

3.5.1.3 Technical Rescue-Air Monitoring



YOUR ORGANIZATION
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES

TITLE: Technical Rescue-Air Monitoring

SECTION/TOPIC: Technical Rescue Risk Management

NUMBER: 3.5.1.3

ISSUE DATE:

REVISED DATE:

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

X

Preparer

X

Approver

These SOPs/SOGs are based on FEMA guidelines FA-197

1.0 POLICY REFERENCE

CFR	
NFPA	
NIMS	

2.0 PURPOSE

This standard operating procedure/guideline addresses procedures for conducting air monitoring at rescue incidents, addressing such factors as methods and action levels for air monitoring.

The purpose of this policy and procedure is to establish the highest level of accuracy for atmospheric monitoring instruments. This will allow the user and field personnel to operate in high levels of instrument accuracy. This ongoing methodology for spanning and calibrating of atmospheric monitoring instruments should ensure the highest level of safety for all personnel.

3.0 SCOPE

This SOP/SOG pertains to all personnel in this organization.

4.0 DEFINITIONS

These definitions are pertinent to this SOP/SOG.

5.0 PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

5.1 Procedures for Conducting Air Monitoring at Rescue Incidents:

This procedure establishes policy and procedures for all personnel involved in making atmospheric measurements using monitoring instruments.

RESPONSIBILITIES

It shall be the responsibility of all members using, or supervising the use of, atmospheric monitoring instruments to span and/or calibrate these devices in the following manner.

SPANNING

Spanning and/or calibration shall be done on each instrument (except RMD* instruments) prior to making entry into the following atmospheres:

- contaminated atmospheres
- atmospheres which may suddenly become contaminated
- atmospheres where there is suspected oxygen deficiency
- atmospheres which are suspected of being contaminated or oxygen deficient or at any other time it may be necessary to render an instrument in a ready state of condition. This instrument will be spanned on the proper calibration gas, hose and regulator to ensure the instrument of choice is in proper operating condition. At any time the instrument does not span or calibrate correctly, and you cannot resolve the problem, you will not use the instrument. You will then bring the instrument to the Special Operations Section and change out for another instrument.

TRACKING

To keep track of all the spanning and calibration being performed on all atmospheric monitoring instruments, a Control Log has been developed. It is called the "Meter Calibration and Span Control Log." This Control Log will be used to document weekly calibration and spanning being done prior to the use of the instruments. The form will be completed on a monthly basis and forwarded to the Special Operations Sector.

Calibration of instruments shall be on a weekly basis to ensure proper maintenance is being performed on all instruments, according to manufacturer's recommendations. Calibration of all instruments (except RMD* instruments) shall be performed at the Special Operations Section on a monthly basis and logged into master control file for each instrument. This master control file shall act as a legal history of that instrument's performance.

*RMD--Radiological Monitoring Devices

5.2 Methods and Action Levels for Air Monitoring: