

# GOLDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

<b>SUBJECT</b>			<b>SOG NUMBER</b>
<b>TWO IN – TWO OUT OPERATION</b>			924
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>EXPIRATION DATE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PAGES</b>	<b>TARGET GROUP</b>
11/4/2004		3	<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTMENTAL <input type="checkbox"/> OPERATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> FIRE & LIFE SAFETY <input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL SERVICES
<b>SECTION</b>			
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS			
<b>APPLICABLE REFERENCE</b>			
OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910			
<b>FIRE CHIEF SIGNATURE</b>		<b>DIVISION CHIEF/ASSISTANT CHIEF SIGNATURE</b>	

### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide a safe working environment for all employees and to reduce the risk of injury or death as a result of department operations at emergency incidents. This policy will serve to comply with the 2-In-2-Out provisions in the OSHA Respiratory Protection Final Rule (29 CFR Part 1910).

### 2. SCOPE

This guideline applies to all career and volunteer employees of the Golden Fire Department.

### 3. GUIDELINE

The first arriving officer/company shall determine if the incident involves an “IDLH atmosphere”. At no time shall individuals enter an IDLH atmosphere independently. Crews of at least two (2) SCBA equipped personnel shall be required for entry into such an atmosphere at all times.

In fire situations it will be necessary for the Incident Commander to determine if the fire is in the incipient stage. A crew of two qualified firefighters may take action to extinguish an incipient fire without the establishment of an initial Rapid Intervention Team (RIT).

If the presence of an “IDLH atmosphere” has been determined and there are less than five qualified firefighters on scene, the companies shall wait until at least five qualified firefighters are assembled on the scene before initiating operations within the IDLH atmosphere. Two qualified firefighters may begin operating within the IDLH atmosphere as long as two additional qualified firefighters (properly equipped) are outside the IDLH atmosphere to serve as the initial rapid intervention team (RIT), and one person maintains the operation of the pump. One of the two initial RIT members must be responsible for establishing the on-scene accountability system. The second RIT member may be assigned other tasks and/or functions so long as these tasks and/or functions can be abandoned, without placing any personnel at additional risk, if rescue or assistance is needed.

Members operating in the IDLH atmospheres must use SCBA and work in crews of two or more. Crew integrity is essential for accountability. They must also maintain voice or visual contact with each other at all times. Radios can (and should) be used for fireground communications, including communications between interior and exterior crews. They cannot, however, be the sole tool for accounting for one’s partner during interior operations. Team members must be in close proximity to each other to provide assistance in case of an emergency.

Until five firefighters are assembled, operations outside of the IDLH atmosphere shall commence immediately. Such operations include, but are not limited to: establishment of water supply; exterior fire attack; establishment of a hot zone; utility control; ventilation; placement of ladders; forcible entry; exposure protection; and any other exterior operations deemed appropriate by the Incident Commander.

As the incident progresses to the point of more than one interior crew, an identified and dedicated Rapid Intervention Team shall be established and positioned immediately outside the IDLH atmosphere. This team shall be fully outfitted with protective clothing and SCBA with the air mask in a ready position to don, a portable radio, RIT bag and other required rescue equipment. RIT members will be dedicated to perform rescue and shall not be assigned other duties (except for incident accountability) unless a replacement team member is assigned. A charged hose line may be dedicated to this team if an additional hose crew is available.

If the incident is in a high or mid-rise structure, large area facility or other areas with multiple IDLH atmospheres, the Incident Commander shall establish the necessary number of rapid intervention teams so that rescue can be accomplished without a deployment delay. A team should be considered for each remote access point on any large facility. The Incident Commander will be responsible for determining the number of teams needed based on the specifics of the incident.

***NOTE: RAPID INTERVENTION TEAMS WILL CONSIST OF A MINIMUM OF TWO PERSONNEL. HOWEVER, IT IS BEST TO UTILIZE AN ENTIRE COMPANY OF THREE TO FOUR FIREFIGHTERS. ALL FIREFIGHTERS ON THE RIT TEAM MUST BE A MINIMUM OF FIREFIGHTER I CERTIFIED AND ABLE TO DO INTERIOR OPERATIONS.***

If a firefighter(s) becomes trapped, disabled, or otherwise in need of assistance by the Rapid Intervention Team, the Incident Commander shall announce this action to “Headquarters” via radio. In turn, the dispatcher shall simulcast the emergency message signal and announce that a rescue is in progress. All radio traffic not directly related to the firefighter(s) rescue shall cease immediately to facilitate the rescue. An immediate personnel accountability report (PAR) shall be conducted.

Should the Incident Commander order a building evacuation, as per SOG 502, Emergency Fireground Evacuation Notification, , a PAR shall be conducted immediately after the building has been evacuated. The RIT shall remain in place for immediate activation should a team fail to report during the PAR>

#### EXCEPTIONS:

If upon arrival at a fire emergency, members find a fire in the incipient stage, extinguishment of such a fire shall be permitted with less than five persons on the scene. Extinguishment of outside fires such as dumpsters, brush or automobiles, shall be permitted with less than five persons, even if SCBA are being worn.

If upon arrival at the scene, members find an imminent life-threatening situation or probable life threatening situation where immediate action may prevent the loss of life or serious injury, such action shall be permitted with less than five persons on the scene when the probability of a rescue is made in accordance with normal size-up indicators and fireground evaluation factors. (Examples: report of persons inside, signs of persons inside, etc.)

The Incident Commander shall evaluate the situation, considering the occupancy, time of day, day of week, reports from persons on the scene, signs that persons may be inside the structure, etc. Entry may

be considered if signs indicate a probable victim rescue. In the absence of clear signs or a report from a responsible person on the scene that people are in the structure, it is to be assumed that no life hazard exists and interior attack shall not be initiated until the minimum five (5) persons arrive on scene.

If members are going to initiate actions that would involve entering an “IDLH atmosphere” because of a probable or imminent life-threatening situation where immediate action may prevent the loss of life or serious injury, and personnel are not on the scene to establish an initial rapid intervention team, the members should carefully evaluate the level of risk that they would be exposed to by taking such actions. In all cases a minimum of two (2) people shall form the entry crew.

If it is determined that the situation warrants immediate intervention and five people are not on the scene, the Incident Commander shall notify “Headquarters” of the intent to enter the “IDLH atmosphere” prior to the availability of a rapid intervention team. Dispatch shall notify all responding companies of this action and receive acknowledgment from each company that the transmission was received.

Should the Incident Commander on the scene deviate from this guideline, the actions taken shall be documented on the fire incident report and forwarded through the chain of command to the Fire Chief. The narrative of this report shall be by the Incident Commander and outline the reasons, rationale, justification and the end result of the deviation from the standard operating guideline. All information in the report shall be of enough depth so as to provide a comprehensive understanding of the actions taken.

**REMEMBER:**

**WE WILL RISK OUR LIVES A LOT, IN A HIGHLY CALCULATED AND CONTROLLED MANNER, TO PROTECT A SAVABLE HUMAN LIFE**

**WE WILL RISK OUR LIVES A LITTLE, IN A HIGHLY CALCULATED AND CONTROLLED MANNER, TO PROTECT SAVABLE PROPERTY**

**WE WILL NOT, REPEAT NOT, RISK OUR LIVES AT ALL TO PROTECT LIVES AND PROPERTY THAT ARE ALREADY LOST**







