

FIRE FIGHTERS GUIDANCE NOTE #5-1

ISSUE: FIREFIGHTER ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENTRY CONTROL

The employer must ensure that whenever the incident command system is utilized that it contains provisions for firefighter accountability and entry control at the emergency scene. It is recommended that employers establish written policies and operational guidelines for personnel accountability and entry control in accordance with the provision of their own incident command systems.

The accountability system may be adapted to individual fire department resources but must incorporate the following key principles:

- The accountability system accounts for the location and function of all personnel at an incident.
- The accountability/incident command systems provide a means for maintaining span of control.
- The accountability/incident command system provides a means for the emergency removal of crews from the interior of a hazard zone when conditions present an immediate life hazard.
- The accountability/incident command system establishes written protocol for when and under what conditions personnel are assigned as Accountability/Control Officers.
- The accountability/incident command system eliminates freelancing.