



National
Operational
Guidance

Hazard

Radioactive contamination



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



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Hazard - Radioactive contamination

Knowledge and understanding

Hazard	Learning outcome
Radioactive contamination	Understand all associated hazard knowledge



Control measure - Substance identification: Radioactive materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Gather information and recognise symbols, labels and other marking to identify radioactive materials	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classification and labelling of radioactive materials• Signage identifying the presence of radioactive materials

Practical application



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Gather information and recognise symbols, labels and other marking to identify radioactive materials

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use signs, labels and markings to identify the presence of radioactive materials
- Identify and interpret radioactive material incident information and where appropriate use detection equipment
- Use specialist advice to identify radioactive materials information

Refer to – Substance identification – Hazardous materials training specification



Control measure - Cordon controls: Radioactive materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Recognise the involvement of radioactive materials and implement appropriate cordons

Understand:

- Initial assessment of contaminated areas to identify appropriate hazard zones
- Procedures to manage, monitor and maintain personnel and public safety

Practical application



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Recognise the involvement of radioactive materials and implement appropriate cordons

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish safe control and effective management of resources and the public
- Implement cordons appropriate to the potential source of radiation
- Apply monitoring and decontamination procedures

Refer to – [Cordon controls - operations training specification](#)



Control measure - Warn, inform and advise people

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Warning, informing and
advising people

Understand:

- The legislation regarding the requirement for responders to:
- Make information available to the public about civil protection matters
- Maintain arrangements to warn, inform and advise the public in the event of an emergency
- Why information to the public may have to be restricted
- How information communicated to, or withheld from people can influence their behaviour
- The characteristics of appropriate warnings, information and advice
- Methods for providing warnings, information, and advice

Practical application

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Use the most effective methods for communicating with people who are either directly or indirectly involved in the incident

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use effective methods to warn, inform and advise people
- Provide information that is:
 - Specific and clear
 - Timely and accurate
 - Credible and verifiable
 - Appropriate to the nature and extent of the danger

Consider the use of media, social media and other methods to communicate with people

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Choose appropriate methods to communicate with people



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Establish a media liaison point and brief a nominated media liaison officer

- Demonstrate the ability to:
- Establish a media liaison point
 - Brief the nominated media liaison officer



Control measure - Evacuation and shelter

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Evacuation of people

- Understand:
- The definition of evacuation
 - Why the evacuation or shelter of people may be required
 - The planning that is required for evacuation or shelter of people, and who is responsible for this
 - The need to develop a joint understanding of risk for operational and fire control personnel for evacuation, shelter or 'stay put'
 - The roles and responsibilities of the:
 - Police
 - Local authority
 - Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG)
 - The hazards and risks associated with emergency evacuation
 - The behaviour of people in emergency situations
 - The factors that influence evacuation plans
 - The considerations for incorporating evacuation procedures into incident plans
 - The wider impact of dealing with significant numbers of evacuated people
 - How to access information on evacuation plans



Control measure element	Learning outcome
Fires in buildings	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evacuation plans for buildings• Evacuation strategies for buildings• Categories of evacuation procedure
Total evacuation	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is simultaneous evacuation• What is phased evacuation
Progressive evacuation	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is progressive horizontal evacuation• What is zoned evacuation
Evacuation or escape strategies	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The types of evacuation or escape strategies• The purpose of 'stay put' or 'defend in place'• The factors that should be considered when determining the evacuation strategy
Evacuation of medical facilities	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The types of evacuation used in medical facilities• The role of the fire and rescue service when assisting with evacuation at medical facilities
Hazardous materials	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The need for an evacuation or shelter plan• The role of a hazardous materials adviser when determining the appropriate course of action to protect the public
Practical application	



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Determine whether people should be advised to evacuate, shelter in place or 'stay put'

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Determine whether evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' is appropriate:
 - Record rationale for decision
 - Ensure the fire control room understands the decision
 - Inform the people affected

Establish communication arrangements to allow information to be gathered from and passed to fire control rooms

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish appropriate and resilient communication arrangements between the incident ground and the fire control room

Identify the most appropriate evacuation plan and record rationale for decision

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Develop an evacuation strategy using available information

Establish the availability of pre-arranged evacuation strategies and policies

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and access available pre-arranged evacuation strategies and policies
- Liaise with the responsible person to obtain advice relating to evacuation arrangements

When evacuation is necessary, identify the number of people affected and develop a plan

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the number of people that require to be evacuated and develop a plan

Consider people who need assistance to evacuate, for example, disabilities or medical needs

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Gather information to identify any people who need assistance to evacuate, or may be unaware of the need to evacuate



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Establish a safe evacuation point and consider safe egress routes and refuge points or areas

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and establish safe evacuation points, safe egress routes and refuge points
- Be prepared to revise locations of evacuation points and refuge points
- Be prepared to revise safe egress routes at any time

Assess the suitability of the location for people to shelter in place

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Determine a suitable location for people to shelter in place
- Be prepared to revise the location for people to shelter in place

Review the use and effectiveness of evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' plans throughout the incident, to ensure they remain valid

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Review the use and effectiveness of evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' plans throughout the incident
- Be prepared to revise the evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' plans at any time

Consider the impact of the incident on the local community and consider a shelter in place strategy

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Take into account the impact of the incident on the surrounding area
- Consider the need to develop a shelter in place strategy for the local community

Assess the likely impact of people on emergency responders

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify where the behaviour of people may affect an evacuation
- Assess the impact of people, including those evacuating, on emergency responders



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Make contact with the relevant authorities for advice on evacuation arrangements and progress

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Recognise where the involvement of other agencies is required to assist with evacuation
- Work with multi-agency partners to conduct an effective evacuation



Control measure - Containment: Radioactive materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Contain radioactive materials

Understand:

- The hierarchy of pollution control to contain unsealed sources of radiation
- Procedures to manage and maintain control of radioactive materials

Practical application

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Contain radioactive materials

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Apply the hierarchy of pollution control to contain unsealed sources of radiation
- Establish procedures to manage and maintain control of radioactive materials
- Liaise with a specialist advisers/agencies to manage risk from radioactive materials



Control measure - Firefighter decontamination: Radioactive materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Firefighter decontamination: Radioactive materials	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Firefighter decontamination procedures for radioactive materials• The need for medical intervention when personnel have been exposed to radioactive materials

Practical application

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Firefighter decontamination: Radioactive materials	Demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Firefighter decontamination procedures for radioactive materials• The need for medical intervention when personnel have been exposed to radioactive materials



Control measure - Decontamination: Radioactive materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Decontamination: Radioactive materials

Understand:

- Public decontamination procedures for radioactive materials

Refer to control measure – [Firefighter decontamination: Radioactive materials](#)

Practical application

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Decontamination: Radioactive materials

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish public decontamination procedures for radioactive materials

Refer to control measure – [Firefighter decontamination: Radioactive materials](#)