

NWCG CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER #63
MODIFICATION OF REQUIRED TRAINING FOR THE ICT3 POSITION
October 4, 2004

BACKGROUND

The PMS 310-1 currently lists S-390, Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations as the only required course for the Incident Commander Type 3 (ICT3) qualification. According to the PMS 310-1 the prerequisite qualifications for ICT3 are Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4) + Task Force Leader (TFLD) **or** Strike Team Leader (STL) + 2 Single Resource Boss (SRB) + ICT4.

CURRENT STATUS

In light of events surrounding Type 3 incidents such as South Canyon, Thirty Mile and Cramer, training issues regarding the position of ICT3 have arisen. Many of these issues address the incident commander's ability to cope with the increasingly complex environment inherent to the extended attack fire. To mitigate this, enhanced training and incident commander assessments have been developed by several agencies and individual units, some of which have been the result of mandates. This strongly implies the need for formal training specific to the position of ICT3.

While ICT3 falls under the area of Command and Staff, all of the required training falls under Operations. The problem with this lies in the fact that these operations based courses fail to address some of the knowledge and skills specific to the staff and command position of ICT3. As stated in the PMS 310-1 training courses provide the specific knowledge and skills required to perform tasks identified in the PTB. This provides a direct link between training and job performance. Based upon this formula the firefighter that obtains the ICT3 qualification without going through S-300 will never receive formal training in the following areas:

- Activation of Command and Staff positions
- Delegation of duties to a support staff
- Development of an Incident Action Plan
- Submission of a complete incident documentation package
- Utilization of Incident Complexity Analysis
- Effective transfer of command
- Provide information for a WFSA

Newly developed wildland fire policy has mandated dramatic changes in the duties of the ICT3. These policies differ from agency to agency. While the standardization of agency policy in this area should always be a consideration, it is unlikely. Therefore it is imperative that a common set of critical skills and knowledge unique to the ICT3 be developed through formal training for all wildland firefighters.

The NWCG course Incident Commander Extended Attack, S-300 is currently under revision. The S-300 development group is committed to utilizing the latest innovations in training such simulations, tactical decision games and leadership.

RECOMMENDATION

The SME group revising the S-300 course recommends adding Incident Commander Extended Attack, S-300 as required training for Incident Commander Type 3.

APPROVED/DENIED

(circle one)

SIGNATURE



3/17/05

IOSWT Chair

Date

*Hold making public pending state feedback on proposal.
To be finalized on April 13, IOSWT conference call. /s/ Bob Leaverton

*6/7/05 Received final approval from IOSWT. /s/ Deb Epps

cc: Training Working Team