



## National Fire Academy

**W0455 – Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations  
Version: 3rd Edition, 3rd Printing, October 2016**

**Quarter:**

**ACE Credit: In the lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category, one semester hour in fire science or public safety.**

**IACET Continuing Education Units: 1.5**

**Length of Course: 2 Days (13 hr., 5 min. contact hours)**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Curriculum: Incident Management**

**Training Specialist: Richard Sexton**

**Instructor:**

**Instructor email/phone:**

**Classroom: J-**

**Meeting Time: 8 AM – 5 PM**

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### Course Description (Catalog)

W0455 – “Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations.” STICO is designed to meet the needs of Company Officers responsible for managing the operations of one or more companies during structural firefighting operations. STICO is designed to develop the management skills needed by company officers to accomplish assigned tactics at structure fires.

## **Student Qualifications (Primary and Secondary Audience)**

The primary target audience for the “Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations” (STICO) course is:

- Newly promoted COs.
- Excellent review for experienced COs.
- Firefighters who may have acting CO responsibilities.
- Firefighters who want to become COs.

The course is designed for newly promoted COs to learn the use and understanding of strategies and tactics and their importance in ensuring firefighter safety on the fireground.

## **Course Scope (Goal)**

The goal of the course is to develop the management skills needed by Company Officers (COs) to accomplish assigned tactics for structure fires.

## **Course Objectives (Course Learning Outcomes – TLOs)**

The students will be able to:

- Identify an organized approach to safely managing incident scenes.
- Recognize critical size-up factors.
- Recognize that locating the fire’s origin and identifying flow control issues are critical during the initial stages of an incident.
- Identify and explain the actions required to address rescue, ventilation, support and overhaul.
- Identify and explain the actions required to address water supply, fixed fire protection systems, and salvage.

## **Course Delivery Method**

The National Fire Academy (NFA) offers specialized training courses and advanced management programs of national impact in an academic classroom environment [on campus at the National Emergency Training Center \(NETC\) in Emmitsburg, Maryland](#). This classroom course is designed for the national level fire service officer from State and local fire service organizations. During this 2-day delivery, students will reside in dormitories provided on campus with classes conducted in classrooms designed for critical student/instructor interaction. All course materials are designed for interactive classroom environments, in either paper notebook or electronic formats.

## Course Schedule

DAY 1	DAY 2
Introduction, Welcome and Administrative	Unit 2: Fire Confinement, Exposure Protection, and Fire Extinguishment (cont'd) Unit 3: Rescue, Ventilation, Support and Overhaul
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Unit 1: Incident Command System and the Command Sequence	Activity 31: Rescue Tactics Unit 3: Rescue, Ventilation, Support and Overhaul (cont'd)
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Unit 1: Incident Command System and the Command Sequence (cont'd)	Activity 3.2: Ventilation Unit 3: Rescue, Ventilation, Support and Overhaul (cont'd) Unit 4: Water Supply, Fixed Fire Protection Systems, and Salvage
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
Unit 1: Incident Command System and the Command Sequence (cont'd) Unit 2: Fire Confinement, Exposure Protection, and Fire Extinguishment	Activity 4.1: Water Supply Operations Unit 4: Water Supply, Fixed Fire Protection Systems, and Salvage (cont'd)
<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
Activity 2.1: Fire Confinement Unit 2: Fire Confinement, Exposure Protection, and Fire Extinguishment (cont'd) Activity 2.2: Fire Confinement and Exposure Protection	Activity 4.2: Salvage Unit 4: Water Supply, Fixed Fire Protection Systems, and Salvage (cont'd) Final Exam

## **Course Resources (Instructional Materials)**

In order to be fully prepared, obtain a copy of the required textbooks and other instructional materials prior to the first day of class.

### **Required Readings**

The student must complete required readings during the course to be able to thoughtfully participate in discussions and activities.

None.

### **Suggested Reading/Resources**

Suggested readings and resources are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding, serve as additional sources for citation and promote discussion of course material.

None.

### **Required Resources (Course Textbook)**

Student Manual.

### **Supplemental Resources (Supplemental Course Textbook)**

None.

## **Grading Methodology (Evaluation Procedures)**

### **Course Grade**

The required performance to successfully complete the course is attained by completing the class with a letter grade of a "C" or higher.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Point Range</b>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	69 or lower

## **Required Reading Assignments**

Student completion of reading assignments will be done via evaluation of their class participation and will not be a separately graded activity.

## **Suggested Readings**

Suggested readings are not evaluated, but may enhance the student's understanding and promote discussion of course material.

## **Course Outline**

### **Introduction**

#### **Objectives**

None.

### **Unit 1: Incident Command System and the Command Sequence**

#### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 1.1 Identify an organized approach to safely managing incident scenes.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 1.1 Discuss the Incident Command System (ICS).
- 1.2 Analyze the Command Sequence Action Cycle.
- 1.3 Identify the types of building construction.
- 1.4 Identify how fire behavior factors affect objectives and strategies.

