

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE
PNO-III-99-055

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility	Licensee Emergency Classification
Syncor Corp.	Notification of Unusual Event
Holland, Ohio	Alert
License No: State of Ohio	Site Area Emergency
	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: FATAL ACCIDENT INVOLVING RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL SHIPMENTS

At about 8:30 a.m. EST on December 23, 1999, a vehicle carrying radiopharmaceutical shipments from the licensee's nuclear pharmacy collided with a semi-trailer truck on State Route 635 near Tiffin, Ohio. Fire followed the collision, and both drivers were killed.

The Syncor vehicle had two containers (ammunition boxes) with radiopharmaceuticals remaining to be delivered and ten containers with used syringes and vials being returned to the nuclear pharmacy.

The State of Ohio Bureau of Radiological Health responded to the site of the accident. The state personnel reported that the two containers with the radiopharmaceuticals had fallen out of the vehicle, but their contents were intact. Of the other ten containers, one remained in the vehicle but its contents did not appear to be damaged. The others fell from the vehicle; eight of them broke open and spilled their contents, including some used syringes.

The accident site was secured during the police investigation and surveys by state personnel. As of 1:30 p.m. CST, the accident site had been cleared, all material being carried by the licensee's vehicle had been accounted for, and radiological surveys confirmed no contamination.

There has been news media interest at the accident site.

The State of Ohio notified the NRC Operations Center of the accident at 9:05 EST on December 23, 1999. This information is current as of 1:45p.m. on December 23, 1999.

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