



Transportation of Dangerous Goods



Emergency Response Guidebook distribution policy

What is the Emergency Response Guidebook?

The Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) is a reference guide to help First Responders quickly identify the specific or generic hazards of the material(s) involved in a dangerous good incident. It contains information that will help First Responders protect themselves and the general public during the initial response phase of the incident. It is primarily designed for use at a road or rail dangerous goods incident.

Purpose of this policy

The purpose of this policy is to increase public safety by clearly outlining who is eligible to obtain free paper copies and how to obtain them, increase the effectiveness of the distribution process, reduce duplication of efforts by establishing a central record system and encourage widespread use of free digital copies.

Roles and Responsibilities

CANUTEC	Provincial/Territorial and TC Regional contacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizing and overseeing the distribution of free paper copies within Canada keeping centralized detailed records of the paper copies distribution providing free digital copies in various formats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receiving paper copies from CANUTEC and storing them until distribution distributing the paper copies free of charge only to parties eligible within their jurisdiction keeping detailed records of the paper copies they distribute and sharing records with CANUTEC justifying to CANUTEC any request for additional free paper copies redirecting other requests to commercial distributors or CANUTEC raising awareness about this policy

Who is eligible to obtain free paper copies?

Canadian First Responders from public emergency services such as municipal fire departments, police departments, ambulance services, RCMP and First Nation emergency services, can obtain free paper copies according to operational needs. Operational needs can include:

- one paper copy of the ERG per emergency vehicle or per emergency kit bag (such as for volunteer firefighters who use their personal vehicle)
- replacement copies as required for broken or damaged copies
- copies used in class for in-house training purposes, on the condition they are to be retained for reuse in future classes

Canadian dispatch centers that relay technical information about dangerous goods to First Responders can obtain a small number of free paper copies for use in the dispatch center.

In remote areas where there are no First Responders available, other Canadian municipal, provincial, territorial or federal authorities acting as public emergency services may obtain free paper copies according to emergency response operational needs, if they are likely to be the first to arrive on scene of a dangerous goods incident.

TDG inspectors, Remedial Measures Specialists and provincial inspectors who respond to dangerous goods accidents can obtain one free copy each for use during their duties.

To obtain free paper copies, eligible parties described above must contact their Provincial or Territorial Contact. A list of Provincial and Territorial Contacts is available on CANUTEC's website, at <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/guide-guide-2-224.htm>

Based on availability, with the approval of the Director of CANUTEC, **schools and training services** may obtain a limited number of copies, on the condition that the copies be kept and reused from class to class, and not handed out to students to keep for personal use. Emergency response teams within other Canadian governmental departments and agencies may also obtain a limited number of copies based on operational needs. Please contact CANUTEC for requests.

Who is not eligible to obtain free paper copies?

Industry representatives, including private companies, industry emergency services, non-profit organizations, mutual aid groups, and dangerous goods cleanup contractors.

Non-emergency services within municipal, provincial, territorial or federal authorities, including non-emergency divisions within public emergency services (such as municipal emergency preparedness planning divisions).

Dispatch centers that do not relay technical information about dangerous goods to First Responders (such as most 911 dispatch centers).

Any request from outside of Canada.

Parties not eligible for free copies are encouraged to use free digital copies, or they can buy paper copies from a commercial distributor. A list of commercial distributors is available on CANUTEC's website, at <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/guide-guide-2-224.htm>

How to obtain a copy of the ERG?

Those eligible for free paper copies must contact their provincial/territorial contact.

TDG Inspectors and Remedial Measures Specialists must contact their TC Regional Office coordinator.

Who can obtain a free digital copy?

Everyone can obtain free digital copies. Formats available include PDF, online, downloadable software for PC, and apps for Apple and Android. To obtain a free digital copy, please visit CANUTEC's website, at <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/guide-menu-227.htm>

Questions? Please contact CANUTEC at 613-992-4624 or by email at canutec@tc.gc.ca