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Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board (TIESB) Training Criteria		CREATION DATE October 18, 2007
<b>DOCUMENT TITLE</b> Minimum Criteria For Industrial EMS Group Training Program Certification		
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#### FORWARD

The issue of **Industrial EMS** training program certification in **Texas** has always been a major concern of industrial members, and of the TIESB. Due to the complexity of this issue, many have varying opinions of exactly how such programs should be structured, and how to ensure meaningful application to all industrial facilities.

Because of those opinions, and the intent to properly address all concerns of the industrial EMS community, the TIESB debated the issue over several years to gain agreement on which criteria should be included that would address the proper course of action to develop standards.

The Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board recognizes that each **EMS group** is unique and that the major focus of a certification process must help companies deal with conditions and hazards that are limited to those that exist within its operation. With this standard, the TIESB has attempted to allow for flexibility so that each facility can structure its training programs to address the needs of its facility, and to achieve a higher level of training for its EMS members.

This certification program offers to those facilities that choose to participate, the following benefits:

- ⊙ It establishes varying classification levels of criterion that all industrial facilities in the **State of Texas** can use to train members of its **EMS Group** (see [Attachment A](#)).
- ⊙ For **emergency response personnel in the medical (EMS) area**, it offers the assurance that all response team members have achieved a **minimum** level of competency for the level(s) of medical response performed on site, as determined by site management and described in each member's Organizational Statement.
- ⊙ For **Industrial Medical personnel**, it allows all **EMS members** to demonstrate their knowledge and ability before being assigned duties that include medical response.
- ⊙ It offers certification through the most respected fire organization in Texas (State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas).

#### THE PROCESS

The Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board intends for this program to be helpful to the entire industrial EMS community - those that seek certification and those that do not. Facilities that apply for certification should only submit applications when they have completed all elements of the training program listed in the attached TIESB certification program for the program (or programs) they desire the TIESB to certify.

We suggest that all facilities use the following guide to determine their program status:

- ⊙ Determine the level of certification desired for their personnel.
- ⊙ Define the requirements of what each member must be able to do.
- ⊙ Determine the level of competence of each member before beginning the training for certification.
- ⊙ For those members that are qualified before training, document their competency level.
- ⊙ Present training materials to those not qualified.
- ⊙ Test each member's competency by having him or her demonstrate their proficiency by performing each task outlined in the Certification Program.
- ⊙ Test each member's proficiency after completing the training.
- ⊙ Re-test if necessary, until all members have demonstrated at least minimum skill levels.

Once the above steps are completed, the facility has determined that all members are **qualified**. The final steps should include:

- ⊙ Documentation that members are certified by a qualified physician to perform emergency response duties.
- ⊙ Documentation of training materials used to qualify members.
- ⊙ Documentation of trainer's credentials.
- ⊙ Documentation of test results.

#### PRE-REQUISITES – ALL DISCIPLINES

The Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board recognizes that it is of major importance that industrial emergency response personnel meet established statutory requirements. In order to comply with these requirements, the TIESB has formally adopted the **National Incident Management System (NIMS)** and has designated it as the Incident Management System for all members that wish to certify their training programs through the TIESB.

NIMS provides a systematic, proactive approach guiding government agencies at all levels, the **private sector** (e.g., industrial members of the TIESB), and nongovernmental organizations to work seamlessly to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property. NIMS represents a core set of doctrine, concepts, principles, terminology, and organizational processes that

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enables effective, efficient, and collaborative incident management. The NIMS framework uses a systematic approach for preparedness.

NIMS is based on the premise that the utilization of the NIMS framework will provide emergency responders with a flexible yet standardized system for emergency management and incident response activities. NIMS is flexible because the system components can be utilized to develop plans, processes, procedures, agreements, and roles for all types of incidents and is applicable to any incident regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity. The standardization within NIMS is realized during an incident by organizations that have previously coordinated and practiced using these tools.

With the adoption of NIMS, the TIESB is establishing **recommended** minimum NIMS training criteria that the TIESB has determined is warranted for industrial emergency responders to attain in order to ensure safety and standardization for the industrial community in Texas. These courses may be attained by taking them **on-line** or **classroom/qualified instructor-led**. Note: Support personnel, such as those persons that are typically located in the Emergency Operations Center (i.e., Logistics Section Chief, Public Information Officer, Liaison Officer, and et al.) should also attain this level of training. Free on-line training is available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other training providers.

