



# BUSINESS TIP

## Peroxide-Based Explosives

TERRORISM INTERVENTION PROGRAM

### What should I consider suspicious?

- Unknown customer or customer from out of the area
- Customer has little or no legitimate working knowledge of the chemical being purchased
- Individual requesting or purchasing:
  - Information or books about using peroxide to make explosives
  - Unusual quantities of a chemical, such as more than a gallon of hydrogen peroxide
  - Hydrogen peroxide in a concentration of 30% or higher
- Individual seeking to purchase the precursor chemicals for the compound TATP (triacetone triperoxide) in combination or in large quantity
  - Hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)
  - Sulfuric acid (oil of vitriol, battery acid)
  - Acetone (propanone, dimethyl ketone)
- Individual seeking to purchase the precursor chemicals for the compound HMTD (hexamethylene triperoxide diamine) in combination or in large quantity
  - Hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)
  - Hexamine (methenamine, solid fuel tablets)
  - Citric acid (hydrogen citrate, concentrated lemons and limes)

*It is important to remember that just because someone's speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life is different, it does not mean that he or she is suspicious. Some of the activities, taken individually, could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals in a larger context to determine whether there is a basis to investigate.*

*Hydrogen peroxide may be purchased on the Internet or from a pharmacy, food store, home improvement or hardware store, chemical distributor, health store, or beauty supply store.*

### What should I do?

**IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING AN EMERGENCY OR A CRIME IN PROGRESS, CONTACT 911. IF YOU OR YOUR BUSINESS WERE THE VICTIM OF A CRIME, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

A partnership between the business community and law enforcement is essential to the success of anti-terrorism efforts.

You can support this partnership.

- Know what chemicals are distributed by your business
- Know what quantities are usual for purchases by customers at your business
- Require valid ID from all new customers
- Ask customers questions about their intended use of the chemical, and listen to and observe their responses
- Make note of suspicious statements, people, and/or vehicles, especially if the customer displays an out-of-state driver's license or is driving a rental vehicle or a vehicle with an out-of-state license plate
- Keep records of purchases
- Report any missing or stolen precursor chemicals to law enforcement authorities

**Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others.**

Your impressions and assessment, based on your professional / business experience, are extremely valuable and should help guide you in determining if a customer request, a fact pattern, or set of circumstances is unusual.

In addition to reporting suspicious activity to your local police department, you are encouraged to contact the Pennsylvania State Police Tip Line. This will enhance the statewide situational awareness and can potentially aid in the prevention of future terrorist acts through early identification and intervention.

**To report suspicious activities to the PSP Tip Line at any time, call or email:**

**1-888-292-1919**  
**sp-intelligence@state.pa.us**