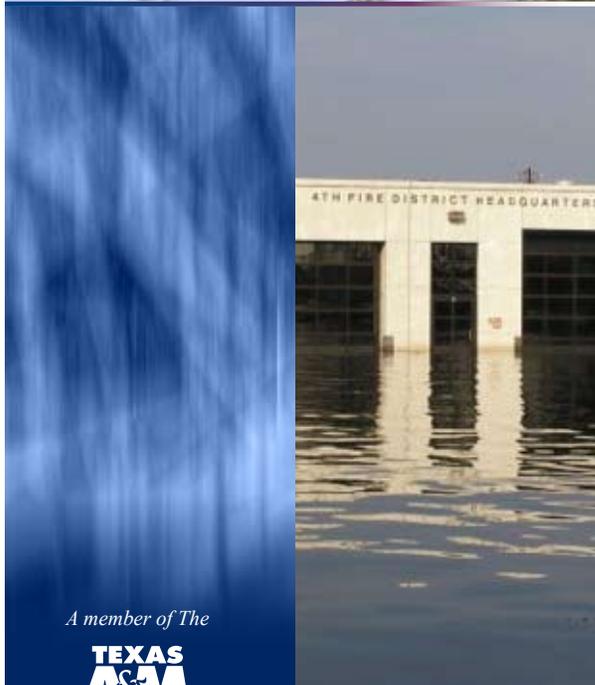


TX-TF1 DEPLOYS THE PEP POD TO LOUISIANA FOR HURRICANE KATRINA



On September 8th, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requested that Texas Task Force One (TX-TF1) deploy the Pre Positioned Equipment Program PODS (PEP-POD) to the Zephyr Field Training Facility in Mataririe, LA.



The PEP-POD equipment cache consists of over 21,000 pieces of responder equipment. The goal of the PEP-POD program is to provide first responders across the country with the equipment they need to handle disasters in the critical hours and days before Federal assistance, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), can arrive.

The PEP-POD equipment cache includes personal protective devices and clothing, detection equipment for radiological, chemical and biological agents, medical equipment, communication equipment, and other vital supplies. All of these are packaged in "pods", which remain loaded at all times onto large flatbed trucks for rapid deployment. The loaded trucks can be put on the road immediately upon notification of a disaster. The PEP POD program is capable of sending support to any major population area in America within twelve hours.

This deployment was the second time the PEP-POD had been deployed to assist with equipping emergency responders after a disaster. The PEP-POD performed it's mission exactly as it had been designed, replacing emergency responder equipment damaged or lost during the flooding associated with Hurricane Katrina.

After dispensing 93 percent of the PEP POD, the personnel were released by FEMA on the morning of September 8th and they returned to College Station.

Deployment Statistics

- Incident involved 6 personnel deployed for 4 day

PEP-POD Equipment Cache

- 2 eighteen wheel cargo trucks
- 2 Suburban support and command vehicles
- 6 PEP-POD cache support personnel and truck drivers