

Two-In/Two-Out Best Practice

Purpose:

To ensure 2 competent firefighters form a dedicated RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) as soon as 2 firefighters enter a structure for the purposes of interior fire attack or primary search.

Practice:

1. Assign at least 2 firefighters as RIT whenever 2 or more firefighters are assigned to interior firefighting or primary search. Thereby adopting the “2 in/ 2 out” strategy. As more firefighters are assigned to interior firefighting or primary search, more should be assigned to RIT. Staffing of at least 5 firefighters should be considered for a full RIT response.
2. Ensure firefighters operate in a buddy system and maintain voice, visual, or touch with one another at all times.
3. Ensure firefighters understand the acronym L.U.N.A.R. (Location, Unit, Name, Assignment, Resources) for giving a report during a MAYDAY.
4. Command should consider establishing automatic aid protocols to dispatch a RIT from a neighbouring fire department to augment or replace the RIT members with a dedicated RIT immediately upon arrival.
5. Provide adequate education and training to accomplish this best practice.