

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: HAZ MAT			SECTION: 209
WRITTEN 08/13/1990	REVIEWED	REVISED 08/25/2021	Page 87

POLICY

Incident Commander shall identify the chemicals involved in a release before any control operations take place.

RESPONSIBILITY

Incident Commander shall implement his/her procedure whenever unidentified products are involved.

PROCEDURE

1. A visual inspection shall be made
 - a. With binoculars or spotting scope
 - b. Look for vapor, fire, smoke, container shape
 - c. Look for identifying placards or labels
2. Personnel shall obtain identification documents from the following and hand deliver them to the incident commander
 - a. Engineer or conductor on train
 - b. Driver of truck
 - c. Facility personnel
3. Contact industry
 - a. Manufacturer
 - b. Shipper
 - c. Consignee
 - d. State Fire Marshal
 - e. Chemtrac
4. Dealing with an unknown product is dangerous; evacuation might be the best option.

HAZ MAT/ REFERENCE MATERIALS

POLICY

Designated personnel shall research chemical data for consultation with the Incident Commander.

PROCEDURE

1. Science officer should research the chemical using any available means.
 - a. The information should be cross referenced to reduce the chance of incorrect data being used to make decisions.
2. The following is the information necessary for most incidents:
 - a. Product Identification

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT
Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: HAZ MAT			SECTION: 209
WRITTEN 08/13/1990	REVIEWED	REVISED 08/25/2021	Page 88

- Chemical name (form of appearance)
 - Trade name
 - U.N./N.A. number
 - E.P.A. number
 - b. General Information
 - NFPA 704 code
 - DOT classification
 - Toxicity, including threshold limit values for exposure
 - Water reactivity
 - c. Chemical Characteristics
 - Flash point
 - Vapor density
 - Boiling point
 - Flammable limits
 - Ignition temperature
 - d. Special Information
 - Fire control
 - Spill and leak control
 - Evacuations
 - Documentation procedures
 - e. Special Hazard and Tactics
 - Poisons
 - Explosives
 - Radiological
 - f. The list is not total; any information that will assist to mitigate the situation can and should be used.
3. Decision making policy:
- a. The Incident Commander is responsible for the entire operation; therefore, all strategic decisions shall be made by the commander of the incident.
 - i. All personnel on the scene shall work in direct contact with the Incident Commander concerning information received.
 - ii. Personnel shall make tactical decisions once the overall strategic plan is developed. The Incident Commander shall be advised of all ongoing operations and their status.

HANDLING CHEMICALLY POISONED/ CONTAMINATED VICTIMS

POLICY

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: HAZ MAT			SECTION: 209
WRITTEN 08/13/1990	REVIEWED	REVISED 08/25/2021	Page 89

A victim who is poisoned or chemically contaminated must be handled properly. The safety of the response personnel and the optimum care of the victim are the primary concern.

PROCEDURE

1. The following three determinations have to be completed before the victim is handled:
 - a. That the victim is poisoned or contaminated.
 - b. That the victim is alive or has a chance of surviving.
 - c. That the product is identified specifically or generally.
2. Fire Department assistance/supervision of EMS personnel during patient assessment in decontamination area:
 - a. The victim needs to receive the appropriate decontamination before being handed off to EMS.
3. Decontamination of the victims at the scene
 - a. Remove all the victim's clothing, while protecting victim from public view if possible.
 - b. Wash the victim with soap and water from head to toe, retaining all run-off water.
 - c. Repeat the wash down.
 - d. If victim complains of any dizziness, nausea, or headache, omit second wash down.
 - e. If the victim becomes unconscious at any time, he/she should be transported.
 - f. Care shall be made not to contaminate any of the responders.
4. Treatment Area
 - a. The treatment area shall be located just outside the hot zone to prevent any spreading of contaminate.
 - b. The victim should be protected from any hot or cold conditions. Disposable clothing or blankets should be used, if available.
 - c. All body fluids should be considered contaminated.
5. Treatment of Victim
 - a. The victim should be reassessed by EMS personnel and given the proper treatment, if possible.
6. On-site Safety
 - a. All personnel shall keep in mind that the protection of the response personnel is the # 1 priority.
 - b. Do not create additional victims by disregarding safety procedures.

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: HAZ MAT			SECTION: 209
WRITTEN 08/13/1990	REVIEWED	REVISED 08/25/2021	Page 90

DECONTAMINATION

POLICY

1. The Incident Commander shall assign an individual as the decon sector officer.
2. The science officer shall, thoroughly research and identify procedures to determine the chemicals involved. This data shall be given to the decon sector officer. The correct data is necessary to determine decon solution and the extent of decontamination.
3. The decon sector officer shall confer with the science officer and the safety officer on the appropriateness of the decon solution and the extent of contamination.
4. The decontamination area shall be covered with plastic sheets. The area shall use traffic cones and haz-mat tape to separate the clean side from the contaminated side.
5. Personnel in the decontamination area working to clean up personnel shall wear SCBA's and the appropriate level of protective clothing.
6. Personnel entering the decontamination area shall have his/her level of contamination reduced as he/she progresses through the steps.
7. Personnel shall control all water and solutions by using pools, dikes, and basins to prevent environmental pollution.
8. All items that should be considered for disposal such as gloves, boots, boot covers, suits, tape, and turn-out gear shall be placed in plastic bags or recovery drums.
9. The normal decon solution shall be dish soap and water. There will be times that other solution such as bleach, baking soda, ammonia, vinegar, and others might be used. The solution shall be applied with hand sprayers. Personnel shall be scrubbed with various types of brushes and then rinsed with water. This procedure may have to be repeated, as necessary.
10. Personnel shall wear SCBA's if they are considered contaminated.
11. Protective clothing should be removed from personnel by peeling it off; this allows the clean to remain clean.
12. Personnel shall be monitored medically as they exit the decontamination area. They should be advised of symptoms to watch for.
13. Personnel not showered at the scene shall be transported to a fire station to shower. The individual needs to be advised to wash their entire body several times to make sure of being totally decontaminated.
14. Victims who have been exposed to chemicals shall be decontaminated as much as possible at the scene. Victims whose injuries are more serious

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT
Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: HAZ MAT			SECTION: 209
WRITTEN 08/13/1990	REVIEWED	REVISED 08/25/2021	Page 91

shall be laid on plastic to protect personnel as much as possible from contamination.

15. The Incident Commander is responsible for the early establishment and operation of the decontamination sector.