



Emergency Preparedness and Response to a Hazardous Material Release Alert

Updated May 2023





Introduction

The purpose of the following presentation is to provide you with important information on how to respond to a

Vale Hazardous Material Release Alert.

Port Colborne Refinery



- The Port Colborne Refinery started business in 1918. It became the world's largest nickel refinery, utilizing pyro-metallurgical (furnace & fire) processes.
- Today it is a Cobalt / Precious Metals Refinery utilizing hydro-metallurgical (water & chemical) processes.
- The hydro-metallurgical process uses chemicals such as chlorine, sulphur dioxide and hydrochloric acid to extract the metals.
- Many safeguards are in place to prevent a hazardous material release from occurring, including an emergency preparedness plan.

Emergency Preparedness



- Here at the Port Colborne Refinery, a hazardous material release emergency could only arise from significant equipment or container failure.
- The Port Colborne Refinery emergency response teams are well trained to ensure a safe and quick resolution to the unlikely event of a hazardous material release.
- Sensors around the plant monitor our area atmosphere and alarm if a hazardous material release is detected.



There are three types of audible alarms at the plant:

1. A test of the alarm takes place every Friday at 12:30 pm.

This is just a single blast. No concern for the public.

2. Two blasts, one minute interval, and two more blasts is a release that will not affect the public outside of the plant.

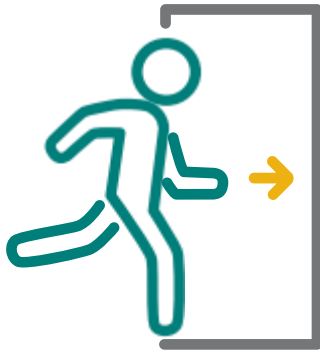
3. Repeated blasts on the plant horn is a hazardous materials release emergency of concern to the public. To ensure public safety, follow the ACT protocol.

How to ACT in an Emergency

ACT

If you hear the Vale emergency signal (a repeated blast of the air horn) be sure to ACT accordingly:

A Always go indoors



C Close all doors and windows



T Turn off furnace, air conditioners or other air intakes



- Do not use the telephone unless you require immediate emergency assistance.
- Stay tuned to your local radio or television for information updates.
- Remain inside until an “all clear message” is broadcast and the air horn is stopped.

Vale is committed to the safety of our employees and our neighbours.



Accountabilities

When a Hazardous Material Release does occur:

In addition to plant personnel response to the hazardous material release, the Port Colborne Fire Department, Niagara Regional Police and EMS personnel may also respond to assist with the situation. They would provide assistance with event control and any community actions that may be required.



Note: Public safety in response to an emergency is the accountability of the City of Port Colborne.



Hazardous Material Release All Clear

The emergency is considered **All Clear** once the plant has brought the situation under control and there is no longer any potential danger to the community.

The alarm will be stopped at this time.

Fire and/or police and local radio will announce that the emergency has ended.

Additional Information



You will not receive a direct communication from Vale in the event of a hazardous material release alert – logistically this will not be possible.

Do not call Vale or public emergency numbers unless urgent assistance is required.

The company will issue a press release only once the incident is under control and the circumstances surrounding the release are known.

If you require additional information, please e-mail your questions to:
ontario.operations@vale.com

