

FIRE GROUND MANAGEMENT GUIDE

This Guide is designed to assist Firefighters and Fire Officers during the initial stages of the Fire Ground Operation.

© 2008 EMERGENCY TRAINING ASSOCIATES, LLC – All Rights Reserved

Responding To Scene

- Monitor Radio For Information
- Listen For Instructions
- Mentally Size Up The Area
- Available Water Supply
- Residential / Commercial
- Pre Fire Plans / Maps
- When Will We Arrive?

On Scene Size-Up BELOW

Building

Construction Type

1. Fire Resistive
2. Non / Limited Combustible
3. Ordinary
4. Heavy Timber
5. Wood Frame

Size of Building

- Dimensions
- Number of Stories

Extent and Location

- Smoke Showing
- Light / Heavy Smoke Condition
- Color of Smoke
- Smell of Smoke
- Basement Fire / Attic
- Contents Vs. Structure Fire

Life Safety

- Time of Day
- Day of Week
- Occupancy
- Location and Extent
- Firefighters / Civilians

Occupancy

- Mixed Use
- Occupied / Unoccupied
- Vacant / Abandoned

Residential

- Single Family Dwelling
- Multi-Family Dwelling
- Condo / Apartment Complex

Commercial

- Warehouse
- Manufacturing Facility

Water Supply

- Establish Primary and Secondary Water Supply From Available Water Source

On Scene Radio Report

- Announce Arrival on Scene
- Location of Fire Building / Address
- Construction and Occupancy
- Fire And Smoke Condition on Arrival
- Location of Fire
- Exposure Concerns
- Establish Command
- Name & Locate Command Post

- Task of First Arriving Company
- Assign R.I.C / Safety Officer
- Assign Accountability Officer
- Additional Resources Needed
- Stage Additional Resources (Level I & II)
- Request PD, EMS, Utilities, Rehab
- Report on Progress and Conditions

Fire Ground Tactical Objectives RECEOVS

Rescue / Evacuation

- Time of Day / Day of Week
- Occupancy Type
- Primary Search
- Secondary Search
- Successful Rescue Potential
- P.D. Assist with Evacuation

Exposures

- Interior / Exterior
- 6 Sides
- Distance Between Buildings
- Direct Application of Water
- Immediate Exposure Protection
- Anticipated Exposure Protection

Confinement

Interior Attack (Offensive Mode)

- Aggressive Attack In Coordination With Ladder Company Operations
- Protect Primary Means of Egress

Exterior Attack (Defensive Mode)

- Protect Exposures
- Large Diameter Hand Lines
- Master Streams
- Perimeter Control
- Brand Patrol

Extinguishment

- BTU's Vs. GPM's
- Appropriate Sized Hose Lines
- Proper Positioning of Hose Lines
- 3- Hose Line Strategy
- Back Up Lines

Overhaul

- Fire-control
- Overhaul Safety Survey
- Post control

Ventilation

- Coordinated With Fire Attack
- Type of Ventilation
- Horizontal / Vertical / Hydraulic
- Positive / Negative Pressure
- HVAC

Salvage

- Assess Need
- Save Valuable Items
- Cover Items
- Remove Items
- Ventilate Area

FLIP OVER

FIRE GROUND MANAGEMENT GUIDE

Fire Ground Safety

- Initiate IMS
- Personnel Accountability System
- Safety / Accountability Officers
- Full PPE
- Thermal Imaging Camera
- 2 In / 2 Out Rule /R.I.C. Teams
- Personnel Accountability Recall (PAR)
- Emergency Fire Ground Communications Channel
- Announce Change in Strategy
- Recognition of Warning Signs
- Establish Collapse Zones
- Perimeter Control
- Stop Unsafe Operations
- Rehab Unit
- No Freelancing

Built In Fire Protection Systems

- Sprinkler Systems
- Standpipe Systems
- Fire Department Connection

Collapse Considerations

- Construction
- Fire Intensity
- Duration the Fire is Burning

Causes of Collapse During Fire

- Back Draft / Flash Over
- Weak Or Burned Out Structural Members
- Heating of Unprotected Steel Structural Members
- Impact / Live / Dead Loads
- Accumulation of Water
- Water Absorbent Material Increase Floor Load
- Vibrations

Collapse Warning Signs

- Walls Leaking Smoke / Water
- Walls / Columns Out of Plumb
- Heavy Fire Burning Out of Control
- Cracking, Rumbling or Groaning Noises
- Cracks In Exterior Walls
- Heavy Floor Load
- Heavy Equipment on Roof
- Sagging / Bulging Walls (1 Cubic Foot of Brick = **100 Lbs**)
- Spongy / Soft Feeling as you walk on roof.

Incident Management System

5 Major Components

- Incident Commander
- Operations
- Planning
- Logistics
- Finance

Responsibilities of Command (L.I.P.S.)

- Life Safety
- Incident Stabilization
- Property Conservation
- Safety, Accountability and Welfare of Personnel

Functions of Command

- Announce And Establish Command
- Evaluate Situation (*Size-Up*)
- Initiate, Maintain and Control Communications
- Identify the Overall Strategy
- Develop an Incident Action Plan
 - *Assign Companies and Personnel*
 - *Develop Effective Incident Management Organization*
 - *Provide Tactical Objectives*
 - *Maintain Tactical Worksheet*
 - *Review, Evaluate And Revise Incident Action Plan*
 - *Provide for the Continuity, Transfer, And Termination of Command*

Command Options

Investigative Mode

- No Visible Indicators of Fire
- Investigate Further With 1ST Due Company

Fast Attack Mode

- Situation Requires Immediate Action to Stabilize the Incident
- Company Officers Involvement in Fire Attack Operation is Critical
- Use of portable radio will enable Company Officers Involvement without neglecting Command Responsibilities
- Life Safety Situations Must be Addressed
- Safety And Welfare of Firefighters is a Major Concern

Command Mode

- Large, Complex and Potential for Rapid Expansion of Incident
- Company Officer Assumes an Exterior Safe And Effective Command Position Until Relieved by Higher Ranking Officer
- Initial Company Under Command of Acting Officer, Grouped with Another Company, or Assigned Staff Functions to Assist Command