

TITLE OPERATIONS MANUAL	STANDARD INSTRUCTION 01		DEPARTMENT FIRE-RESCUE
SUBJECT: STANDARD COMPANY OPERATIONS	SECTION 03	PAGE 1 of 3	EFFECTIVE DATE February 13, 2025

I. PURPOSE

This policy outlines standard guidelines for company operations.

II. SCOPE

This policy will apply to all sworn San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) personnel, except Lifeguards.

III. AUTHORITY

The Fire Chief authorizes the information within this policy.

IV. POLICY

A. Standard Company Operations Purpose

1. Outlines basic fireground functions and activities for emergency response units based upon the capability and characteristics of each unit.
2. Outlines major fireground functions for a particular unit that can best accomplish the operation.
3. Integrates the efforts of engine, truck, and rescue companies to achieve effective rescue, fire control and property conservation.
4. Increases safety and personnel accountability.
5. Increases the awareness, confidence and cohesion of company members and incident commanders operating on the fireground.
6. Reduces the number of detailed orders required by incident commanders to place companies into action on the fireground.
7. Outlines the normally performed engine company and truck company functions.
8. Provide the framework for field operations for all companies.

B. Primary Engine Company Functions

1. Strategic Priorities
 - a. Initial Radio Report (Size Up)
 - b. Establish command
 - c. Rescue / search
 - d. Evacuation
 - e. Confine / establish control zone
 - f. Protect exposures
 - g. Extinguish
 - h. Salvage/ prevent additional damage
 - i. Overhaul / prevent rekindle

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2. Tactical Objectives
 - a. Establish a water supply
 - b. Establish attack line(s)
 - c. Establish back-up line
 - d. Establish exposure line(s)
 - e. Provide proper pump pressure to hose lines
 - f. Operate nozzles
 - g. Triage, treat and transport victims

C. Truck Company Functions:

1. Strategic Priorities
 - a. Initial radio report (Size Up)
 - b. Establish command
 - c. Rescue / search
 - d. Evacuation
 - e. Ventilation
 - f. Salvage
2. Tactical Objectives
 - a. Forcible entry
 - b. Raise and place ladders
 - c. Victim extrication
 - d. Ventilate
 - e. Provide access / check fire extension
 - f. Secure utilities
 - g. Provide lighting
 - h. Establish water towers
 - i. Perform salvage
 - j. Perform overhaul

D. General Guidelines/Expectations

1. Company officers will determine, based upon conditions, the priority of the functions listed for their company unless otherwise ordered by command.
2. This does not limit a company to performing only the listed functions. Every company will be expected to perform all basic functions within the limits of their capability, and it will be the ongoing responsibility of the incident commander to assign resources as appropriate to accomplish the strategic objectives of the incident.
3. In the absence or delay of a truck company response, incident commanders may assign truck company functions to an engine company. In such cases, engine companies will perform all truck company functions within their capabilities.

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4. The assignment of these basic operations to engine and truck companies represents a standard fireground plan for tactical operations designed to improve the effectiveness of all units working together. This plan should in no way limit the initiative of any officer and should enhance the decision-making process of all officers by establishing a standard operational framework.
5. Engine companies should allow sufficient operating room for truck company operations at the front of the structure. Engine company placement should be made to keep this area clear of apparatus and equipment.
6. Select initial attack lines for structure fires that will deliver a minimum of 150 GPM and back up the initial attack line with a hose line of equal or greater GPM capacity.

E. Radio Designation for Company Members

1. All acting personnel will be referred to as the title outlined below for the position they are working.
2. The company officer will be referred to as the unit designator. EXAMPLE: "Engine 19", or ICS position such as "Fire Attack, Rescue Group, or Division 4).
3. The driver of the apparatus will be referred to as the engineer. Radio designation will be the assigned apparatus and the term "Engineer". EXAMPLE: "Engine 17 Engineer" or ICS position such as "Water Supply or Staging".
4. Firefighters will be referred to by rank and last name. Radio designation will be the assigned apparatus, the term "Firefighter" and their last name. EXAMPLE "Engine 18 Firefighter Jones" or ICS position such as "Elevator Operator"