HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPECIALIST

I. Functional Description

The Hazardous Materials Specialist is responsible for performing the various hazardous materials functions for the task force during incident operations. The Hazardous Materials Specialist reports directly to the Hazardous Materials Team Manager.

II. Description of Duties

The Hazardous Materials Specialist is responsible for the following:

- Providing an initial and ongoing survey (detection, monitoring and sampling) for, and identification of, the presence of hazardous materials at search and rescue sites
- Proficiency with the set up and use of the decontamination system in the US&R cache
- Directing decontamination procedures for any task force member victim, canine, or equipment
- Performing minor mitigation operations within the scope of the Hazmat Concept of Operations (CONOPS)
- Assisting team managers in providing information to personnel regarding chemical data and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) compatibility and capability for tactical operations
- Documenting all related information regarding the incident
- Adhering to all safety procedures
- Properly utilizing the detection monitors and devices in the US&R cache
- Demonstrating proficiency in donning and doffing all personal protective equipment in the US&R cache
- Demonstrating proficiency in building triage and US&R marking systems
- Working with Logistics Team personnel to establish and maintain a regular maintenance schedule for HazMat cache items as required, including calibration, battery charging, function tests and field repair
- Performing regular assessments of the Base of Operations (BoO)

- Performing regular assessments of the base of operations for hazardous conditions, such as carbon monoxide from generators, or any other contaminants
- Establishing and maintaining a liaison with HazMat personnel from the Incident Support Team (IST) and other task forces
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned during a mission

III. Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Hazardous Materials Specialists in the National US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent hazardous materials assessments and advice to task force personnel in the urban disaster environment.

IV. Required Training

The Hazardous Material Specialist shall adhere to the following:

- Meet all administrative and general training requirements
- Meet and maintain the requirements as a certified Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response
- Meet and maintain the AHJ competencies in accordance with National Fire Protection Association standard 472 Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician
- Complete the National US&R Response WMD considerations for Hazardous Materials Specialist Course
- Complete all technical rescue skill sets and additional required rope rescue skills as defined in Appendix D at the end of this manual

V. Recommended Training

The Hazardous Materials Specialist should complete the following:

- Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological/Nuclear for Hazardous Materials Technician Course (PER-241), U.S. Department of Energy National Security Administration, Nevada Test Site
- WMD Hazardous Materials Technician Training (HT) Course (PER-261), Centers for Domestic Preparedness, Anniston, Alabama.

- Task force water purification system training
- HazMat CONOP training