The Agency for Toxic Substance Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the Mary Kay O’Connor Process Safety Center (MKOPSC) has held a series of meetings with numerous stakeholders to define the desired characteristics of a NHSIS. Currently there are numerous systems each dealing with some aspect of hazardous substance releases. However, there are categories of events, particularly at fixed facilities that have no coverage. In addition, each of the systems uses a different taxonomy, that is, the data structure and definitions differ greatly. The Road Map describes the desired characteristics and the specific steps and resources needed to achieve the goal of a comprehensive national system of incident surveillance.