

THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA

Purpose:

- The purpose of this procedure is to identify the strategic and tactical approach for the deployment of thermal imaging cameras (also referred to as TIC's).

Guideline:

- Thermal imaging cameras are mounted on the dog house in both engines and it is the officer/acting officer that carries the TIC , and deploys it at every incident.
- **SIZE-UP :**
 - The TIC may provide valuable information during size-up, which can assist the Incident Commander in determining the strategy and formulating the incident action plan.
 - Even before firefighters enter a burning structure, the incident commander or company officer can accomplish a great deal from the exterior with the aid of thermal imaging technology. Some factors that can be assessed from the outside include finding the seat of the fire, observing changing or spreading conditions, identifying critical building construction features and identifying conditions that could threaten structural integrity.
- **DEPLOYMENT**
 - The early and rapid deployment of the Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC), while operating in an Offensive Strategy, may enhance the visibility in a visibly diminished atmosphere, thus increasing firefighter safety and survival, as well as improving the survival potential of our customers.
 - By deploying a TIC to the exposures, information could be obtained as to the extent of impingement to the exposed structure, early identification of avenues of fire spread and possibly any hot spots, which could cause extension.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Company Officer/Command to rapidly deploy the TIC in a visibly diminished atmosphere or in an atmosphere that may suddenly become visibly diminished.
 - TIC will be deployed with all RIT Teams
- **PRIMARY APPLICATION**
 - The primary use of the TIC is for conducting search and rescue
 - Effective use of the TIC allows a firefighter to rapidly search an area in compromised visibility as compared to a standard search.
 - TIC allows for rapid identification of the fires location, extent, and extension
 - The TIC also enhances the ability to maintain crew accountability by increasing the vision capabilities of the operator/Company Officer. This will ultimately lead to enhanced firefighter safety while working in a hostile environment.