

Emergency Operations, SOG 255

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Scope. This standard lists and defines common terms used by operations personnel to manage fire control and rescue incidents.
2. Definitions:
 - A. Aid station: Where triage takes place and necessary EMS personnel and equipment are located to provide aid to fire victims and fire service personnel. The person in charge may be either a fire service or an EMS person. The person assigned should be at least paramedic certified. All activities should be coordinated through the command post.
 - B. All clear: The primary search has been completed.
 - C. Command post: The location at which the primary command functions are executed. The command post is manned by the incident commander and other support personnel as required. The command post shall designate frequencies to be used by command support operations.
 - D. Incident commander ("IC"): The person with overall responsibility for a particular incident. The person will use the radio term "Command," and may use a geographical identifier when multiple operations occur-e.g., "Main Street Command."
 - E. Rural water supply-terminology:
 - (1) Attack unit: Usually the first piece of fire apparatus on the scene, the attack unit sets up hoselines to fight the fire. It can consist of more than one unit, if necessary.
 - (2) Drafting: Using a pump to lift water from a supply source, such as a river, pond, ditch, dump tank, etc.
 - (3) Fill site: The location where the tank trucks go to get loads of water, such as a hydrant, draft site, storage tank, etc.
 - (4) Rural fire: More than 1,000 feet from a fire hydrant.
 - (5) Tanker (or tank truck): A fire truck used primarily to carry large quantities of water for rural firefighting. Also known as a water tender.

- (6) Tanker shuttle: Using several tank trucks to transport water from a water supply source to a fire scene.
 - (7) Working fire: A fire that will require considerable effort to extinguish and may require an additional response of apparatus, such as water tenders in rural operation.
- F. Sector: A smaller, more manageable unit of command delegated by the incident commander to provide management and command for specific functions or geographical areas. Sectors shall be designated as Sector A, B, C, D, etc., and shall be assigned on a clockwise basis. For high-rise operations, the sector above the fire shall be designated before the sector below and be numbered according to the floor number. Other sectors may be designated by location or function, such as roof, interior, rehab, triage, transportation, etc.
- G. Sector officer: A person in charge at a given area of the fireground. The sector commander shall be assigned by the incident commander and coordinate operation through the command post and shall operate on the command frequency.
- H. Staging area: That location where incident personnel, apparatus, and equipment are assigned in an available status. The staging officer shall coordinate activities through the command post. If necessary, the command post shall assign a staging frequency that will normally be the primary alarm channel. Dispatch shall be responsible for move-ups and shall report them to the staging officer.