

	HAZ-MAT CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING AUTHORED BY: Engineer Rick Summer APPROVED BY: 	2014 revB EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/09/2017 REVISION DATE: 04/01/2020
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Procedure:

It shall be the responsibility of all personnel to follow and adhere to the contents of this guideline.

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (LFRA) desires to maintain a high level of expertise in the area of hazardous materials response. As such, the department has chosen to exceed the minimum mandates set forth in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Regulation 29 CFR1910.120, *Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response*, Paragraph (q)(6). National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 472, *Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*.

I. CERTIFICATION LEVELS

A. **Hazardous Materials Operations:** This level of certification are those individuals who respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous materials as part of the initial response to the incident for the purpose of protecting nearby persons, the environment or property from the effects of the release. They shall be trained to respond in a defensive action to control the release from a safe distance and keep it from spreading.

1. All members of LFRA that are involved in emergency response shall be trained and certified, at a minimum, to the Operations level. All members of the department shall meet all standards identified in NFPA 472, *Competencies for the First Responder at the Operations Level*.
2. LFRA members certified at the Operations level shall function in a support role; i.e., decontamination team, site access control, safe refuge area manager and confinement team.

3. LFRA members certified at the Operations level shall maintain his/her certification by completing the JPR's required by the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control for recertification every three years.

B. **Hazardous Materials Technician:** Technicians are those persons who respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous materials for controlling the release. Hazardous materials technicians are expected to use specialized chemical protective clothing and specialized control equipment while operating in an offensive manner to control and mitigate the release.

1. All members of LFRA certified as Technicians shall have, at a minimum, 80 hours of technician level training before performing duties at the scene of an emergency.
2. It is a long-range goal that all LFRA members certified as Technicians shall have 160 hours of technician level training.
3. All Technicians shall meet the competencies of NFPA 472, *Competencies for the Hazardous Materials Technician*.
4. LFRA members certified at the Technician level shall maintain his/her certification by completing the JPR's required by The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control for recertification every three years.
5. All Hazardous Materials Technicians shall participate in the Department's annual medical surveillance program.

C. **Hazardous Materials Specialist:** LFRA personnel who have been identified as Hazardous Materials Specialists shall be trained to meet all competencies of the Hazardous Materials Technician level and/or those specialized courses necessary to perform their assigned functions.

1. All members of LFRA certified as Specialists shall have at a minimum 80 hours of technician level training before performing duties at the scene of an emergency.

2. LFRA members certified at the level of Specialists shall maintain his/her certification by completing the JPR's required by The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control for recertification every three years.
3. All Hazardous Materials Specialists shall participate in the Department's annual medical surveillance program.

Members of LFRA that operate as Specialists are those persons who respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous materials. Their purpose is to provide hazardous materials expertise in the areas of:

- Railroad tank cars
- Highway cargo tanks
- Inter-modal transportation

D. **Hazardous Materials Incident Commander:** Personnel of LFRA who have been identified as Incident Commanders shall be trained to meet all competencies of the Awareness and Operations levels as well as those of NFPA 472, *Competencies for the Incident Commander*.

Members of LFRA that operate as Incident Commander are those persons who are responsible for directing and coordinating all aspects of a hazardous materials incident using the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Incident Management System.

II. CERTIFICATION ACCOUNTABILITY

LFRA will issue identification to all members certified at the Technician and Specialist level. Upon request, this identification will be presented to the Assistant Safety Officer – Haz-Mat or the Haz-Mat Group Supervisor to complete the Haz-Mat Tactical Plan.

III. INITIAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

A. First Responder – Operations

- Minimum 24-hour course that meets the criteria of NFPA 472, *Competencies for First Responder – Operations Level*.

B. Hazardous Materials Technician

- First Responder Awareness and Operations Level.
- Minimum 80-hour course that meets the criteria of NFPA 472, *Competencies for*

Hazardous Materials Technician.

- California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) Hazardous Materials Technician Course or equivalent.
 - Module A –Chemistry
 - Module B – Applied Chemistry
 - Module C – Incident Considerations
 - Module D – Tactical Considerations

IV. RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL TRAINING

A. Hazardous Materials Technician

- Hazardous Materials Technician – Environmental Protection Agency
- Tank Car Specialist – Transportation Test Center
- Advanced Tank Car Specialist – Transportation Test Center
- Highway Emergency Response – Transportation Test Center
- Hazardous Materials Clandestine Drug Laboratory Waste Operations – California Specialized Training Institute
- Hazardous Materials Clandestine Drug Laboratory Chemical Identification – California Specialized Training Institute
- Hazardous Materials Specialist, Level F & G – California Specialized Training Institute
- Hazardous Materials Technical Reference Specialist – California Specialized Training Institute
- Hazardous Materials Cargo Tank Safety – California Specialized Training Institute
- Hazardous Materials Rail Car Safety – California Specialized Training Institute
- Hazardous Materials Technical Specialist Terrorism – California Specialized Training Institute
- Operating Site Practices – National Fire Academy
- WMD/Terrorism Courses

Revision History:

4/19/2017 Update to current format, no changes in content. Note: FESSAM Number removed on 05/09/2017 based on accreditation information received from Dan Engelhardt (BC Davis).

References:

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Regulation 29 CFR1910.120, *Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response*, Paragraph (q) (6).

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 472, *Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents*.

NFPA 472:

- Competencies for First Responder – Operations Level.
- Competencies for the Hazardous Materials Technician.
- Competencies for the Incident Commander.