Blue Card System Overview

For SNOPAC Dispatchers

Blue Card is a Hazard Zone Incident Commander Training and Certification Program that Consists of 2 Parts:

Cognitive
40 Hour On-line Program

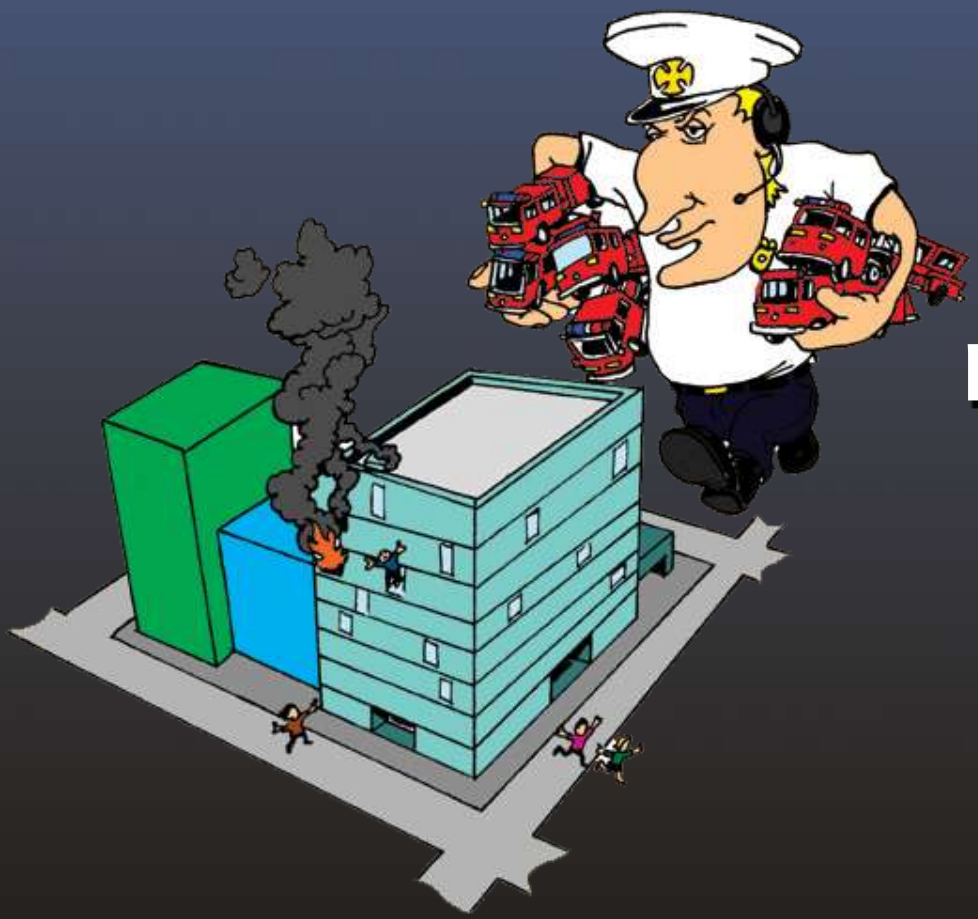
Manipulative
24 Hour Evaluation Program

Key Blue Card Concepts

8 Standard Command Functions:

1. Deployment
2. Assumption, Confirmation, & Positioning
3. Situation Evaluation
4. Strategy & Incident Action Planning
5. Communications
6. Organization
7. Review, Evaluation, & Revision
8. Continue, Support, & Terminate Command.

