

What do I do?

David Hernandez
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Abstract

The increase in use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), Improvised or Homemade Explosives (HME) requires a novel approach to research. In the past, the development of commercially made or military explosives was optimized in laboratories that legitimately provided this service. Stolen, black market trade, or illegally recovered explosives were the common sources for terrorists to acquire such material. The sobering emergence of explosives that may be manufactured in bathrooms or garages brought to the forefront the need for detection technologies and systems to counter this threat. The goal of my presentation will bring together my experience in the complementary fields of intelligence, research, and practical application: think like a terrorist.