



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

P.O. Box 944246
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ATTACHMENT 8

Date: November 21, 2013

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Ken Wagner
Fire Service Training Specialist III

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

IAFF Fire Ground Survival Program Equivalency with State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival FSTEP Course

Recommended Actions:

None, Information/Discussion

Background Information:

Over the past 12 months staff has reported to the SBFS on the efforts being made by State Fire Training (SFT) and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) to reach agreement on accepting the IAFF Fire Ground Survival course for equivalency with the SFT Fire Fighter Survival course. During this time numerous meetings and discussions have occurred between staff and the SFT course cadre, along with significant open dialogue with IAFF representatives in an effort to reach agreement on course equivalency. When staff last reported to the SBFS on this subject, an implementation plan was presented that outlined the various steps necessary to successfully implement this equivalency.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

Included with this staff report are three documents that comprise the final steps that have been put in place to implement this long awaited equivalency.

1. SFT letter to RIC Operations instructors notifying them of this equivalency
2. IAFF Fire Ground Survival Program California Training Supplement
3. Sample copy of an IAFF Fire Ground Survival course completion certificate with modified language for California

Distribution of the above documents to both IAFF and SFT instructors has been completed and concludes staff work on this important project. Past and future IAFF students who comply with the provisions of the IAFF Supplement will meet the SFT prerequisite to attend the SFT RIC Operations course.



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September 16, 2013

To: All Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) Operations Instructors

At the request of the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS), the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) and several local fire agencies, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training (SFT) has been working with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) to establish equivalency between the IAFF Fire Ground Survival course and the SFT Fire Fighter Survival course. After significant staff work by members of the respective development cadres, I am pleased to announce that this course equivalency is a reality.

In order to make this equivalency a reality, the IAFF has agreed to make adjustments to their curriculum when the Fire Ground Survival course is taught in California. These modifications include:

- Elimination of the Head First Ladder Escape technique
- Inclusion of the SFT Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Emergencies curriculum
- Inclusion of the SFT Hose Slide technique

As you know, the SFT Fire Fighter Survival course is the prerequisite for enrollment in the SFT RIC Operations course. As a result of this equivalency, the prerequisite will also include the adjusted IAFF Fire Ground Survival course. *Fire fighters that complete the IAFF Fire Ground Survival course in the future and past course participants that complete course update material shall have their IAFF certificates accepted for equivalency when enrolling in the SFT RIC Operations course.* Participants who have satisfied the adjusted IAFF curriculum will have an IAFF Fire Ground Survival certificate that states "Completed the requirements for SFT Fire Fighter Survival course equivalency." A facsimile of the certificate is enclosed with this communication.

The IAFF has prepared a document entitle "IAFF Fire Ground Survival California Training Supplement" that has been implemented with all of their instructors. A copy of this supplement is also enclosed for your information.

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONSERVE ENERGY. FOR TIPS AND INFORMATION, VISIT "FLEX YOUR POWER" AT WWW.CA.GOV.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in implementing this important equivalency. Obviously, the overarching goal of all the parties involved in achieving this equivalency is the safety of our fire fighters.

Should you have any questions on this equivalency, please contact Ken Wagner, Fire Service Training Specialist at (916) 425-2995 or ken-wagner@comcast.net.

Respectfully,



MICHAEL J. RICHWINE
Assistant State Fire Marshal
Chief, State Fire Training

Enclosures

cc: Accredited Regional Training Programs
Accredited Local Academies



IAFF Fire Ground Survival Program California Training Supplement

The International Association of Fire Fighter's (IAFF) has worked with CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training (SFT) to recognize the IAFF Fire Ground Survival (FGS) course as equivalent to SFT's Fire Service Training and Education System (FSTEP) Fire Fighter Survival course. Equivalency was granted, subsequent to approval by the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) and the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) based on the IAFF FGS course including the following SFT Fire Fighter Survival course elements when taught in California:

- SCBA Emergencies curriculum, SFT FF Survival Course Pages 31-39
- Hose Slide curriculum, SFT FF Survival Course Pages 53-54

Although these topics are covered in the IAFF FGS course, the instructional information does not completely parallel the SFT course. Effective immediately, all IAFF FGS courses taught in California will include the attached instructional material for the above topics. Additionally, because the SFT, as established by STEAC and SBFS does not allow the upper floor egress technique of head first ladder decent to be taught in courses recognized by SFT, the Rapid (Head First) Ladder Escape technique included in the IAFF FGS course will not be taught in California.

