

# ***First Voice helps Ethanol plant save employee***

Summer in Iowa can bring scorching temps and brutal humidity. On August 9, 2007 at a large corn processing/ethanol facility, things were about to get scary. The temperature inside the milling facility was over 110 degrees. On the 5th floor, an employee felt "funny", was experiencing breathing difficulties, and decided to go down the elevator with a co-worker. As the elevator doors opened on the first floor, the employee collapsed.

His co-worker immediately sprang into action. She radioed for someone to call 911 and reported the location of the victim. She then grabbed the company's FirstVoice responder bag and hurried back to where two volunteer responder staff had arrived to assist.

Using the visual/audio instructions from the unit and color-coded prepackaged trauma supplies, they were able to quickly apply cold packs and help get the victim stabilized. Said one volunteer responder for the company, "I felt confident in helping the victim because I knew I had something to rely on for information and easily guide me through the incident."

When the victim started having seizures, the responding employees used the First Voice™ Emergency Instruction Device (EID) to provide step-by-step reminders on essential medical care for the patient. Because their SET system had an AED included, they were able to immediately follow the advice to attach the paddles to monitor the heart. When 9-1-1 ambulance personnel arrived 13 minutes later, all the rescuers had to do was remove the AED paddles and attach their own. The victim was ready to go with all appropriate precaution and care taken.

The following Monday, the local Ambulance Director called the ethanol plant safety director to let him know how impressed they were with the in-house lifesaving action and care by the volunteer responder crew. She stated that they were not used to arriving on the scene and having the victim prepped and ready for transport. Such fastidious care saves lives as every minute is crucial in the chain of survival. Further, she told the safety manager that he should be very proud of his employees' actions during a time of stress. She stated that often times panic plays a key role in undermining appropriate patient care prior to their arrival.

When we talked to the manager, he was quick to disclose that FirstVoice™ products and E-learning were "a big part" of the great response provided by his volunteer responder team. His staff was able to provide possible life-saving treatment, calmly and competently, because they had the proper tools on hand and integrated them into the emergency responder procedures as they had been trained to do. It was as simple as that.

We sincerely hope you'll never need our products. But when emergencies occur, we know that having a FirstVoice SET and EID can make the difference. We are here to help your staff come back to work, as did the victim in this story

**Questions?  
Call Think Safe  
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