



National
Operational
Guidance

Section

**Breathing apparatus incident
commander/incident monitoring
officer**



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

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Breathing apparatus incident commander/incident monitoring officer

Prerequisites

Appropriate level of managerial knowledge, understanding, practical application and experience demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

See Incident Command Foundation – [effective selection process](#)

The role of a breathing apparatus incident commander and incident monitoring officer are covered by:

- [Manage the deployment of BA wearers](#)
- [Manage breathing apparatus operations](#)
- [Manage breathing apparatus emergencies](#)
- [Manage BA operations involving hazardous materials](#)
- [Brief and debrief BA wearers](#)



BA Foundation element - Manage the deployment of BA wearers

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Managing the deployment of BA wearers

Understand:

- The responsibilities of the incident commander for all incidents involving the use of BA
- The selection of the following roles for BA teams:
 - Firefighting
 - Hose management
 - Search and rescue
- The responsibilities of the incident commander for the rapid/initial deployment of BA wearers
- The responsibilities of the incident commander for re-entry of BA wearers
- The responsibilities of the incident commander for single BA wearer deployment
- The responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of search and rescue BA teams
- The responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA guideline teams
- The responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA wearers using airline equipment

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Manage the deployment of BA wearers

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for incidents involving the use of BA
- Select the appropriate roles for BA teams following scene assessment:
 - Firefighting
 - Hose management
 - Search and rescue
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the rapid/initial deployment of BA wearers
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for single BA wearer deployment
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for re-entry of BA wearers
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of search and rescue BA teams
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA guideline teams
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA wearers using airline equipment



BA Foundation element - Manage breathing apparatus operations

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using appropriate procedures and risk management skills to manage breathing apparatus operations

Understand:

- The responsibilities of an incident commander in relation to breathing apparatus entry control
- The capabilities and limitations of breathing apparatus entry control systems and procedures
- How risk is managed through the systems of breathing apparatus control
- The responsibilities of the incident commander in relation to BA welfare

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use appropriate procedures and risk management skills to manage breathing apparatus operations

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform the responsibilities of an incident commander in relation to breathing apparatus entry control
- Use appropriate breathing apparatus entry control systems and procedures and operate within their capabilities and limitations
- Use breathing apparatus entry control systems to manage risk
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander in relation to BA welfare



BA Foundation element - Manage breathing apparatus emergencies

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Using appropriate processes and procedures to manage breathing apparatus emergencies

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The process for establishing emergency arrangements at incidents where BA is used
- The actions to be followed in the event of a BA emergency
- The emergency procedures for rescuing a breathing apparatus wearer in distress
- The actions to be taken in the event of loss of communications with a BA team

Practical application

Foundation element

Use appropriate processes and procedures to manage breathing apparatus emergencies

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish appropriate emergency arrangements at incidents where BA is used, using the relevant process
- Perform the actions to be followed in the event of a BA emergency
- Use emergency procedures for rescuing a breathing apparatus wearer in distress
- Perform the actions to be taken in the event of loss of communications with a BA team



BA Foundation element - Manage BA operations involving hazardous materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Managing BA operations involving hazardous materials

Understand:

- The rationale for shortened working durations for wearers of chemical protective clothing (CPC) at hazardous materials incidents
- The procedures to be used for the deployment of BA wearers, where hazardous materials are present

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Manage BA operations involving hazardous materials

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use procedures to implement shortened working durations for wearers of chemical protective clothing (CPC) at hazardous materials incidents
- Use procedures for deploying BA wearers, where hazardous materials are present



BA Foundation element - Brief and debrief BA wearers

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using methods and techniques to effectively communicate information prior to and following withdrawal of BA wearers from the risk area

Understand:

- The methods and processes used to communicate essential information to BA wearers prior to entry into a risk area
- The methods and processes used to gather essential information from BA wearers following withdrawal from the risk area
- The methods and systems used to record briefing and debriefing information
- The methods and systems used to communicate information to other relevant personnel including BA wearers

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use methods and techniques to effectively communicate information prior to and following withdrawal of BA wearers from the risk area

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate methods and processes to communicate essential information to BA wearers prior to entry into a risk area
- Use appropriate methods and techniques to gather essential information from BA wearers following withdrawal from the risk area
- Use appropriate methods and systems to record briefing and debriefing information
- Use appropriate methods and systems to communicate information to other relevant personnel including BA wearers