

## Customer Service Corner

### Learn How to Use PEAC-WMD

by Aaron Bretones

## Learn How to use the PEAC-WMD Program

The PEAC-WMD program has many utilities and functions. Unless you are familiar with the program, you may not know how to use or access them. Each function of the program gives the user additional information about harmful substances, or runs a calculator to determine distances for evacuation and public safety.

### Features and Utilities of the PEAC-WMD Program

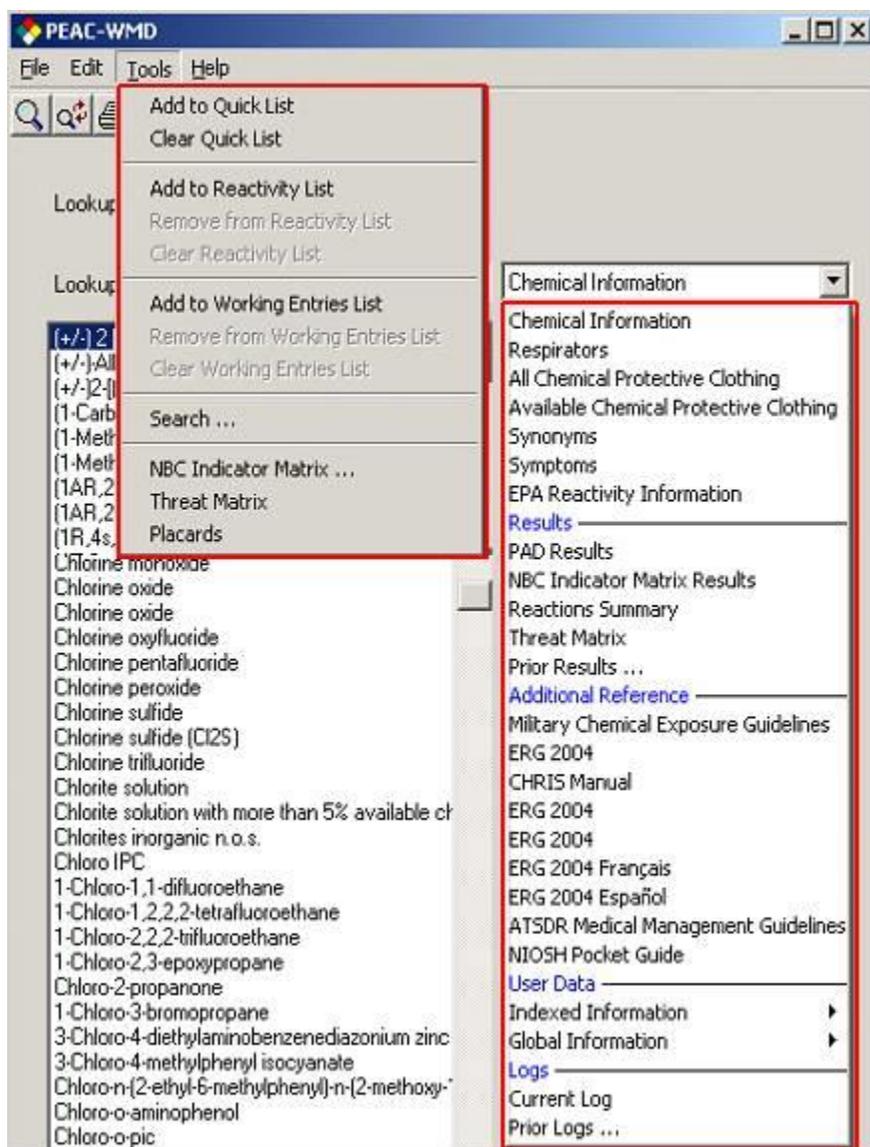
Some of the features and utilities are run from icons, at the top of the program in the Windows version, or at the bottom in the Pocket PC version. See **Figure 1** for the Windows® icons. Note that this image is altered – the icons for the **Reactivity List** , **Explosion Calculator** , and **PAD Calculator**  will not all be available at the same time as shown here.



