

United Forces Association
Brno, Czech Republic

Protection of Passengers against Chemical Terrorism in the Prague Metro

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Agenda

- Introduction
- **Legislative instruments to eliminate WMD in the Czech Republic and the National Authority for their enforcement**
- Protection of Population against CBRN Terrorism
- **Protection of Passengers against Chemical Terrorism in the Prague Metro / Subway**
- Conclusions

Legislative instruments to eliminate
WMD in the Czech Republic and the
National Authority for their enforcement

Státní úřad pro jadernou bezpečnost

State Office for Nuclear Safety

State Office for Nuclear Safety

- Nuclear Non-Proliferation
- Biological Weapons Prohibition
- **Chemical Weapons Prohibition**

- On the web sites:

<https://www.sujb.cz/en/>

Chemical Weapons Prohibition

- Since 2000 The State Office for Nuclear Safety (SONS), as the National Authority of the Czech Republic, has been guaranteeing obligations resulting from the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The issue of control of the chemical weapons prohibition is one of the priorities of the SONS activity.
- **The target is to contribute to the reduction of the risk of their abuse, including prevention to possible terrorist attacks.**
- The SONS carries out the function of state surveillance over the measures related to the prohibition of chemical weapons in accordance with the **national Act No. 19/1997 Coll.**, as amended, on some measures concerning chemical weapons prohibition and **national Decree No. 208/2008 Coll.**, implementing the Act No. 19/1997 Coll.

Chemical Weapons Prohibition

- All SONS activities in the area of the prohibition of chemical weapons is coordinated with the activities of other Ministries in this area and respects the principles of the European Union Strategy against the proliferation of chemical weapons, which the Czech Republic accepted.
- The SONS also closely cooperates with the **Organization for the Prohibition of Chemicals Weapons** – OPCW.
- **For more details see the following link:**
<https://www.sujb.cz/en/chemical-weapons-prohibiton/>

Protection of Population against CBRN Terrorism I

- The Czech Republic has fast and effective Emergency Rescue System for intervention of CBRN attack.
- Emergency Rescue System has special emergency plans to solve chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events / attacks.
- Three main components of Emergency Rescue System (or Integrated Rescue System) are Fire Fighters Rescue Service, Fast Medical Service (Ambulance), State Police.
- All three main and basic components are continuously prepared for their intervention.

Protection of Population against CBRN Terrorism II

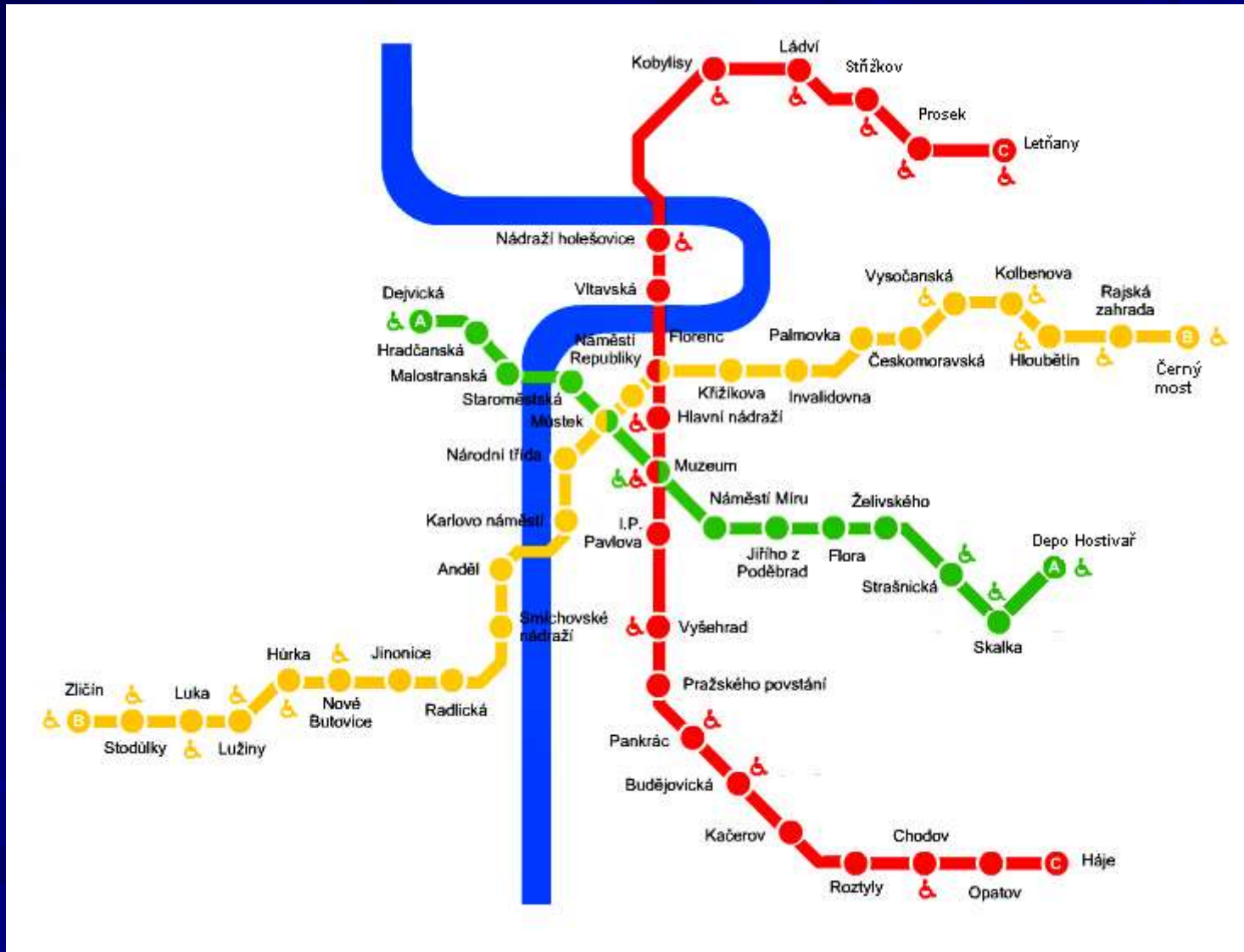
- The Czech Republic has gradually developed the so-called **Emergency Operating Plans** involving CBRN issues for the components of the Integrated Rescue System.

