After further discussion with additional subject matter experts it was determined that the S-219 course should meet the needs of FFT1, ICT5 and FIRB. This issue paper has been amended to reflect the change.

BACKGROUND
The target audience for S-234 (2009 version) is Personnel desiring to be qualified as firing boss (FIRB). However, based on interviews with S-234 instructors, approximately 50–70% of the students are taking the class not to become a FIRB, but to obtain firing operations knowledge/skills. The southern geographic area is the primary area where it seems more of the students are taking the course with the intent of becoming a qualified FIRB.

Through analysis we have determined the field is using the course to meet multiple objectives including filling a knowledge/skill gap between FFT2 and FFT1 and also to meet the needs of the ICT5 and FIRB.

CURRENT STATUS
S-234 is being revised. The S-234 Development Team found that FFT1/ICT5 PTB has two tasks (#13 and 34) that are directly related to ignition operations. FFT1/ICT5 task 34 is very similar to the five FIRB tasks (94-99) in the SRB PTB; but task 34 specifically states “low complexity firing operations.”

S-234 is a foundational knowledge/skill course. Similarly, FFT1/ICT5 has S-211 and S-212 listed as “Other Training Which Supports Development of Knowledge and Skills.” S-211 and S-212 are also foundational knowledge/skill courses.

RECOMMENDATION
S-234 Development Team recommends the following changes to bridge the foundational knowledge/skill gap between FFT2 and FFT1 and support the training needs of the FFT1, ICT5 and the FIRB:

- Change course number and title to: S-219, Firing Operations
- Change the S-234 target audience to: Personnel desiring to be qualified as FFT1.
- Change course perquisites to: Qualified as FFT2.
- Course hours and course content will remain approximately the same.
- Add S-219, Firing Operations as “Other Training Which Supports Development of Knowledge and Skills” in the PMS 310-1 for FFT1.
- Target audience will be updated to: Personnel desiring to be qualified at FFT1 and personnel desiring to become a FIRB.
- Course content will be designed to meet the training needs of the FFT1, ICT5 and the FIRB.

- Note: Personnel desiring to become qualified as FIRB will obtain the additional complexity knowledge and skills needed for the position through experience.
APPROVED // DENIED

SIGNATURE

October 23, 2013

NWCG Training Branch Manager

Date

cc: Geographic Area Training Representatives