Because the IAFF FGS course is recognized as equivalent to the SFT course, individuals who have completed, or who will complete the IAFF FGS Operations and Train the Trainer Courses will be deemed to have met the Fire Fighter Survival prerequisite for participation in the FSTEP RIC Operations course.

The pathway for individuals to obtain course equivalency is as follows:

| Type | Description | Former | Future |
|---------|---|--|--|
| Student | Completed IAFF FGS Operations course offered by their fire department and taught by IAFF FGS Instructors. | <p>The Lead IAFF FGS Instructor for each California fire department is responsible for ensuring the SFT supplemental materials are reviewed by each former IAFF FGS Operations course student and, where necessary appropriate skills are demonstrated. The department's Lead IAFF FGS Instructor will send the IAFF the names of individuals who have reviewed the SFT instructional material and who are interested in obtaining SFT FF Survival course equivalency. The IAFF will confirm the individuals on the list have completed the IAFF FGS Awareness and Operations courses, and will issue new course completion certificates which will include the following statement:</p> <p>“Completed the requirements for CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival course completion equivalency”</p> | <p>The SFT FF Survival supplemental instructional materials, and instructions not to use the IAFF FGS Head First Ladder Escape technique instructional material, will be provided in hard copy during the first day of Operations course training. Information reinforced during lecture provided by IAFF FGS Instructor and, where necessary appropriate skills are demonstrated. The IAFF FGS Operations course completion certificate will include the statement:</p> <p>“Completed the requirements for CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival course completion equivalency”</p> |

| Type | Description | Former | Future |
|------------|--|---|---|
| Instructor | Completed IAFF FGS Train the Trainer course offered by the IAFF and taught by IAFF FGS Master Instructors. | <p>The IAFF FGS Master Instructor for each Train the Trainer class taught in each California (LA County, Burbank, Pasadena, Marin County) fire department is responsible for ensuring the SFT supplemental materials are reviewed by each former IAFF FGS Train the Trainer course student and, where necessary appropriate skills are demonstrated. The IAFF FGS Master Instructor will send the IAFF the names of individuals who have reviewed the SFT instructional material and who are interested in obtaining a SFT FF Survival course equivalency. The IAFF will confirm the individuals on the list have completed the IAFF FGS Awareness and Train the Trainer courses, and will issue new course completion certificates which will include the following statement:</p> <p>“Completed the requirements for CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival course completion equivalency”</p> | <p>The SFT FF Survival supplemental instructional materials, and instructions not to use the IAFF FGS Head First Ladder Escape technique instructional material, will be provided in hard copy during the first day of Train the Trainer. Information reinforced during lecture provided by IAFF FGS Master Instructor and, where necessary appropriate skills are demonstrated. The IAFF FGS Train the Trainer course completion certificate will include the statement:</p> <p>“Completed the requirements for CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival course completion equivalency”</p> |

| Type | Description | Former | Future |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| Master Instructor | Responsible for teaching IAFF FGS Train the Trainer courses. | <p>IAFF FGS Master Instructors from California will review the SFT FF Survival supplemental instructional materials during the IAFF Instructional Development Conference November 2013. The IAFF will provide FGS Master Instructors new course completion certificates which will include the following statement: “Completed the requirements for CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival course completion equivalency”</p> | <p>The SFT FF Survival supplemental instructional materials, and instructions not to use the IAFF FGS Head First Ladder Escape technique instructional material, will be provided in hard copy during the annual Instructor Development Conference. Information reinforced during lecture provided by Derek Alkonis. The IAFF will provide new FGS Master Instructors course completion certificates which will include the following statement: “Completed the requirements for CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival course completion equivalency”</p> |



