



ROLL CALL RELEASE

In Collaboration with the ITACG



28 June 2012

(U//FOUO) Cold Pack Chemicals: Potential Use in Improvised Explosives

(U//FOUO) Cold packs, packaged and sold commercially, contain chemicals—usually 30 to 85 grams of ammonium nitrate or urea—that, when extracted in sufficient quantity, can be used as precursors for improvised explosives. The chemicals are packaged in pill form, and can be used directly or ground into powder when being used in homemade explosive production. Five hundred packs would yield 30 to 90 pounds of precursor material for use in an improvised explosive device (IED).

- (U//FOUO) In September 2011, German police arrested two individuals with a possible terrorism nexus who accumulated large quantities of urea-based cold packs, following an alert from private industry regarding the suspicious purchase.
- (U//FOUO) In August 2010, a Florida resident pled guilty to a murder-for-hire plot using an IED, which included ammonium nitrate extracted from instant cold packs, following a report from a local citizen regarding his possession of an explosive device.
- (U) In April 2008, an individual pled guilty to a plot to bomb the Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania Courthouse by igniting ammonium nitrate extracted from cold packs. The individual claimed he experimented with the ammonium nitrate to see how it would burn.

(U//FOUO) Indicators of Suspicious Activities

(U//FOUO) Suspicious activities associated with cold packs should be reported to appropriate authorities. Depending on the context—time, location, personal behaviors, and other indicators—the following suspicious activities could alert authorities to the potential use of cold packs for illicit purposes.

- (U//FOUO) Unexplained presence of a large number of cold packs in a location where they are not typically found.
- (U//FOUO) Purchase of cold packs in bulk quantities by individuals who have no apparent need and who evade questions regarding their intended use.
- (U//FOUO) Theft or unexplained absence of cold packs from stocks at fire stations, emergency medical service lockers, fitness facilities, etc.
- (U//FOUO) Presence of empty cold packs, possibly within the vicinity of unidentified chemicals (either prills or powder).
- (U//FOUO) Unexplained smell of ammonia.



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(U) Chemical in pill form.



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(U) Cold pack with extracted chemicals.

(U//FOUO) For additional information, please see the Roll Call Release: (U//FOUO) Terrorist Acquisition of Commercial Products for IED Production, 14 October 2011.

IA-0156-12

(U) Prepared by the Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group, the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) Homeland Counterterrorism Division, and the FBI Directorate of Intelligence. This product is intended to assist federal, state, local, tribal, territorial and private sector first responders in effectively deterring, preventing, preempting, or responding to, terrorist attacks against the United States. Coordinated with the I&A Cyber, Infrastructure, and Science Division, Strategic Infrastructure Threat Branch; DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection, Office of Bombing Prevention; DHS Directorate of Science and Technology; Transportation Security Administration, Office of Intelligence & Analysis; and US Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations.

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Homeland Security

Office of Intelligence and Analysis
I&A Customer Survey

Product Title: (U//FOUO) Cold Pack Chemicals: Potential Use in Improvised Explosives

1. Please select the partner type that best describes your organization.

2. Overall, how satisfied are you with the usefulness of this product?

- Very Satisfied**
 Somewhat Satisfied
 Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied
 Somewhat Dissatisfied
 Very Dissatisfied

3. How did you use this product in support of your mission?

- Integrated into one of my own organization's finished information or intelligence products
 Shared contents with federal or DHS component partners
 If so, which partners?
 Shared contents with state and local partners
 If so, which partners?
 Shared contents with private sector partners
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 Other (please specify)

4. Please rank this product's relevance to your mission. *(Please portion mark comments.)*

- Critical
 Very important
 Somewhat important
 Not important
 N/A

5. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following:

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A
Timeliness of product or support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Responsiveness to your intelligence needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. How could this product or service be improved to increase its value to your mission? *(Please portion mark comments.)*

To help us understand more about your organization so we can better tailor future products, please provide:

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Organization:	<input type="text"/>	State:	<input type="text"/>
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