

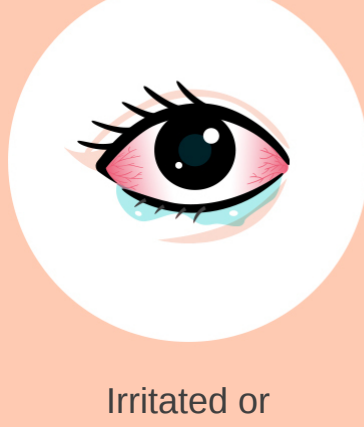
CBRE TERRORISM IN WORKPLACES

2023
FEBRUARY

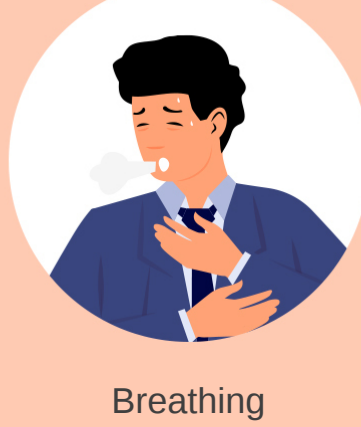
As more employees return to the workplace, it is important for businesses to be prepared against terror attacks that can cause great disruption to daily activities, such as those utilising chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive (CBRE) agents. Businesses need to know the tell-tale indicators (TTIs) of the hazardous materials being used in a CBRE attack, and what to do when faced with such an attack. Read on to find out more.

CHEMICAL AGENTS

Chemical agents involve the use of hazardous chemical substances to incapacitate and kill people. Upon exposure, many people experience symptoms such as:



Irritated or watery eyes



Breathing difficulties



Nausea

In more serious cases, chemical agents may also cause people to collapse.

In the workplace, keep a lookout for:



Unattended items or bags emitting fumes



The presence of unusual odours within the vicinity

BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

Biological attacks, on the other hand, may be difficult to detect as symptoms take time to manifest. In a biological attack, infectious biological agents are released into the environment through air, food, water, as well as infected animals, and may eventually cause disease or death. Do keep a look out for:



Powdery or gel-like substances



Suspicious parcels



Trends of unusual illnesses in the workplace

To keep yourself safe, always practise good hygiene and seek medical advice immediately if you feel unwell.

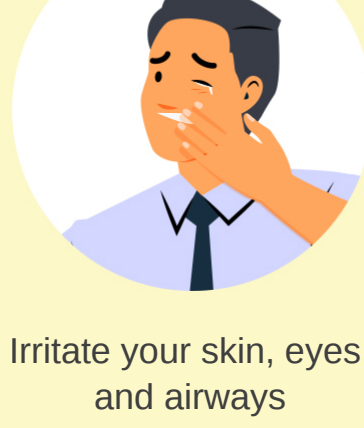
RADIOLOGICAL AGENTS

Radiological attacks involve the deliberate release of radiological materials to incapacitate people, and can be used in conjunction with explosives to make 'dirty bombs'.

A radiological attack may:



Be similar to an explosion



Irritate your skin, eyes, and airways

A person exposed to radiation may immediately experience nausea and vomiting, and may also develop terminal illnesses years later.

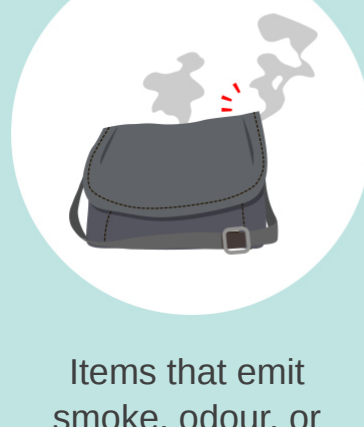
HIGH-YIELD EXPLOSIVE THREATS

Attacks carried out using explosives have been more common in other countries in recent times as components to make them are easily obtainable. Known as improvised explosive devices (IEDs), they can come in many forms and are typically carried, placed, thrown by persons, or delivered as packages in vehicles.

Some TTIs of explosive threats include:

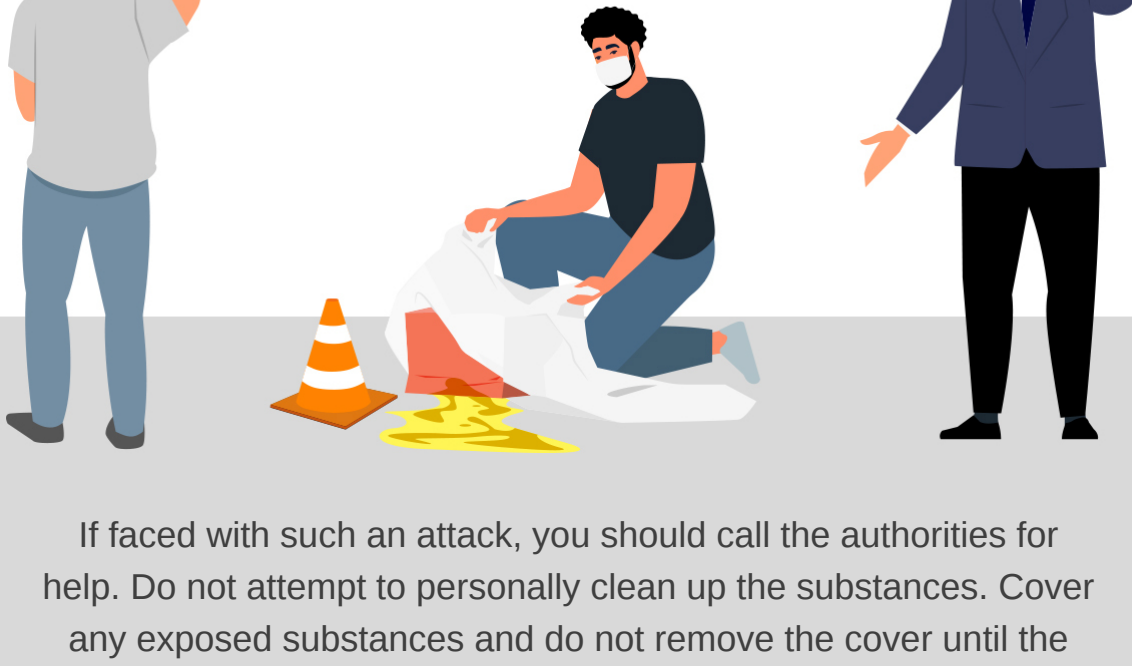


Oily stains or discoloration on an item or parcel



Items that emit smoke, odour, or a ticking/buzzing sound

WHAT TO DO IN A CBRE ATTACK



If faced with such an attack, you should call the authorities for help. Do not attempt to personally clean up the substances. Cover any exposed substances and do not remove the cover until the authorities arrive. You should also cover your nose and mouth, preferably with a wet cloth, to prevent inhalation of hazardous substances. As such attacks can cause a lot of chaos, remain calm and assist in evacuation, as well as prevent others from entering the affected area.

You may read up more on CBRE attacks [here](#).

Ensure your workplace remains vigilant against the threat of youth radicalisation in Singapore by keeping abreast on recent local cases [here](#), and [here](#).

Anyone who knows or suspects that a person is radicalised should promptly contact the ISD Counter-Terrorism hotline at **1800-2626-273** or lodge a report via the **SGSecure app**.