Deployment



Major Goal:

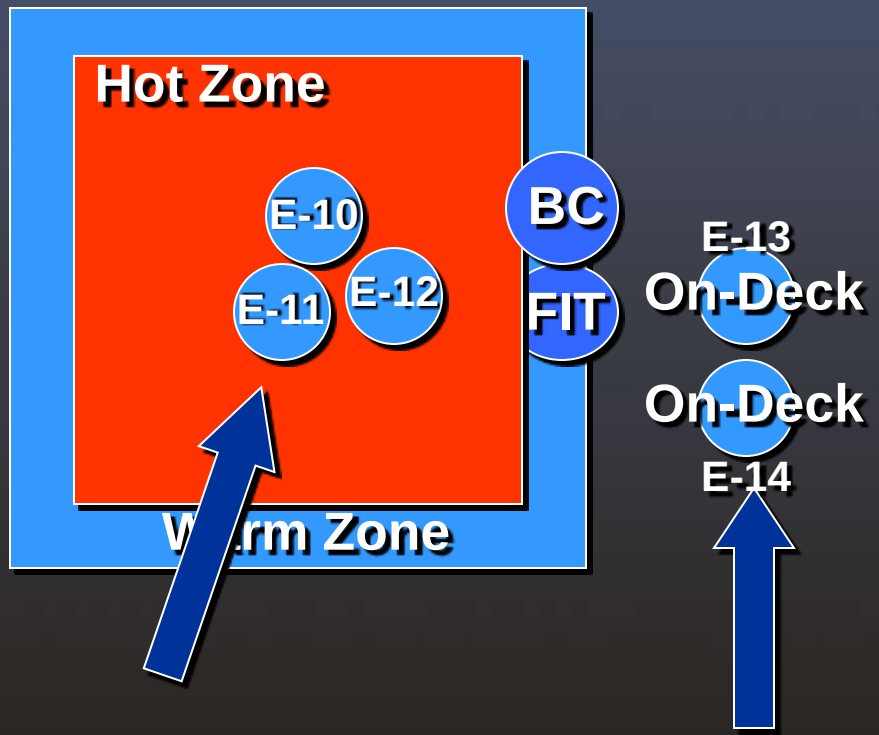
To Provide and manage a steady, adequate, and timely stream of the appropriate resources

Deployment

Alarm Levels

- FR
- FC
- 2nd Alarm
- 3rd Alarm
- 4th Alarm
- Zone Response

3 Deep Deployment Model



S/D Co.s working in the Hazard Zone

On-Deck Companies

Companies in Staging

Deployment

Working/Confirmed Fire Protocol

- Will prompt dispatch to automatically do the following:
  - Send additional fire resources
  - Send Utilities, PD and Investigator
  - Elapsed time notifications

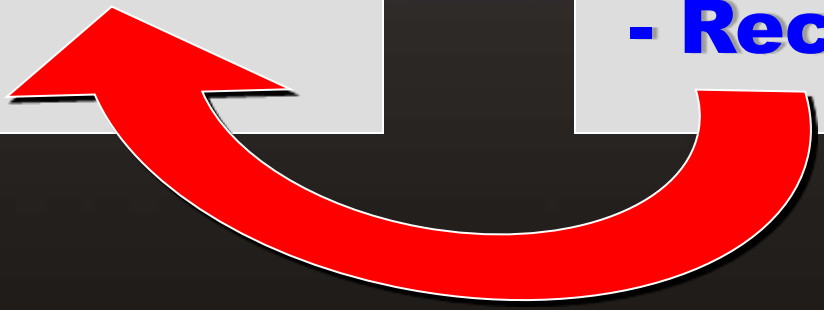
There a 2 different Statuses that Companies fall into on the incident scene:

Unassigned

- Staged
- Rehabbing
- Rehabbed & Ready to go

Assigned

- 1st Unit to a location
- To a S/D
- On-Deck in S/D
- Recycle in S/D



Level 1 - Staging

- Applies to all initial responders on a 1st Alarm/Box assignment:
- 1st Engine, Truck Co. & BC respond directly to the scene
- Immediately goes into effect after Initial Radio Report from IC #1
- All subsequent arriving units stage 1 block away in their direction of travel not passing their last tactical option

Level 2 - Staging

- In effect for greater alarms
- 1st Engine typically becomes initial staging officer – upgrade with staff if poss.
- IC or should designate the Staging location when requesting an additional Alarm/Box
- Alarm/Dispatch should dispatch on a separate radio channel (automatically)
- Will require CP helper to manage logistic channel – Active incident, should upgrade Command Post

