In the spring of each year, Indianapolis falls under a siege of sorts. The annual Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) hits the city in a very big way. Indianapolis plays host to not only fire instructors but emergency services professionals from all backgrounds. For those of you who have never attended, FDIC tends to be a launching ground for some of the most innovative products used in emergency response.

After more years in the business than I care to recount, this was my first venture to the show. In walking the floor, I was simply amazed at the sheer volume of vendors. The place seemed to be a vast labyrinth, and I couldn’t help but wonder how one would search a place like this in an emergency. (The city’s strict codes made such an event unlikely, but I suspect other attendees had the same instincts.)

The following are some of the more innovative products that have specific first-response applications. They’re well worth a second look.

**HOT INNOVATIONS for improving emergency response**

**COOL CACHE**

**MASS CASUALTY O₂ MANIFOLDS**
The Mass Casualty O₂ Manifolds allow for rapid oxygen delivery to as many as eight to ten patients with high-flow O₂ via an appropriate delivery device. The systems are configurable and can be built into a hard case or any number of standard configurations. The photo here shows the hard case open. An optional humidification capability configuration is also available.

**OXYLATOR**
The Oxylator family of products provides EMS with some unique and versatile patient ventilation options and alerts that, in a chemical MCI situation, could mean the difference between life and death for a number of patients. The Oxylator provides for closed/positive-pressure ventilation of patients and can be safely and efficiently used by providers wearing a variety of PPE. Several models are available, including those with butyl rubber components.

**SCBA TANK REGULATOR/SCUBA TANK ADAPTER**
This unique regulator and adapter allow the use of SCBA and/or SCUBA tanks as replacements where standard breathing air may be all that is needed for patients who require ventilation assistance but have no clinical need for high concentrations of oxygen, or where backup supplies of on-scene oxygen have not been supplemented by MCI caches. In a mass-casualty event, these tank adapters could prove critically valuable to large numbers of patients who, otherwise, wouldn’t received ventilation assistance. Lifesaving Systems has also combined the Oxylator with its SCBA tank regulator/SCUBA tank adapter and other accessories to create the HAZMAT Oxylator Resuscitation Kit. (The National Medical Response Teams use this kit.) Oxylators can also be adapted/attached to the Mass Casualty O₂ Manifolds if needed for emergency patient ventilation support.

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For Oxylator EM-100 clinical and scientific studies, visit: [www.cprmedic.com](http://www.cprmedic.com)