



**Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service**

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE NO 8

Firefighter Emergencies

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VERSION CONTROL

This document and subsequent amendments will be issued by the Emergency Response Department, Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) Headquarters.

Amendments are detailed as below:

No	Issued	Amendment	Prepared by	Approved by
1	06/08/2009	New Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)	Eastern Area Command Project Team	
2	08/07/2014	Review of SOP - consultation	Project Team	Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACO) Ashford
3	08/08/2014	Meeting at Fire & Rescue Training Centre to consider further amendments to SOP		
4	19/11/2014	Issue of SOP following approval	Project Team	ACO Ashford
5	07/01/2015	Seizure of Breathing Apparatus (BA) set and entry control board (Section 3.3, Scene Preservation, 3 rd and 5 th (▪) bullet points)	Assistant Group Commander (AGC) Joyce	AGC Joyce

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope

In the last several decades, there has been a significant number of United Kingdom Firefighters killed while attending calls. Between July 1991 and July 2014 there were 31 fatalities to Fire Service personnel due to operational activities. NIFRS has tragically had 3 Firefighter fatalities while attending incidents since 1995 and the service has learnt from these tragic events on each occasion.

Many of the national Firefighter fatalities on duty will often have a common cause. In addition, lessons have been learnt regarding findings from the Coroners' Court, which have now been applied within NIFRS.

There are also a large number of incidents where Firefighters have suffered medical emergencies. The period 2005 to 2010 recorded 539 major injuries (Health and Safety, Fire and Rescue Service accident statistics). Many of these instances would have required the mobilisation of other appliances and ambulance services in order to assist the casualty.

This SOP has been developed to contribute to a safe system of work for any instance where a Firefighter is deemed to be entrapped or suffering a medical emergency on the incident ground.

It is important to stress that a Firefighter Emergency is not confined to BA or building collapse incidents but also encompasses wildland fires, water rescues and flooding environments, in addition to medical emergencies on the incident ground.

This document will assist all personnel to understand the importance of a clear and defined process of initiating a Firefighter Emergency and what actions will be automatically enacted upon declaring a Firefighter Emergency. The Firefighter Emergency procedure should be enacted whenever the nature of the emergency is deemed to be life threatening or where serious injury could result.

1.2 Pre-determined Attendance (PDA)

Incident Type	PDA
<p>Firefighter Emergency protocols extend to any Firefighter on the incident ground who is in obvious serious physical difficulties <u>for any reason</u>. Examples may include Firefighters who have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ activated the “red” button on the TETRA radio;▪ become entrapped within a building due to collapse or fallen cables;▪ heard or activated a Distress Signal Unit (DSU) – manual or automatic;▪ become trapped or cut off by rapid fire development in a wildland fire environment;▪ encountered irrespirable atmospheres;▪ become contaminated with a hazardous substance.	<p>The PDA for a “declared” Firefighter Emergency is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 2 additional Pumps and a Command Support Unit (CSU) (with at least minimum crewing);▪ nearest officer mobilised to the incident;▪ an ambulance;▪ Specialist Rescue Team (SRT); (Mobilise RT190 and SRT Level 3 for Firefighter Assistance and Search Team (FAST) – Level 3 response.)▪ the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Hazardous Area Response Team (HART). <p>All the above will be mobilised unless the Officer-in-Charge (OiC) of the incident states an ambulance only is required.</p>

2 SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS AND CONTROL MEASURES

The hazards listed below have been highlighted during Firefighter fatality incidents from 1991 to 2014. The control measures listed are the salient points for OiCs and Firefighters. For full control measures, refer to the SOPs listed in the Relevant Literature section (4.1).

Significant Hazards	Control Measures
Entrapment during fire and rescue operations, irrespective of whether wearing BA or not	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Activation of TETRA handset red button.▪ Dynamic Risk Assessment (DRA) process.▪ Emergency Teams established, equipped and fully briefed.▪ Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) established, equipped and fully briefed.▪ FAST established, equipped and fully briefed.▪ Building construction training – recognition of signs of collapse.▪ BA training and robust BA procedures.▪ Wildland training and procedures.▪ Implementation of “Ops Normal” protocol.