On Deck

On Deck = Forward Staging

On Deck Crew Options:

Once a crew is assigned to an On-Deck position, they are 1st and foremost a Rapid Intervention Crew until they are assigned to:

- **Relieve an existing crew in their assigned Div.**
- **Reinforce a current position in their assigned Div.**
- **Cover a new position as assigned by the IC**

Recycle:

A timely and efficient means of air replacement and re-hydration of assigned companies while still maintaining their S/D assignment.

Rehab:

Is an assignment to a formal rehab location (close to the emergency scene) where Units will be deconned, medically evaluated, rehydrated, and replenished. Once rehabbed, Units can be assigned again the Incident scene, but most of the time, they will be placed back into service.

Assumption, Confirmation and Position Command

Major Goal:

To quickly establish and confirm a single IC and to place that IC in the most effective command position.

Select the proper Command Position

IC #1

100%

IC #2

15 to 20%

IC #2 with IMT

Less than 5%

Communications

Major Goal:

To provide for the clear and timely sharing of critical incident information to all responders.

- **All Hazard Zone Communications on 1 Tac Channel**

Order Model:

1. Sender contacts receiver
2. Receiver states readiness to receive
3. Sender transmits message/order
4. Receiver briefly restates message to confirm understanding the message
5. Sender corrects any misunderstanding of the message

Properly following the Order Model will reduce the overall amount of radio traffic, enhance the accountability process and it will prevent; deployment mistakes, directional mistakes and freelancing

There are 6 basic types of radio transmissions on a hazard zone:

- Initial Radio Reporting
- Follow-Up Report
- Assigning Units to Operating Positions/Functions
- Command Transfers
- C.A.N. Reporting: Conditions, Actions & Needs
- Strategic Shift: Offensive to Defensive

Initial Radio Report

Building/area description
- Size
- Height
- Occupancy Type

Describe the problem
- Smoke/Fire Conditions
- Location

Initial I.A.P.
- Task(s)
- Location
- Objective(s)