- ◆ **IS-700** (NIMS: An Introduction)
- ◆ **ICS-100** (Introduction to ICS)
- ◆ **ICS-200** (Basic ICS)

The Board also recommends the following NIMS courses be taken to **further** increase the abilities of industrial emergency response team members, as well as support (EOC) personnel.

- ◆ **IS-800.A** (National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction)
- ◆ **ICS-300** (Intermediate ICS)
- ◆ **ICS-400** (Advanced ICS)

The TIESB further **requires** that training be provided, regardless of the training program(s) that the TIESB member is seeking certification for, in the facility's Incident Command System and each individual team member must demonstrate knowledge and understanding of each function listed in the Incident Command System. The following procedures for handling emergency response are **required** elements to be taught.

- ◆ The senior emergency response official responding to an emergency shall become the individual in charge of a site-specific incident command system (ICS). All emergency responders and their communications shall be coordinated and controlled through the individual in charge of the ICS assisted by the senior official present for each employer.
- ◆ The individual in charge of the ICS shall identify, to the extent possible, all hazardous substances or conditions present and shall address as appropriate site analysis, use of engineering controls, maximum exposure limits, hazardous substance handling procedures, and use of any new technologies.
- ◆ Based on the hazardous substances and/or conditions present, the individual in charge of the ICS shall implement appropriate emergency operations, and assure that the personal protective equipment worn is appropriate for the hazards to be encountered.
- ◆ Employees engaged in emergency response and exposed to hazardous substances presenting an inhalation hazard or potential inhalation hazard shall wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus while engaged in emergency response, until such time that the individual in charge of the ICS determines through the use of air monitoring that a decreased level of respiratory protection will not result in hazardous exposures to employees.
- ◆ The individual in charge of the ICS shall limit the number of emergency response personnel at the emergency site, in those areas of potential or actual exposure to incident or site hazards, to those who are actively performing emergency operations. However, operations in hazardous areas shall be performed using the buddy system in groups of two or more.
- ◆ Back-up personnel shall stand by with equipment ready to provide assistance or rescue. Advance first aid support personnel, as a minimum, shall also stand by with medical equipment and transportation capability.
- ◆ The individual in charge of the ICS shall designate a safety official (aka Safety Officer), who is knowledgeable in the operations being implemented at the emergency response site, with specific responsibility to identify and evaluate hazards and to provide direction with respect to the safety of operations for the emergency at hand.

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- ◆ When activities are judged by the Safety Officer to be an IDLH condition and/or to involve an imminent danger condition, the Safety Officer shall have the authority to alter, suspend, or terminate those activities. The Safety Officer shall immediately inform the individual in charge of the ICS of any actions needed to be taken to correct these hazards at the emergency scene.
- ◆ After emergency operations have terminated, the individual in charge of the ICS shall implement appropriate decontamination procedures.
- ◆ When deemed necessary for meeting the tasks at hand, approved self-contained compressed air breathing apparatus may be used with approved cylinders from other approved self-contained compressed air breathing apparatus provided that such cylinders are of the same capacity and pressure rating. All compressed air cylinders used with self-contained breathing apparatus shall meet U.S. DOT and NIOSH criteria.

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**ATTACHMENT A**

**MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR INDUSTRIAL MEDICAL TRAINING AND INDUSTRIAL MEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAM CERTIFICATION**

**1 PURPOSE**

This criterion is the opinion of the TIESB as minimum requirements for Medical Team Training for **Program Certification**. A TIESB Medical Team member is a member that is trained to meet Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) criterion for Emergency Care Attendants (ECA), Emergency Medical Technicians – Basic (EMT-B), Emergency Medical Technicians – Intermediate (EMT-I), Emergency Medical Technicians – Paramedic (EMT-P) and/or Licensed Paramedic. The following requirements are intended to provide a standard for Industrial Medical Team Member Training, a method for Industrial Medical Team Training Program Certification, and to be used as an evaluation tool by all industrial facilities in Texas to determine minimum criteria for designing and developing an Industrial Medical Training Program.

**2 APPLICATION**

These requirements cover basic industrial medical training for medical teams assigned to provide medical-related services. The TIESB encourages all facility managers to use these requirements to determine if their medical team training program needs meet or exceed this criterion.