Significant Hazards	Control Measures
Medical emergency on the incident ground not involving a trapped Firefighter scenario	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activation of TETRA handset red button. ▪ Provision of automatic defibrillator. ▪ Provision of First Person on Scene (FPOS) training. ▪ Ambulance mobilised to scene.
Building collapse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safety Officers nominated and fully briefed. ▪ Building construction training – recognition of signs of collapse. ▪ Compartment Firefighting Training (CFFT) – techniques applied. ▪ Implementation of the Incident Command System (ICS). ▪ Light Insulated Sandwich Panels (LISP)/complex layout of buildings identified through SOP 12 (Operational Intelligence). ▪ Site Specific Risk Assessment (SSRA). ▪ Information gathering through the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT).
Fire development - Backdraught/Flashover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training and awareness in building construction. ▪ CFFT techniques applied. ▪ Training in ventilation techniques. ▪ Wildland training and procedures. ▪ Safety Officers nominated and fully briefed.
Prolonged and unexplained breakdown of communications, leading to a failure to initiate emergency procedures in the event of difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BA training and robust BA procedures. ▪ TETRA training. ▪ “Ops Normal” protocol.
Arduous work leading to crew/BA Team fatigue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First stage feeding/hydration. ▪ Rest and relaxation procedures. ▪ Rotation of crews.
Crews unable to perform their tasks safely as a result of inadequate briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full briefing to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hazard identification. - Safety critical information - resources/risk. - Evacuation procedures. - Emergency procedures. - Expected actions/tasks. - Debrief requirements. - Crew accountability. ▪ Implementation of ICS training – decision making model.

Significant Hazards	Control Measures
Crews unable to perform tasks safely as a result of Inadequate firefighting media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Augment supply of water. ▪ Risk information to be made available to all crews on the incident ground. ▪ CFFT training and techniques. ▪ Appropriate size delivery hose (<u>big fire/big water</u>).
Crews unaware of hazards due to inadequate Risk Critical Information (RCI) on building/site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information gathering from SOP 12. ▪ RCI and training at the location. ▪ Information from the MDT. ▪ Local information. ▪ Fire wallet/folder. ▪ Control of Major Accident Hazards plans.
Injury due to moving vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Road closure. ▪ Cordons established. ▪ Cones/traffic control/flashing lights. ▪ High visibility jackets. ▪ Fend off position for appliances. ▪ Police/inter-agency liaison. ▪ Spotters - radio communications.
Crews not adhering to safe systems of work leading to unsafe practices such as self-deployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strict briefs. ▪ Confirmation of briefing. ▪ Adequate supervision. ▪ Safety Officers nominated and fully briefed. ▪ Safe Person concept implemented on the incident ground. ▪ Full accountability on the incident ground.
Drowning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Life jackets worn within 3 m of the water. ▪ Cordons established. ▪ Upstream spotters briefed and deployed. ▪ Downstream safety briefed and deployed. ▪ Throwlines. ▪ Floating hose. ▪ SRT for water rescue. ▪ North West Flood Response Team.
Hazmat - contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request a Hazmat Officer. ▪ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - BA/gas tight suits – on advice of the Hazmat Officer. ▪ Chemdata. ▪ Cordons established. ▪ Establish an adequate level of decontamination. ▪ Minimal personnel in the Hazard Zone.

2.1 Initiating a “Firefighter Emergency”

A Firefighter Emergency should be declared by pressing the red emergency button on the TETRA radio. This action will operate an audible and visual alert in the Regional and Control Centre (RCC) and open the radio microphone for around 15 seconds. RCC personnel will contact the sender of the alert and ask them to:

“State the nature of your emergency”.

The person activating the alert will:

- give details of the emergency;
- state the exact location of the emergency.

Note – no names of trapped or injured personnel are to be passed over the radio.

On receipt of this information, RCC personnel will:

- mobilise an ambulance;
- mobilise 2 additional Pumps and a CSU (with at least minimum crewing);
- mobilise Level 3 SRT;
- turn out the nearest Flexi Duty System Officer;
- inform the Area Duty Commander and NIFRS Duty Headquarters Officer;
- mobilise HART if the emergency is within the risk area.

The term “Mayday – Mayday” will no longer be used to declare a Firefighter Emergency.