FIRE FIGHTER SURVIVAL



Topic 5: SCBA Emergencies

Topic 5: SCBA Emergencies

Scope: The focus of this topic is to give fire fighter a basic understanding of the importance of the SCBA, its operation, and emergency procedures for fire fighter survival.

Terminal Learning Objective (TLO): At the end of this topic, the student should be able to overcome a variety of obstacles and SCBA emergencies faced during a fire fighter survival emergency.

Enabling Learning Objectives (ELO):

1. How to determine your air consumption rates.
2. How to perform emergency check procedures.
3. Demonstrate techniques utilized by fire fighters when running out of air.
4. Demonstrate various techniques utilized for escaping from restrictive areas.

The self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) is the most important and widely used tool in the fire service today. Its advancements over the years have greatly expanded the capabilities of the fire fighter when performing aggressive interior searches and fire attack. You must be thoroughly familiar with the specific piece of breathing apparatus that you will use.

This topic focuses on emergency procedures and techniques that will help you troubleshoot your SCBA in a crisis. You will be instructed in various emergency check procedures when faced with equipment malfunction as well as how to deal with a low air event. You will also explore the various techniques and methods you may use to escape from restrictive areas.

SCBA Training

SCBA training should begin at the most basic level and rapidly work towards the more difficult, refined level. Repetitions of skills need to be emphasized, as skills must be performed numerous times before proficiency is to be expected. You must be intimately familiar with the operation of the SCBA used by your department. You must instinctively know where every component of your SCBA is located so that under extreme conditions your actions are automatic. When training, the only boundaries that exist are safety on the training ground and the physical abilities of the participants.

Air Consumption for Survival

Basic physiology tells us that different fire fighters will consume the air in their SCBA at different rates. The working air supply will depend on the fire fighter's training, physical condition, activity, and mental state as experienced under the stressful conditions encountered during fire fighting.

You are responsible for determining your individual point of no return (end of air supply) when entering a hazardous atmosphere. Fire fighters often mistakenly rely on their "low-air alarm" as their signal to exit a building. Most activate when 20%-25% of cylinder pressure remains in the SCBA bottle. Depending on the size of the structure and potential hazards you may face



FIRE FIGHTER SURVIVAL



Topic 5: SCBA Emergencies

during exit, the amount of air remaining when the low-air alarm activates may not be sufficient.

NFPA 1404 Standard for Fire Service Respiratory Protection Training (2006)

Beginning January 1, 2007, new requirements were established under NFPA 1404 by requiring departments to establish and enforce a written SOP for training in the use of a SCBA. The SOP should include an individual air management program that will develop the ability of the individual to manage his or her air consumption as part of a team during a work period. The individual air management program should include the following directives:

- Exit from the IDLH atmosphere should be before consumption of the reserve air begins.
- Low-air alarm is notification the individual is consuming their reserve air.
- Activation of the reserve-air alarm is an immediate action item for the individual and the team.

The NFPA 1404 standard outlines that the fire department must train their members to operate in accordance with the rule of air management, which states, "Know how much air is in your SCBA, and manage that air so that you leave the IDLH environment BEFORE your low air warning alarm activates."

*A question that every fire fighter should be able to answer without hesitation is, "**How long can I work while wearing a SCBA?**" The fireground is not the place to figure out that answer.*

Consumption Rate Testing

Consumption rate testing should be conducted annually by the department so that fire fighters have a better understanding of their point of no return. The testing is conducted on a set course determined by the department to simulate the work of fire fighting. A fire fighter begins the course with a full SCBA bottle that is gauged and starting pressure recorded. The test is continued until the fire fighter completely runs out of air and time is stopped. That time is recorded as well as at the time the low-air alarm activated. Simple division gives the rate of consumption. Knowing the rate of consumption and understanding how much time you have until your low-air alarm activates, you learn your limitations while using a SCBA.

