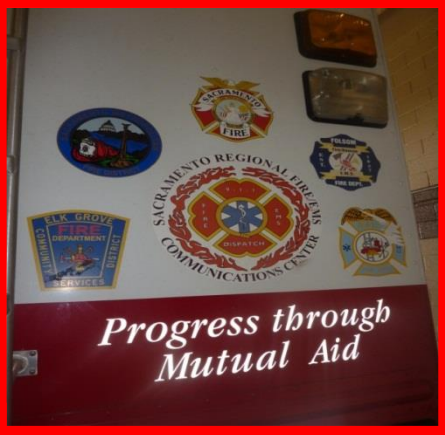


Mastering
Unified Command

From Hometown to Homeland

An All Risk/All Type Simulator Workshop

Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

FEMA Catalog
 # CA-031-RESP

Course Description

Overview

Mastering Unified Command – From Hometown to Homeland spans the spectrum from Type 1 to Type 5 incidents with an “all risk” approach to unified incident command. In today’s emergency response arena, responders and commanders must be prepared for active shooter, fire, law, hazardous material, multi-casualty incident (MCI), technical rescue, natural disaster, and Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Explosive (CBRNE) operations, potentially within the same incident. These incidents can escalate quickly past the initial Type 4-5 incident level requiring unified incident command.

The successful incident commander is able to pro-actively prepare for the Type 3 incident and above, while establishing a unified command that represents multiple response disciplines. Such anticipation will allow a seamless and successful transition into larger operations, when multiple agencies and authorities quickly descend upon the incident.

The goal of the workshop is to provide the student with knowledge, skills and abilities to function in a safe, effective and efficient manner at the strategic and tactical level of the emergency scene of a unified command, multi-disciplinary incident. The framework is based upon the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) top 5 causal factors in line of duty death of emergency responders. These “NIOSH 5” factors also contribute to greater civilian life and property losses in the Type 4-5 arena.

The “NIOSH 5” problem is perpetuated in large scale Type 1-3 events such as WMD/CBNRE. The life threat to first responders is exponentially greater in the WMD/CBNRE arena and the NIOSH 5 becomes a greater threat if proper multi-disciplinary application of ICS is not accomplished efficiently.

With the advent of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the safe, effective and efficient use of ICS has continued to be a challenge for most agencies across the United States. The complexity of CBRNE incidents makes them particularly difficult to apply ICS in the multi-disciplinary environment required for the response and recovery of these incidents. While agencies intend on using ICS on a daily basis, proper preparation for more significant incidents requires in-depth practical training, application and evaluation processes.

To ensure successful command and control at complex/multi-disciplinary incidents (terrorism, weather, MCI, WMD/CBRNE), training and application must be initiated at the Type 4-5 incident level. The use of ICS on a daily basis (on Type 4-5 incidents) will strengthen the understanding and use of the Incident Command System and improve the outcome of a sentinel event (Type 1-3 unified command incidents) in the future.

Most agencies do not have the resources required for in-depth training and preparation of ICS for complex incidents. Incident command skills must be developed and maintained to ensure proper application. Training that utilizes "inside the command post" video of actual incidents, post incident analysis, role plays, and in-depth simulations is rare, yet is extremely effective.

The airline industry, NASA and the military have used simulations for decades. The airline industry, for example, requires pilots to participate in several days of simulations each year, regardless of the experience level of the individual. American Airlines requires its pilots to travel to Dallas, Texas every 9 months for 4 days of simulator-based training. This same level of ongoing simulation-based training should be the standard for all emergency responders.

The foundation for proper use of ICS in Type 1-3 events (WMD/CBNRE) is established during use in the simple, daily Type 4-5 arena. This local level of ICS usage must be integrated into local jurisdiction/agency Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's) and Strategy/Tactics. The lack of integrating ICS, SOG's and Strategy/Tactics on a daily basis is causing a gap in the level of preparedness in the Type 1-3 multi-disciplinary unified command response arena.

In addition, lack of cross training in basic tactical objectives or multiple disciplines turns larger incidents into training sessions of trial and error in which commanders get behind the power curve. They must maintain a greater focus on cross-disciplinary, multi-operational training that transcends all incident types. The public and our emergency responders will greatly benefit.

As in the case of 9/11, the large incident was comprised of many smaller incidents (multi-alarm structure fires, EMS, building collapse, law enforcement operations, etc.) requiring coordination of command, communications, accountability, tactical priorities and SOG's. If our system (NIMS) is to operate safely, effectively, and efficiently, the integration of ICS with local SOG's and Strategy/Tactics is paramount.