Declaration of the Strategy
- Offensive
- Defensive

Resource Determination

Assume/Name Command

360's & Follow-Up Reports

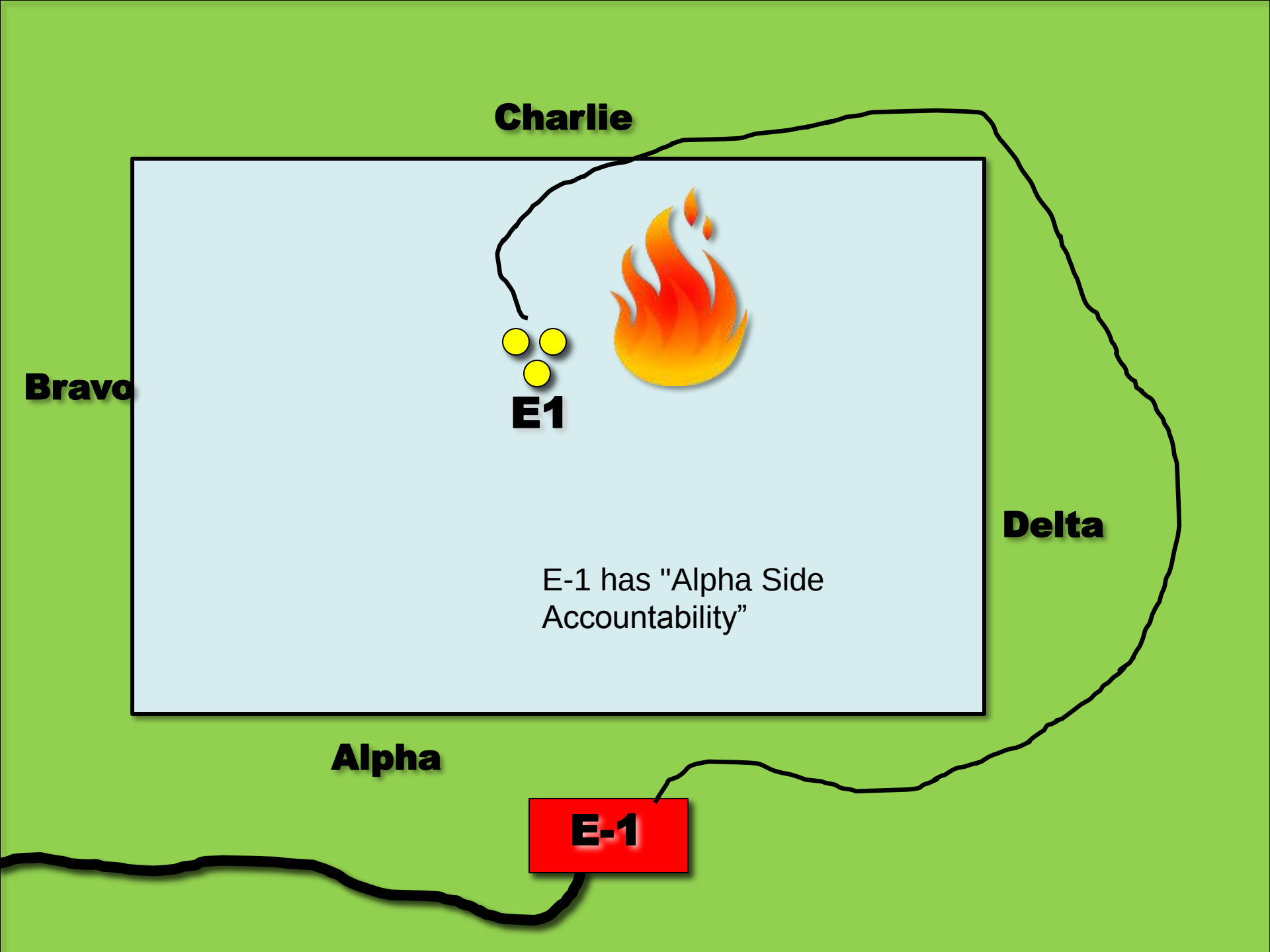
Result of 360

- # of Stories in rear
- Basement / Type
- Problem – if different
- Any Change to IAP?
- Any Immediate Life Safety?
- Other hazards

Accountability Location

- Alpha, Bravo Charlie, Delta

Any other Immediate Safety Concerns (Elec drop, pool, etc)


Charlie
Bravo
E1
Delta
E-1 has "Alpha Side Accountability”
Alpha
E-1

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Alarm/Dispatch Center - Standard Communication Forms

Initial Radio Report

Building/Area Description:

Size: Small Medium Large Mega

Height: 1 2 3 4 5

Occupancy Type: _____

Problem Description:

Nothing Showing Light Smoke Working Fire Defensive Fire Conditions

Location of the Problem: _____

Initial Incident Action Plan:

- Tasks : Supply-line Stretch HZSP Quick hit Defensive Op
- Location _____
- Objectives: Primary Search Fire Control

Strategy: Offensive Defensive

Resource Determination:

Cancel Assn Hold Assn Balance Assn Greater Alarm/Box

Assume & Name Command: Yes

Follow-Up Report

Results of the 360:

Not Completed Completed

Stories from Charlie Side

_____

Basement Type: No basement

Window Well Look-out Walk-Out

Any Changes to IAP

Yes No

_____

E-1 will be the ? Accountability Location

Alpha Bravo Charlie Delta

Unit Assignment

Unit: _____

Tasks: _____

Location: _____

Objectives: P/S F/C L/C O/D

Unit Assignment

Unit: _____

Tasks: _____

Location: _____

Objectives: P/S F/C L/C O/D

Unit Assignment

Unit: _____

Tasks: _____

Location: _____

Objectives: P/S F/C L/C O/D

Command Transfer

Unit Rundown: Transfer CAN:

Unit: Assume Command: Yes No Strategy: Offensive Defensive Resource Determination: ~~Cancel~~ ~~Hold Assn~~ ~~Balance Assn~~ ~~Greater Alarm/Box~~ CANCEL CONTINUE UPGRADE LOCATE:

CAN Report

Unit: _____ IC driven Priority traffic Status Change Good news

Tactical Priorities Achieved: All Clear Fire Control Loss stopped

Needs: Stated.....or.....Prompted by the IC

Assigning Units

1. Task
2. Location
3. Objective

Command Transfer

IC 2 (usually BC)

1. Confirms on scene units location and assignment and requests CAN-Air
2. Notify SnoPac of transfer
3. Confirm strategy
4. Resource Determination
5. Locate Command Post

C. A.N. Air

- Conditions
- Actions
- Needs
- Air (team)

Strategic Shift

- Emergency Traffic
- Switching to Defensive
- Withdraw or Abandon
- Report PARs on Exiting
- Re-confirm Strategy
- Open the Radio for Normal Traffic

P.A.R.

- Gives the current status of your team.
- No need for number of team members if all is accounted for.
- E-1 has PAR and unit location is the only information the I.C. needs.
- If in a division or group, your PAR will be reported to the person holding your passport, ideally face-to-face.

Portable Radio Reporting

- Routine Traffic
- Roof Reports
- Status Changes
- Priority Traffic
- Emergency Traffic

Routine Radio Traffic

- Radio silence once assigned to the scene
- Communications are driven by the IC
- Order Model used
- No good news reporting

Priority Radio Traffic

- Radio traffic to the IC for Red flag info only
- Sender can break into the Order Model
- Important tactical info that will require adjustments to the current IAP or Strategy
- Info usually effects the entire operation
- Usually bad news

Emergency Radio Traffic

Units-S/D's
Priority Traffic
ONLY
to the IC

Emergency Traffic

- Only Initiated by the IC
- IC will process when to call for tones
- Alarm/Dispatch Center plays a part

Situation Evaluation

Major Goal:

Develop a regular approach to Size-Up using the standard information management forms and the Critical Incident Factors

Consider Fixed Factors

Manage Variable Factors

Fixed Factors

- Building
- Occupancy
- Arrangement

Variable Factors

- Fire
- Life Hazard
- Resources
- Action
- Special circumstances

Strategy and Incident Action Planning

Major Goal:

To use a systematic method to make basic strategy decisions, and to develop and initiate a Tactical IAP

Key Blue Card Concepts

Strategic Decision Making Model:

- Critical Fireground Factors
- Risk Management Plan
- Strategy
- Incident Action Plan
- Tactical Priorities SOP's

Apply the standard risk-management plan throughout the incident:

We will Risk our Lives A LOT,
to Save SAVABLE Lives

We will Risk our Lives A LITTLE, in a HIGHLY Calculated Manner, to Save Savable Property

We will NOT Risk our Lives AT ALL, for what is ALREADY LOST (people or property)

The IC uses the incident's Critical Factors and the Risk Management Plan to determine the overall Incident Strategy

Offensive Inside

Defensive Outside

Implement an Incident Action Plan (IAP) to match the overall strategy.

Offensive IAP

Rescue
Fire Control
Loss Control
Cust. Stabilization

Defensive IAP

Establish Cut-offs
Define Hazard Zone
Search exposures
Protect exposures

Organization

Major Goal:

To develop an effective incident organization using the Sector/Division/Group system to decentralize an delegate geographic and functional responsibility

There are 3 Operational Levels on all Incidents that have an IDLH Hazard Zone:

