



**OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

PO Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Phone: (916) 445-8200
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



Date: July 23, 2011

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Chief Mike Richwine

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Emergency Vehicle Technician Certification Training Standards (CTS)

Background Information:

The Emergency Vehicle Technician CTS was developed using the NFPA 1071 Standard for Emergency Vehicle Technicians Professional Qualifications, 2011 Edition as the base document.

A CTS Guide is developed for each rank in the fire service -- fire fighter, driver/operator, fire instructor, fire officer, etc. The CTS Guide lists every responsibility a person is expected to complete and a student performance goal that includes a measurable minimum performance standard. In addition, a comprehensive list of reference resources is provided. The CTS Guide has several valuable uses:

1. It is the foundation for the certification programs recommended for adoption by the SBFS. Any certification program must be based upon job-related knowledge and measurable objectives.
2. It provides measurable minimum performance standards. The validity and reliability of fire service entrance and promotional examinations can be more easily defended when such measurable standards are utilized.
These performance standards will need to be augmented by additional training in order to master the knowledge and skills needed for specialized operations.
3. It lists a variety of reference resources that may be studied in order to enhance job performance. A student can be confident that any eventual testing will be based upon the authoritative resources being studied. It is this fostering of individual confidence and initiative, which may become the most important accomplishment of the CTS Guide.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

Training standards for the Emergency Vehicle Technician began under the umbrella of Fire Mechanic, but were never completed. These update-to-date standards validate the three (3) certification levels for Emergency Vehicle Technician, provide a list of expected performances, and identify where the learning resources may be found to teach the performances. Updated standards are a requirement for a certification program and will provide guidance in the development of new course syllabi.

The CTS was divided into the three levels associated with the functions and tasks of the job. The new certification titles also reflect the differences between the three levels of certification.

- Emergency Vehicle Mechanic (formerly Fire Mechanic I)
- Emergency Vehicle Technician (formerly Fire Mechanic II)
- Emergency Vehicle Lead Technician (formerly Fire Mechanic III)

Recommended Action:

Approve the Emergency Vehicle Technician CTS for adoption by the State Fire Marshal