**Figure 1 - Feature Icons**

Some of these icons are: Search, Placards, NBC Indicator Matrix, Threat Matrix, Glossary, add to the Chemical Reactivity list, Explosive Calculator, and the PAD Calculator. These features and their training videos are described later in this article.

Other features and utilities, as well as lists and references, are accessed from one of the menus or lists, such as: the Location, Options, Quick List functions, Reactivity List functions, Working Entries List functions, database lists and sub-lists, reference publications, protective clothing and equipment information, user-defined (uploaded) documents and information, and logs and results files. The functions that have icons are also available from program menus or lists. Two of these lists can be seen in **Figure 2** below.



**Figure 2 - Some Lists in PEAC-WMD**

### Program Training Videos

Included with the program on the installation CD are about 15 training videos. These are not installed on to the user's computer, but are viewed directly from the installation CD. They can also be viewed on our website. They range from about 2 minutes to about 12 minutes in length. The first few videos are fairly general, while the rest are gradually more specific and technical. The topics covered (and their duration in minutes:seconds) are as:

- **Background** – This tells how AristaTek got started, some of the research we've done, and how and why the PEAC program was developed. (11:51 in both versions)
- **Overview** – This shows what the PEAC-WMD program looks like, how it works, and demonstrates some of its features. (5:40 for Win, 6:11 for PPC)
- **Location** – This shows the user how to set the location and why it is important. The PEAC-WMD program uses a patented algorithm to calculate plume modeling. One important aspect is the incident location, in order to determine the angle of the sun. (1:27 for Win, 2:17 for PPC)
- **Quick List** – This explains how to use the Quick List feature of the program and its usefulness. If you are repeatedly working with just a handful of substances, you can put them into a Quick List and easily go back and forth between them. (1:20 for Win, 3:00for PPC)
- **Reactivity List** – This shows how to build and use the Reactivity List, to see how chemicals react when mixed together. (3:50 for Win, 4:05 for PPC)
- **Working Entries List** – This video will show the user how to customize the PEAC-WMD program by using the Working Entries List to create separate lists for each user, incident, location, or any unique or singular situation. (2:33 for Win, 2:59 for PPC)
- The **PAD**, or Protective Action Distance – shows the user how to calculate safe Protective Action Distances for public safety or evacuation in the event of a hazmat incident. (6:32 for Win, 8:27 for PPC)
- **Chemical Protective Clothing (CPC)** – This will show the user how to view CPC data, what CPC information is available, and input your available protective equipment into the program. At an incident, the user can view what CPC is needed and select from their own list of available equipment. (3:32 for Win, 4:08 for PPC)
- The **Explosion Calculator** – will show protective stand-off distance and describe possible damage that can occur within certain distances from an explosion. (4:15 for Win, 4:16 for PPC)
- **Placards** – shows how to view the ERG vehicle placard information. This displays all the ERG placard groups, which are links to the detailed information about each group. (2:34 for Win, 2:35 for PPC)
- The **Threat Matrix** – shows how to populate, view, and re-arrange a matrix of various hazardous substances. The resulting table can quickly be

- arranged alphabetically or by any selected threat category. (2:15 for Win, 2:55 for PPC)
- The **NBC Indicator Matrix** – how to assess a nuclear/biological/chemical warfare incident and determine possible precursors by selecting observed symptoms and effects.(3:16 for Win, 4:38 for PPC)
  - The **Search** Feature – is used to search for possible substances, bio-weapon types, or WMD's by selecting by physical descriptors and/or observed symptoms. (2:38 for Win, 3:21 for PPC)
  - **Reference Information** – There are several reference publications included on the program, such as the ERG, NIOSH Pocket Guide, and the CHRIS Manual. (2:58 for Win, 3:37 for PPC)
  - **Global & Indexed** – This feature allows users to import data into the program for general or categorized use, or assigned to specific chemicals. Any text-based (.txt) or HTML file can be viewed within the program. (6:57 for Win, 10:30 for PPC)

### Viewing the Training Videos from the CD

Some of the training videos for the Pocket PC version of the software may be a little longer. Each video is unique and they do not necessarily need to be viewed in a particular order. Users of the PEAC-WMD program should be familiar with the content and they can watch the videos over and over.