In addition, the key points of integrating multiple-operational (fire, medical, law, hazardous material, etc.) objectives into one incident action plan, utilizing ICS, are critical. Incident operations will become more safe, effective, and efficient, thus resulting in more civilian lives saved with less injury to our responders.

Scope

This intense, hands-on and interactive workshop uses actual "inside the command post" video footage, radio traffic, role plays and post-incident analysis to meet learning objectives. In addition, simulation software is used and will streamline the components of Strategy/Tactics, SOG's and ICS. We synthesize these 3 key ingredients to help students drastically improve the way they command their next incident, or fulfill the role of division/group supervisor, branch director, unified incident commander, etc.

Actual incident video and simulations that span Type 1-5 incidents will be utilized, including active shooter, as well as hazardous material, multi-casualty, natural disaster, and terrorist acts (CBRNE/WMD incidents). Students will participate in approximately 22 simulation exercises, including Type 1-3 incidents in which an area command, EOC (emergency operations center), multiple unified ICP's (incident command post), and a JIC (joint information center) are utilized by the students.

Target Audience

The target audience for this workshop includes emergency responders for fires, law enforcement response, active shooter and CBRNE/WMD, MCI, hazardous materials incidents, natural disasters and technical rescue incidents. This includes, but is not limited to command and tactical fire officers, firefighters, police commanders and officers, EMS responders, supervisors, and county EMS authorities, hazardous material responders, city and county EOC participants, military personnel, and any allied stakeholders of the larger Type 1-3 incident arena.

Prerequisites

I-200 preferred but not required.

Course Length

32 hours (four days)

Required Materials/Facilities

No special facilities required.

Required materials are instructor guide, participant guides, PowerPoint presentations, laptop computer, simulation software, portable radios, projector and screen.

Facilities should be classroom style with table seating to facilitate team/participant exchanges and activities. In addition, breakout rooms assist in area command operations scenarios. The Instructional Staff will provide instructional hardware requiring a wall screen. Additional walls or flip charts will enhance facilitation points beyond the slide presentation.

Resources

- Mastering Unified Command – From Hometown to Homeland DVD

Simulations

Simulations are custom-designed for the region/operational area hosting the workshop and utilize local target hazards and threats. Simulations listed in the appendix are examples.

Testing/Certification

Participants are required to complete a Pre/Post-Test on course content. Participants will participate in several simulations as part of their final score.

Following DHS standards, participants will be evaluated based upon pre- and post-test examinations. Passing scores are 70% for the post-test.

Reference List

(Found in Appendix A)

- Sacramento Regional Standard Operating Guidelines

(Found in Appendix B)

- Tactical worksheet – Fire Command
- Tactical worksheet – Hazardous Material Response
- Tactical worksheet – MCI
- Tactical worksheet – Wildland

Evaluation Strategy

An opening pre-test will begin the course.

Each module will conclude in dialogue to ensure students have met Terminal Learning Objectives. Students will participate in simulations for fires, MCI, hazardous materials incidents, active shooter, natural disaster, technical rescue and CBRNE/WMD incidents. Each will have key points that students must accomplish. Workshop will conclude with post-test.

Funding

This workshop is currently eligible for Federal Grant Funding through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This course is eligible for the use of Homeland Security Grant Programs. The National Catalog course number is **CA-031-RESP** (Mastering Command: Calm the Chaos). The catalog may be accessed at https://www.firstrespondertraining.gov/frtserver/catalogs/SF_course_catalog.pdf?_=1564523166453

State, Local and Tribal Governments may use Homeland Security Grant funds to cover the cost of tuition, travel, lodging, backfill, overtime and per diem.

For additional information, please contact us at Info@TrainFirefighters.com.

Simulation Appendix

The simulations listed below represent examples of scope and nature. Simulations are developed and adjusted for the hosting jurisdiction based upon target hazards and potential threats in the region where the training is conducted.

