

The FIRELINE

OSFM Monthly Report

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OSFM Headquarters:
1131 S. Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/>



<http://sft.fire.ca.gov>

State Fire Training Division Rescue Systems Transition

State Fire Training is beginning the transition of the current Rescue Systems 1 (RS-1 2010) and Rescue Systems 2 (RS-2 2010) training programs to an updated version of both programs. The update to these training programs has been funded and supported by CAL EMA (both OHS and OES prior to their merger). The curriculum workgroups have spent several years in writing, piloting and re-designing these training programs to meet the requirements for both FEMA and NFPA. The updated Rescue Systems-1 and Rescue Systems-2 student manuals will be available for classes scheduled after January 1, 2010.

In Rescue Systems 1 (2010), the Low Angle Rescue (LAR) module has been removed and made as a stand alone training program. Low Angle Rope Rescue Operational (LARRO) is a requirement for students enrolling in the new RS-1 (2010) training program. This move provides additional time in RS-1 (2010) for skills development in lifting and moving, heavy objects, ladder rescue, and shoring. Taking LARRO first, gives students an opportunity to hone their rope skills before enrolling in RS-1 (2010).



*Murrah Federal Building, Oklahoma City April 19, 1995
Image source: FEMA News Photo*

In Rescue Systems 2 (2010), the program has taken FEMA's 80-hour FEMA Structural Collapse Technician (SCT) program and modified it to a 40-hour course to meet the needs of California Rescue Teams. This class can be taught concurrently with the FEMA SCT training program provided that the RS-2 (2010) class is scheduled in advance through State Fire Training, and uses registered SFT instructors. Structural Collapse Technician classes will not be retroactively given certificates for RS-2 (2010) under any circumstances. The transition between the current program and the new will occur with the registration of instructors following the transition information below.

Rescue Systems 1 (2010)

State Fire Training will continue to accept instructor applications for Rescue Systems-1 up to December 1, 2009. Only registered Rescue Systems 1 Instructors will be allowed to enroll in the Rescue Systems (2010) up-date classes.

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Rescue Systems 1 Instructor applications, for the updated RS-1 (2010) training program, will be accepted and reviewed after January 1, 2010. All the educational, course work and experience criteria will have to be met along with a certificate from attending a RS-1 (2010) training course.

Instructor tasks books that have already been started, before the transition update classes have taken place, will be accepted as long as they meet these criteria:

1. The task book had been started in the last two years.
2. The primary instructor who signs-off the task book validates the skills necessary to teach the updated training program by completing the RS-1 (2010) have been met. Task Book Addendum (available soon on the SFT web-site). This task book addendum will expire June 30, 2010.
3. A certificate for successfully completing the RS-1 (2010) class is included in the instructor application.
4. Task books will no longer require completion within two years of attending an RS-1 class. Instead, task books will need to be completed within two years of their initiation date. Instructor applications that have been denied, in the past, because they did not meet the two year requirement, may be submitted for re-consideration.
5. Only registered RS-1 Instructors will be allowed to attend the RS-1 (2010) Instructor Update class. After the update classes have been completed, personnel who wish to become registered as a RS-1 (2010) Instructor will have to complete the training program and instructor task books before submitting an application and must include a copy of the course completion certificate with the applications.

Rescue Systems 2

State Fire Training and CAL EMA (formerly OES) has had a moratorium on accepting new Rescue Systems 2 instructors along with accrediting new RS-2 sites until the new RS-2 curriculum has been approved. This moratorium is still in effect until January 1, 2010.

State Fire Training will begin to review new RS-2 (2010) instructor applications after January 1, 2010. RS-2 Instructor candidates will have to take the new RS-2

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(2010) class and submit their course completion certificate and instructor training task book along with their applications.

State Fire Training is now taking into consideration new RS-2 training site visit requests. Contact Rodney.Slaughter@fire.ca.gov for a draft of the site requirements. Site requests must be mailed to Chief Mike Richwine, State Fire Training, for consideration and scheduling.



Freeway Collapse, Loma Prieta Earthquake, October 17, 1989

Course Processing

State Fire Training, will no longer process course requests for the current Rescue Systems 1 or RS-2 training programs for delivery beginning after January 1, 2010. After January 1, 2010, State Fire Training will complete the transition from the current Rescue Systems curriculum to the new Rescue Systems-1 (2010) and Rescue Systems-2 (2010) curriculum.

Rescue Systems Instructors who have completed the update class, will be required to complete an Instructor Update form (in class) to be updated in the instructor database. They must first be registered in the database before they can schedule and teach RS-1 (2010) and RS-2 (2010) programs beginning after January 1, 2010. Instructors can check the Instructor Database on-line to see that they have been updated.

Rescue Systems Instructors who have completed the update class and who would like to teach the new course material for an already approved Rescue Systems 1 or Rescue Systems 2 class beginning after January 1, 2010, must contact the SFT course scheduling desk (Brandon.Erickson@fire.ca.gov). to update their course scheduling form.

Any questions regarding the transition can be e-mailed to Rodney.Slaughter@fire.ca.gov

Any questions regarding instructor qualifications can be e-mailed to Linda.Menchaca@fire.ca.gov

Any questions regarding scheduling a class, or updating an approved class, can e-mail Brandon.Erickson@fire.ca.gov