

**FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION OF DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**

SUBJECT RIT	EFFECTIVE DATE 10/15/2008	RESCINDS N/A
REFERENCE NUMBER DCFC-004		PAGES 5

SCOPE:

To establish a standard procedure outlining the operations of Rapid Intervention Teams at structure fires in Delaware County. The goal of the following procedures is to provide a proactive RIT whose primary objective shall be to prevent the necessity of a Firefighter rescue by removing all barriers to egress, thus allowing the Firefighter to self rescue from a hostile environment.

This 4 part concept consists of a RIT, RIT Group Supervisor, Extrication Team and RIT Assist Team that allows the IC to have flexibility on their scene while simultaneously providing for Firefighter safety.

DEFINITIONS

RIT: Primary Rapid Intervention Team whose primary objective is to prevent the MAYDAY by removing all barriers to egress. After declaration of a MAYDAY their main function is to locate and evaluate missing Firefighter, ensure the Firefighter has air, transmit size up of situation to RIT Group Supervisor and request additional resources if necessary.

RIT Group Supervisor: Due to the variations in available manpower this position can be filled initially by the Officer of the designated RIT, until transferred to another trained member or sufficient manpower arrives to staff and/or lead a RIT.

Extrication Team: This team can consist of on scene resources and provides the rescue component of the RIT operation. Their function is to disentangle or free trapped Firefighters once they are located by the RIT.

RIT Assist Team: Consists of any available Fire Company, specialized RIT training is not required. Function is to provide support to the rescue effort, moving equipment, providing water, ladders, lights etc.

Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) - An "IDLH" zone is any area that requires a SCBA or in which a Firefighter is at risk of becoming lost, trapped, or injured. This will include entering a structure to search for a fire, operating in proximity to the structure during exterior operations, or any other situation deemed appropriate by the Incident Commander.

RIT STAFFING PROCEDURES:

- The IC shall establish a RIT, consisting of a minimum of two Firefighters, on all working incidents or whenever crews are operating inside an IDLH zone. An established RIT shall remain active until they have been relieved or released by the IC.
- If necessary, personnel from multiple jurisdictions can be grouped together to form an adequately staffed RIT
- If multiple jurisdictions are utilized to provide a RIT the ranking officer among the group shall assume overall responsibility for that group. This is to be announced over the radio to the IC.
- If there is more than one ranking officer-it is expected that the professionalism of those officers will compel them to quickly and efficiently establish an in-charge officer.
- Maintain crew integrity –no freelancing

Actions upon designation of RIT

- Once designated as RIT- the Officer / Firefighter in charge of that company shall:
 - Establish an adequately staffed RIT
 - Ensure the RIT is performing proactive functions
 - Ground ladders
 - Barriers to egress removed
 - Tools and RIT pack easily accessible
 - 360- familiarization of entire structure from exterior
 - Monitor fire ground traffic and activity
 - Location of crews
 - Ensure accountability has been established and accurate
 - If needed, and manpower is available, assign RIT member to accountability position.
 - Determine location and extent of fire
 - Request additional resources through IC

- Assemble sufficient personnel to accomplish primary objectives {Preventing the MAYDAY}
- Assemble sufficient personnel on scene to affect a rescue
 - RIT Group {exterior}
 - Team to locate and evaluate downed Firefighter
{Recon- Air supply to Firefighter is priority}
 - On scene team to assume extrication role if necessary
 - Enough personnel / apparatus to provide protective hose line, tools and equipment etc to support a rescue/extrication of distressed Firefighter. {Assist component}
 - Ensure sufficient personnel on scene to assemble second RIT company
 - Evaluate need for multiple RIT teams

Actions upon Declaration of MAYDAY

- **Incident Command**
 - Command takes strong Command Presence
 - Requests 2nd alarm or next higher than currently on scene
 - Clear the fire ground radio channel-emergency traffic only
 - IC attempts to contact Mayday Firefighter
 - Who is it? { How many involved}
 - Where are you? {last known location}
 - What is the situation? {trapped, lost, entangled etc.}
 - Obtain PAR
 - Designate RIT Group Supervisor
 - Move FG traffic to alternate Channel
 - Continue activities to extinguish fire
- **RIT Branch Command**

- Reports to IC
- Remains on original FG channel and attempts to call MAYDAY Firefighter
- Commands rescue and maintains control and discipline of his companies
- Assembles additional resources to support RIT operation
- RIT Officer's contact
- Requests resources through and works closely with IC
- Maintains accountability of all RIT teams deployed inside structure
- **RIT**
 - Reports directly to RIT Group Supervisor
 - Determine last known location of missing Firefighter
 - Locate and Evaluate missing Firefighter { Air supply to Firefighter is priority }
 - Update RIT Group Supervisor
 - Interior conditions
 - After locating Firefighter
 - Who is it- Name and Company
 - Location and condition of Firefighter
 - Plan for removal or additional resources needed
 - Continuous size up
- **Extrication Team**
 - Reports to RIT Group Supervisor in full PPE
 - Primary responsibility is to perform technical extrication after Firefighter is located by RIT

- Not a search team
 - Monitors radio traffic, assembles necessary tools and equipment needed for extrication of Firefighter – selection will vary based on type of structure and entrapment.
 - When deployed inside structure to extricate Firefighter they shall report to RIT Company Officer
 - Extrication Team Officer is in charge of extrication – RIT Company Officer is responsible for Interior rescue effort.
- **RIT Assist Team**
 - Report's to RIT Group
 - If your company is available for this function make it known to IC {current task completed, completing rehab etc. }
 - No Freelancing – If you are currently assigned to firefighting operations do not commit to the RIT Group until reassigned by IC.
 - Monitor radio traffic and be ready to provide support for rescue effort such as, but not limited to:
 - Protective hose lines between fire and RIT and distressed Firefighter
 - Ground ladders
 - Lights
 - SCBA cylinders
 - Tools and Equipment

The RIT is expected to be a proactive, functional, active participant on the fire ground.