



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

July 1992

Revised June 2001

Course Title: Managing Company Tactical Operations:
Decision Making (MCTO-D)

Length of Course: 16 Hrs

Lecture/Lab Breakdown: 16/0

Prerequisites: MCTO-P

Referenced Texts: NFA MCTO-D Instructor Guide; Student Manual

Course Goal: Upon completion of this course, the student will be further prepared to make effective command decisions and origination of multiple company related emergencies.

Description of Course: The second in the series of programs designed to meet the needs of fire officers and crew leaders with responsibilities to manage the operations of one or more companies in structural fire fighting operations. This course is a review of the command sequence and an overview of the incident command for structural fire fighting. Key content includes The Command Sequence; Size-Up; Developing an Action Plan; Implementing the Action Plan; and an Introduction to the Incident Command System.

Description of Methodology to be used (Brief): Combination of lecture, guided discussion, and structured group activities.

Student Equipment/Supply Needs: Note taking materials, student manual

Equipment/Audiovisual/Supply requirements:

- Classroom -- desks (table and chairs), TV/VCR, projection screen, Slide projector, Easel pad, Markers, Dry erase board, Cassette player.

COURSE OUTLINE **(General - Not Detailed)**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Instructor Requirements</u>
0.5	Registration, Introductions	1
2.5	Module 1 – The Command Sequence	1
3.5	Module 2 – Size Up	1
3.0	Module 3 – Developing an Incident Action Plan	1
3.0	Module 4 – Implementing an Incident Action Plan	1
2.5	Module 5 – Introduction to the Incident Command System	1
1.0	Critique, Exam	1

MINIMUM STANDARD FOR ACCREDITATION

Course Title: Managing Company Tactical Operations: Decision Making (NFA)

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Competency Evaluation Mechanism: The program will use a series of written exams at the completion of each module (or a single comprehensive exam at the end).

Course Objectives (specific): Upon successful completion, the student shall:

1. Identify the need to follow a logical thought process for decision-making and action planning.
2. Identify the three parts of the command sequence.
3. Identify the outcomes that follow from each of the three steps of the command sequence.
4. Identify the three incident priorities and the order in which they must be accomplished.
5. Describe the three phases of size-up and their relationship to problem identification.
6. Describe the factors that affect size-up.
7. Given a simulated structural fire incident, demonstrate the ability to conduct an effective size-up, identify the problems presented, and communicate critical information as part of a concise size-up report
8. Given a structural fire scenario, demonstrate the ability to develop a strategy using the command sequence.
9. Using the command sequence demonstrate the ability to select tactics that will achieve a well-defined strategy.
10. Identify three methods of implementing an action plan.
11. Demonstrate the ability to use effective communications to assign tactical objectives.
12. Given a scenario with identified strategies and tactics, determine the acceptable assignments to implement the action plan.
13. Define the need for a management system to be used at emergency incidents and demonstrate how ICS can be applied as an effective emergency management system.
14. Define the five ICS functions, Command Staff positions, and Staging.
15. Define the role of the Incident Commander (IC) and the importance of the CO as initial IC.
16. Given a scenario, establish an effective ICS organization to manage the initial phase of the incident.

**Questions/Comments: Rita Wessel, Curriculum Specialist: Extension 106
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