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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** | | |

**Rapid Intervention Teams**

***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 establish guidelines governing the use of a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) within the standard operations of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department. The purpose of the Rapid Intervention Team is to be immediately available to assist any emergency service personnel who become trapped or are in distress.

**Procedure:**

**Responsibility**

Calling a RIT: The officer in charge shall establish a RIT capability upon instituting an internal structural attack, rescue operation, or hazardous materials operation beyond a single 1-1/2 inch line being used and supply line being laid; or any fire above the third (3rd) floor. RIT capability shall meet the potential needs based on the type and complexity of the incident.

Who Qualifies as a RIT: A RIT team can be established with either a department team or a mutual aid unit where members meet the expectations defined below/have a defined company procedure for using/providing RIT.

**Duties**

The RIT shall:

* Consist (preferably) of six members (four minimum) assigned as follows:
  + Apparatus operator — position apparatus so that equipment is readily available; stay with apparatus/team to maintain search rope
  + Officer — have portable radio, hand light, SCBA
  + Firefighter — have SCBA, hand light, gas saw, portable radio
  + Firefighter — have SCBA, hand light, search rope, 150-ft rescue rope, portable radio
  + Firefighter — have SCBA, hand light, hose line, pike pole, portable radio
  + Firefighter — have SCBA, hand light, hose line, ceiling hook, portable radio

**ALL PERSONNEL MUST BE SCBA QUALIFIED, AND BE TRAINED TO CERTIFIED FIREFIGHTER I/RESCUE I AS A MINIMUM. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Personnel identification tags are to be utilized, following the SOP of incident command.

RIT officer will report to the Incident Commander immediately upon arrival and position the team as directed by the officer in charge.

RIT unit shall “stand fast” intact as a unit constantly ready to take immediate action as directed by the officer in charge. They shall NOT accept or be given other fireground duties unless so directed by the officer in charge or safety officer (including relief crew assignment).

The officer in charge shall, upon arrival review the entire structure, create an appropriate map with status of incident, and report to the crew on the overall situation.

While “standing fast”, the unit shall determine:

* Location and availability of portable ladder for future use
* Location of ems personnel and equipment
* Monitor radio messages
* Size up scene for
  + Entry/egress points (primary & secondary)
  + Hot zone location
  + Hazards
  + Water supply and hose line to use

***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 3-S-313 Developed/Revised/Reviewed by VFIS ETC