

## DECONTAMINATION

### Purpose:

This guideline provides a detailed instruction on the decontamination of personnel who have entered the hot zone of a Hazardous Materials incident. The guideline includes the physical cleaning of equipment and personnel, the types of PPE used in the decon area and recommended medical monitoring of the personnel.

### Safety:

Personnel shall not enter the hot zone until the decontamination system is established. Decon personnel shall be suited in protective clothing appropriate to the potential hazards involved. The decontamination team may use a lower level of protection only if the entry team has a lower level of protection or as the Incident Commander authorizes.

### Decon Set-up:

The decon area shall be set up on the upwind side of the incident on the hot line but within the contamination reduction zone.

- A. Phase One Equipment includes the following:
  - 1. Tool drop bucket.
  - 2. Buckets with decon solution.
  - 3. Buckets with clean water.
  - 4. Brushes.
  - 5. Plastic Drop Cloth.
- B. Phase Two Equipment includes the following:
  - 1. Decon containment device.
  - 2. Buckets of decon solution.
  - 3. Hose connected to fresh water with rinse wand attached.
  - 4. Long handled brushes.
  - 5. Emergency extrication equipment.
- C. Phase Three is the same as one and two.
- D. Phase Four equipment includes medical monitoring provided by on site personnel and the following:
  - 1. Shower.
  - 2. Soap and Towels.

### Phase One:

Phase one of the decontamination process occurs directly adjacent to the hot line with the hot zone. At this point the entrants will place tools and equipment used in decontamination buckets. Adjacent to the tool drop buckets will be buckets containing wash solutions and rinse solutions as well as brushes and a foot mat. All these materials will be on plastic drop cloths. The entrant will take the brush

with the wash solution and wash the gloves of his/her suit and any other obviously soiled areas of the suit except boots. The areas washed shall then be rinsed with clean water. The entrants shall then proceed to the boot cleaning station.

**Phase Two:**

The entry team shall proceed into the decon pool where they will be thoroughly scrubbed with decontamination solution by the decon team. Particular emphasis in cleaning shall be placed on the boots, gloves and obviously contaminated areas of the PPE. After the thorough washing, the outer surfaces of the PPE shall be rinsed with fresh water by the decon team. At this point, the outer gloves and boots will be removed from the entry team members by the decon team. The entry team shall then proceed to the third phase of the process.

**Phase Three:**

The entry team shall proceed into the third phase decon pool where they will be thoroughly scrubbed with decontamination solution by the decon team. After thorough washing, the outer surfaces of the PPE shall be rinsed with fresh water by the decon team. At this point, the entry team shall exit the decon pool and the outer PPE will be removed by the decon team. After removal of all other PPE the SCBA will be removed. The entry team shall then proceed to phase four of the decon guideline.

**Phase Four:**

After all PPE has been removed, the entrant will then proceed to the green zone for medical evaluation.