First responders may not have the training backgrounds to begin operations at technical rescue scenes. Even so, a first responder may have to begin the process of size-up and get ready to notify and support local technical rescue team response. Initial company safety is paramount and identification of scene hazards to the victim and rescuers are part of the initial actions being taken. Consider your departments role and response to these incidents and develop your own incident size-up procedure for first responder technical rescue response.

**Basic Technical Rescue Scene Duties and Functions**

- Compile facts and factors about the call.
- Gain size-up information from safe distances. Do not commit to any operation that you or your crews are not trained for.
- Information is important to overall success of the rescue operation, be accurate with your details.
- Information that is helpful when contacting technical rescue teams to assist in your incident:
  - Location of incident
  - Nature of incident (type of discipline)
  - Condition, number and position of victims
  - Number of people trapped or injured, and types of injuries
  - Any specific or special hazard information
  - Special resources that could be needed
- Identify and correct life-threatening hazards at your training level.
- A technical rescue size-up should include:
  - Scope and magnitude of the incident
  - Risk and benefit analysis
  - Number of known and potential victims
  - Hazards
  - Access to the scene
  - Environmental factors
  - Available and necessary resources
  - Establishment of control perimeter

**Do Not Exceed Your Training Levels at Technical Rescue Incidents. You Must Have Proper Training Levels Before Beginning Operations!**

**Typical Types of Technical Rescue Responses**

- Trench
- Confined Space
- Vertical (Rope)
- Water
- Structural Collapse
- Wildland Search
- Heavy Extrication

**Review**

- Local procedures for notification of technical rescue team response.