



## **Decontamination Experience** *(Partial Listing of Projects)*

### **Temporary Morgue Trailer Decontamination** **Hancock County, Mississippi**

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency contracted with USES to decontaminate reefer trailers that had been used as temporary morgues following Hurricane Katrina. The USES crew recovered and containerized all debris and body fluids found inside the trailers. The interior spaces of the trailers were thoroughly cleaned to remove all bio-films and then fumigated using a broad-spectrum disinfectant and an organic odor control agent.

### **Superdome** **New Orleans, Louisiana**

Following the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, USES performed biological decontamination services at the New Orleans Superdome. USES cleaned and disinfected locker rooms, rest rooms, commissary spaces and other areas within the Superdome. USES also performed cleaning and disinfecting of the area used as a temporary morgue. This included recovery of all body fluids, followed by cleaning and disinfecting using a fumigator. Crews were also responsible for removing spoiled food from the freezers and then cleaning/disinfecting the freezers.

### **Biologically Hazardous Materials** **Hancock County, Mississippi Hospital - Medical Research Laboratory**

After the Hancock County Hospital was flooded during Hurricane Katrina, USES was contracted by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency to decontaminate the research laboratory containing numerous biologically dangerous specimens. The specimens were recovered, disinfected and containerized for disposal. USES then fumigated the laboratory with a broad-spectrum disinfectant to eliminate any residual biological microorganisms.

### ***Staphylococcus aureus* Bacteria** **Off-Shore Oil Rig - Gulf of Mexico**

A USES crew decontaminated an off-shore oil rig infected with the *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria. USES was responsible for cleaning and decontaminating all interior areas of the rig, including staff offices, galley areas, sleeping quarters, and restrooms. A fumigator was utilized to decontaminate larger areas, and much of the sensitive equipment had to be disinfected by hand-wiping with Q-tips and small sponges. There were no further cases of Staph infection reported after the decontamination.

## **Norwalk Virus**

### **Off-Shore Oil Rig – Gulf of Mexico**

USES performed decontamination services on an off-shore oil rig infected with the Norwalk virus. During the four-day job, the USES crew was responsible for the total decontamination of the rig and all of its contents, including sleeping quarters, galley areas, restrooms, hallways, cranes, and the evacuation capsule. The crew cleaned each affected area with a cleaner/degreaser to remove bio-films before applying the disinfectant. Computers, communications equipment and sensitive electrical/electronic equipment were carefully decontaminated using Q-tips and small sponges. Larger rooms and sleeping quarters were fumigated using a broad-spectrum disinfectant. All bedding, towels, and clothing were washed in the disinfectant. There were no further outbreaks of the Norwalk virus after the mass decontamination.

## **Scabies Epidemic**

### **Beaumont, Texas**

Following Hurricane Rita, USES was contracted to decontaminate a tent-city housing a large number of workers who were restoring electrical power to the Beaumont area. The tent-city had been infected by a scabies outbreak, and USES decontaminated all tents, bedding, vehicles and other areas impacted by the scabies outbreak. There were no further reports of scabies incidents following the decontamination.

## **Public Health Department Building**

### **New Orleans, Louisiana**

USES was contracted to recover and containerize all biological specimens at the Public Health Department Building in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. This included the handling of many dangerous specimens including drug-resistant strains of cholera, drug resistant strains of tuberculosis, HIV, drug-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria and other biologically harmful microorganisms. USES also packaged all chemical waste materials including poisons, radioactives, potential explosives, flammables and other hazardous chemicals.

*Project References Furnished Upon Request*