

**JEFFERSON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES**

SOG 602

TWO IN TWO OUT IDLH OPERATIONS

I. PURPOSE

A. To ensure compliance with State and Federal rulings in regards to fire ground operations for safe interior operations on incidents involving or potentially involving an IDLH atmosphere. To define fire ground emergency operations inside an Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) Environment.

II. SCOPE

A. To comply with the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration interpretation of OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134 and the National Fire Protection Association 1500 Fire Department Occupational Safety Health regarding Immediately Dangerous and Life and Health Operations. In accordance with above rules and guidelines this Standard Operational Guideline will maintain a safe practice of “2 in and 2 out” during operations in IDLH or potential IDLH atmospheres.

III. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

A. It will be the responsibility of the Chief and the officers to insure that these guidelines are followed.

IV. STANDARDS

A. Entry into IDLH.

1. All firefighting personnel will be in full PPE, with SCBA donned and operating before entering an IDLH or potential IDLH area.
2. Personnel required to enter IDLH or potential IDLH area, will always utilize teams of two (2) or more firefighters. **Personnel will not enter an IDLH area alone.**
3. A team leader will be designated for each entry team. The team leader will be equipped with a portable radio. Communication between Command and the entry team will be done by the team leader.
4. Team members will remain in direct visual, voice or tethered contact with one another at all times. At no time will team members be separated from one another.
5. Each team member is responsible for the welfare of the team and must periodically check PPE, provide assistance to another team member or notify Command of an emergency.

B. Standby Team or 2 Out Assignment

1. The mission of the standby team is to provide immediate assistance to interior personnel in the event of a catastrophe.
2. Prior to personnel entering the IDLH area, a standby team must be assembled directly outside the hazardous area.
3. The standby team will consist of two (2) or more personnel in full PPE, with SCBA donned and ready for immediate service.
4. The standby team will have a separate charged hose line of equal or greater capacity as the interior attack line.
5. The standby team will stay focused on the activities of the interior team and will maintain visual or voice contact as available.
6. The standby team may be assigned other duties provided they do not interfere with the specific function of a standby team or cause them to abandon their position, i.e. flaking hose lines, ground level ventilation and equipment retrieval within 50' of the standby team position.
7. Additional duties assigned to the standby team will not include pump operation or duties that break up the standby team without immediate replacement by Command.
8. ANY reassignment of a standby team without immediate replacements available requires informing interior to withdraw until another team can be assigned.

C. Exterior Operations

1. Exterior operations will be performed by first arriving units while waiting for assembly of adequate personnel for entry. These duties can include but are not limited to: exterior rescue, exterior ventilation, exterior fire attack, utilities secured, establish water supply, EMS for victims, establish command, horizontal ventilation

D. Escalating Incidents

1. As an incident progresses and numbers of personnel working in the IDLH increases, the Incident Commander will establish a RIT Team to replace the standby team. The RIT Team will have the same responsibility as the standby team.

E. Exceptions

1. The exception to the "2 in 2 out" rule will be upon arrival of firefighting personnel to an immediate life threatening situation where immediate action may prevent the loss of life. Notification of entry prior to establishing a standby team must be made by the company officer over the operational radio channel prior to such action.

F. Terminology

1. *IDLH* - Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health, an atmospheric concentration of any toxic, corrosive, or asphyxiate substance, or; 1) poses an immediate threat to life, or; 2) would cause irreversible or delayed adverse

health effects, or; 3) would interfere with an individuals ability to escape from the dangerous atmosphere. Atmospheres with a concentration of less <19.5% will be considered IDLH. Where reasonable suspicion exists, an atmosphere will be considered IDLH until proven otherwise.

2. *“2 in 2 out”* - Term used to describe a two person entry team “in” the hazardous area and the required two person standby team positioned just “outside” the hazardous area.
3. *SCBA* - Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, the fire district standard model with 30 minute bottle, regulator, harness, mask and PASS device donned and ready to deploy.
4. *PPE* - Personal Protective Equipment to include turnout coat and pant, boots, gloves, helmet, SCBA, and nomex hood.
5. *RIT Team* - Rapid Intervention Team, a fully equipped rescue team comprised of at least three (3) firefighters to mitigate an on-scene catastrophe of firefighting personnel in an IDLH atmosphere.

APPROVED:

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