


3.4.1.3 First Responder Operations	
	YOUR ORGANIZATION STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES
<b>TITLE:</b> First Responder Operations	<b>SECTION/TOPIC:</b> Hazardous Materials General Information
<b>NUMBER:</b> 3.4.1.3	<b>ISSUE DATE:</b>
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<b>PREPARED BY:</b>   <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-bottom: 5px;">X</div> <hr style="width: 300px; margin: 0 auto;"/>           Preparer         </div>	<b>APPROVED BY:</b>   <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-bottom: 5px;">X</div> <hr style="width: 300px; margin: 0 auto;"/>           Approver         </div>
These SOPs/SOGs are based on FEMA guidelines FA-197	

### 1.0 POLICY REFERENCE

CFR	
NFPA	
NIMS	

### 2.0 PURPOSE

This standard operating procedure/guideline addresses First Responder Operations.

### 3.0 SCOPE

This SOP/SOG pertains to all personnel in this organization.

### 4.0 DEFINITIONS

These definitions are pertinent to this SOP/SOG.

### 5.0 PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

#### 5.1 First Responder Operations:

Respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances as part of the initial response. Expected to take defensive actions without trying to stop the release, for the purpose of protecting

persons, property, and the environment. (This is generally considered the minimum acceptable level of training for members of fire and EMS departments.)

The first responder at the operational level shall be able to perform the following tasks:

1. Analyze a hazardous materials incident to determine the magnitude of the problem in terms of outcomes by completing the following tasks:
  - a. Survey the hazardous materials incident to identify the containers and materials involved, determine whether hazardous materials have been released, and evaluate the surrounding conditions
  - b. Collect hazard and response information from MSDS; CHEMTREC/CANUTEC/SETIQ; local, state, and federal authorities; and shipper/manufacturer contacts
  - c. Predict the likely behavior of a material as well as its container
  - d. Estimate the potential harm at a hazardous materials incident
2. Plan an initial response within the capabilities and competencies of available personnel, personal protective equipment, and control equipment by completing the following tasks:
  - a. Describe the response objectives for hazardous materials incidents
  - b. Describe the defensive options available for a given response objective
  - c. Determine whether the personal protective equipment provided is appropriate for implementing each defensive option
  - d. Identify the emergency decontamination procedures
3. Implement the planned response to favorably change the outcomes consistent with the local emergency response plan and the organization's standard operating procedures by completing the following tasks:
  - a. Establish and enforce scene control procedures including control zones, emergency decontamination, and communications
  - b. Initiate an incident management system (IMS) for hazardous materials incidents
  - c. Don, work in, and doff personal protective equipment provided by the authority having jurisdiction
  - d. Perform defensive control functions identified in the plan of action
4. Evaluate the progress of the actions taken to ensure that the response objectives are being

met safely, effectively, and efficiently by completing the following tasks:

- a. Evaluate the status of the defensive actions taken in accomplishing the response objectives
- b. Communicate the status of the planned response