Types of Tests

- SCBA consumption course.
- Treadmill.
- Stair climber.

Once you have a better understanding of how much air you will consume while performing a task, you begin to increase your situational awareness and are less likely to get yourself past your point of no return. Knowing this information can help keep you calm and possibly enable self-survival in an emergency.

Reducing Your Air Consumption

Certain situation may warrant the need to reduce you rate of air consumption. Whether it is to search for an exit or hose line during a disorientation emergency or becoming trapped, fire fighters must be able to employ techniques to increase their window of survival. There are various methods of breathing that may help in reducing a fire fighter's consumption rate. It will take some experimentation on the fire fighter's part to find out which one works best. When using any method, it is important to take normal breaths and exhale slowly to keep the CO₂ in the lungs in proper balance.

- Controlled breathing methods.
 - Inhale through the mouth.
 - Exhale through the nose.
 - Can be reversed.
 - Slow, deliberate exhalation is key.
- Skip-breathing.
 - Inhale fully and hold this breath for the duration that a normal exhalation would take.
 - Take an addition breath and begin to slowly exhale.
 - This cycle is then repeated.

What can fire fighters do to reduce their consumption rate during an emergency?

SCBA Emergencies

It is imperative that you become thoroughly familiar with your breathing apparatus and possess a basic knowledge about preventative maintenance for the particular unit you are using. Minor failures, such as free flow of air or improper connections, are very common on the fireground. These are often the result of operator error or improper preventative maintenance. Upon reporting for duty, you should make a point to thoroughly test and inspect the functions of your assigned SCBA. This should also be repeated every time the unit is put into use or service.

Common SCBA Emergencies

Throughout your career, you will face a variety of equipment failures that may jeopardize your safety if not quickly corrected. No such failure is equal to that of a SCBA emergency during a fire-fighting operation. Today's fire fighters must maintain a high degree of confidence and personal proficiency in handling SCBA emergencies. The following, although not comprehensive, is a list of the most common SCBA emergencies encountered by fire fighters and some suggested solutions for each.

The four most critical actions in each of these situations are:

- 1. Remain calm.**
- 2. Transmit the Mayday.**
- 3. Initiate Mayday procedures.**
- 4. Search for an exit.**

Early Low-pressure Alarm Activation/Decreased Air Flow

- Check to ensure the cylinder valve is turned on completely.
 - If not, fully open the valve.
- Open purge/bypass valve.
- Transmit a fire fighter emergency and initiate fire fighter emergency procedures.
- Search for an exit.

Cracked, Broken, or Damaged Lens

- Get as low as possible.
- Cover the damaged area with a gloved hand to filter out the particulate matter.
- Transmit a fire fighter emergency and initiate fire fighter emergency procedures.
- Search for an exit.

Audible Leak from Hose Connection at the Cylinder Connection

- Immediately drop to one knee to avoid unnecessary exposure to superheated gases.
- Turn the cylinder valve off.
- Tighten the high-pressure connection.
- Turn the cylinder valve back on.
- If the leak persists, transmit a fire fighter emergency and initiate fire fighter emergency procedures.
- Search for an exit.

Air from Regulator Discharging Uncontrollably

- Immediately attempt to control the leakage with a gloved hand.
- Transmit a fire fighter emergency and initiate fire fighter emergency procedures.
- Search for an exit.
- Conserve your air supply by turning the cylinder off.
 - Hold your breath.
 - Turn the cylinder valve $\frac{1}{4}$ turn to allow yourself to inhale.
 - Turn it back off.
 - Hold your breath.
 - Continue this process.