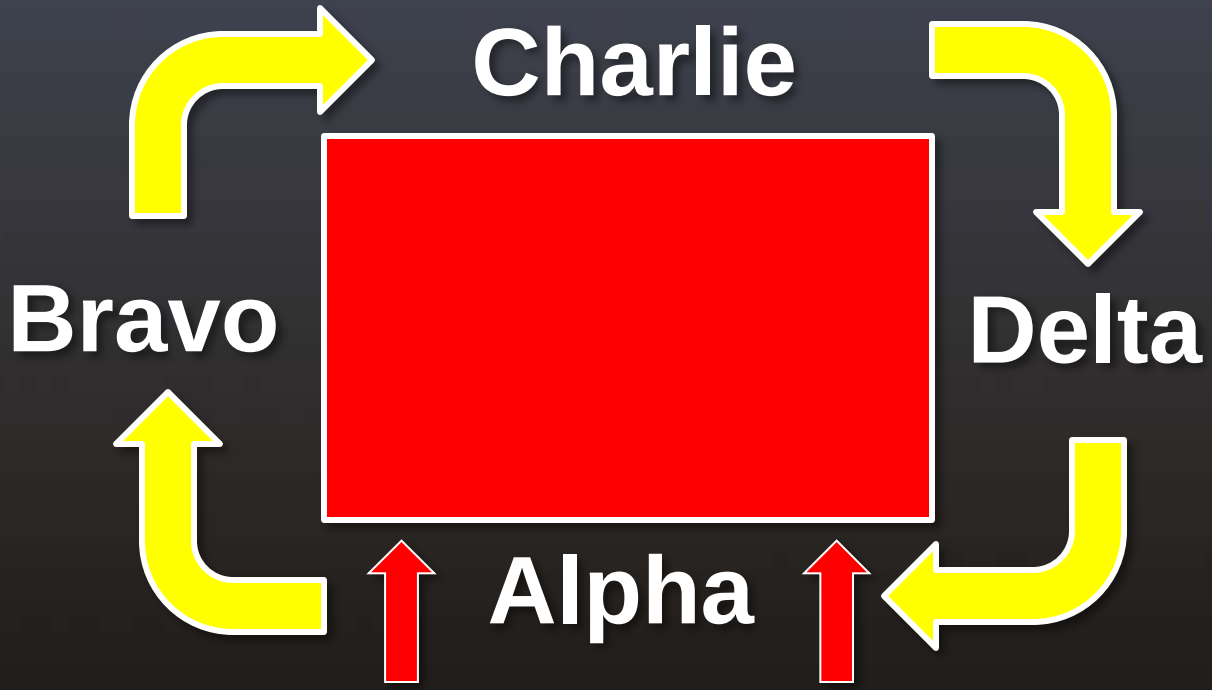
- Task Level
- Tactical Level
- Strategic Level

No Operational Level can perform the functions or the responsibilities for any other Level

