



CASE STUDY:

## Physical Status Monitoring and Counter-terrorism

### 32<sup>nd</sup> Maryland CST



CST or Civil Support Teams are fully equipped and staffed units whose role is to support state and local authorities in the event of chemical/ biological / nuclear incidents. They respond to and mitigate these potential threats.

CST incidents can occur anywhere and anytime, and personnel are required to deploy in situations that can be challenging both environmentally and technically.

Real-time, remote physiological monitoring is one way in which HAZMAT incident commanders can improve the visibility they have of their down-range personnel in these challenging environments.

Zephyr Technology has recently trialed its FRS real-time monitoring product with the 32<sup>nd</sup> CST (Maryland) during a counter-terrorism field exercise. The 32<sup>nd</sup> had been alerted to a vessel in the Baltimore Inner Harbour suspected of carrying smuggled nuclear materials.

In the course of the rapid response by the 32<sup>nd</sup> to this incident, the insertion teams fitted their Zephyr hardware, along with their SCBA and level A CBRN protective ensembles, and were on board the targeted vessel within minutes. When on board, the teams searched for, located and extracted samples of the hazardous material from the bilges of the vessel.

During the exercise the FRS system allowed the 32<sup>nd</sup> CST Medical Officer to continuously monitor the physical status of his down-range personnel.

According to the 32<sup>nd</sup> CST's Medical Officer, "The visibility into the physical status of our teams today clearly illustrated the high workloads they are under, particularly when wearing SCBAs and high-level CBRN protective ensembles. This capability would certainly help us to manage our teams more effectively in future"

In all scenarios, data analysis and user feedback have shown that the FRS:

- Is simple and easy to deploy.
- Is comfortable and unobtrusive to wear.
- Provides excellent, reliable signal and data quality.
- Provides information that assists an incident commander in tracking the physical status of his down-range personnel.

"We know our teams work hard. Being able to see how hard they work in real-time using Physical Status Monitoring technology is an important capability that will help us do our job better, and look after our personnel at the same time".

*Medical Officer, 32<sup>nd</sup> CST*

#### CONTACT US

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