



# **Larry Iwamoto Hazardous Materials Professional of the Year Award Program**

**Award Name:**

Larry Iwamoto Hazardous Materials Professional of the Year.

**Award Sponsor:**

Statewide Hazardous Materials Response Team and Work Group.

**Award Description:**

The Larry Iwamoto Hazardous Materials Professional of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual who has played a key role in creating and/or promoting innovations, achievements, or demonstrated exceptional performance in hazardous materials preparedness, response, recovery, management, and/or leadership within the State of Alaska. It is presented in honor of Larry Iwamoto, a true professional and leader in the State of Alaska for hazardous materials.

**Background:**

Larry Iwamoto started his career with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation in 1992 with the Division of Spill Prevention and Response. Larry worked on many State oil spill response preparedness plans and guides as well as The Unified Plan, which is the Alaska federal/state preparedness plan for response to oil and hazardous substance discharges/releases. Larry was also the State lead to develop and implement the Statewide Hazardous Materials Response Team and Work Group. Originally developed in 1996, the group consisted of DEC and the Anchorage and Fairbanks hazmat teams for the purpose of maintaining and expanding oil and hazardous substance spill response capabilities throughout Alaska. Larry was the primary coordinator and facilitator for meetings, training, exercises, and equipment needs of the Statewide Hazmat Response Teams. The work group continued to grow and now has over 25 participating entities including local, State, Federal, military, private and industry hazmat response partners. Larry retired from State service on April 30, 2013.

This award program is in honor of Larry's many years of accomplishments and dedication to the development of a Statewide Hazmat response capability that includes the integration of response teams, training opportunities to work together and promote coordination for a seamless response effort to any Hazmat related incident, and to improve the working relationship between all Hazmat response partners throughout the State. This annual award program has been established to continue honoring those who also demonstrate exceptional performance in the field of Hazardous Materials.

## **Nominations and Award Procedures:**

1. Nominations for award may be made by anyone.
2. Nominees are to be individuals who have demonstrated exceptional performance in the field of hazardous materials within the State of Alaska.
3. Nominations for award must be submitted on the nomination form (attached).
4. Nomination form must be complete and contain enough detailed information for the selection committee to consider the nominee.
5. Completed nomination forms must be submitted to the selection committee by the deadline date.
6. The deadline date for nominations will be announced at the fall Statewide Hazardous Materials Work Group Meeting of each year.
7. All nominations will be reviewed by the selection committee. The selection committee will consist of one representative from each of the Statewide Hazmat Response Teams (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kodiak, Ketchikan), one representative from the 103<sup>rd</sup> CST, and one representative from the DEC.
8. There will be only one overall winner of the award. All nominees will be recognized on the DEC Hazmat website at [HAZMAT Response \(alaska.gov\)](http://HAZMAT.Response.alaska.gov).
9. The award winner will be honored at the Spring Statewide Hazardous Materials Work Group Meeting.
10. The winner will receive an award from the selection committee.

## **Nomination and Review Criteria:**

### **Innovation and Achievements:**

The individual exhibits innovative approaches or applications to:

- a. Equipment technology
- b. Resourcefulness and adaptability to changing requirements or conditions
- c. Management of hazmat release incidents
- d. Independent initiative to solving problems
- e. Developing and implementing new processes or procedures that significantly enhance effectiveness
- f. Improvements in preparedness and response capabilities

### **Performance:**

The individual exhibits:

- a. Consistent demonstration of an exceptional standard of service
- b. Surpassing of expectations and performance standards
- c. Consideration of efficient and effective delivery of services
- d. Setting a high example of cooperation and teamwork
- e. Coaching and mentoring of co-workers and peers
- f. Working effectively with others with a positive attitude



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## Nomination Form

### Nominee:

Name	Title
Employer	Length of Employment

### Nominator:

Name	Title
Employer	Relation to Nominee
Phone No.	Email

### Exceptional Performance Information:

Eligibility – Any individual that resides within the State of Alaska.

Review Criteria – Key role in creating and/or promoting innovations, achievements, or demonstrated exceptional performance in hazardous materials preparedness, response, recovery, management, and/or leadership.

### Reason for Nomination:

Attach a separate sheet with full write-up along with any photos, articles, or other supporting documentation of performance or achievements. Be as specific as possible as to why the nominee should win this award. Please limit your write-up to about 500 words.

Nomination forms are due by February 1, 2024.

Send completed nomination form with attachments to:

Erin Leaders  
Alaska Dept of Environmental Conservation  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
[erin.leaders@alaska.gov](mailto:erin.leaders@alaska.gov)