Geographic Landmarks

The address side of the Occupancy typically becomes the "Alpha" side

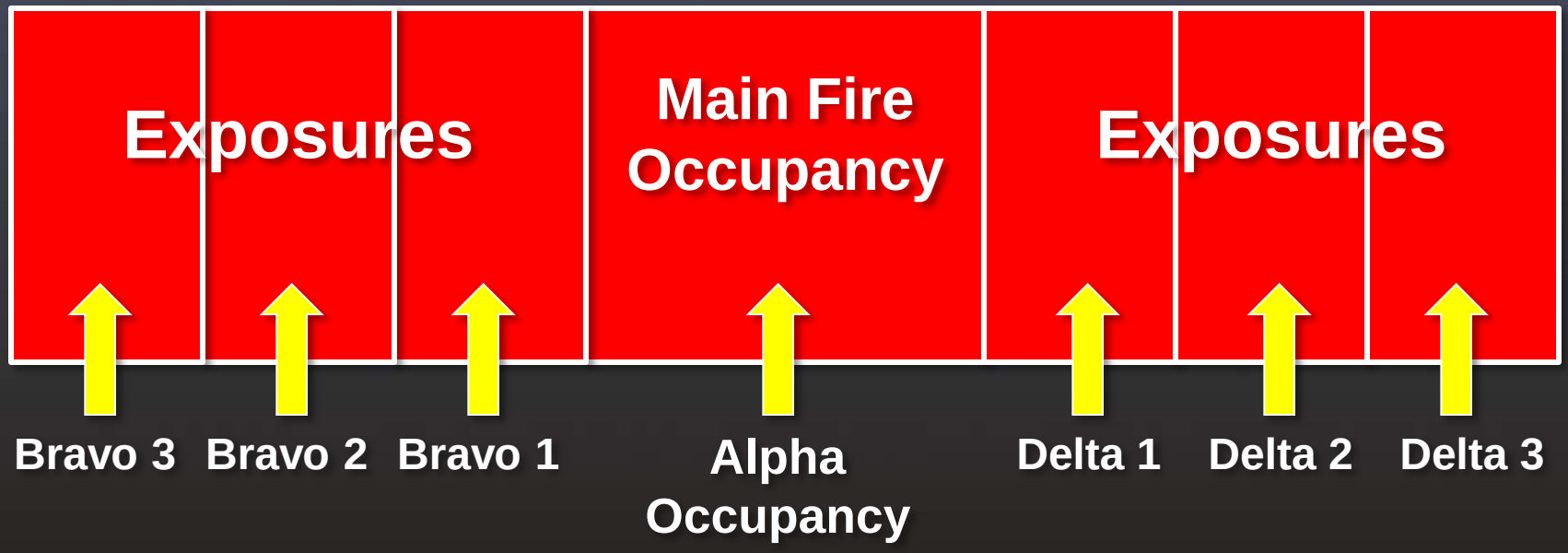
The other sides of the Occupancy are named Clockwise



