



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

STRUCTURE FIRES

TOPIC: Structure Fire - Search and Rescue Safety Precautions

TIME FRAME: 30 Minutes

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION: Level II

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A written quiz

Behavior: The student will list and describe safety precautions during search and rescue operations.

Standard: With a minimum of 70% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Appropriate visual aids
- Audio visual equipment

REFERENCES:

- IFSTA, Essentials of Fire Fighting, 4th edition, Chapter 7
- IFSTA, Fire Rescue Practices, 5th Edition, Chapter 5
- CDF, Health and Safety Handbook 1700, 1999

PREPARATION: Every time the firefighter responds to a fire, a human life may be in jeopardy. In those instances where life is endangered, a search must be initiated rapidly. However, to ensure that these stressful situations do not become disastrous, rescuers must operate safely and exercise sound judgment. Standard operating procedures can greatly simplify search and rescue operations.



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STRUCTURE FIRE - SEARCH AND RESCUE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>I. ALWAYS STAY ALERT</p> <p>A. Use All Your Senses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sight 2. Sound 3. Touch <p>B. Rely on Your Instincts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If a situation "feels" unsafe analyze why prior to blindly rushing forward <p>C. Don't Trade Lives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your job is to be part of the solution not part of the problem <p>II. UNSAFE CONDITIONS IN STRUCTURAL FIRES</p> <p>A. Entry Should Not be Attempted If</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Backdraft or flashover conditions exist <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ventilate before entering <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Vertical 2) Horizontal 2. Building collapse is imminent 3. Building is totally involved 	<p>What are at least four occasions when a firefighter should not enter the fire building to conduct rescue operations?</p>

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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Due to intense fire condition victim could not survive. 5. Possibility of explosion exists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Materials within structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Gunpowder, caps, ammunition, etc. b) BLEVE of adjacent containers c) Inability to shut off natural gases 6. Potential for electrocution exists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Power can't be turned off 7. Hazardous materials present 8. There is no indication of life hazard and inadequate personnel to meet 2 in/2 out criteria 	
<p>III. GENERAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Wear All Structural Firefighting Protective Clothing and Equipment Including S.C.B.A. B. Always Work in Pairs Using the "Buddy System" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remain in continuous contact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Verbal b) Visual c) Physical 2. Each is responsible for the safety of the other 	<p>How do you maintain contact with your "buddy" when searching a structure?</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Remain low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Super heated air and gases will vent overhead 2) Better visibility 3) Less heat 4) Less toxicity c) Open doors from side opposite hinges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Protection from backdraft explosion <p>E. When Approaching the Fire Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Don't let second fire or extension into a second room block your escape route 2. If possible search fire room before applying water 3. If not possible to search first, do a reactivity test at entrance to fire room <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Brief water application to seat of the fire b) From a protected position c) To ensure fuel does not react violently when water applied 4. Darken down fire without disrupting thermal balance. <p>F. Report Your Status Frequently</p>	<p>Why do you open a door from the side opposite the hinges when a structure is burning?</p>

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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. No free lancing2. I.C. needs feedback3. Other crew members know you are well4. Report to I.C. upon exiting building<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) I.C. may:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Assign new team to complete your tasks2) Give you new assignmentG. If You Become Lost, Trapped or Separated from Your Partner<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. If lost<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Stop assess situationb) Concentrate on slowing the breathing processc) Locate hose couplings to lead back to entry point<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) If in doubt as to direction, locate male coupling and go back along (toward female coupling) the length to which the male coupling is attached2) Find wall, turn around, and reverse the pattern used when entering (i.e., all left turns or all right turns)	<p>What should you do if lost in the fire building?</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">d) Notify persons on outside of your situatione) Turn on the personal distress device to aid others in locating you <p>2. If trapped</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Place as many doors as possible between you and the fireb) Notify persons outside of your situation and locationc) Try to remain calmd) Activate your personal distress devicee) Activate your flashlight and aim to ceiling to assist others in locating youf) Stuff blankets, towels, etc around doors to seal cracksg) Exit via window if safe to do soh) Use forcible entry tool to break out of building <p>H. If separated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Immediately attempt to contact or find your "buddy"2. Notify persons on outside of predicament3. Concentrate search initially on hoseline or walls since firefighters are trained to remain there	<p>What should you do if trapped by fire?</p>

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SUMMARY:

When searching for victims at a fire, rescuers must always be concerned with safety. Personnel should be properly trained and equipped with the necessary tools to accomplish the rescue in a minimum of time. Unsafe, hurried rescue attempts could be fatal to rescuers and victims. Search safely! Search systematically! Search thoroughly!

EVALUATION:

A written quiz.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).