

Oswego Town Volunteer Fire Dept.

SOG for Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Operations

This SOG for the Oswego Town Volunteer Fire Department (OTVFD) outlines the recommended training, make up, response, and operations guidelines of the RIT. Fire fighters **must** have their basic fire fighters training and be OTVFD SCBA qualified to participate in any of the training listed below. **The OTVFD line officers shall appoint fire fighters to the RIT when they are deemed qualified by a combination of training and experience.**

Training Recommended for the RIT

The New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control makes courses available to all firefighters which combine the knowledge and hands on skills that are applicable to RIT operations. These courses are available at the Fire Academy or through the outreach program, which is conducted at various locations in the state. These courses include:

NYS Fire Fighter Survival

Mask Confidence

NYS FAST Course

Qualified fire fighters wishing to attend these schools must fill out the “Request for Training“ form and submit it to the line officers.

The OTVFD provides in house training on most of the individual skills found in the above NYS courses. This type of training shall be provided at least once per calendar quarter, as part of regular fire fighter training. Advanced RIT training, separate or combined with regular fire fighter training, shall be conducted at the discretion of the line officers on a regular basis. The individual skills taught in the OTVFD training program include but are not limited to the following list:

- FF Survival: 1st floor window bail out.
 - 2nd floor window bail out – ladder
 - 2nd floor window bail out – personal escape rope
 - Interior wall breach
 - Following a hose line out of the building
 - Techniques for evacuation down a ladder
 - Two person carry up a flight of stairs
 - Emergency procedures for SCBA failure
 - Doff and don SCBA for escape or confined space operations
 - Escape from entanglement
- RIT: Slide down a charged hose line

Rope techniques for raising trapped fire fighters out of a hole

Evacuation of trapped fire fighters down a hall and out of a window using a rope and ladder

Large area search for a fire fighter down.

RIT Response

Oswego Town Fire District- A mutual aid RIT will be called, at the OIC discretion, for most structure fires in the Town of Oswego as most of the RIT members are the front line fire fighters. The OIC may have to assign a temporary RIT of at least 2 qualified personnel to serve as the RIT until mutual aid arrives. These fire fighters must be ready to respond to a “**mayday**” call for a fire fighter down. They may perform fire ground tasks, which can be abandoned if they are needed for a **mayday**, such as but not limited to:

Horizontal ventilation

ladder placement

Pull the back up hose line to the entry point staging equipment

When the mutual aid RIT arrives the temporary RIT gives them a status report and then rejoins their company.

Mutual aid response – A full RIT crew of 6 members should respond. The RIT qualified officer or senior RIT fire fighter, and RIT driver shall fill these positions before unqualified personnel. If 6 RIT members are not available the RIT leader may substitute 2 senior fire fighters and or respond with a crew of 5.

Upon arrival at the scene the RIT leader reports to the OIC to receive a briefing on interior activity and radio channel in use. The RIT may then stage equipment and conduct a walk around to visualize danger areas and escape routes. As above, the RIT must remain ready for a **mayday** call for help but may perform such fire ground duties that may be abandoned to respond to an emergency.

RIT Tools and Equipment

The following list of tools and equipment should be available to the RIT and staged in an appropriate location. This includes but is not limited to:

Portable radios

spare SCBA bottles

attic ladder

Irons

Thermal imaging camera

victim SCBA

RIT rope bag

light boxes

chain saw

Sledge hammer

back board

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