

REHAB RECOMMENDATION BECOMES STANDARD

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1584, Standard on the Rehabilitation Process for Members During Emergency Operations and Training Exercises, which has existed for four years as a recommendation, attained "Standard" status this month. Emergency Services organizations must begin implementing the standard this year.

Emergency operations rehabilitation protects personnel, the most critical of an organization's resources, and functions as a resilience tool that enables responders to resume readiness status quickly and safely. To comply with Standard 1584, according to "FireRehab.com," each fire department must develop and implement Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) that outline how they provide rehabilitation at incidents and training exercises. Rehabilitation also must be integrated into the department's Incident Management System.

The following are nine key components of rehab required under NFPA 1584:

- Relief from climactic (weather / environmental) conditions;
- Rest and recovery;
- Cooling or re-warming;
- Re-hydration;
- Calorie and electrolyte replacement;
- Medical monitoring;
- EMS treatment in accordance with local protocol;
- Member accountability; and
- Release from rehab.

Mazny resources, including online training, case studies, clinical studies, and relevant links, are available at <http://www.firerehab.com>. To view the article, "Making Rehab a Requirement: NFPA 1584," click on <http://www.firerehab.com/Columnists/McEvoy/articles/327047>.

The Draft Report on Proposals (F2007), NFPA Standard 1584 can be examined at no charge at <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/ROP/1584-F2007-ROP.pdf>. Free subscriptions to NFPA News, the association's newsletter of detailed information on its codes and standards activities, can be acquired at <http://www.nfpa.org/itemDetail.asp?categoryID=136&itemID=19181%&URL=Codes%20and%20Standards/NFPA%20News>. The U.S. Fire Administration's Emergency Incident Rehabilitation can be read and downloaded at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa-114.pdf>.



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