

DELAWARE STATE FIRE SCHOOL
For Your Instruction: In-Service Drill

DECONTAMINATION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this drill is to conduct refresher training in the skills required to perform decontamination of personnel. This drill is intended for practice in decon at incidents requiring only Level "D" protection.

OBJECTIVE

At the conclusion of the drill each participant shall have demonstrated the ability to perform decontamination procedures.

EQUIPMENT

1. Roll of 4-6 mm polyethylene
2. Wading pool
3. 2-50 ft. lengths of rope
4. 8-Traffic cones
5. New or unused garden sprayer
6. Milk crate
7. Plastic trash cans and plastic trash bags
8. Plastic tarp and support frame to construct a clothes change area
9. "Clean" or disposable clothing for each participant
10. Disposable clothing for decontamination team

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

1. Evolution area should be adequately lighted.
2. The evolution area should be on even terrain in a non-traffic location.
3. The garden sprayer used in the process should be new or never used for any chemical application to avoid contaminating personnel or clothing.
4. The drill leader will be responsible for being familiar with and following the drill guideline.
5. Actual decontamination procedures depend upon the chemical involved at the incident. Incident Commanders should seek technical advice before selecting procedures.

REFERENCES

NOTE: References contain illustrations or pictures of the steps listed in the evolutions.

1. IFSTA, "Hazardous Materials for First Responders", Second Edition.

SKILL: SET UP OF DECON AREA

1. Roll out polyethylene as illustrated in reference manuals.
2. Mark off area with traffic cones and rope.
3. Place plastic trash cans on polyethylene at locations where clothing is to be removed.
4. Place wading pool and milk crate in decon area as illustrated in reference manuals.
5. Place clean/new sprayer next to wading pool.

NOTE: Use water in the sprayer to simulate a cleaning solution that would actually be used.

6. Fabricate an enclosed area for final clothing change and decon step as illustrated in reference manuals.

NOTE: This area, where personal clothing is removed and final showering takes place, may be off site depending on chemical involved and if transportation to that site can be accomplished without spreading contamination.

7. Place two decon team members at wading pool area dressed in disposable suits.

SKILL: DECON PROCEDURE

1. Personnel enter decon area and drop tools on contaminated side. Move to step 2.
2. Remove as much contamination as possible. Dilution is conducted inside diked area. Personnel are in SCBA. Move to step 3.
3. Remove SCBA to contaminated side and move to step 4 or don new SCBA from clean side and re-enter work area. Move to step 4.
4. Remove protective clothing and place on contaminated side. Move to step 5 or transport personnel to a fixed decon facility.
5. Remove all personal clothing and isolate items on contaminated side. Bag personal items. Move to step 6.
6. Personal showering using soap and sponges. Bag cleaning items for disposal. Move to step 7.
7. Personnel dry off. Bag towels. Put on clean clothing. Move to step 8.

8. Personnel receive medical evaluation and treatment as necessary. Move to step 9.
9. Identify personnel. Complete field records. Transport personnel to hospital or to a fixed decon facility for steps 5-8.

CONCLUSION

At the conclusion of the drill the drill leader will do the following:

1. Secure all equipment as per department policy.
 - a. **NOTE: At a real incident, all items and the decon area would be left as is for disposal by a clean up contractor**
2. Secure the training area.

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