An Introduction To The UK Government Decontamination Service

GDS Remit

- Providing advice, guidance and support to those responsible for dealing with the consequences of an accidental or deliberate release of CBRN and hazardous materials;
- Facilitating quick access to an assured Framework of specialist suppliers able to offer decontamination and related services in response to a CBRN or major HazMat incident.
- Advise the Government on the national capability for the decontamination of buildings, infrastructure, transport assets and the open environment.

GDS Role Within Government and UK Resilience

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GDS Framework of Specialist Suppliers

- Normal Environment
  - Nuclear power station maintenance, decommissioning and legacy remediation
  - Clinical sterilisation and oil extraction
  - Industrial chemical spills and asbestos removal
- Counter Terrorism Environment
  - Radiological Dispersal Device and improvised Nuclear Devices (RND)
  - Anthrax remediation (dispersion of Bacillus anthracis)
  - Deliberate release of chemical warfare agents

GDS Framework Structure

- Chemical
  - Sampling, Monitoring and Analysis
  - Decontamination
  - Waste Management and Disposal
- Biological
  - Sampling, Monitoring and Analysis
  - Decontamination
  - Waste Management and Disposal
- Radiological
  - Sampling, Monitoring and Analysis
  - Decontamination
  - Waste Management and Disposal
  - National Arrangements for incidents involving Radioactivity (NAIR)

Development of GDS Framework

- Introducing scenarios
- National Recovery Exercises
- Supply chain resilience
- Workshops
- Paper based exercises
- Live exercises
- Table top exercises
- Deployment Exercises

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