Address side of the structure

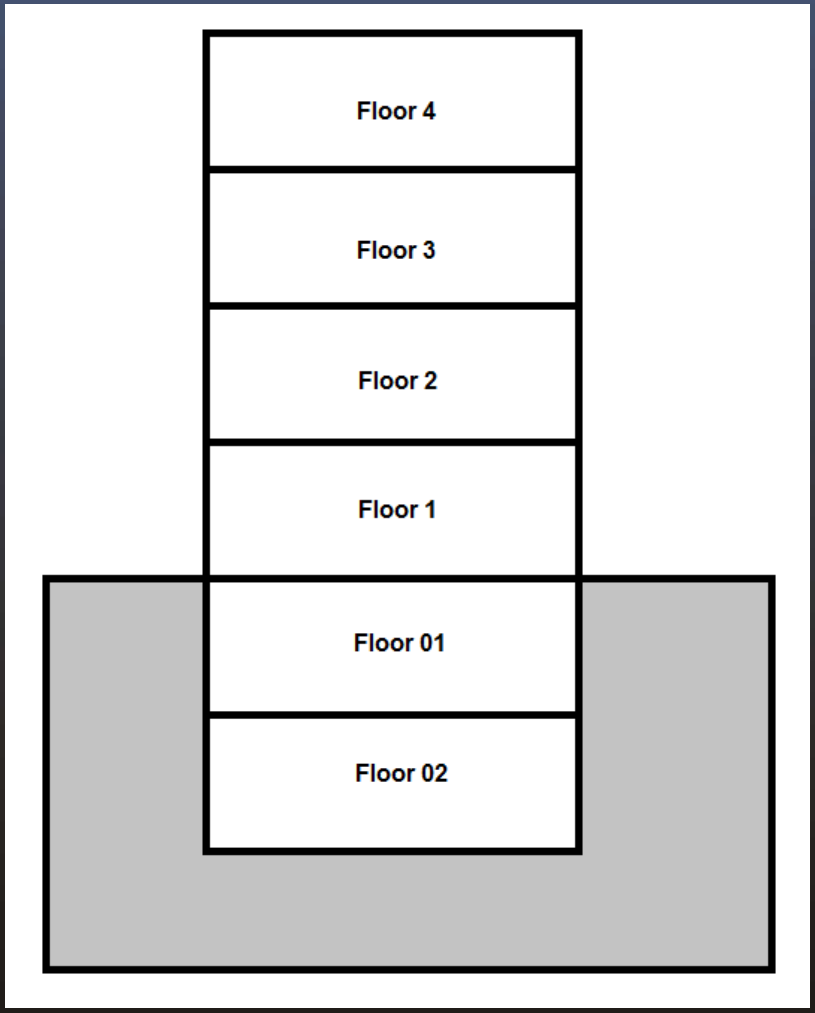
Longer Strips, Rows, & Apt's

Exposures

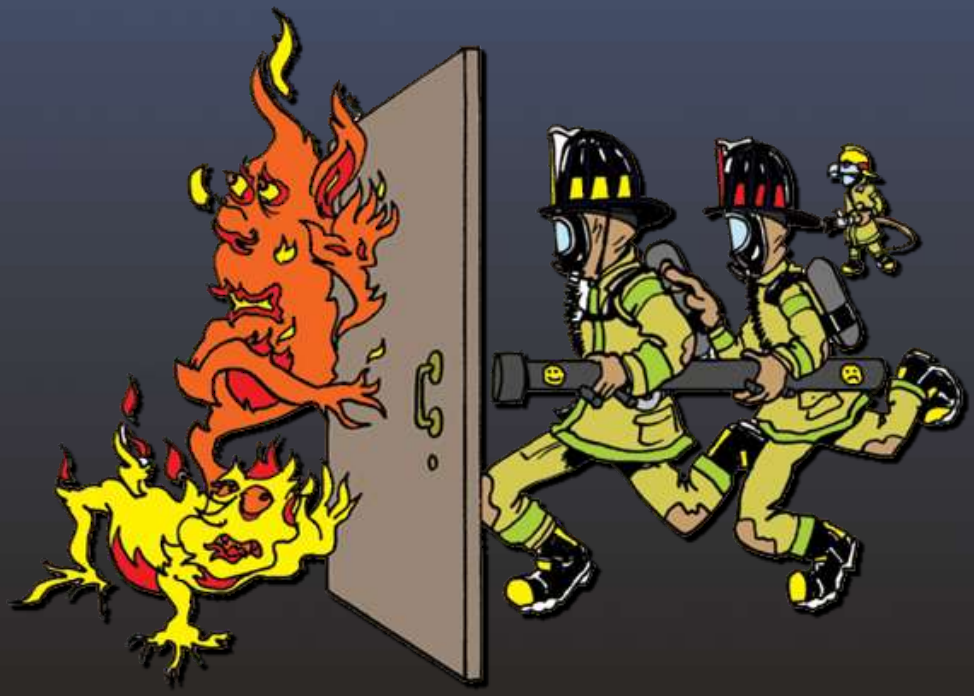


Address side of the structure

Multi-Story Buildings



Review, Evaluation, Revision



Major Goal:

To confirm that the current IAP is meeting the tactical requirements of the incident that adequately provides for the safety of the workers, and to identify and address any areas that are not covered

System Safety Requirements for any Extended Offensive Fire Operation

- One IC from onset
- Everyone operates within the IC's plan (SOP driven)
- Call for required resources early
- Initial action devoted to fire control to support search Ops
- Cover/assign all required Tactical positions
- Strategic IC in place within 5-7 minutes
- Command Officers in Tactical positions w/in 10 mins
- Expect FC within 10 minutes, revise plan accordingly
- Later arriving units to On-Deck positions (Layering)
- Reinforcing attack more than once = Red Flag
- IC continually evaluates and adjusts IAP as required

Continue, Support and Terminate Command

Major Goal:

To provide the required duration of command necessary to complete the tactical priorities, to standardize how command is transferred, and to insure that operations are safely concluded

Assume, maintain and upgrade effective command positioning

Use standard command transfer (both ways)

IC #1

IC #2

IMT

The End
Be Safe

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Day 1 PowerPoint