



---

## **COORDINATED COUNTER-IED EFFORTS: ONE YEAR LATER**

Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) continue to be the weapon of choice for criminals and terrorists intent on carrying out attacks against the United States and our international partners. In order to enhance national preparedness for countering these devices, the Joint Program Office for Countering IEDs (JPO C-IED) released an Implementation Plan in 2013 to execute U.S. counter-IED policy and to coordinate Federal counter-IED efforts. Bombings around the globe in 2013, including the Boston Marathon bombing that killed three people and injured more than 260 others, serve as reminders that we must continue to sustain and enhance homeland and international security, law enforcement, intelligence, and emergency preparedness capabilities at all levels of government and in the private sector, in order to prepare for future incidents.

In the year since the release of the Implementation Plan for countering the use of IEDs, the Federal Government has taken a number of actions to improve U.S. preparedness and mitigate the consequences of bombings. These actions were coordinated through the JPO C-IED, including:

- **Increasing counter-IED information-sharing** with public and/or private sector partners through online portals and incident repositories, such as the Bomb and Arson Tracking System (BATS), Law Enforcement Online (LEO), and the Technical Resource for Incident Prevention (TRIP*wire*). For the C-IED community, National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) established an IED Community of Interest (COI) page within its “NCTC CURRENT” site which allows the sharing of classified data and meetings of interest, and the Center provides global IED threat assessments to United States Government senior leadership and a variety of working-level venues. The TRIP*wire* site alone registered nearly 600,000 hits the day after the Boston Marathon bombing.
- **Raising awareness within fireworks and powders industries** of indicators that may indicate illicit use of materials, and to train employees to recognize and report these suspicious behaviors. Joint publications by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) addressed these exempted materials, and additional advisories are planned on topics such as binary explosives.
- **Hosting international counter-IED dialogues** to exchange information and best practices related to explosives and explosive precursor materials, such as the 5th EU-U.S. Explosives Experts Seminar, the first convened on U.S. soil, hosted by the Departments of Justice (DOJ) and State (DOS) in November 2013. The NCTC and the National Intelligence Manager for Military Issues (NIM/MI) also hosted the Global IED Threat 2015-2025 Conference in March 2014.
- **Developing IED-related guidance and tools** for inspecting vehicles, responding to bomb threats in an orderly and controlled manner, and coordinating counter-IED training. Current guidance materials include the DOJ and DHS Vehicle Inspection Guide and Bomb Threat Guidance products. Interagency partners are in the process of completing a comprehensive domestic counter-IED training catalog to inform State and local partners about available training, improve coordination among training providers, and identify potential training needs.
- **Mitigating consequences of domestic bombings** by pre-deploying regional bomb squads with well-exercised coordination plans, incorporating U.S. military techniques for treating IED-related injuries into emergency medical service procedures, and sharing an unprecedented level of information between law enforcement and homeland security personnel and the public and private sectors to assist with investigations.
- **Training and equipping State and local partners** at the FBI’s Hazardous Devices School (HDS), through the DHS Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP), and National Training and Education Division (NTED), and by other partners.

The Federal Government will continue to coordinate counter-IED efforts through the JPO C-IED, to enhance efforts to protect American lives, and to promote cooperation at all levels of government, and with international and private sector partners. These efforts enhance U.S. preparedness and improve our nation’s ability to counter the use of improvised explosive devices.

---