It is important to ensure that a TETRA radio on a station or district Talk Group is available at all times on the incident ground.

2.2 Action required if a Firefighter Emergency is Declared

Incident Commanders (ICs) should ensure they are aware of procedures for Firefighter Emergencies.

The IC needs to assess who is in difficulty and what has caused the situation, ie, are Firefighters trapped due to fire development, structural collapse or medical emergency.

It is essential that the last known location of the individual or team is identified and passed on to the RCC, Emergency Team/RIT/FAST.

Assess if/which operational resources can be re-deployed for Firefighter rescue.

- Clear all non-essential radio traffic.
- Assess if any additional resources are required.
- Brief the RIT, setting clear parameters.
- Control other personnel on the incident ground (personal accountability systems).

Any team already within the risk area hearing a DSU or declaration of Firefighter Emergency will contact the BA Entry Control Officer (BAECO) and inform them a DSU is audible.

- If the DSU is from another team, the Team Leader will instigate gauge checks to determine if sufficient air reserves exist within the team to investigate the source and render assistance.
- Rendering assistance to a BA Team in distress must take precedence over existing tasks, unless it is determined that their activities are risk-critical and if uncompleted, may compromise the safety of other BA wearers within the risk area.
- The BAECO must be informed of the intentions of the BA Team and approval sought.
- The BA Team must not take any unnecessary risks.

A BA Team exiting the risk must be fully debriefed and safety-critical information must be logged and passed to all personnel entering the risk area.

3 OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 EN ROUTE

(As a make-up for Firefighter Emergency.)

Immediate Considerations

- What equipment/resources are required to effect rescue of entrapped Firefighters?
- Consider additional Fire Service resources you may require on arrival.
- RIT, FAST, hazmat, large animal rescue.
- Assistance required from other agencies – HART.
- Allocate roles to crew members.
- Consider Hazards/Control Measures above.
- Risk Information (SOPs, SSRA, MDT).

Think through the phases of Managing Incidents

- Decision Making Model
 - Incident information.
 - Resources information.
 - Hazards and safety information.
 - Prioritise objectives.
 - Plan.
 - Communicate and control.
 - Re-evaluate.
- Consider tactics.
- Officer-in-Charge considerations.
- Focus on safety throughout.

3.2 IN ATTENDANCE

Arrival

- Careful approach.
- Safe appliance positioning.
- Dismount on safe side.
- Obtain brief from the OiC on:
 - nature of the emergency;
 - number of personnel involved;
 - last known location of personnel;
 - actions already taken;
 - resources available/en-route;
 - site plans - access/egress points;
 - communication structure;
 - tasks.

Initial Actions

Duties of the Incident Commander (IC)

The IC will need to assess the developing situation and potential risk of the incident before committing BA crews. The risk assessment process should be continuous throughout the incident to enable the IC to review plans in line with any developing risk.

Technical Bulletin 1/97 states that as part of this risk assessment, the IC must consider:

- the deployment of BA Teams, Emergency and Relief Teams, and the need to ensure they are as well briefed as possible on the task and the possible risks involved;
- the implementation of the special procedures for BA wearer distress;
- the sufficiency of BA and associated equipment available to deal with the incident and the need to request any additional assistance required.

“Operations (Ops) Normal” Protocol at Incidents

As an additional control and accountability measure on the incident ground an IC may instigate “Ops Normal” protocols. This will enable the IC, Sector Commanders and ECOs to monitor communications, progress and safety of all crews operationally deployed on the incident ground.

When used, the IC should communicate to all personnel that “Ops Normal” protocols are in place on the incident ground and should set out the required time frames for updates (ie, every 15, 20 or 30 minutes as conditions dictate) and to whom the message should be sent. The “Ops Normal” message should be sent to the ECO or command function on a pre-agreed basis – it should not be sent directly to the RCC.

The “Ops Normal” message should include:

- the actual term “Ops Normal”, indicating all is well;
- the number of personnel in the team;
- the location of the team (ie, at top of second stairwell, inside third floor office accommodation, etc);
- a brief description of the activity.

Provision of BA Emergency Teams

Emergency Teams are deployed to provide prompt emergency assistance to BA wearers. The BAECO must be aware of the Tactical Plan and confirm the brief of each Emergency Team committed.

