How to use the ERG 2012 Mobile App for iPhone

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has released a free, mobile app of its Emergency Response Guidebook 2012 (ERG). The ERG 2012 Mobile App was developed in partnership with the National Library of Medicine.

The mobile ERG will make it easier for the nation’s emergency first responders to quickly locate the information they need to manage hazardous material transportation incidents. The updated 2012 version of the ERG includes new Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distance tables for large toxic gas spills and standard response procedures for gas and liquid pipeline incidents.

For additional information, visit our web site: http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/library/erg

RESIST RUSHING IN.

APPROACH INCIDENT FROM UPWIND, UPHILL OR UPSTREAM.

STAY CLEAR OF ALL SPILLS, VAPORS, FUMES, SMOKE AND SUSPICIOUS SOURCES.

Navigation

There are four main menu options on the home screen of the ERG 2012 app. The Search functions allow you to look up hazardous materials by Proper Shipping Name, Identification Number, or Placard image. Guide Pages are listed in numerical order. Reference Material pages (white and green pages) are listed in the order they appear in the ERG 2012 print version.

Zoom

All of the Guide Pages, Reference Material pages, and Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distance tables allow you to zoom in for a closer look. To zoom in on a page, spread your index finger and thumb away from each other on the screen. To zoom out, pinch your index finger and thumb together.
Search by Identifier

Selecting “Search by Identifier” will display a search box at the top of the next screen.

- Type the Identification Number or Shipping Name of the material into the search box.
- Select the correct material from the results list to view the associated Guide Page.
- Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distance tables (if applicable) can be viewed by pressing the Protective Distance button on the lower right corner of the screen.

Search by Image

Selecting “Search by Image” will display the Placards.

- Select the buttons at the top of the screen to switch to Rail Car or Road Trailer images.
- Swipe up or down to view all images. Select an image for the associated Guide Page.
- These images should only be used as a LAST RESORT if the hazardous material cannot be identified by shipping document, numbered placard, or orange panel number.

NOTE: Currently, electronic files, including the ERG App, cannot be substituted for hard copy documents to comply with the requirements of the Emergency Response Information requirements of Subpart G of Part 172. The intent of this regulation is to ensure that the emergency response information be provided together with the shipping paper in an accessible manner. In accordance with 49 CFR Part 107, Subpart B, a person interested in displaying emergency response information in an alternate manner may request a special permit from the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

DISCLAIMER: ERG 2012 for iPhone is a software version of the 2012 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG). It relies strictly on the information contained in the ERG, and reflects corrections for errata published as of Nov 1, 2012. The ERG is normally revised and reissued every four years. However, in the event of a significant mistake, omission, or change in the state of knowledge, special instructions to change the ERG may be issued. Users of the ERG and this software should check periodically to make sure their version is current. The U.S. Government does not warrant or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the ERG as presented by this software. The published ERG, plus any published errata, should be the final authority over this software.