

FIVE STAGES OF BUILDING COLLAPSE RESCUE

STAGE I: Reconnaissance, Immediate Rescue Of Surface Casualties, Scene Organization, And Management

A. Reconnaissance

1. Gathering of facts
2. Abating the hazards

B. Immediate Rescue Of Surface Casualties

1. Identification and removal of surface casualties
2. Establish a triage and treatment site
3. Establishment of a casualty collection point (CCP)

C. Scene Organization And Management

1. Determining resource needs
2. Organizing triage and treatment
3. Organizing those civilians already assisting the rescue effort
4. Assigning resources as they arrive

STAGE II: Rescue From Likely Survival Places

- A. As Identified By Victims

- B. As Identified By Rescuers

- C. As Identified By Victim Locator Devices
 - 1. Rescue dogs

 - 2. Sonic listening devices

 - 3. Fiber optics (video)

 - 4. Heat sensing/infrared devices

 - 5. Rescuer voice hailing system

- D. Debris Removal, Roof, Wall Or Floor
 - 1. Breaching may be required

 - 2. Shoring may be required

Risks taken by rescuers must be calculated and in favor of the rescuer!!! Assure rescuers have had proper training and are certified for this type of operation.

STAGE III: Selected Debris Removal

- A. Selection Based On Information Compiled From:

1. Victims
 2. Rescuers
 3. Victim locators
 4. Building plans
- B. May Include The Use Of:
1. Bulldozers
 2. Cranes
 3. Front loaders
 4. Backhoes
 5. Other construction type equipment
 6. Hand removal
- C. Will Necessitate Reducing The Size Of The Rubble
- D. Removal Of Each Layer
1. From the top to the bottom
 2. Systematically

STAGE IV: General Debris Removal

- A. After It Has Been Determined No Live Victims Remain In The Building
- B. Building Demolition Phase
- C. Bodies Must Be Sorted From The Debris And Removed To The Proper Location
- D. Rescues Are Improbable; This Phase Would Be Primarily Body Recovery

STAGE V: Post Incident Critique

- A. Critique of the operation
 - 1. What was our/your assignment?
 - 2. What we did and how we did it?
 - 3. How could we improve our operation if we had to do it again?
 - 4. What did we learn from this experience?
- B. Stress Management Program For Rescuers
 - 1. Psychological monitoring and care
 - 2. Critical incident stress debriefing
 - 3. Employee assistance program