

Email Recruitment

Hello,

The Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) Division at the National Institute of Standards and Technology is conducting a research study on the use of virtual reality for hazardous materials training. Our project is called Digital Twins for Public Safety Training.

We would like you to participate in a virtual reality experiment where you will don a headset and complete a training activity, followed by an assessment of the task. Participation will take approximately 20 minutes for the experiment and 5-10 minutes for reviewing the information consent and the user interface. Your participation in this research is voluntary.

If you decide to participate in the study, you may withdraw your consent and stop participation at any time without penalty. To take part in this experiment, you need to be an active or retired firefighter, 18 or older, and not part of a hazardous response team (e.g., hazmat tech).

The study will be conducted at the Public Safety Immersive Test Center in Boulder, CO. If you'd like to participate you may use this link to schedule a date and time:

[Scheduling link here]

We will not collect your name or personal identifiers. When we report and share the data with others, we will combine the data from all participants. There are minimal risks associated with this study, including cybersickness, vertigo, and slips/trips/falls. The potential benefits of this study are obtaining a foundational understanding of how to enhance virtual reality training, knowledge capture, and immersive experiences for first responders.

If you would like to participate or have any questions, please contact the principal investigator, Scott Ledgerwood, at Scott.Ledgerwood@nist.gov. If you have any questions about your rights as a volunteer in this research, contact the NIST IRB at: rpoffice@nist.gov; 301-975-5445.