To view the videos from the CD, insert the CD into a CD drive of a Windows computer. A menu should automatically start. Select "View Training Videos" from the menu (see **Figure 3**). Then select the video you would like to watch from the list. Click on "Show Selected Video" (**Figure 4**) and Windows Media Player® will open and play the video (**Figure 5**).



Figure 3 - CD Menu

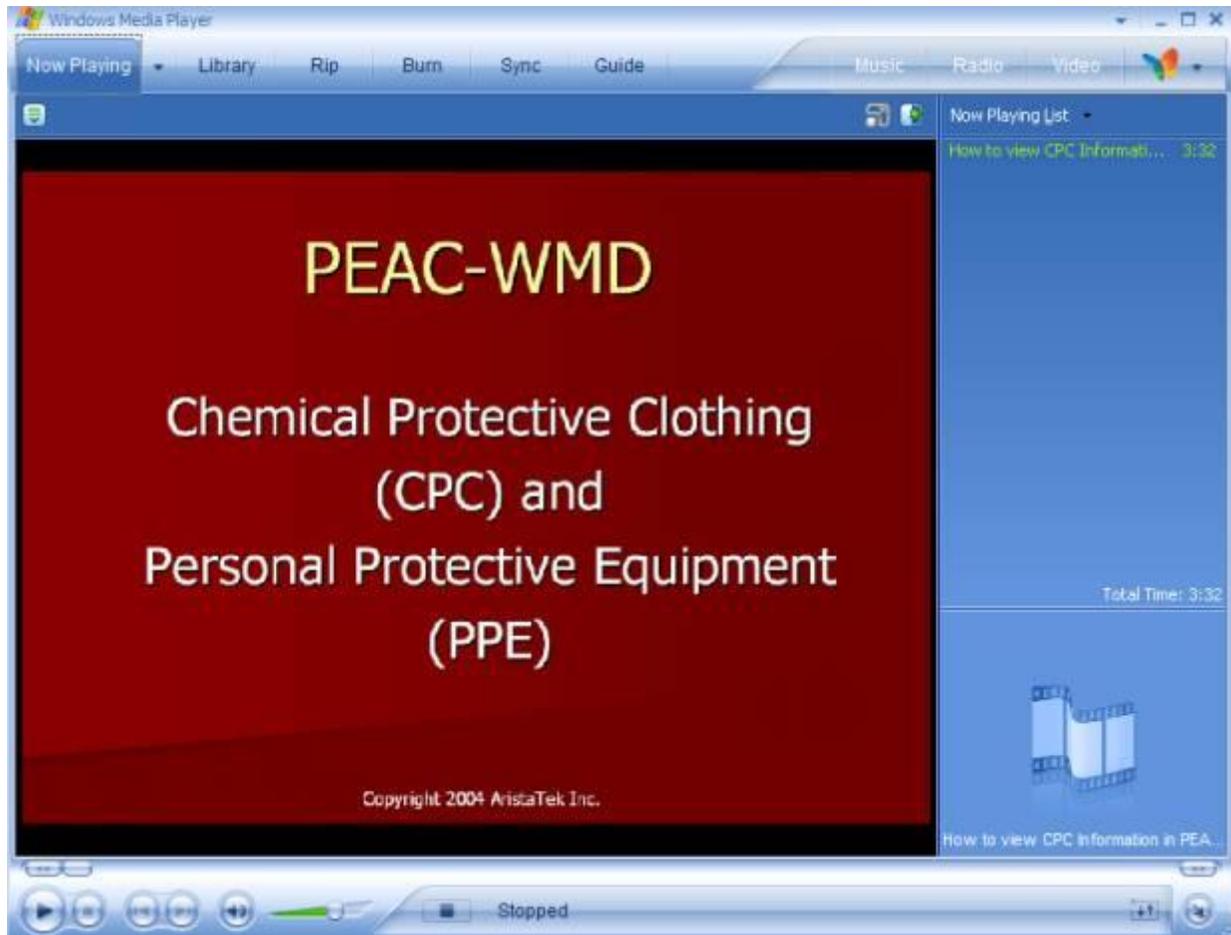
The videos are run right from the CD, not the hard drive of the computer. The video files can be copied from the CD to the hard drive of the computer using My Computer or the Windows Explorer. Copying the video files will allow the CD to be shared with other users of the PEAC-WMD program.