There are the following Emergency operating plans:

- - STČ-01 / IZS **Performed and verified use of radiological weapons** (published 2004, updated 2015),
- - STČ-05 / IZS **Finding an object suspected of B-agents or toxins** (released in 2006),
- - STČ-13 / IZS **Response to chemical attack in the subway** (issued in 2013).

Protection against Chemical Terrorism in the Prague Subway

- Research Project about the topic (2006-2011)
- **CZECH:** Typová činnost STČ-13/IZS Reakce na chemický útok v metru
- **ENGLISH:** Reaction on Chemical Attack in Subway (Metro)
- Issued in July 2013 after long and deep cooperation among main state Ministries, State Defence Institutions, such as Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health, State Office for Nuclear Safety, Ministry of Defence and many more
- Emergency Operating Plan, totally including 108 pages



Possible Scenario of a Chemical Attack

- Possible scenarios of a chemical terrorism in the Prague tube have been elaborated to install preventive, repressive, protective, liquidation, rescue and recovery measures.
- Nevertheless, modelling propagation of hazardous chemical toxic substances in the tube with its specific air flow is very difficult.
- In the Czech Republic, tests and experimental measurements of contaminant proliferation were implemented by using safe simulation substances.

Basic Data about Exercise

- Testing so called manager programme
Emergency Operating Plan about Chemical Terrorism in Metro (issued in July 2013)
- Place: Prague Subway (Metro, Tube, Underground)
- Time: October 21-22, 2014
- Including main components such as **Fire Fighters Rescue Service, Fast Medical Service, Special Units from the Army, State office for Nuclear Safety**, etc.
- Including 808 persons
- Lasting several hours

Next Important Data about Exercise

In the course of a tactical exercise, **new operating segments were created**, e.g.:

- *detection, identification and monitoring the occurrence of chemical warfare agent,*
- *providing medical assistance to affected passengers,*
- *triage of affected passengers into different categories,*
- *transport of affected passengers from the contaminated area to the safe location,*
- *decontamination of affected passengers and rescuers,*
- *disposal of chemical warfare agent, etc.*

Video from the Exercise

14 minutes, in the Czech Language

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18OxT4wVaXk&t=258s>



































Main Participants	Members	Vehicles	Main responsibility
Fire Rescue Brigades in Prague	81	18	Rescue Operations
Transport Company in Prague	22	5	Transport of Citizens
Medical Rescue Service in Prague	14	10	Medical Rescue Operation (START)
State Police and many more	57	23	Secure Order
Total participants and equipment	808	130	



Current research and safety projects related to the decontamination

Testing some new devices from research projects, November 2019

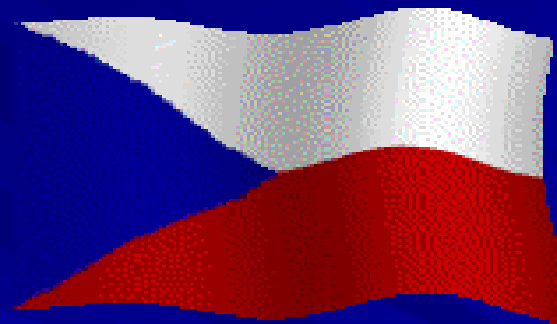
Conclusions related to CBRN

- The Czech Republic has developed national legislative instruments in the field of weapons of mass destruction.
- The Czech Republic has national authorities for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction.
- The Czech Republic has fast and effective Emergency Rescue Systems for intervention of CBRN attack.
- Emergency Rescue System has special Emergency Operating Plans to solve chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events / attacks ... and suitable equipment.
- The weakest place in the security system is the very poor preparedness of the population for CBRN events or attacks.
- Unfortunately the Czech Republic has not its own National CBRN Strategy and National CBRN Action Plan.

Conclusions related to Protection of Passengers against Chemical Terrorism in the Prague Metro / Tube

- The Czech Republic has fast and effective Protection system of Passengers against Chemical Terrorism in the Prague Metro.
- Several research and security projects were developed to find and support the best way, how to effectively protect passengers in the Prague Tube.
- Emergency Operating Plan was elaborated together with several main state bodies and authorities.
- An important step in the verification of the entire emergency response plan was extensive exercise on chemical attack.
- Last research and security projects fulfil all important questions concerning decontamination from the point of view agents, mixtures, solutions, devices and procedures.

Thank you for your kind
attention



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Additional Information, BONUS 01

- See the following websites:

- **Example 1** (in English) Review Article

<https://dspace.vsb.cz/bitstream/handle/10084/111568/sbornik-2014-IX-Schullerova.pdf;sequence=1>

- **Example 2** (in English)

<http://www.cbrneportal.com/chemical-terrorism-in-the-prague-underground/>

Foreign Experience BONUS 02

- Canada

- Strategy

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Resilience Strategy for Canada, ISBN 978-11-100-17623-9, January 2011.

- Action Plan

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Resilience Action Plan for Canada, ISBN 978-11-100-17649-9, January 2011.



National Strategy

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Resilience Strategy for Canada

January 2011



National Action Plan

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Resilience Action Plan for Canada

January 2011