Active shooter/MCI at a school

Active shooter and fire at local business

Active shooter hostage situation with arson by perpetrator

Domestic dispute with fire in condominium

Fire in assisted living facility due to disgruntled employee – unknown whereabouts

Attempt suicide by gas leak explosion in a 3-story center hall apartment

Fire in a furniture store by disgruntled employee with hostages

Fire in a tilt up commercial building with hazardous materials

Fire in a strip mall due to burglary with cash outlet - perpetrator on scene


Hazardous material leak in an industrial complex

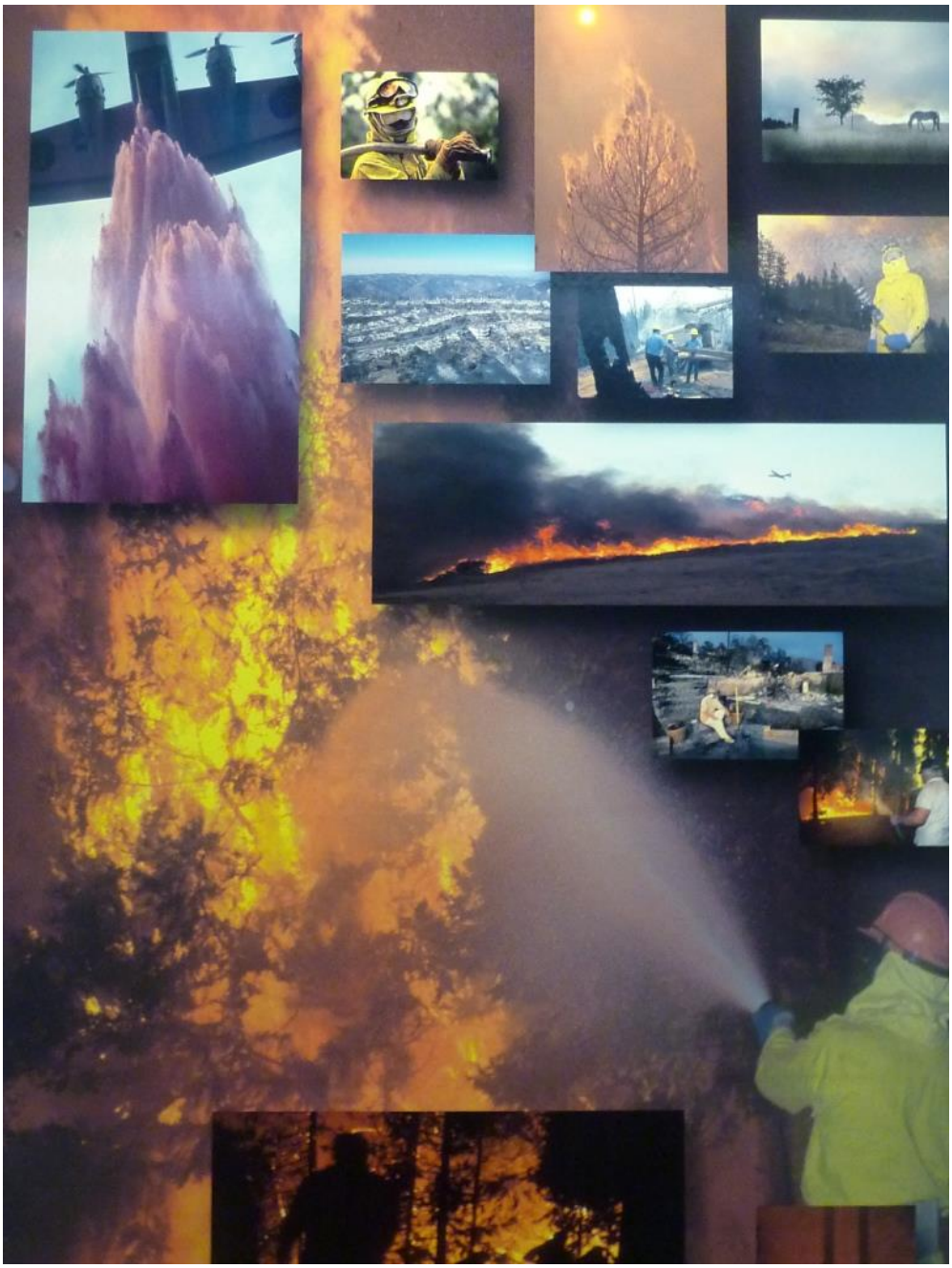
Intentional explosion in a hazardous material facility with chemical/radiological leak.

Rapid moving wildland fire threatening multiple neighborhoods and evacuation with multi-agency/jurisdiction and operational periods

Fire in a high rise due to terrorist act in governmental building. Hostages involved with multiple terrorists.

Intentional bridge explosion with multiple victims trapped

Large scale flooding due to terrorist bombing of multiple levies in multiple counties



Large scale firestorm

Dirty bombing of Federal Building; MCI, building collapse; hazmat release

Aircraft high jacking and crash into major downtown metropolitan city; MCI, multiple buildings, hazardous materials, city utilities impacted