ADOPTED: JANUARY 1, 2016   REVISED:

PURPOSE:
To provide direction for those needing to call for and request a May-Day.
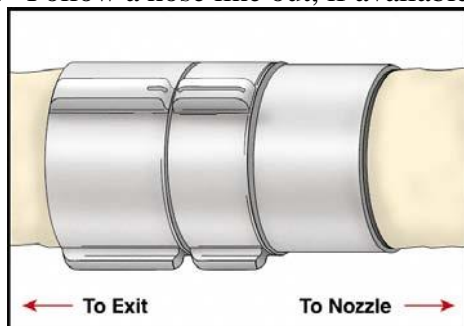
PROCEDURE:
The radio message "May-Day, May-Day, May-Day" will be used by personnel to report their status as being in trouble and needing rescue. Personnel are encouraged to announce a "May-Day" if they become lost or separated in any hazard environment. Any member may use "May-Day" to report an injury, in trouble or lost personnel. Any report of "May-Day" will receive priority radio traffic. The term "May-Day" will be reserved only to report missing, injured or trapped personnel. The term "Emergency Traffic" will be used to report all other emergencies.

When a "May-Day" is broadcast all firefighters will continue with assigned task unless the IC directs otherwise.

Lost, trapped or injured personnel will:
1. Use voice and radio to call for help.
2. Call "May-Day, May-Day, May-Day" and give **L**ocation, **U**nit, **N**ame, **A**ssignment, **A**ir, **R**esource and **R**eason for May-Day. If not received by command, attempt to contact Safety or dispatch (Safety or dispatch will need to inform command)
3. Activate their PASS Device.
4. A lost crew should always remain together.
5. Follow a hose line out, if available.

6. Use the appropriate Self Rescue Strategy
   a. Search for an exterior wall that may lead to doors or windows.
   b. Consider safe refuge inside a separate room, hallway or stairwell.
   c. Conserve air.
   d. Use buddy breathing.

The IC will:
1. Radio "clear the air, Emergency traffic, May-Day from command go with your report".
2. Gather inform needed for rescue.
3. Immediately assign RIT or standby team as Rescue Team.
4. Assign a Rescue Group Supervisor if possible to handle the rescue.
5. Inform dispatch of the May-Day.
6. Request additional alarm(s) and medic units.
7. Move other operations to a new radio channel for all operations not involved in the rescue and leave the rescue on the original operations channel.
8. Initiate a PAR.
9. Assign additional RIT as soon as possible
10. Withdraw companies from the affected area if appropriate.
11. Reinforce tactical positions, as needed.
12. Order the structure to be ventilated, if not already being done.

IC calling a Mayday:
When a team working in a hazard area fails to give a requested status report that the IC has asked for twice:
1. IC will call May-Day
2. Give the missing team's ID, last know location, and assignment over the radio ("May-Day, May-Day, May-Day from command, E-63 missing, assigned to search, second floor, C side")
3. IC will activate a May-Day response as above.
4. IC can assign teams in the area of last know location to do a quick search if it DOES NOT affect the operation the team was assigned to.
5. Any team in voice or physical contact with the missing team will report the missing team's location and status.
6. IC will follow above guidelines if missing team is not found within a minute.

All personnel will:
1. When a "May-Day" is broadcast all firefighters will continue with assigned task unless the IC directs otherwise.
2. Maintain radio silence, except to answer IC or to pass on critical information about the rescue.
3. Listen and watch for PASS alarms, radio calls, light beams, or other indicators from lost personnel.

Canceling May-Day:
When missing, lost, or injured personnel have been removed from the hazard work area or communication is reestablished with the missing team and no rescue is needed:
1. IC will confirm the May-Day has been mitigated.

2. IC will announce "May-Day is cancelled, resume normal radio traffic" to all personnel and dispatch.
3. IC should conduct a PAR report from all teams.