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*Rapid Intervention
Series*

Defensive RIT Ops

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RIT Operations During Defensive Operations

Background: RIT has a specific set of duties at each incident. Once RIT determines the strategy of the incident, then it can start to develop its own Incident Action Plan. Consult with the Incident Commander and Operations Section to determine the strategy of the incident. Begin your size-up and evaluate the hazard potential, evaluate the hazard, prioritize the hazards and then control and monitor the hazards present.

Defensive Fire Operations

RIT Operations at a Defensive Fire

A majority of your operations should be based on defensive actions. Crews should be working on the outside of the structure or in exposure buildings. Complete your survey making sure that you determine the collapse zone (hot zone) and observe what type of building construction you are dealing with.

1. Determine the equipment that will be necessary for any potential response. Equipment that is not readily available to you should be requested through IC or Operations. Stage equipment in an area that is readily accessible and able to be quickly moved into the incident. Equipment should be designated for RIT use only if possible.
2. Continue to monitor conditions and crew movements throughout the incident. Be prepared to move your staging area to another position if you determine that your response to an incident is better from another division.
3. Don't forget about determining the need for additional RIT's. If the size of the incident is too large to effect a quick response, request additional RIT's to be assigned. Designate them by their division or response area.
4. Evaluate the hazards to crews who are protecting exposures. They may be located within other adjacent structures and could be in their own hot zone. Check with Operations Section on their assignment and status.
5. Do not let your guard down. Many collapses have occurred at later stages of incidents. Your crew members should stay in gear and ready for immediate deployment. Medical emergencies can occur at later stages of incidents and you may be deployed here as well.
6. Stay alert and stay ready.