The TIESB has determined that the following standards and regulations, if complied with, will enable the member to meet the minimum requirements of the TIESB for certification. Please note that NFPA standards are revised on an established revision cycle. The TIESB specifies, in this document and on the Yearly Training Summary form, the edition that must be met. A member may follow a more recent version of an NFPA standard if they so choose, but they may not follow an earlier edition.

- ◆ **29 CFR 1910.134** - This regulation outlines the requirements for respiratory protection used by employees in General Industry, Shipyards, Marine Terminals, Longshoring, and Construction.
- ◆ **Texas Department of State Health Services** – The State has varying criteria for each level of medical certification.

**3 CERTIFICATION CONDITIONS**

- 3.1 All Industrial Medical Team Members with medical-related responsibilities should be trained in all topics as listed in this minimum criterion.
- 3.2 All Industrial Medical Team Members with medical-related responsibilities are recommended to take and successfully complete the NIMS-required training that the TIESB has determined is warranted for industrial emergency responders to attain [**IS-700** (NIMS: An Introduction); **ICS-100** (Introduction to ICS); **ICS-200** (Basic ICS)].
- 3.3 All Industrial Medical Team Members **must** be trained on the member's written procedure(s) for implementing an incident management system (that should comply with NIMS), and on standard operating procedures for site-specific conditions and hazards.
- 3.4 There are five (5) levels of emergency care approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services that the TIESB recognizes:
  - 3.4.1 **ECA** – Emergency Care Attendant
  - 3.4.2 **EMT-B** – Emergency Medical Technician Basic
  - 3.4.3 **EMT-I** – Emergency Medical Technician Intermediate
  - 3.4.4 **EMT-P** – Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic
  - 3.4.5 **LP** – Licensed Paramedic
- 3.5 All Industrial Medical Team members **must** successfully complete a DSHS training program and exam to qualify for any of the above listed certifications.

**4 TRAINING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

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Each facility shall be responsible for:

- 4.1 Providing each Industrial Medical Team member access to DSHS approved Continuing Education training at the level to which that member is certified.
- 4.2 Providing each Industrial Medical Team member training to meet applicable established guidelines (those that are applicable to medical requirements) such as - but not limited to - CFR 29 1910 1030 "Blood Borne Pathogens"; 1910.151 "Medical services and first aid"; 1910.120 "Hazardous waste operations and emergency response"; 1910.146 "Permit required confined spaces"; NFPA 1500 "Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program"; NFPA 473 "Standard for Competencies for EMS Personnel Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents"; NFPA 1006 "Standard for Rescue Technician Professional Qualifications"; Any other facility specific standard or guideline.

#### 5 **FACILITY SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

Industrial Medical Team Members should receive training specific to the hazards associated with their respective facilities (such as H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, HF, and Chlorine).

#### 6 **PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

Industrial Medical Teams **must** have policies and guidelines for the use of Personnel Protective Equipment such as Body Substance Isolation, as well as environmental and chemical hazards.

#### 7 **SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA) & AIR-LINE RESPIRATORS (ALR)**

Industrial Medical Team members that may reasonably be expected to wear SCBA and/or ALR in the performance of their duties **must** receive training on said equipment.

#### 8 **MEDICAL CONTROL**

Each participating facility shall:

- 8.1 Provide a Licensed Physician to provide Medical Control for the facility medical team.
- 8.2 Provide a set of Protocols approved by the facility's Medical Control.
  - 8.2.1 The Industrial Medical Team's protocols **must** be signed by the Medical Control Physician and the Industrial Medical Team Coordinator.

#### 9 **REFRESHER TRAINING**

- 9.1 Annually, Industrial Medical Team members **must** complete refresher training in:
  - 9.1.1 Blood Borne Pathogens
  - 9.1.2 Personnel Protective Equipment
  - 9.1.3 Industrial Medical Team members that may reasonably be expected to wear SCBA and/or ALR in the performance of their duties **must** receive annual refresher training on said equipment
- 9.2 All Industrial Medical Team members **must** successfully complete recertification following guidelines set forth by **Texas Department of State Health Services**. Links found on the following web site will direct each individual needing recertification to the appropriate DSHS web page.
  - 9.2.1 <http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/hcqs/ems/Srecert.htm>