
INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

TOPIC: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT

PURPOSE: To exercise the Strike Team concept in hazardous materials incident, and to improve the multi-agency (fire agencies, SCCEMS and 'County Ambulance') Mutual Aid effectiveness.

MATERIALS NEEDED:
Santa Clara County Local Fire Service and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan, Appendices 1 & 5.

TIME: 30 to 60 minutes

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

- Personnel will describe the responsibilities of the responding Mutual Aid Hazardous Materials Teams and typing, including requesting, record keeping, advisory, and accounting roles.
- Personnel will describe the levels of hazardous materials incidents.
- Personnel will describe the key components of the Santa Clara County Standard Decontamination Policy, Protocols and Procedures.
- Personnel will identify the applicable communications channels for mutual aid response.
- Personnel will describe the use of T-cards and present completed T-cards.

KEY COMPONENTS:

- Establish common roles, terminology, and communications.
- Establish control zones, make company assignments.
- Identify and implement key functions within the fire, hazardous materials, and medical groups.
- Make proper notifications.
- Conduct a portable and mobile radio communications exercise.

TACTICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Review the procedure for requesting mutual aid Hazardous Materials Teams (Ref., Appendix 5, Page i)
2. Review and become familiar with the Haz-Mat Control Zones, and the Contamination Reduction Corridor. (Ref., Appendix 5.)

Questions:

1. Are company officers familiar with Haz-Mat control zones and the associated ICS positions?
 2. Do they understand the purpose of contamination control zones?
 3. Do they understand the importance of an Assistant Hazmat Safety Officer?
 4. Do they understand the difference between the Scene Safety Officer and Asst. HM Safety Officer?
3. Establish a site access control group and a decontamination group to set-up control zones and to begin set-up of the contamination reduction corridor. (Ref., Appendix 5, Information Sheets, Pages 1-10.)

Question:

1. Do the company officers and personnel understand the importance of site access control?
 2. Do they understand the need to set-up the contamination reduction corridor upwind, uphill, and away from the incident?
 3. Are they aware how to prevent contamination of personnel?
 4. The frontline companies can be assigned with at least one hazmat technician to set up a decon area without endangering themselves. This is a required function to be set up prior to entering a hot zone.
4. Establish a decontamination corridor and prepare personnel to function within the corridor. (Ref., Appendix 5, Information Sheets, Pages 1-10.)

Question:

5. Do the company officers and personnel understand the principles of decontamination? Was any specialized or unusual equipment available for the decontamination procedure? What level of personal protective equipment is appropriate for personnel working the contamination reduction corridor? Do they know the different types of decontamination procedures, including emergency decontamination? Do they understand the need for a confirmed water source i.e. hydrant or water tender etc? Do they understand the environmental factors regarding decontamination such as controlling runoff by protecting storm drains, setting up a dam etc?
5. Establish a medical monitoring unit to monitor the condition of the entry team, as they exit the contamination reduction corridor. (Ref., Appendix 5, Information Sheets, Pages 1-10.)

Question:

Do the company officers and personnel understand the need for, and the importance of, post-entry medical monitoring? Under what conditions a person should not be allowed to re-enter a hazard area? The front line companies must be aware of the importance of pre & post medical vitals for entry teams.

- 6 Have a safety briefing prior to the commencement of any hazardous operation in order to alert all personnel of expected hazards and of any emergency procedures in place for this incident. (Ref., Appendix 5, Information Sheets, Pages 1-10.)

Question:

Do the company officers and personnel understand the need for, and importance of, a safety briefing prior to commencement of hazardous operations? Are all personnel aware of the expected hazards and any emergency procedures for this incident?

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Review Appendix 1 - Radio Communications Plan
2. Travel channel (dispatch channel of incident owner or White Fire 1.)
3. Command channel (command channel of incident owner or primary channel of incident owner.)
4. Tactical channel (tactical channel of incident owner or primary channel of incident owner.)

ACCOUNTABILITY:

1. T-cards from each resource are given to the Strike Team Leader, and they shall be checked for accuracy.
2. Resources arriving at the hazardous materials incident shall check-in at staging.

EQUIPMENT KNOWLEDGE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MUTUAL AID PLAN:

- Safety Equipment
- Did the participants have the necessary equipment to safely respond to, and operate at the hazardous materials decontamination incident?
- Knowledge of the Santa Clara County Mutual Aid Plan for Hazardous Materials Incident
- Did the company officers understand how to request hazardous materials team? Did they understand the roles and responsibilities of the various hazardous materials ICS position?

- T-Cards
- Are the T-cards completed and correct? Is the information consistent with the information provided in the Santa Clara County Mutual Aid Plan?

COMMENTS:
