

Advice on unwanted Radioactivity entering into Scrap

LOOKOUT FOR RADIOACTIVE SOURCES



NATURALLY OCCURRING RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS & SMALL SOURCES



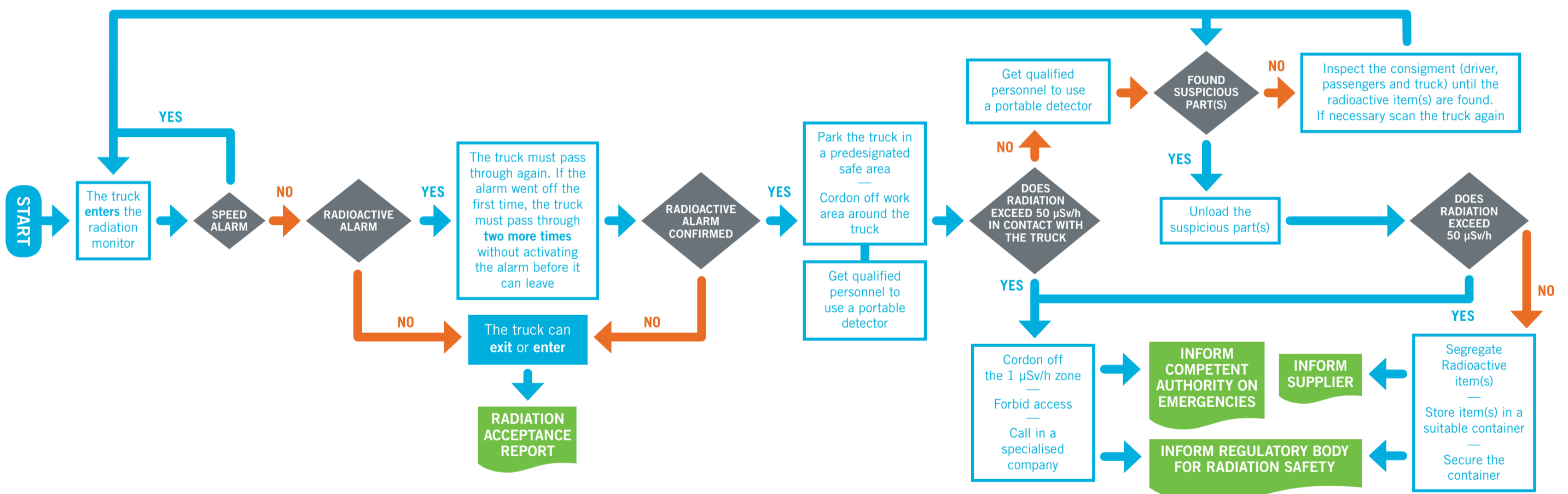
IMPORTANT

IF YOU SEE A LABEL OR DEVICE SIMILAR TO THOSE ILLUSTRATED, OR YOU SEE SUSPECTED OR ACTUAL PRESENCE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IN SCRAP METAL, METAL PRODUCTS OR WASTES: CALL



Company to add internal contact details of manager who may contact the appropriate regulatory body and/or competent authority in emergencies

GATE MONITORING



BASIC ADVICE

Isolate the suspicious car, van, truck, container(s) or equipment. If considered necessary, stop further processing and dispatching of any metal products or wastes.

Identify people who may have been exposed to radiation. Record their contact details.

Inform the managing director/operator of the incident; they may seek the assistance of an on-site radiation safety person or external qualified experts.

Learn about basic radiological protection; if the company has a gate monitor or portable detector, ask how it works.

RADIATION RISK REDUCTION

TIME: Limit your time near a source of radiation since this will reduce the amount of radiation exposure.

DISTANCE: Keep your distance from radioactive materials. The intensity of radiation and its effects drop off sharply with distance from the source, so always maximize your distance.

SHIELDING: Shielding reduces radiation exposure. Shielding materials, like cement blocks, lead, steel and other metals, will block the radiation produced by radioactive materials. Properly-trained personnel use shielding to reduce the amount of radiation to which they are exposed.

DON'T

DON'T touch or pick up packages or containers with a radioactivity symbol and stay as far away from them as possible.

DON'T open or destroy any suspicious container under any circumstances. Opening a container may be dangerous for you, your fellow workers and the public. Note that heavy metal containers or shielding blocks may be constructed of depleted uranium rather than of lead.

DON'T touch suspect or actual radioactive material with your bare hands.

Recyclers do not want radioactive contamination entering their metal scrap but face such a threat because governments either lost control, or never had control, over radioactive material designated in national law or by a regulatory body as being subject to regulatory control. By identifying such unwanted radioactivity, recyclers protect human health and the environment and help restore government control, thereby preventing further dispersion of, or contamination by, such radioactive material.

BIR – REPRESENTING THE FUTURE LEADING RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIERS

This advice from the Bureau of International Recycling (also online at www.bir.org) takes into account IAEA and UN-ECE guidance publications (available online at www.iaea.org and www.unece.org). Contact bir@bir.org for versions of this poster in other languages.