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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** | | |

**Vehicle Design & Construction**

***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 develop, per National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, operational uses and performance requirements for new apparatus, which will allow the manufacturer to engineer the apparatus. To develop a list of equipment that will be carried.

**Scope:**

Specification Committee.

**Procedure:**

It is the primary responsibility of the fire chief, specification committee, safety officer, training officer, purchasing agent, maintenance personnel, and drivers to prevent death, injury, and property damage.

Key points to consider/include:

* Form an apparatus committee
* Perform a needs assessment of the community and mutual aid capabilities
* Only develop use and performance requirements
* Have manufacturer engineer and design vehicle
* Consider safety devices such as airbags; warning, scene, and ground lighting; non-slip working surfaces; vehicle striping; heavy equipment placement; automatic tire chains; etc.
* Chassis and manufacturer options
* Follow GSA Ambulance Standard KKK-A-1822 for ambulance units

Follow NFPA guidelines:

* NFPA 1901: Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus and ··Apparatus Purchasing Specification Form" Appendix B
* NFPA 1906: Standard for Wildland Fire Apparatus
* NFP 1911: Standard for the Inspection , Maintenance, Testing, and Retirement of In-service Automotive Fire Apparatus
* NFPA 1912: Standard for Fire Apparatus Refurbishing

***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:**

NVFC "Emergency Vehicle Safe Operations For Volunteer and Small Combination Emergency Service Organizations"