

# GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Standard Operating Guideline

<b>GUIDELINE: STANDARD COMPANY OPERATIONS</b>			<b>SECTION: 301</b>
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### RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Standard Company Operations assign basic fire ground functions activities to the various companies based upon the capability characteristics of each type of unit.
2. Standard Company Operations assign major fire ground functions to the company that can best accomplish the operation.
3. Standard Company Operations integrate the efforts of engine and ladder companies to achieve effective rescue, fire control, and property conservation.
4. Standard Company Operations increase the awareness and confidence of company members in the standard performance of other companies operating on the fire ground.
5. Standard Company Operations reduce the amount and detail of orders required to get companies into action on the fire ground.
6. The following items represent the standard operations that will normally be performed by engine/ladder companies. These basic functions will provide the framework for field operations for these companies:
  - a. Engine/Ladder Company Functions:
    - i. Search and Rescue
    - ii. Stretch Hose Lines
    - iii. Operate Nozzles
    - iv. Pump Hose Lines
    - v. Raise Ladders
    - vi. Ventilation
    - vii. Utility Control
    - viii. Forcible Entry
    - ix. Extrication
    - x. Operate ladder pipes
    - xi. Provide access/Check fire extensions
    - xii. Provide Light
    - xiii. Perform Salvage
    - xiv. Perform Overhaul
7. Company officers shall determine based upon conditions, the priority of the function for their company unless otherwise ordered by command. This does not limit a company to its listed functions. Every company shall be expected to perform ALL basic functions safely within the limits of their capabilities, and it will be the on-going responsibility of command to integrate tasks and functions as required with the on-scene units.

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8. The assignment of these basic operations represents a standard fire ground plan for tactical operations designed to improve the effectiveness and safety of all units working together. This plan should in no way limit the initiative of any officers by establishing a standard operational framework.

### BASIC OPERATIONAL APPROACH

1. Sectors describe a standard system of dividing fire ground command units and areas.
2. Complex fire situations soon exceed the capability of one officer to effectively manage the entire operation. Sectors reduce the span of control of the overall command function to more manageably sized units. Sectors allow command to communicate principally with sector officers, rather than fire companies, providing an effective command structure and fire ground organization.
3. Sector procedures provide a system for Command to divide large scale operations geographically into effectively sized units. These sectors are responsible for firefighting operations involving a manageable number of companies near each other.
4. Sector procedures also provide an array of major functions, which may be selectively implemented according to the needs of a situation. This places responsibility for the details and execution of each function on a sector officer, removing them from the direct supervision of command.
5. When effective sectors have been established, command can concentrate on overall strategy and resource allocation. Each sector is responsible for the tactical deployment of the resources at his/her disposal and for communication needs and progress to command. Command determines strategic objectives and assigns available resources to the sectors where they are most needed.
6. Sectors reduce the overall amount of fire ground radio communication. Most routine communication is conducted within the sector in face-to-face mode between company officers and their sector officer. This process eliminates many of the details of company operations from radio traffic.
7. Safety of firefighting personnel represents a major reason for establishing sectors. Each sector officer must communicate with assigned companies to control both their position and function and must constantly be aware of the safety of their operations.
8. Command shall begin to assign sectors based on the following factors:

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- a. A situation which will eventually involve several companies or functions beyond the capability of command to directly control. In such cases, early recognition and sector assignments are critical.
  - b. When command can no longer effectively cope with the number of companies involved in the operation.
  - c. Companies are involved in complex interior operations.
  - d. Companies are operating from tactical positions over which command has little or no control.
  - e. Situation is such that close control is required over operation companies (i.e., structural conditions, hazardous materials, heavy fire load, and marginal offensive situation).
9. Sectors shall be regulated by the following guidelines:
- a. It shall be the ongoing responsibility of command to assign sectors as required for effective fire ground operations; this assignment will relate to both area sectors for firefighting command and sectors established for specialized functions.
  - b. Command must advise each sector officer of the overall strategy and plan, in addition to the objectives of the sectors.
  - c. Sectors assigned to specific operation area will be designated by directions (A sector, B sector, etc.).
  - d. In some cases, landmarks may provide better designations for operating sectors (roof sector, interior sector, etc.).
  - e. In multi-story occupancies, sectors will usually be indicated by floor numbers.
  - f. Function sectors will be identified by the function (salvage sector, overhaul sector, investigation sector, etc.).
  - g. The sector officer shall be readily identifiable and maintain a visible position as much as possible and shall be responsible for and in control of all assigned functions within their sector.

**SUPPORT**

- 1. This procedure establishes a standard structure and guidelines for the provision of support and service at all incidents. The designated officer by command will assume command to coordinate needed special supplies.
- 2. The responsibilities assigned to the support sector will vary to some degree in each situation depending on the type, size, and complexity of operations. The specific responsibilities will include:
  - a. Initial and continuing evaluation of support needs and reporting to command.

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- b. Providing and re-supply of all expendable supplies, such as air, oxygen, foam products, drinks, food, etc.
- c. Providing and coordinating field refueling of apparatus.
- d. Liaison with mechanical maintenance to ensure the ongoing performance of department apparatus.
- e. Providing and coordinating equipment and manpower for all delivery of fire hose and other equipment to the scene and/or back to the station.
- f. Provide for the delivery to the incident site of specialized and back up equipment as may be needed.
- g. Coordinate provisions of specialized equipment or services required at the scene by other city departments or outside agencies and provide liaison as required.
- h. Coordinate exchange of portable radios and communications equipment requiring servicing.

**FIREFIGHTERS RESPONSIBILITIES**

Requirements for the firefighter:

- a. Don PPE and SCBA and breathing air with no exposed skin in less than two (2) minutes
- b. Select, with the officer's approval, the proper length and size of hose line
- c. Remove hose from engine/ladder in a swift but safe manner and flake out hose, getting the nozzle to the point of entry
- d. Bleed air from hose and go on air before entering structure. Force door with proper forcible entry techniques
- e. Follow the officer's orders

**MINIMUM COMPANY STANDARDS**

All company personnel will have an annual proficiency evaluation according to NFPA 1500. The requirements will be developed by the Glasgow Fire Department Chief's office. Each member will be responsible for maintaining his/her skills to a proficient level.

The company standards will be divided into two (2) categories: individual and company level skills. All skills are to be performed in the protective clothing assigned to each member. Some of the skills are as follows, but is not a complete list:

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INDIVIDUAL

- a. Don SCBA
- b. Ladders
- c. Knots
- d. Firefighter rescue scenario

COMPANY

- a. Foam application
- b. Emergency decon
- c. Vehicle rescue
- d. Company operation evolutions