Figure 4 - Select Video to Watch

## Viewing the Training Videos on the Web

To view a video from the website, go to [www.aristatek.com](http://www.aristatek.com), and click on “Customer Service” and “Login” (or [click here](#) to go directly to the login page and the training videos). See **Figure 6**. This is best done using a broadband or high-speed Internet connection. Using a dial-up connection may cause long pauses during playback, or it may take a very long time to load the file.



**Figure 5 - Windows Media Player**

On the web page, the videos are divided into 2 groups, one for the Pocket PC version of the software, and one for the Windows version. In all, the videos for the Windows version take about 67 minutes, and the Pocket PC videos take about 73 minutes.

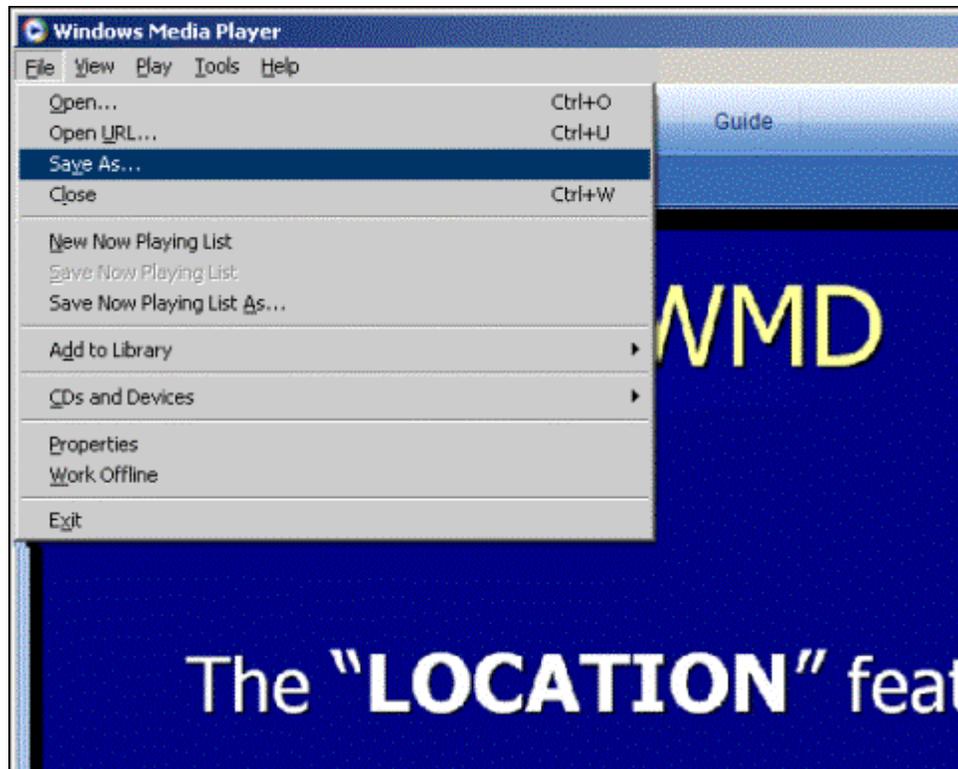


**Figure 6 - Watch videos from the website**

Once you click on a video link here, the Windows Media Player® will open and play the video, just as it does from the CD. See **Figure 5**.

### Saving Training Videos

To save a video from the website, click on the video link to open it and load it into the Windows Media Player®. Once it starts playing, it is fully loaded. Pause or stop the video. Click on “File” and then on “Save As...”. The files are named beginning with a number, in the order they are meant to be viewed. See **Figure 7** below.



**Figure 7 - Saving a Video from the Web**

### New Training Videos

As Aristatek updates the PEAC-WMD program and adds features, more videos may be created to demonstrate how these features are used. These will be added to the installation CD and may be made available for download from the website. It pays to keep in touch with us, read our monthly newsletter, and to check our website often for program updates and news. We will inform our customers as new program features are added or changed.