



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

1150 Riverside Drive
Lewistown, PA 17044-1979

(717) 248 1115

In PA: 1 800 459 4096

FAX (717) 248 3580

Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

Date: Dec 2004

Last Revision:

Course Title: Decontamination Practices

SFA Course Code: DCON

Course Length: 8 Hrs

Lecture/Lab Breakdown: 4/4

Prerequisites: IAFF or equivalent First Responder Operations training meeting the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.120 (q) and a strong working knowledge of Personal Protective Equipment or PPES

Referenced Text(s): Hazardous Materials Managing the Incident 2nd edition (Noll, Hildebrand, & Yvorra), Firefighting hand book second edition Essentials of firefighting and Emergency Response (Delmar), Decontamination for Hazardous Materials Emergencies (Timothy Henry)

Course Goal: Upon successful completion the student shall be able to identify and demonstrate proper levels of PPE as they relate to Decon. Identify and demonstrate proper Decontamination procedures in various scenarios.

Course Description: A hands on program developing proficiencies when working with hazardous material and WMD emergencies to assist Hazardous Materials Teams and Strike Teams at the Operations level. This will be done with drills in setting up zones, identifying material and its properties, and identifying levels of protective clothing necessary. Drills in proper types of decontamination will be included. This will be achieved using as many items commonly available or easily accessibly to fire personnel and Hazardous Materials Teams.

Description of Methodology: This course will utilize lecture, audiovisuals, demonstrations, and practical exercises. One (1) Instructor for 8 hrs, second (2nd) Instructor for last 4 hrs.

Student Equipment & Supplies: Full Turnout Gear with bunker boots and pants, positive pressure S.C.B.A., Notebook, Pen/Pencil.

Equipment/Audiovisual/Facility/Supply Requirements: TV/VCR, Power point Projector, Flip Chart/Chalk Board. See attached equipment list.

Special Notes & Conditions: The student MUST have a requisite knowledge of PPE to participate in this course. Maximum of 30 students

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Course Outline

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Notes</u>
:30	Registration, Introduction	
3:00	PPE & Decontamination (Lecture) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. PPE2. Emergency Procedures3. Mass Decon4. Technical Decon	
4:00	Decontamination/PPE Exercise (practical)	
:30	Evaluation	

Competency Evaluation Mechanism: Students must successfully complete an evaluation practical exercise. This will consist of instructor observations of student performance in relation to performance objectives given and attached skills sheet both for the individual and group activities. Necessary corrections are expected to be made, based upon instructor suggestions and directions.

Learning Outcomes (Behavioral Objectives):

Upon successful completion the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the capabilities and limitations of different levels of protective equipment available
2. Identify the proper level of protective clothing required to deal safely with the material involved.
3. Complete drills in utilizing proper PPE
4. Identify and establish proper Decontamination practices
5. Learn how to identify and set up "Hot", "Warm" and "Cold" zones.
6. Identify and demonstrate different types and stages of the decontamination procedure.
7. Identify if protective clothing can be effectively decontaminated, if yes, how, and if not to properly dispose of items.

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EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

A. Apparatus

1. At least two fully equipped pumpers
2. Aerial apparatus (optional)

B. Equipment

1. Hose and nozzles
2. Salvage covers or opaque material
3. Ladders
4. Rope
5. Decon Pools
6. Decon brush
7. Garden hose

C. Supplies

1. Decon solutions
 - a. Laundry detergent
 - b. Household bleach
2. Collection items
 - a. Sealable plastic bags for valuables and personal items
 - b. Bags or containers to collect contaminated clothing
3. Spare clothing for individuals who have to be disrobed
 - a. Medical scrubs
 - b. Coveralls
 - c. Hospital gowns
 - d. Sweats
 - e. Blankets or sheets
 - f. Opaque plastic bags
 - g. Additional items for colder conditions
4. Other items
 - a. Plastic electrical ties
 - b. Identification tags or bracelets
 - c. Paper and writing instruments (pens, pencils, permanent markers) to record personal information
 - d. Clipboards
 - e. Scissors or trauma shears to assist in clothing removal

D. Interface with County Hazardous Materials Team