

AMARILLO FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES	RAPID INTERVENTION TEAM
303.06	04/04 PAGE 1 OF 2

PURPOSE:

The AFD will utilize Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT) to provide immediate rescue to missing, lost, trapped, or injured firefighters.

GENERAL PROVISIONS:

1. A RIT shall be established at all offensive attack structure fires and other incidents where fire department members are subject to hazards that would be immediately dangerous to life and/or health.
2. A RIT will be established based on the AFD 2-in/2-out Guideline for Structural Firefighting (SOG 403.14).
3. A RIT is a fully equipped crew (minimum of two firefighters) with appropriate protective clothing, SCBAs, portable radio, and equipment based on the conditions and hazards of the incident.
4. The RIT will assume a ready state to immediately react and respond to rescue endangered firefighters. The RIT will be positioned by Command to maximize their effectiveness.
5. Multiple RIT's may be required for an incident depending on the size and complexity of the incident.

RIT ASSIGNMENT:

When a dedicated RIT has been assigned, they have the following responsibilities.

1. Refraining from other tactical functions. RIT's should be reserved for immediate deployment when firefighters become endangered.
2. Receive a briefing of incident conditions and locations of operating crews and continually monitor tactical radio channels.
3. Complete a survey of the involved structure or area to:
 - a. Determine access and egress points. Ladders may be required for elevated access or egress from the structure.
 - b. Determine specialized equipment that may be required for rescue operations
 - c. Determine fire and structural conditions that would hinder rescue operations
 - d. Identify protection systems and other factors that will aide rescue operations

AMARILLO FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES	RAPID INTERVENTION TEAM
303.06	04/04 PAGE 2 OF 2

4. Establish a dedicated tool drop area with appropriate equipment such as:
 - a. Air Supply for victim (RIT bag or SCBA)
 - Air supply should be operationally checked prior to RIT Deployment.
 - b. Portable radio for victim
 - c. Thermal Imager
 - d. Forcible entry tools
 - e. Portable hand lights
 - f. Guide rope
 - g. Specialized rescue equipment (i.e. power saws, hydraulic tools, webbing)
5. Identify and deploy a dedicated hoseline (with a separate water supply if practicable).
6. The RIT shall remain in readiness until the Incident Commander declares the incident under control and there is no longer an IDLH atmosphere.

RIT ACTIVATION:

The following guidelines will be used when the RIT is activated:

1. The RIT should be assigned a new designation, i.e. Rescue Sector.
2. Command will deploy the RIT to the last reported location of the company or the most effective access point.
3. Command will upgrade the incident to the next greater alarm.
4. Command will establish a new RIT to back up crews involved in the rescue operation.
5. Command will redirect other operating sectors to support RIT operations as necessary. Sector Officers will continue with previously assigned functions until reassigned by Command.
6. The RIT will operate using the Guidelines for Lost or Trapped Firefighters (SOG 304.06a).