

OREGON TASK FORCE 1

URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE

POSITION DESCRIPTION

SEARCH TECHNICIAN



Functional Description

The Search Technician is responsible for performing the search function of the Oregon US&R Task Force incident operation. The Search Technician reports directly to a Search Company Officer or Search Team Manager.

Description of Duties

The Search Technician is responsible for:

1. Implementing technical skills and operating equipment necessary for completing the search portion of the action plan.
2. Performing rescue operations under the direct supervision of a Search Company Officer or Manager and providing periodic progress reports as needed.
3. Applying appropriate US&R tactics and techniques such as rope rescue operations, confined space rescue, shoring and stabilization, breaching, trench rescue, heavy rigging, heavy lifting operations, victim packaging, and extrication.
4. The safe and effective operation and routine field maintenance of rescue tools and equipment.
5. Adhering to all safety procedures.
6. Accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment.
7. Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned during a mission.

Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become a Search Technician in the Oregon US&R Task Force. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent information management for the urban disaster environment. The requirements and criteria for the position are identified in the following categories.

Task Force General Requirements

- A. Must be physically fit as governed by the sponsoring organization.
- B. When on assigned rotation able to mobilize within 30 minutes of request and be self sufficient for at least 72 hours.
- C. Must be capable of improvising and functioning for long hours under adverse conditions.
- D. Must be able to function safely at heights and on or around rubble.
- F. Must understand and adhere to safe working practices and procedures as required in the urban disaster environment.
- G. Must have a working knowledge of the Oregon US&R Response Systems and organizational structures, operating procedures, safety practices, terminology, knowledge of all task force equipment, and communications protocols.
- H. Must have successfully completed, as a minimum, the First Responder Operations Level for Hazardous Materials per OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response or equivalent.
- I. Must understand the needs of and provide support to their counterparts with the task force specific operations, techniques and application of tools and equipment.

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- J. Must be current on annual training on Bloodborne Pathogens per 29 CFR 1910.1030 Standard on Bloodborne Pathogens (Oregon OSHA OAR 437, Division 2/Z, Toxic and Hazardous Substances).

Skills

1. Proficient in basic fire extinguishment techniques per NFPA 1001 Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications or the standards of the sponsoring agency.
2. Proficient in rope rescue techniques (per DPSST Rope Rescue Techniques).
3. Proficient in confined space rescue techniques as per the OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.146 Permit Required Confined Spaces.
4. Proficient in shoring and stabilization techniques.
5. Use of specialized extrication equipment (per manufacturers' specifications)
6. Proficient in rescue strategy, tactics, and operations at collapse sites.

Knowledge

1. Must have successfully completed the First Responder Operations Level for Hazardous Materials as per OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response.
2. Current in a State-sanctioned Emergency Medical Technician-Basic certification or equivalent.
3. Knowledge of safety considerations during US&R operations, including the possibility and consequences of earthquake aftershocks and factors contributing to soil and structural instability.
4. Basic understanding in search unit strategy, tactics, techniques, and equipment.
 - Understanding of search terminology.
 - Basic understanding of the use, capabilities, and limitations of canine/handler team.
 - Basic understanding of canine search procedures.
 - Basic understanding of the use, capabilities and limitations of technical and electronic search devices (acoustic, sonic, seismic, fiber optic/video, etc.)
5. Basic understanding of various building construction types and the associated collapse patterns of each type.

Search Technician Requirements:

1. Successful completion by 06/01/2006
 - a. OR-TF1 Cache Course
2. FEMA Structural Collapse Technician – 80 hour course or equivalent.
3. Meets or exceeds DPSST Technician Level for rope, CSR, trench, vehicle and heavy machinery.
4. Incident Command System (I-200) or equivalent
5. Successful completion of FEMA Technical Search Course or equivalent.