

CHAPTER 6 FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS/EMERGENCY RESPONSE

6.1 OPERATING PROCEDURES

6.1.1 The ESU shall have internal operating procedures.

6.1.2 As a minimum, these operating procedures should address the following:

- A. Officer Assignments
- B. Firefighter Assignments
- C. Periodic Responsibilities and Duties
- D. Uniforms and Bunker Gear
- E. Uniform Laundry and Repairs
- F. Protective Clothing Inspections
- G. Grooming Standards
- H. Notification of Absences
- I. Building Tours
- J. Fire Protection System Impairments
- K. Emergency Response Procedure
- L. Facility Control In Emergency Situations
- M. Firefighting in Radiation Zones
- N. Call-in of Off-Duty Personnel

6.2 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT

6.2.1 Purchasing of Equipment

- A. The purchase of fire suppression equipment shall comply with Federal Specifications, State Department of Transportation requirements, the applicable NFPA Standards, and site-specific needs.

6.2.2 Maintenance

- A. Written procedures shall be developed that address the maintenance of the following equipment:
 - 1. Life safety rope, harnesses, and hardware
 - 2. Fire hose
 - 3. Ladder inspections
 - 4. Mobile emergency response apparatus
 - 5. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

6.3 PERSONNEL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

6.3.1 Specifications

- A. Personnel protective equipment must comply with:
 - 1. NFPA 1971, "Protective Clothing for Structural Fire Fighting"
 - 2. NFPA 1972, "Helmets for Structural Fire Fighting"
 - 3. NFPA 1973, "Gloves for Structural Fire Fighting"
 - 4. NFPA 1974, "Protective Footwear for Structural Fire Fighting"
 - 5. NFPA 1975, "Station/Work Uniforms"

6. NFPA 1500, "Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program"
7. NFPA 1981, "Open Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Structural Fire Fighters"
8. NFPA 1982, "Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) for Fire Fighters"

6.3.2 Inspection

- A. Protective clothing must be inspected monthly to ensure that it is in serviceable condition and to identify protective clothing or equipment items requiring repair or replacement. This monthly inspection must be documented in order to meet NFPA standards.
- B. As a minimum these inspections should include the following:
 1. Helmet
 2. Bunker Coat and Pants
 3. Gloves
 4. Footware
 5. PASS Device
 6. Face Piece

6.4 TRAINING

6.4.1 Program

- A. The training program for firefighters and emergency personnel must be consistent with the applicable NFPA Standards, and must be tailored to meet the specific requirements unique to the site hazards.

- B. The training program shall consist of four parts:
1. NFPA Firefighter II Certification, based on the National Fire Protection Association "Standard for Firefighter Professional Qualifications" (NFPA 1001, 1987 edition).
 2. Hazardous Materials First Responder Certification, based on DOT standards and guidelines.
 3. A minimum of forty hours of annual site-specific training.
 4. EMT-A certification for all new hires.

6.4.2 Records

- A. Training records should be maintained in accordance with NFPA 1401, "Recommended Practice for Fire Service Training Reports and Records."

6.5 FIRE DRILLS

6.5.1 Life Safety Code Drills

- A. Fire drills are required to be conducted in Assembly, Health Care, and Business Occupancies per NFPA 101 (see Appendix A, Table 2, "Occupancy Classifications," for facilities classified as these types of Occupancies).

6.5.2 ESU Training Drills

- A. All fire drills that are performed within the fire department/emergency response organization for training purposes shall be documented and critiqued.

6.6 SALVAGE PLANS

6.6.1 General

- A. General salvage plans shall be in place for post firefighting activities.

6.6.2 Specific

- A. For those facilities where added precautions must be taken due to the facility contents, e.g. computer equipment, the plan should be expanded to include the specific actions to be taken to reduce equipment damage and downtime.

6.7 PRE-FIRE PLANS

6.7.1 Applicability

- A. Pre-fire plans shall be developed for all facilities, although their length and detail may vary depending on the facility's size and complexity.

6.7.2 Basis

- A. As a minimum, the pre-fire plans shall be based on:
 - 1. NFPA 13E, "Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems"
 - 2. Building Tours

6.7.3 Up-Dating

- A. As a minimum, pre-fire plans shall be updated on the same frequency required for facility fire protection appraisals as required in 5.1.1.

6.7.4 Content

- A. The pre-fire plans shall address the following items as a minimum:
 - 1. Building occupancy
 - 2. Special Hazards
 - 3. Fire protection systems provided for the building
 - 4. Location of fire hydrants

5. Location of fire department connections
6. Water supply available
7. Exposures
8. Plan of attack

6.8 PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM

6.8.1 Basis

- A. The physical fitness program for firefighters/emergency personnel must be consistent with the applicable NFPA Standards (1500, 1001, etc.), and should be tailored to meet the specific requirements unique to the site.

6.8.2 Records

- A. Training records must be maintained for each person.

6.8.3 Annual Fitness Evaluation

- A. The Annual Fitness Evaluation shall consist of the same items as the initial Fitness Evaluation.

6.9 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL PROGRAM

- 6.9.1 The Hazardous Material Program should comply with OSHA 1910.120, NFPA 472, and DOT requirements.

6.10 MUTUAL AID

- 6.10.1 A Mutual Aid agreement shall be in place with Plainsboro Fire Department to ensure adequate equipment and/or personnel are available if conditions warrant additional resources beyond the capability of the ESU.

6.11 BUILDING TOURS

6.11.1 General

- A. Building tours are necessary to assist Emergency Response/Fire Department personnel in developing the Pre-Fire plans and to enhance building familiarity.

6.11.2 Frequency

- A. As a minimum, all individuals having responsibilities involving emergency response shall tour all facilities on a quarterly basis.

6.11.3 Documentation

- A. Building tours shall be documented.

6.12 EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE

6.12.1 Emergency Response Procedures.

- A. Written Emergency Response Procedures shall be developed and maintained.

6.12.2 Response Reports

- A. Ambulance reports must be filled out on all ambulance runs, even if no patient is transported. Information on these reports is considered confidential and should be released only to the proper authorities. Patients refusing treatment should sign the ambulance report to document the refusal. If the patient will not sign the form, note that information on the form.