Weekly Fire Drill

RIT vs. 2-In/2-Out

Back-up Teams

**Background:** OSHA requires that specific requirements for establishing a stand-by rescue team be available prior to crews making initial entry into IDLH atmospheres. The back-up team could consist of at least 2 members who are engaged in other activities who could respond to a distress call to assist a firefighter in distress. Exceptions to this rule could exist when information exists that identifies that a victim could be rescued alive. An assumption that someone *may* be alive is not sufficient to override the rule. Officers may be faced with difficult decisions when determining when to make entry without the standby team being available. Consult your departments SOG or other local reference relating to this policy.

### 2 in / 2 out Vs. Rapid Intervention Crews

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 In / 2 Out</th>
<th>Rapid Intervention Crew</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be positioned outside IDLH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Account for interior team</td>
<td>Will perform a crew rescue specific size-up</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remain capable of rescue of interior team while performing other tasks</td>
<td>Are prepared with tools and equipment kept in a staging area or directly with the crew</td>
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<tr>
<td>May be located in other areas of incident operation - May have to assemble tools and team members to assist crew</td>
<td>Create rescue plans for crews based on where they are operating and incident conditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>React to emergencies based on changes of conditions or calls for help</td>
<td>Prevent emergencies by creating escape routes</td>
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**Officer Tip**

Crews working in an IDLH atmosphere must stay in contact with each other by:

- Voice
- Vision
- Touch

### Scenario 1

- A house fire with no visible occupants or signs that someone is home.
  - Can you enter without a back-up team?
  - Who is your back-up team for this event?

### Scenario 2

- An apartment fire with other occupants reporting that another family member has not exited.
  - Can you enter without a back-up team?
  - Who is your back-up team for this event?

### Scenario 3

- A commercial store fire with unknown occupancy.
  - Can you enter without a back-up team?
  - Who is your back-up team for this event?

If you are to use one, who could make-up your departments’ 2 in / 2 out stand-by rescue team?

What other jobs could they be performing while still available for rescue assignment?