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| ***REPLACE WITH YOUR MASTHEAD*** |
| **VFIS logo black JPG** | **SOG Title:** |
| **SOG Number:** |
| **Original Date:** | **Revision Date:** |
| **ABC Fire Department General Operating Guideline** |

**Hazardous Materials Level 2 Operations**

***This is a sample of a standard operating guideline (SOG) on this topic. You should review the content, modify as appropriate for your organization, have it reviewed by your leadership team and if appropriate your legal counsel. Once adopted, make sure the SOG is communicated to members, implemented and performance monitored for effective implementation.***

**Purpose:**

To provide for an additional response of resources and the greater availability of reference materials for mitigation of the incident.

A Level II Emergency also provides for the implementation of a Safety Officer and a Haz-Mat Technical Specialist who is knowledgeable in Hazardous Material Operations. These positions are responsible for coordinating information and resources between the initial arriving units and the incident commander; to evaluate and identify the current and potential hazards and to provide tactical management to the incident commander.

The Haz-Mat Branch Director shall be assigned by the on scene incident commander.

**Procedure:**

**Responsibilities**

* The responsibilities of the Haz-Mat Branch Director are:
	+ Coordinate information, resources, and operations with the initial arriving units and the incident commander.
	+ Completion of the initial assessment of hazards and risks by utilizing the following:
		- Chemical and physical properties of involved materials
		- The condition of containers
		- Previous, current and potential environmental conditions
		- Exposures
		- Available resources
		- Required resources
		- Suggested hazard zones
	+ Identification of all materials involved by utilizing the following guidelines:
		- Occupation and location
		- Shapes of containers
		- Markings and colors
		- Placards and labels
		- Shipping papers and documents
		- Observation of activity from a distance with binoculars
		- Any additional information available
	+ Determination of suggested levels of protective clothing:
		- Full protective clothing
		- Chemical protective clothing
		- Level A or Level B
	+ Determination of special equipment required:
		- Department of Environmental Protection Haz Mat Team
		- Commercial Hazardous Material Mitigation Teams
		- Qualified mutual aid responses
	+ Determination if the incident can be controlled by available resources.
		- If available resources cannot handle the incident, the Incident Commander needs to be advised of need for response from outside agencies.
	+ Determination of upgrade to Level III Emergency or downgrade to Level I Emergency.

***This is a sample guideline furnished to you by VFIS. Your organization should review this guideline and make the necessary modifications to meet your organization’s needs. The intent of this guideline is to assist you in reducing exposure to the risk of injury, harm or damage to personnel, property and the general public. For additional information on this topic, contact your VFIS Risk Control representative.***

**References:**

West Redding (CT) VFD – GOG 8-OHM- Developed/Revised/Reviewed by VFIS ETC