

Incident Commander Type 3 Assessment Simulation Prestudy

Intent

On January 6, 2004 the Chief's Office Accident Review Board's Report on the Cramer Incident was approved by the Associate Chief. Five actions were accepted as agency commitments to improve firefighter safety. As required by OSHA, safety and training standards must be consistent within the agency. Every Region should be fully involved in implementing these actions.

Action Item 2 of the Cramer Accident Prevention Plan calls for Incident Commanders Type 3 (ICT3s) to be certified competent and capable to perform the requirements of the position through a simulation assessment. The simulation is part of an evaluation process designed to reinforce correct procedures and actions. The simulations will be delivered using the computer based 3-D Wildland Fire Simulator or by using a Sand Table.

A group was identified to develop standard scenarios and certification evaluation criteria. A Trainer Handoff was conducted February 17 to the 20th. These trainers are responsible for conducting and coordinating the simulations and certification activities within the Regions. ICT3s that do not successfully complete the simulation in two attempts will be de-certified (FSH 5109.17, sec. 22.6). Future direction from the Washington office will require some periodic re-certification of ICT3s and possibly other positions.

This pre-study resource is provided to help ICT3s prepare for the simulation and be completely equipped to function at top performance.

Ground Rules

1. ICT3 is to remain at the Evaluation Station until Simulation Director advises that the Simulation is over.
2. The Simulation process will take approximately 1 1/2 hours.
3. ICT3 can use any work and reference aids they chose during the Simulation. Examples of such aids include: Incident Response Pocket Guide, ICS forms, incident organizers, local management guides or forms, etc.
4. ICT3 will use radio or other provided communication device to communicate with assigned incident resources, dispatch, and other overhead. The assigned channel or frequency is not to be altered during Simulation.
5. The Evaluation Team will evaluate ICT3's completion of tasks and procedures by monitoring verbal communications with incident resources, dispatch, other contacts, and your written documentation.
6. ICT3 should assume they are on assignment away from their home unit.
7. ICT3 will gather information and make decisions based on visual and audio inputs provided by the Simulation.
8. There are no trick questions. The issues and problems commonly occur during wildland incidents. Ineffective response to foundation tasks (1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1) will impact the ICT3's ability to perform the other related tasks in the same performance objective.
9. ICT3 will provide the Evaluation Team with written Incident objectives (at least two) and Incident organization at the end of the Simulation. Examples of format would be ICS 201 or other Local Unit Incident Organizer.
10. ICT3 decisions or observations regarding firefighter and public safety (compliance with the 10 Standard Firefighting Orders, mitigating any of the 18 Watchout Situations, establishing incident objectives, etc.) will need to be addressed throughout the Simulation either verbally or in written format.
11. ICT3 will be given an opportunity to take a second simulation if they do not successfully complete the first simulation. The second simulation will be given no sooner then 24 hours afterward in order to allow study and practice time.

Evaluation Criteria

The following tasks are actions that evaluators will expect to see exhibited by ICT3s during the simulation.	
1. Ability to select and utilize references	
1-1	Develops an action plan
	Position Task Book # 5,7,9,19,20,27 30 Mile IC Checklist # 1
1-2	Utilizes necessary references
	Position Task Book # 7,8,15 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
1-3	Initiates documentation to record essential information
	Position Task Book # 5,18,27 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
1-4	Considers work/rest guidelines
	Position Task Book # 7 30 Mile IC Checklist # 6
2. Ability to establish command & control	
2-1	Establishes presence as IC
	Position Task Book # 10,11 30 Mile IC Checklist # 4
2-2	Allocates resources to specific incident assignments
	Position Task Book # 7,8,11 30 Mile IC Checklist # 8
2-3	Delegates duties to a support staff as needed
	Position Task Book # 9,11,14,15,34,35 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
3. Ability to give instructions and solicit feedback	
3-1	Provides briefing to newly assigned resources
	Position Task Book # 4,10 30 Mile IC Checklist # 4
3-2	Provides report on conditions to dispatch
	Position Task Book # 13,23 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
3-3	Provides information updates to assigned resources
	Position Task Book # 4,10,17 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
4. Ability to recognize and react to changing conditions	
4-1	Gains situation awareness of incident environment
	Position Task Book # 4,6,8,9,14,15,16,17,19 30 Mile IC Checklist # 1
4-2	Adjusts strategy and/or tactics to reflect changed conditions in the incident environment
	Position Task Book # 9,16,22,25 30 Mile IC Checklist # 10
4-3	Determines incident complexity

	Position Task Book # 16,19,24 30 Mile IC Checklist # 2
5. Ability to manage competing priorities	
5-1	Insures ability to operate as dedicated IC
	Position Task Book N/A 30 Mile IC Checklist # 12
5-2	Reacts to a critical incident within the incident
	Position Task Book # 16 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
5-3	Monitors incident for mitigation of 18 Watchouts and compliance with 10 Firefighting Orders
	Position Task Book # 4,7,9,11,21,25 30 Mile IC Checklist # 1, 3,7,10
6. Ability to interact with another Incident Commander	
6-1	Obtains briefing from on-site IC or designated officer
	Position Task Book # 3,4,6,18 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
6-2	Confirms transfer of command
	Position Task Book # 13,23 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A
6-3	Provides information to relief IC
	Position Task Book # 5,33 30 Mile IC Checklist N/A

Study Reference Links

ICT3 NWCG Qualifications Taskbook

30 Mile IC Checklist

ICS Form 201

Incident Response Pocket Guide green pages (NFES 1077)

Interagency Standards for Fire Operations (Red Book 2003 version) Section 10-2 to 10-4

ICT3 Certification WO Letter