In 2018, the Office of Radiological Security asked Oak Ridge National Laboratory a simple question: as radioactive material is moved around North America, are security measures keeping up with perceived threats to protect this high-interest cargo?

Each year, about 2,000 shipments of radioisotopes—with a combined total activity averaging nearly 60 million curies are shipped by land, air, and sea all over the United States, engaging nearly every state. This material is crucial for medical treatments, industrial settings, and research for energy, among other uses. This material could be diverted away from intended uses or intercepted and used for dangerous reasons.

ORNL discovered security measures during transportation could be stronger. The Transportation Security UNIFIED Stakeholders group was then formed in 2019 to create an integrated approach to transportation security.

FINDING SOLUTIONS TO MODERN CHALLENGES

Working groups called Priority Committees within TSUSG reviewed how shipping has changed over the last decade to decide where the greatest impact will be. Topics explored by the Priority Committees include:

- Developing standards for training
- Managing radioactive source transport security regulations
- Understanding cybersecurity vulnerabilities and mitigation
- Creating standards for insider threat awareness programs
- Improving escort procedures across state lines

BRING YOUR EXPERTISE TO THE CHALLENGES FACING TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

Join the TSUSG and make a difference. Through volunteering to represent their affiliation at TSUSG events, members understand challenges facing radioactive shipments and develop solutions to improve security and communications.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Strengthen transportation security for radioactive materials transported through North America
- Improve collective understanding of issues that impact stakeholders
- Regular exchange of best practices for transport security challenges



Members from the shipping industry; local, state, and federal governments; law enforcement; and others collaboratively identify and examine current and potential transportation security concerns, discuss experiences, and develop best practices that will improve security when moving radioactive sources across North America.

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