



CST

Broad range capabilities at a moment's notice

Elements

- Established under Presidential Decision Directive 39.
- Federally resourced, trained, equipped, and sustained, yet state controlled
- Identifies Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear agents and substances, assess current and projected consequences, advise on response measures and assist with requests for additional support
- Receives more than 600 hours of specialized WMD training.
- Operates specialized equipment including a specialized communications vehicle and a mobile analytical laboratory system with a full suite of chemical, biological, and radiological analysis equipment
- Alert and on standby 24/7 and deployable within 90 minutes (advance team); regular team deployable within three hours.
- New York has two CSTs
The 2nd CST certified 26 July 2001 and the 24th CST which began standing up April 2007
- Some past CST operations include: US Golf Open, UN General Assembly, NASCAR, New Years in NYC, Travers Stakes-Saratoga, USMA Commencement ceremony, 2001 World Trade Center attacks, 2004 Republican, National Convention and NY Yankee World Series.

Civil Support Team (CST) Mission: Support the civil authorities at a domestic CBRNE incident site by identifying CBRNE agents / substances; assess current and projected consequences and advise on appropriate response measures; assist with appropriate requests for state response

Overview: The 2nd CST is based out of Scotia, in upstate NY, and the 24th CST is based out of Fort Hamilton in New York City. Under the direction of the Governor, The Adjutant General (TAG) will employ the CST to augment local and regional terrorism response capabilities in events known or suspected to be a target of Weapons of Mass Destruction. The team may also be used as a state or federal resource in times of national disaster, during a large scale release of toxic chemicals threatening human life or property, or other incidents of national significance.

Each CST is comprised of 22 full-time Army and Air National Guard personnel, seven officers and 15 enlisted. These personnel fill six sections: command, operations, communications, administration/logistics, medical, and survey. Each unit encompasses 14 Army Military Occupational Skills and Air Force Specialty Codes.

CSTs are task organized with special equipment and vehicles, including an advanced liaison (ADVON) vehicle, operations trailer, a communications vehicle called the Unified Command Suite (which provides a broad range of communications capabilities including satellite communications), an Analytical Laboratory System vehicle (containing a full suite of analysis equipment to support the determination of the hazard) and other general purpose vehicles. The CST normally deploys using its assigned vehicles, but can be airlifted if required.



A Survey Team with the 2nd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team from Scotia, N.Y. drives their military Gator downrange into the HOTZONE.