

Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT)/Firefighter Survival Series

PART 1 — DISC 1 ***Concept/Basic: Segments 1 — 5***

Segment 1:

RIT/Firefighter Survival Introduction

Approx. length: 11:10

What causes firefighter fatalities? Definitions of the Rapid Intervention concept, implications of NFPA 1500 and 1710, and deployment of RIT by departments and districts.

Segment 2

RIT/Firefighter Survival Introduction:

Approx. length: 11:26

When RIT is used? Implementation and qualifications, operations on the fireground, RIT team assignments, and a review of specific tools.

Segment 3

RIT/Firefighter Survival Introduction:

Approx. length: 12:53

Basic training, the firefighter as victim, RIT responsibilities, and Incident Command duties.

Segment 4

RIT/Firefighter Survival Introduction:

Approx. length: 8:12

Demonstration of a thermal imaging camera and a question-and-answer roundtable regarding the suitability and application of RITs in smaller- and medium-sized departments.

Segment 5

RIT/Firefighter Introduction:

Approx. length: 9:42

A live burn simulation: RIT arrives, reports to the Incident Commander, does its size-up, checks for equipment availability, the location of firefighters — and stands by. During

one of the rescues a training firefighter goes down for real -- so RIT goes into action for real!

PART 2 — DISC 2
Basic: Segments 1 — 11

Segment 1:

Air-Pack Bottle Changeover

Approx. length: 11:35

SCBA manufacturers now make interconnects for buddy breathing and adapters for other manufacturers' equipment. If no adapter is available or exists at all, this segment demonstrates how to change air bottles on-scene using both MSA and MMR air pack systems as examples.

Segment 2:

Auxiliary Air Lines

Approx. length: 6:31

This segment demonstrates additional information regarding air pack air lines and additional ways to receive air. This also covers the MSA Quick-Fill system, the Drager system, and additional connections that can be made such as those off a truck cascade system.

Segment 3:

PASS Devices

Approx. length: 2:16

Review of the major PASS devices and discusses their employment. Firefighters should also be familiar with the PASS device used by mutual aid response department.

Segment 4:

Two-Person Search

Approx. length: 9:16

A two-person search without using a lifeline, where a downed firefighter is located and his/her PASS device is disarmed.

Segment 5:

Four-Person Search

Approx. length: 7:04

A four-person search locates a downed firefighter, this time using a search rope. Emphasis in this scenario is on deployment and team leadership.

Segment 6:

Station Drills

Entanglement, Air Bag Procedures, and Hydraulic Tools skills stations are important to R.I.T.

• **Entanglement Station**

Approx. length: 2:43

Using wire cutters while wearing gloves and a blindfold, victim assessment and entanglement removal is practiced.

• **Air Bag Procedures Station**

Approx. length: 6:38

Teams review air bag deployment, different air bag manufacturers' products, communication, and cribbing skills.

• **Hydraulic Tools Station**

Approx. length: 8:10

Hydraulic tools are reviewed, personnel deployment to operate them, cribbing techniques, debris pile procedures, and use of a Safety Officer.

Segment 7:

Interior Breaching

Approx. length: 6:00

Assessment of building materials, selection of tools and tool-use determined by the materials, reaching an unaccessible victim or saving oneself in the event of a collapse

Segment 8:

Exterior Breaching

Approx. length: 6:45

If an interior egress point cannot be found running low on air, breaching an exterior wall can be a lifesaving move. Use of appropriate tools and the awareness of outside crews to an exterior breaching, signifying a possible firefighter in trouble.

Segment 9:

Air Pack Removal

Approx. length: 8:01

Techniques to remove (multiple) air packs and pass through wall joists or building supports and tips and suggestions for finding an exit based on hose coupling hardware features.

Segment 10:

Enlarged Opening Technique

Approx. length: 10:29

Enlarging a currently existing opening (window, door) and creating a new opening in an exterior wall for expedited removal of victim avoiding a prolonged drag.

**Segment 11:
Scenario Training**

• **Pre-Scenario Briefing**

Approx. length: 5:05

The class is divided into six fireground teams. Directives cover safety, communications, operations, and accountability.

• **Live Scenario**

Approx. length: 13:28

Two fallen firefighters are down on an upper floor of the structure. Firefighters have to breach a closet wall to reach one; the other was caught in a breach. Managing teams sent in to respond, communication and deployment.

• **Post-Scenario Critique**

Approx. length: 21:24

Lessons include R.I.T. learning never to enter a structure without tools, engine companies being aware that a hoseline might have to be shut down, and minimum radio traffic.

PART 3 — DISC 3
Advanced: Segments 1 — 7

**Segment 1:
Facepiece Changeover**

Approx. length: 5:55

Bringing a replacement air pack and executing a facepiece change. *See note on training materials regarding non-NFPA-approved.*

**Segment 2:
MAST Device**

Approx. length: 1:49

Demonstration the MAST device, also manufactured by Sling-Link Incorporated, a lifting-rated harness.

**Segment 3
Sub-Level Rescues:
Handcuff Knots & Hoseline**

Approx. length: 29:31

Below-grade rescues using the handcuff knot for both conscious and unconscious victims, with and without air pack change-out, and charged hoseline technique.

Segment 4
Denver Drill

Approx. length: 16:07

An unique technique for removing a firefighter or civilian when there is no room to stand on either side of the victim. Demonstrated along with the Columbus variation and a third option with two variations which can be performed by a single firefighter.

Segment 5:
Ladder Rescues: Single Firefighter Carries

Approx. length: 15:44

The Knee-Drop, the Pregnant Lady, and the Over-The-Arm methods adapted for rescuing downed firefighters.

Segment 6:
Ladder Rescues: Using Stokes Basket, SCBA Harness, & Pulleys

Approx. length: 16:05

Techniques using belay lines in different ways, using different riggings and a 2:1 mechanical advantage.

Segment 7:
Transporting Firefighters Up and Down Steps

Approx. length: 22:33

Carries and lifts employing one rescuer up to a full RIT. Various harness and strap hauls — some of which are **NOT** NFPA-approved — a 2:1 mechanical advantage system and using alternative anchor points.

PART 3 (cont.) — DISC 4
Advanced: Segments 8 — 10

Segment 8:
Pittsburgh Drill

Approx. Length: 2:24

An over, under, and through obstacle course where a patient is reached, packaged and then removed in reverse order.

Segment 9:
Scenario Training

- **Scenario #1**

Approx. length: 12:23

Downed firefighters, two RITs respond wearing hoods into a smoked-up environment. Facepiece changeover and a Denver Drill removal.

Segment 10:

R.I.T. Size-up and Walk-Around Tips

Approx. length: 2:00

Various tips are provided for RIT operation, reminding team members of what they ought to be doing while waiting for employment.

Scenario Training

• **Scenario #2**

Approx. length: 10:03

Two-part scenario: firefighter trapped in a basement with window bars. A second firefighter goes down under a simulated roof collapse. Involves cribbing, air bag extrication and a 2:1 mechanical advantage.

• **Scenario #2 Critique**

Approx. length: 8:16

The second scenario was critiqued with operational performance and pitfalls discussed and analyzed.