Whereas deployment of an Emergency Team may be accommodated on the BAECO board, a separate BA board must be provided to accommodate the deployment of a RIT and FAST.

When resources permit, Emergency Team(s) should have 2 personnel for each trapped Firefighter. Early consideration should be given to early establishment of a RIT.

Emergency Teams of BA wearers must be established at all incidents where Stage II BA Entry Control procedures are in operation and at other incidents as soon as personnel resources permit.

The following procedures should be applied:

- The Emergency Team should rig (but not start up) in BA and stand by at the Entry Control Point (ECP) until instructed to enter the incident by the ECO, or until relieved of that duty.
- Consideration should be given to the welfare of the Emergency Team in relation to ambient temperatures/weather conditions.

Duties of BA Emergency Team

The Team Leader of the Emergency Team will utilise the time on standby to ensure:

- the team is fully equipped for the task;
- suitable firefighting media is available;
- any further equipment required is requested;
- the team is familiar with the layout of the building/incident ground;
- the team is familiar with all access/egress points;
- the team understands the Tactical Plan;
- the team is fully briefed and understands briefs of the teams already deployed and hazards identified/control measures;
- the team is kept up-to-date with relevant information.

Equipment that may be required:

- radio communications;
- donor sets and Emergency Air Supply Equipment (EASE) hose;
- thermal imaging camera;
- wire cutters;
- any other specialist equipment provided for this purpose, eg, hose lines.
- method of entry equipment.

- The equipment should be tested and ready for immediate use.
- Where BA wearers at an incident are wearing protective clothing in addition to their BA, the Emergency Team will be similarly protected.
- When available, existing BA guidelines or communications cables should be followed.
- The Emergency Team, if deployed, must inform the BAECO when trapped Firefighters have been located and where possible state their location.

Deployment of a BA Emergency Team

The BAECO shall commit an Emergency Team(s) and immediately inform the IC of the incident and the brief of each team if:

- any team fails to return to the ECP by the indicated "time of whistle" (indicated outside the brackets);
- a DSU is heard or received by a telemetry device – unless it can be immediately confirmed that it is due to accidental activation;
- it is clear that a dangerous situation is developing which will affect the BA Team;
- it appears that any BA wearer is in distress or upon request from a BA wearer;
- there is prolonged and/or unexplained breakdown of communications.

Note - if the IC is not available, the ECO shall initiate a “**Firefighter Emergency**” by activating the red button on the TETRA radio.

Prior to entry, the ECO will ensure that all members of the Emergency Team:

- are briefed on the nature of the emergency;
- are briefed on the number of wearers/teams in the risk area;
- are briefed on the likely location of the wearer(s) in distress (if this is known);
- know the access and egress points or routes;
- know the identified hazards;
- are aware of control measures to be used;
- will collect the wearers' tallies and record their tasking on the entry control board.

Following deployment, the ECO (or the BA Sector Commander) should inform the OiC of the incident and the brief of each team and call for a replacement Emergency Team immediately or request establishment of the RIT.

Extra resources must be allocated to the BAECO site to assist and co-ordinate the search as well as providing another Emergency Team. A supervisory rank should be briefed to take charge of the BAECO site in order to confirm briefs of all teams already committed and the brief of the RIT. Under Stage II, in addition to the above, the BAECO will inform all other ECPs, if necessary.

Role of the Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)

The RIT will act as an additional Emergency Team when deemed necessary by the IC under the circumstances detailed below. It will consist of a minimum of 4 qualified BA wearers and the IC should assess risk to personnel fully before dismissing the need for the provision of a RIT.

When a RIT is formed there should be extra resources added to BAECO. A separate BA board must be provided to accommodate the deployment of additional BA Teams as RIT(s) and marked accordingly at the BA ECP.

A supervisory rank should be briefed to take charge of the BAECO site in order to confirm briefs of all teams already committed and the brief of the RIT. The supervisor shall co-ordinate and liaise with the original BAECO and the RIT BAECO.

NIFRS RIT Procedures

A RIT will be established under the following circumstances:

- When Stage 2 Entry Control is in operation.
- When more than 6 BA wearers are committed to the risk area.
- When more than 3 teams are committed to the risk at any one time.
- When the IC deems it a necessary additional control measure.
- When operational circumstances present a higher risk to Firefighters.

The IC must also consider the provision of a second RIT if the incident is of a greater complexity. The provision of a second RIT, once the first has been committed, should be considered as a matter of priority.

Consideration must be given to resources available and en route and if necessary, the IC should request extra resources.

Information required by the RIT

- Number and location of ECPs.
- Number of wearers within the building.
- Current location of BA Teams.
- The brief of each BA Team – what are they doing?
- Details of BA Team deployment (route/search pattern) and task.
- The ability to listen into BA communications.
- What radio Talk Group has been allocated to BA Teams?
- What radio Talk Group has been allocated to the RIT?
- What are the current fire conditions, eg, fire development, burn time, and structural integrity?
- Identify hazards, the associated risk and any control measures.
- Obtain details of overall layout of building – Operational Risk Cards.
- Identify initial and alternative access points to the risk area and any restrictions to their use, ie, barred windows, etc.
- Identify what proactive measures could be put in place to ensure rapid access to the risk area, ie, what doors/windows could be opened to facilitate secondary and tertiary access.

Equipment to be provided by the RIT

The RIT is to wear BA, together with any other PPE worn by personnel committed to the risk and Firefighting media.

- Provide 4 x BA donor sets and EASE hose.
- Communications.
- Thermal imaging cameras.
- Wire cutters.
- Breaking-in gear.
- Cutting gear/method of entry equipment.
- Lighting.
- Lines.
- Micro-vent resuscitator (remains outside).
- Defibrillator.

Duties of a RIT Team

- To get a full effective brief from the IC regarding parameters of deployment and to work within those parameters.
- Take donor set and EASE hose into risk - one for each member of the affected team.
- Stabilise Firefighter in distress and connect the donor set.
- Stabilise situation, eg, member(s) of the team may need to firefight.
- Assess the situation and develop a Tactical Plan for removal.
- Consider the need for further resources (second RIT and/or FAST).
- The RIT must inform the ECO when Firefighters have been located and where possible state their location.

Role of Firefighter Assistance Search Team/Specialist Rescue Team (FAST/SRT)

It is acknowledged that if Firefighters become entrapped within a risk area that the training and/or equipment carried by the RIT may not be sufficient to extricate personnel safely in all circumstances.

In such circumstances the RIT will:

- stabilise the casualty;
- ensure a secure air supply for the full duration of the rescue;
- take action to prevent the deterioration of the health, safety and welfare of the casualty;
- await arrival of the FAST;
- pass details of the location of trapped Firefighters/team;
- establish and maintain communications with the BAECO.

Within NIFRS the FAST function will be carried out by the SRT who carry dedicated special rescue equipment for Firefighter Emergencies and entrapment.

A separate BA board must be provided to accommodate the deployment of FAST and marked accordingly at the BA ECP.

FAST/SRT Equipment Procedures and Training

- Provision and training in the use of Extended Duration Breathing Apparatus (EDBA) sets, or airline equipment.
- Provision and training in the use of portable hot cutting equipment.
- Provision and training in the use of hydraulic rescue equipment.
- Provision and training in the use of specialist stretchers.
- Provision and training in the use of external/internal breaching and breaking equipment and techniques.
- Provision and training in the use of specialist lighting equipment.
- Provision and training in the use of confined space access equipment.
- In conjunction with established Police Service of Northern Ireland and voluntary Mountain Rescue Teams, advise on high risk search capability over wildland and mountain environments, including specialist thermal and night vision capability with Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking.

FAST/SRT will be mobilised:

- when a Firefighter Emergency is declared;
- when BA Main Control is set up;
- at the request of the IC after he or she has completed a DRA which has identified the requirement for an extra control measure in addition to the normal RIT provision.

FAST/SRT – Link to the Incident Command System Process

Where FAST is in attendance the SRT Team Leader will act as a Tactical Advisor to the IC.

Note - the SRT Team Leader may not be the same officer as the FAST/SRT BA Team Leader.

3.3 POST-INCIDENT

Medical Attention

- Medical attention to be sought as appropriate.
- Counselling should be offered in line with service policy.