Ripped or Severed Hose

- Immediately cover or hold together the affected hose with a gloved hand.
- Transmit a fire fighter emergency and initiate fire fighter emergency procedures.
- Search for an exit.

Air Supply Interruption

- Get as low as possible.
- Begin an emergency assessment.
 - First attempt a ¼ turn of your purge/bypass valve.
 - Check your cylinder valve.
- If no air, transmit a fire fighter emergency and initiate fire fighter emergency procedures.
- Search for an exit.

Out of Air

- Get as low as possible.
 - To avoid breathing superheated gases found in the upper levels of the thermal column.
- Transmit a fire fighter emergency and initiate fire fighter emergency procedures.
- Search for an exit.
 - If unable to locate an exit immediately.
 - Disconnect your regulator (low-pressure hose if waist mounted regulator).
 - Place a gloved hand over the face piece opening or low-pressure hose

Face Piece Removal

Do NOT attempt to remove your face piece if possible, even though human nature is to immediately attempt to remove the face piece. Proper training and strict discipline must be enforced to prevent such action. Removing your face piece may expose you to super-heated air and toxic gases causing immediate death.

Remember, your face piece is your lifeline to your SCBA; without it, your chance of survival is drastically reduced.

Alternative Means of Obtaining Additional Air

With a complete failure of a SCBA, it is imperative that fire fighters work in pairs allowing the second fire fighter and his or her SCBA to become the primary source of air using buddy-breathing techniques. Modern SCBAs have the ability to supply air to a second user through the EBS connection. These connections should only be used in an emergency allowing the fire fighters to buddy breathe while quickly exiting the hazardous atmosphere. Making these connections is a skill that every fire fighter should practice under low and zero visibility conditions in a drill setting.

Most rapid intervention teams or companies utilize some form of a rescue air pack that is taken to a down fire fighter or fire fighter running low on air during an emergency deployment. These packs generally consist of a 45-minute or 1-hour bottle and allow the user to deliver air to the fire fighter in a number of ways.

RIC Pack Familiarization

You should be able to go through the five options to get air to the down fire fighter. Do them in a light environment and then try it in the dark or limited visibility.

Option 1: Universal Air Connection

- This is the easy one.
- You should be able to feel the difference between the high- and low- pressure hoses with a gloved hand in the dark.
- Where do find the connection in the RIC bag?

Option 2: Low-pressure Hose to EBS

- This is your buddy-breather connection.

Option 3: Low-pressure Hose to Fire Fighter's Mask Mounted Regulator

- Used when you may not be able to access the rear of the pack.
 - Example: Fire fighter fell through a hole or is buried under debris.

Option 4: Regulator Exchange

- Used when there is a malfunction of the fire fighter's regulator.

Option 5: Full Mask Exchange

- A toxic bottle exchange is an advanced skill that should be practiced.
- It involves changing an empty cylinder for a full one while using the SCBA.
- It requires the fire fighter to doff the SCBA and be able to hold their breath while they disconnect the old and connect the new cylinder.

Options 4 and 5 should also be attempted as a two-person exercise.

Restrictive Area Techniques

Before going through obstacles, it is paramount that you make certain that conditions on the other side are safe. It is also highly recommended that you train on the following techniques wearing full PPE so you become confident in working with the different components of your SCBA in less than ideal conditions.

Nonremoval Method

If you are caught in a collapse or cutoff from your means of egress, you may have to fit through a tight spot to get yourself to safety while wearing a SCBA.

Low or Reduced Profile (Partial Removal)

A conventional way for you to get through an obstacle is to simply shift your SCBA to the left side, allowing protection of the regulator. It will also allow you more freedom of movement, because air lines are located on the left side and running to the face piece on most units.

- Fully loosen the right shoulder strap and remove it.
- Loosen the waist strap to allow the harness assembly to be rotated around to your left hip.
- Grasp the neck of the cylinder with your left hand.
- Rotate the harness assembly to the left to allow you to pass through the obstacle.
- Proceed through the obstacle.
- Don the SCBA.
 - Tighten both shoulder and waist straps.

