

Abstract

Environmental Issues Associated with Malodorants

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Malodorants are non-lethal weapons that may be used to annoy, incapacitate or drive away personnel from an area. The Nonlethal Environmental Evaluation and Remediation Center (NEER) at Kansas State University is evaluating two specific malodorant formulations. These are called Bathroom Malodor and Who-Me? Presently, NEER is gathering available information on the components of these malodorants in order to provide general information for environmental management and future environmental assessments of the compounds.

As a group, these chemicals are generally liquids at room temperature, but have a relatively high degree of volatility. If deployed in an indoor setting, removal of the chemicals from the indoor environment (furnishings, carpets, curtains) could be an issue. Oxidation is a likely remedial solution. A preliminary evaluation of the structure of these chemicals indicates that it should relatively be easy to convert many of them to non-toxic compounds such as nitrogen, carbon dioxide, and sulfate. The initial approach to evaluating these two malodorants is to search for information on the individual chemicals that make up each malodorant.