



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

SALVAGE & OVERHAUL

TOPIC: Procedures for Making Buildings and Areas Safe After an Emergency

TIME FRAME: 30 Minutes

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION:

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A written quiz

Behavior: The student will list and describe the procedures for making buildings and areas safe after an emergency.

Standard: With a minimum of 70% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Appropriate visual aids
- Audio visual equipment

REFERENCES:

- IFSTA, Essentials of Fire Fighting, 2nd Edition, Chapter 12
- IFSTA, Salvage and Overhaul, 7th Edition, Chapter 8

PREPARATION: One of the first objectives of overhaul is making the building safe. Checking the structural condition of the building should be done to prevent injuries to occupants who take possession of the premises after the fire department leaves. Not all structures can be made safe and in those cases occupants should be kept out. In a suspicious fire overhaul and release of premises shall be delayed until an investigator has been called.



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PROCEDURES FOR MAKING
BUILDINGS AND AREAS SAFE
AFTER AN EMERGENCY

PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>I. INSPECTION</p> <p>A. All Portions of the Building Should Be Carefully Inspected for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sagging floors2. Sagging ceilings3. Bulging or cracked walls4. Weakened roofs5. Loose cornices <p>II. STRUCTURE SAFETY</p> <p>A. Areas of Uncorrected Weakness Should Be Placed Off Limits to All Personnel</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Correct the condition2. Isolate the problem <p>B. Unstable Ceilings and Walls Can Be Shored or Braced</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provides temporary stability	<p>What should buildings be checked for after a fire?</p> <p>What should you do if an area is found unsafe?</p> <p>What would you do with ceilings and walls that are unstable?</p>



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<p>C. Holes in Floors and Stairways Should Be Marked and Barricaded</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. With yellow/black flagging2. To prevent accidental access <p>D. Utilities (Gas and Electrical Services) Should be Disconnected if Any Safety Hazard is Suspected</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Gas shut off at the meter. The quarter turn shut off valve should be cross ways on the pipe to indicate gas is shut off.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Notify utility company to shut off gas if requiredb. Do not restore gas service2. Electrical shut off<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Master switch to be in off positionb. Remove fuses or circuit breakersc. Notify utility company to disconnect service if requiredd. Do not restore electrical service3. Utilities should be turned back on by utility company personnel to insure they are in proper working order. <p>E. Sharp Exposed Objects Should be Isolated or Made Safe</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nails	<p>What would you do if you found a hole in a floor or stairway?</p>



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<p>2. Metal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Structural steelb. Pipes <p>III. MAKING THE CONTENTS SAFE</p> <p>A. The Damaged Contents of a Building Can Present Serious Safety Hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. High piled stock2. Unpalletized storage3. Stock on weakened shelves4. Wet material that absorbs water adding weight to the contents5. Unstable or reactive liquids, solids6. Etiologic or radioactive materials7. Opened or leaking tanks of liquid8. File cabinets, safes9. Heavy machinery especially if mounted above floor level10. Overhead hazards<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Signsb. Marqueesc. Roof mounted equipment	<p>What are some examples of items that must be inspected for hazards?</p>



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<p>B. Prior to Leaving, Weatherproof the Structure and Contents</p> <p>IV. AREAS EXTERIOR TO THE STRUCTURE MAY PRESENT HAZARDS</p> <p>A. Potential Building Collapse</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Isolate and deny entry in an area at least 1 1/2 times the height of the tallest wall2. Remove valuable property within potential collapse area only if safe to do so <p>B. Electric Transmission Lines</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Downed or damaged by the fire<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Isolate area and deny entryb. Minimum 25' exclusion area in all directionsc. Use "life hazard" black on yellow flagging <p>C. Ice Buildup in Cold Weather Creates a Great Trip and Fall Hazard</p>	



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SUMMARY:

The fire department must be concerned with removing dangerous conditions in the fire building and in the area surrounding the fire building. This is done to ensure safety of the public. All buildings may not be made safe for continued occupancy. An investigation shall be done on suspicious fires before the building is released.

EVALUATION:

A written quiz.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).