Zero or No Profile (Full Removal)

In an extreme circumstance, you may have to resort to removing your SCBA to facilitate clearing an obstacle. Be very cautious when removing your SCBA since this will further complicate the nature of the situation you are presented. To remove your SCBA in a constricted area or if heat conditions dictate, follow these steps:

- Be as low as possible.
- Fully loosen the waist strap.
 - Disconnecting the buckle and both shoulder straps.
- Remove the right shoulder strap.
- Remove the left shoulder strap.
- Maintain a firm grip on the left shoulder strap.
- Reduce your profile.
 - Rotating to the left with your right shoulder facing the obstacle.
- Proceed through the obstacle.
 - Pulling your SCBA assembly through with your left hand.
- Don the SCBA.
 - Tightening both shoulder and waist straps.

An alternate method is to pass the SCBA in front of you while keeping it close to the body.

Alternate Restrictive Area Techniques

There are other techniques used to pass through restrictive areas such as the simple left side shift, backwards swim, or forward dive (Superman).

Left Side Shift Technique

- Check the floor on the opposite side of the opening.
- Loosen right shoulder strap.
- Loosen waist strap.

- Shift SCBA to left side.
 - Removing right shoulder strap if necessary.
- Place left hand over the cylinder neck.
- Lead with left side, bottle and shoulder through the opening.
- Bring the rest of your body through the opening.
- Tighten both shoulder and waist straps.

Backwards "Swim" Maneuver

- Check the floor on the opposite side of the opening.
- Sit with your back against the opening.
 - SCBA cylinder through the opening.
 - Feet positioned in front of you.
 - Buttocks off the ground.
- Shift cylinder bottle to the right side of the opening.
- Rotate your left arm over and through the opening.
- Lean back as your arm passes through.
- Rotate your hips and body to the left.

Forward Dive Technique (Superman)

- Check the floor on the opposite side of the opening.
- Stand centered and facing the opening.
- Place both arms through the opening.
- Exhale and pull arms inward toward the center of your body.
 - Allowing them to fall forward through the opening.
- If the opening is too narrow, shift the SCBA cylinder to left (low profile).
 - Performing the maneuver with your right side to the floor (sideways Superman).
- Once SCBA cylinder clears the obstacle, use your arms to pull you the rest of the way through.

SCBA Confidence Course

One of the best ways to train fire fighters the skills needed for self-survival is to frequently engage them in a SCBA confidence course. The course is designed to test the fire fighter's skills by requiring the deployment of different survival techniques such as low or zero profiles to maneuvers in tight or restricted areas. They can be designed with various components and degrees of difficulty forcing the fire fighter to negotiate hazards they may face such as wire entanglements and wall breaches. A confidence course can be constructed to test a fire fighter's ability to avoid disorientation, test their resilience to claustrophobia, and reinforce the need for controlled breathing techniques.

The construction of a SCBA confidence course can be simple to complex. Depending on the site, the prop can be permanent and fixed as part of a training facility or tower, or the components can be built separately and portable for use at a fire station. The length of the course is up to the instructor, but should have the following recommended components:

- Joist crawl, testing balance, and the ability to identify spacing.
- Changes in elevation, testing proper sounding of path ahead.
- Reduced profile areas causing fire fighters to demonstrate both low profile and zero profile maneuvers.
- Wall stud pass through, techniques to move between studs.
- Wire entanglement, avoidance, and disentanglement techniques.
- Wall breach.

Other components can be added such as stairs, sloping and collapsing floors, holes in floors, floor surface identification, exit identification, drop ceiling props, and hoseline/ coupling identification. Face pieces should be blacked out or smoke machines used to add realism. Heat and noise are other methods that can be used to heighten the level of anxiety.

