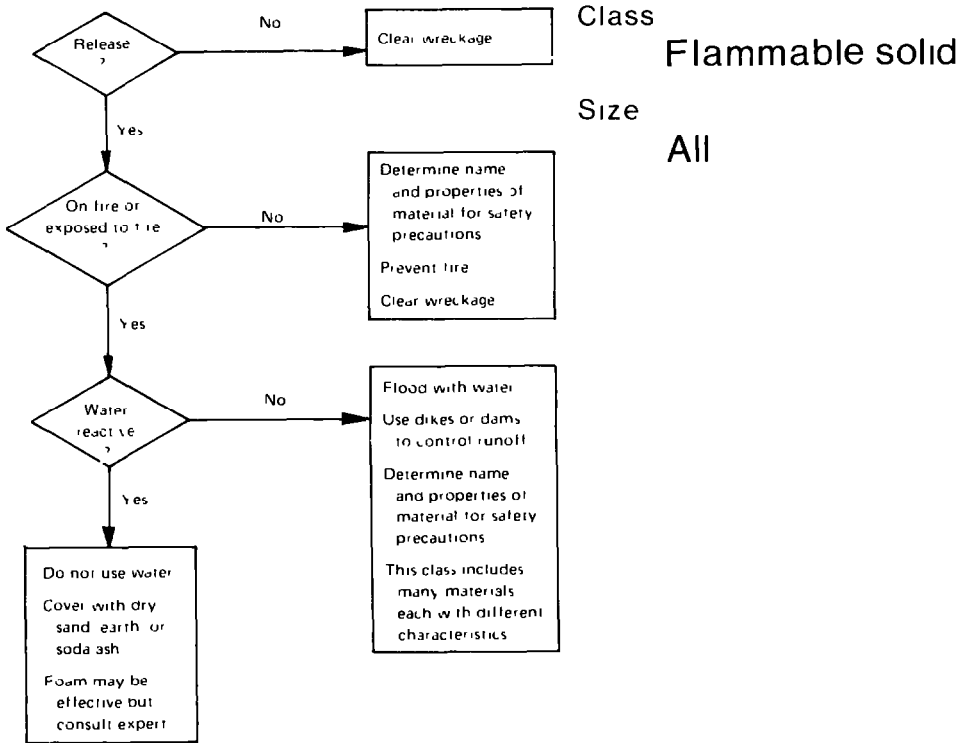


*A Guide to the Safe Handling of Hazardous Materials Accidents*, Manual STP/825, American Society for Testing Materials, Philadelphia, PA, 1982, 53 pages

Through the efforts of the members of its F-20 committee, the ASTM has published this practical guide to address the serious problems surrounding hazardous material accidents. The manual is a perfect companion to the U.S. Department of Transportation's "Yellow Book" *Hazardous Material -- Emergency Response Guidebook*, since the ASTM volume discusses response techniques in terms of DOT classes of materials (oxidizers, flammables, etc.)

In the responders advisory, ASTM has used a computer decision tree chart (shown here for one of the simpler classes of materials). The first task of the responder is to determine (from the shipping placard) the appropriate material class and thus the appropriate chart to be used. Once the chart has been accessed, the responder starts in the upper left-hand corner and proceeds as directed, answering yes and no, until he reaches the recommendation block.



GARY F BENNETT