Critical Incident De-brief

- A Critical Incident De-brief to be carried out as soon as practicable in line with the De-brief Policy.

Significant Safety Event Investigation

- An Investigation Team to be established in conjunction with representative bodies in line with NIFRS Health and Safety Policy on the Organisational Response to Significant Health and Safety Events.

Scene Preservation

- All equipment/PPE used by personnel at the centre of the Firefighter Emergency to be impounded and tagged accordingly, immediately or as soon as practicable. The bag should be labelled to clearly show the name and role of the person impounding any relevant equipment involved with a Firefighter Emergency.
- If BA is involved, record the following information.
 - The cylinder pressure prior to closing the cylinder valve.
 - The cylinder valve of the apparatus should be fully closed and the number of turns required to close it recorded.
 - The pneumatic system should be vented to prevent continual logging by the bodyguard Electronic Monitoring Unit.
 - The bodyguard key should be correctly positioned to de-activate the bodyguard.
 - The battery of the PSS 7000 Pressure Module should be left in position and not removed.
 - The telemetry BA tally should be attached to the BA set.
 - The time the wearer entered the risk.

- The time the wearer left the risk.
 - Any information regarding the condition of the set that is obvious, without carrying out an inspection of the set.
 - Any remarks made by the wearer or other team members of the BA Team.
- The BA set should be placed and sealed in a designated red BA investigation bag. The following items should be placed into the bag:
 - BA tally;
 - the facemask;
 - the cylinder;
 - the Log Book, on return to station.
 - If the BA set has been contaminated the label must also record the nature/details of the contaminant.
 - The entry control board should also be impounded. Care must be taken not to delete any written records that have been made on the board.
 - NIFRS Health and Safety Policy Unit is to be informed as soon as possible and Recording of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences (RIDDOR) procedures to be implemented as required.

Decontamination of PPE

Standard procedures to be followed for any kit not impounded.

4 PRE-INCIDENT PREPARATION

4.1 Relevant Literature

This SOP is supported by the following SOPs, Training Notes, Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare (OHS&W) Bulletins and Training Memorandum, which are available from the Global Folder at G:\Document Management System:

- NIFRS Health & Safety Policy on the Organisational Response to Significant Health and Safety Events;
- BA10 - Emergency Team procedures;
- BA14b - Distress To Wearer;
- OHS&W Bulletin 8/14 - Initiating a Firefighter Emergency – rescinded;
- OHS&W Bulletin 9/14 - RIDDOR;
- OHS&W Bulletin 1/13 - Accident Reporting and Investigation;
- OHS&W Bulletin 13/04 - Decontamination of Fire Kit;
- Technical Memorandum 5/13 – Decontamination and Laundry Process for PPE;
- SOP 1 - Incident Command;

- SOP 4 - Water Rescue;
- SOP 6A - Decontamination/Washdown;
- SOP 7 - Farms and Agricultural Land;

- SOP 13 - High Rise Procedures;
- SOP 17 - Collapsed Structures;
- SOP 25 - Fires involving Sandwich Panels;
- SOP 26 - Confined Space/Rope Rescue;
- SOP 28 - Tactical Ventilation;
- SOP 29 - Operational use of TETRA Radio System;
- SOP 30 - Debrief;
- SOP 32 - Wildfire;
- SOP 35 - Road Traffic Incidents;
- SOP 36 - Fighting Fires in Buildings;
- Operational Assurance Bulletin 06/2013 – rescinded.

4.2 Training

The following training shall be carried out, in accordance with the Area Training Strategy, to prepare in advance for Firefighter Emergencies:

- Application of the Decision Making Model.
- Incident Command procedures.
- Backdraft and Flashover procedures.
- Compartment Firefighting training.
- Practical drills on station – entrapped Firefighter, BA Search procedures and use of EASE hose.
- On and off station exercises.
- BA refresher courses.
- Training in the use of TETRA radio system.
- Method of entry.
- Working at height.
- The use of MDT to access Operational Risk Card.
- Practice anti-entanglement procedures in case of fallen cables.
- Line rescue training.
- Urban Search and Rescue techniques.

All training must be recorded on the Tracking & Training database to provide an effective audit trail.

4.3 Pre-planning

- Continuation training.
- Complete regular exercises on Firefighter Emergencies.