

TWO IN / TWO OUT

PURPOSE: The purpose of this procedure is to protect firefighters and rescue workers entering potentially hazardous atmospheres. It is intended to comply with OSHA Standards.

DEFINITIONS: This procedure specifically refers to an atmosphere that is potentially IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health).

GUIDELINE: Personnel shall not enter IDLH environments without at least two *personnel dressed to the same level of protection and* capable of performing immediate back up for the personnel operating in the IDLH area. In situations where there is a reasonable indication of immediate life hazard to occupant(s) in the IDLH area and risk benefit is considered, then entry is allowed without immediate compliance with this Procedure.

PROCEDURE: Where it is found that these conditions exist or have the potential to exist, the use of a "buddy system" shall be used. The term "buddy system" means that when firefighters must enter into an IDLH condition, they will do so in teams of two or more. When personnel are required to make entry into these types of areas, stand-by personnel are also required to stand by with equipment ready for assistance or rescue.

- ? When firefighters are utilizing SCBA's while in an IDLH or potentially IDLH or unknown atmospheres, they shall operate in a buddy system of two or more individuals.
- ? Firefighters using the buddy system are required to have visual or verbal contact
- ? Trained and equipped personnel are required to be present outside of the IDLH, potentially IDLH or unknown atmospheres prior to a team entering and during the team's work in the hazard area.

A minimum of four individuals are required. This shall consist of two individuals working as a team, in the IDLH, potentially IDLH or unknown atmospheres and two individuals outside the area for assistance or rescue at emergency operations where entry into the danger zone is required.