

Hazmat Subgroup



Position: Hazmat Subgroup Member

Background

Search and rescue operations in the urban disaster environment require the close interaction of all task force elements—search, rescue, medical, and technical personnel—for safe and successful survivor extrications. Search and rescue services may include operations within contaminated environments. Hazmat Specialists are assigned to the task force to ensure the health and safety of task force members, survivors, and rescuers. This objective can be accomplished through the application of limited monitoring, detection, and contamination-reduction capabilities. The Hazmat Subgroup is responsible for developing and maintaining their respective area and integrating them into the System. The members of the group, are chosen based on their management and/or technical expertise to provide advice and recommendations upon which decisions are based. These decisions will be made through consensus, whenever possible.

Under the direction of the Hazmat Subgroup Leader within the Operations Functional Group in the Advisory Organization, a system wide recruitment for Hazmat Subgroup members with the knowledge, skills and abilities to assist both the US&R Branch and US&R Task Forces.

Knowledge

- Thorough knowledge of the Hazmat Specialist and Hazmat Managers positions
- Thorough knowledge of the FEMA US&R Hazmat Annex
- Thorough knowledge of OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 *Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response*
- Thorough knowledge of National Fire Protection Association Standard 472 *Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician*
- Thorough knowledge of OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.134 *Respiratory Protection*
- Thorough knowledge of OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.146 *Confined Space Entry*
- General understanding of all 19 positions and function for Type I US&R Team.
- General understanding of a US&R Incident Support Team (IST)
- General Understanding of an Incident Management Team (IMT)
- General understanding of System Program Directives and Memorandums
- Familiarity with the Training Program and Administration Manual (TPAM)

Skills

- Communicate effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.
- Good interpersonal communication skills. Give full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, and asking questions as appropriate.
- Convey information effectively.
- Prioritize work assignments.

- Breakdown complex problems and related information to develop procedures
- Utilize computer programs such as: Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Visio, and Adobe products

Abilities

- Qualified as a FEMA US&R Hazmat Specialist/Manager rostered on one of 28 FEMA US&R Task Forces
- Ability to communicate effectively with multidisciplinary US&R audiences to promote safe and successful survivor extrications
- Ability to speak and lead large groups through complex rescue procedures.
- Member must have support from his/her sponsoring agency to fulfill role which may involve travel.