The course must be supervised with safety measures in place to ensure fire fighters are not injured and can be assisted if they encounter a real emergency or need to discontinue the exercise. Live fire or smoke conditions should never be used in a SCBA confidence course. The goal of any SCBA confidence course should be to increase fire fighters' level of confidence while using their SCBAs. To be able to calmly and methodically mitigate any obstacle or emergency they may face in a self-survival situation.

Summary

The fireground is a very dynamic and dangerous environment. Every fire fighter, from the most seasoned veteran to the greenest rookie, can experience a problem with a SCBA. Emergency procedures involving SCBAs should be second nature to all fire fighters. As with all aspects of fire fighting, practice and training prior to an emergency will increase a fire fighter's chance for survival.

Fire fighters should be trained in and familiar with techniques used to prolong air supply duration, their own personal air consumption rate, emergency procedures check for SCBA equipment, techniques used to share air between two fire fighters, and what to do if the SCBA runs out of air.

In addition to these skills, fire fighters should also be trained in techniques used to escape from restrictive areas and overcome obstacles. As noted, self-preparedness is the key to fire fighter survival. During an emergency is not the time to develop self-survival skills.

Skill #5: Hose Slide

| Skill #5: Hose Slide | |
|---|---|
| <p>If operating above the first floor and performing fire attack, you may find your means of egress cut off due to rapidly advancing fire. Using your attack line as a means of escape is similar to sliding the pole at the fire house. But as with any of these last resort skills, proper training and practice is always necessary.</p> <p>This is a last resort method of escaping the heat, smoke, and fire gases from an advancing fire.</p> | |
| Time Frame: | 0:30 (if combined with other aboveground skills; time frame must be adjusted.) |
| Students (Minimum): | One company |
| Materials Needed: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate training structure with 1st- or 2nd-story window (recommended minimum 24"x24") • 1¾" charged hoseline (minimum size) • Fall protection system • Full personal protective equipment |
| Site Preparation: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that site is free of all hazards. • Confirm that appropriate anchor can be constructed in accordance with fall protection system. |
| Instructor Directions: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the skill. 2. Review fall protection system requirements. 3. Assign personnel/students to appropriate fall protection positions. 4. Review the fall protection system with all personnel/students. 5. Ensure all students are wearing full personal protective equipment. 6. Ensure all students are wearing a full-body harness attached to a safety line in accordance to the fall protection system requirements. 7. Perform a final safety check prior to performing the skill. |
| Student Directions: | |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locate the window. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Closing the door to the room to buy additional time, if possible. 2. Travel to the window. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staying low due to heat and smoke. | |

Skill #5: Hose Slide

3. Clear the window frame of glass and screen if needed.
 - Starting at the top to ensure maximum removal of fire gasses and heat.
 - Removing any glass landing on the sill to avoid injury.
4. Push the nozzle and hoseline out the window.
 - Removing all slack.



5. Once the hoseline is out the window, proceed onto the window sill.
 - Staying low.
 - Placing one arm and one leg out the window.
 - Rotating body so both arms are in the room and both legs are outside the window.
 - Balancing on your abdominal area.



6. Position yourself on the hoseline.
 - Grabbing hoseline above the sill with one hand and below the sill with the other hand.
 - Wrapping legs around the hoseline.
 - Securing the hoseline between your knees and feet.
7. Travel down hoseline to a safe location.
 - Always maintaining four points of contact.
 - Feet, knees, both hands.



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND MEDICINE

Certificate of Completion

James E. Brinkley

*has successfully completed the 32-hour
IAFF Fire Ground Survival Train-the-Trainer Course
held November 18, 2010, is a
Certified IAFF FGS Operations Course Instructor
for the Los Angeles County Fire Department, and has
Successfully completed the requirements for CAL FIRE,
Office of the State Fire Marshal,
State Fire Training Fire Fighter Survival course completion equivalency*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Harold A. Schaitberger'.

Harold A. Schaitberger
General President

November 18, 2010