## **Unit 2: Fire Confinement, Exposure Protection, and Fire Extinguishment**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 2.1 Recognize critical size-up factors.
- 2.2 Recognize that locating the fire's origin and identifying flow control issues are critical during the initial stages of an incident.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 2.1 Explain the difference between **R**escue, **E**xposures, **C**onfine the fire, **E**xtinguish, **O**verhaul, **V**entilate, **S**alvage (RECEO-VS) and **S**ize-up, **L**ocate the fire, **I**dentify and control flow path, **C**ool space from safest location, **E**xtinguish fire, **R**escue, **S**alvage (SLICE-RS).
- 2.2 Given a scenario, develop a confinement action plan using the command sequence cycle.
- 2.3 Given a scenario, develop an exposure protection action plan using the command sequence cycle.
- 2.4 Given a scenario, develop a fire extinguishment action plan using the command sequence cycle.
- 2.5 Identify and explain the actions required to support fire confinement, exposure protection, and fire extinguishment activities.

## **Unit 3: Rescue, Ventilation, Support, and Overhaul**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 3.1 Identify and explain the actions required to address rescue, ventilation, support and overhaul.

## **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 3.1 Given a scenario, select appropriate ventilation tactics based on identified ventilation principles and tactical considerations.
- 3.2 Given a scenario, develop a ventilation action plan using the command sequence cycle.
- 3.3 Given a scenario, select appropriate rescue tactics based on identified rescue principles and tactical considerations.
- 3.4 Given a scenario, develop a rescue action plan using the command sequence cycle.
- 3.5 Identify the incident support activities that are necessary to promote safe fireground operations before, during and after a fire.
- 3.6 Explain the necessary safe practices that need to be implemented during overhaul operations.

## **Unit 4: Water Supply, Fixed Fire Protection Systems, and Salvage**

### **Objectives**

#### **Terminal Objective**

The students will be able to:

- 4.1 Identify and explain the actions required to address water supply, fixed fire protection systems, and salvage.

#### **Enabling Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- 4.1 Identify the principles of water supply and the tactics for establishing water supplies using municipal sources, static sources and portable sources.
- 4.2 Identify the principles and tactics to achieve salvage.
- 4.3 Describe the procedures for deployment of a hoseline from a standpipe system.
- 4.4 Given a scenario, develop a water supply action plan using the command sequence cycle.
- 4.5 Given a scenario, develop a salvage action plan using the command sequence cycle.

## **Policies**

### **Class Attendance and Cancellation Policy**

#### **Attendance**

- You are required to attend all sessions of the course. If you do not, you may not receive a certificate.
- If you need to depart the training facility early and miss any portion of the course, you must make the request in writing to the sponsoring agency (e.g., State training director, etc.). The State training director may waive the attendance requirement in order to accommodate you with extraordinary circumstances as long as you complete all course requirements.

#### **Student Substitutions**

Substitutions for NFA courses are made from waiting lists; your fire department can't send someone in your place.

#### **Cancellations or No-Shows**

NFA's mission for delivery of courses is impaired significantly by cancellations and no-shows. It is very difficult and costly to recruit students at the last minute. Currently there is a two-year ban on student attendance for students who are no-shows or cancel within 30 days of the course start date without a valid reason. If you receive such a restriction, your supervisor needs to send a letter to our Admissions Office explaining the cancellation/no-show.

#### **Course Failure**

You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

#### **Student Code of Conduct Policy**

Students, instructors and staff are expected to treat each other with respect at all times. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

#### **Writing Expectations**

Student writing will conform to the generally accepted academic standards for college papers. Papers will reflect the original work of the student and give appropriate credit through citations for ideas belonging to other authors, publications or organizations. Student written work should be free of grammatical and syntax errors, free of profanity or obscene language or ideas, and reflect critical thinking related to the course subject matter.

## **Citation and Reference Style**

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA, Sixth Edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to NFA. Assignments completed in a narrative essay, composition format, abstract, and discussion posts must follow the citation style cited in the APA, Sixth Edition.

## **Late Assignments**

All assignments must be turned in by the established deadline. Late submissions could result in a 10 percent decrease in grade.

## **Disclaimer Statement**

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

## **Grading**

Please review the above grading methodology that explains how grades will be awarded. Students who do not complete the entire course will be awarded an Incomplete (I) grade. In accordance with National Fire Academy academic policies, an Incomplete (I) grade must be removed by the end of the next semester following the course, or it automatically becomes a Failing (F) grade.

If you fail an on-campus course, you will not be issued a stipend for that course. You can reapply for the failed course or any other NFA course and go through the random selection process. You don't have to successfully complete the failed course before attending another NFA course.

[https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student\\_policies.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/admissions/student_policies.html)

## **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to exhibit exemplary ethical behavior and conduct as part of the NFA community and society as a whole. Acts of academic dishonesty including cheating, plagiarism, deliberate falsification, and other unethical behaviors will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to report academic misconduct when they witness a violation. All cases of academic misconduct shall be reported by the instructor to the State training director or host agency and to the NFA Training Specialist.

If a student is found to have engaged in misconduct and the allegations are upheld, the penalties may include, but are not limited to one or a combination of the following:

- expulsion,
- withholding of stipend or forfeiture of stipend paid,
- exclusion from future classes for a specified period; depending on the severity it could range from 1-10 years, and/or
- forfeiture of certificate for course(s) enrolled in at NETC.

Refer to NFA-specific Standard Operating Procedure 700.1 – *Academic Code of Conduct and Ethics* for more information.