

## **Project Report**

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### **Editorial Note**

*Currently there are many national and international collaborative research programmes being undertaken or planned that are concerned with hazardous materials. In an attempt to improve the general awareness of these programmes, their structure and status I would like to encourage submission of brief Project Reports. These would be assured of publication in the earliest possible issue of the Journal.*

REX BRITTER

## **RESEARCH ON CONTINUOUS AND INSTANTANEOUS GAS CLOUDS**

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### **Summary**

This project, which is one of six currently supported under the Major Technological Hazards Programme of the Commission of the European Communities, is briefly described in terms of participants, subtasks, etc. However, the main purpose of this note is to inform about the planned field phases of the project.

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### **Introduction**

The dispersion of heavy gases over flat terrain in terms of time-averaged concentration is quite well understood. The project is concentrating on the following more complex situations.

1. In practical situations, obstacles will be present in the form of buildings and other installations. These obstacles may significantly influence the dispersion process, but little quantitative guidance can presently be given on the magnitude of the effect on the spatial and temporal distributions of the concentration field.
2. Until now, models used for predicting atmospheric concentrations of contaminants have been those which produce time or ensemble-averaged val-