



State Health Officer, Dr. Donald Williamson and Governor Bob Riley address the media during a news conference.

ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING NETWORK

A DIVISION OF THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS AND DISTANCE LEARNING DIVISION

The Video Communications and Distance Learning Division provides training and public information to health professionals across the nation. The Alabama Public Health Training Network (ALPHTN) was formally established in 1992 in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is a nationally recognized provider of public health training and education programs.

PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES Satellite conferences and webcasts are broadcast directly from our Montgomery, Alabama production suite which includes a 1,500 square foot broadcast studio and a state-of-the-art master control room. Two specialized video servers are maintained in-house and allow for conferences to be hosted as live broadcasts and as On Demand programs, which can be viewed at the user's convenience. In addition to producing, hosting and directing distance learning satellite conferences, division staff are routinely requested by public health and allied health agencies to provide off-site conference support.

The division assists with specialized video projects for public health and other health organizations. These projects can include educational videos or video news packages for broadcast media. Division staff conduct all research, script development, recording and editing. A full complement of production equipment and staff expertise enable the creation of many specialized projects to be shot "on location" to provide a more realistic perspective.

Video production specialists work with graphic artists who specialize in Internet publishing and web design. The designers are responsible for marketing and advertising every conference with a flyer whose unique design is based on conference topics. All conference materials are posted on the Alabama Public Health Training Network's website, www.adph.org/alphtn.

BROADCAST CAPABILITIES The Video Communications and Distance Learning Division produces more programs than any other state or federal agency in the country. Division staff broadcast these programs utilizing satellite and web technologies that continue to provide both new and unlimited educational opportunities for public health employees, not only in Alabama but also around the world.

Satellite Division infrastructure includes a satellite uplink truck equipped with the latest digital technology allowing the division to broadcast conferences in analog or digital KU band.

Internet Satellite conferences produced by the division are also broadcast as live webcasts through the Alabama Public Health Training Network's website. The ALPHTN website includes a customized electronic registration system that enables individual viewers to maintain an official transcript of completed courses and to conveniently pursue continuing education credits. On Demand programs are posted to the website two business days after the live broadcast and can be accessed at the participant's convenience.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Alabama Public Health Training Network Website www.adph.org/alphtn

- View a complete list of upcoming programs
- Register for satellite conferences and live webcasts
- View On Demand programs:
 - Satellite Broadcasts
 - News Conferences
 - ADPH Staff Meetings
 - Conferences
 - Featured Projects
 - Internet Trainings
- View frequently asked questions
- Contact our dedicated staff to learn more about our services
- Access direct links to websites that promote distance learning for healthcare professionals on the national level, state level, and in the public health arena
- Order copies of all ALPHTN programs

EMERGENCY RESPONSE Emergency communications continue to play a significant role in the division's responsibilities. The department's satellite uplink and production vehicle serves as a mobile production facility. The truck is equipped with all of the necessary production and broadcast tools to ensure that in the event of an emergency away from the division's central office, division staff would still be able to produce and broadcast a satellite program or news conference.

VIDEO CONFERENCING Another major initiative for the division has been the establishment of a video conferencing system. This two-way video and two-way audio distance learning conference system is as simple as a conversation between two people in private offices or several different sites with several people participating from each site. This dedicated and isolated T-1 line has a reliable bandwidth and can transfer data up to 60 times faster than traditional modems. The end result is a clear and high quality videoconference for participants.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES The Video Communications and Distance Learning Division also produces other projects such as video educational programs, news conferences, and television and radio public service announcements. The division uplinks department news conferences, provides audio and visual support for news conferences and produces special video packages for the Alabama media. A high-speed CD/DVD duplicator and printer along with videotape dubbing equipment provides for efficient and prompt turnaround in distributing thousands of educational programs in Alabama and throughout the United States.



The satellite truck set up to broadcast a live conference in Washington, D.C.