



# FIRESCOPE QUARTERLY BRIEF JANUARY 2024



OCFA HANGER 1 FIRE – NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Photo Credit: Tustin Police Instagram

CHEMTREC

# HAZMAT OFFICER OF THE YEAR



**Battalion Chief  
Robert Rezende  
San Diego Fire-Rescue  
FIRESCOPE Task Force Secretary**



CHEMTREC has recently honored our FIRESCOPE Task Force Secretary, Battalion Chief Robert Rezende, as the 2023 Hazmat Officer of the Year. FIRESCOPE salutes Battalion Chief Rezende for his outstanding fire service leadership!

# DEPARTING ACCOLADES



**Chief Dean Zipperman**  
**Los Angeles Fire Department**  
**37 years of service**

Member of FIRESCOPE Task Force and Operations



**Chief Mark Kendall**  
**CalFire**  
**28 years of State service**

FIRESCOPE Operations Chair

FIRESCOPE would like to thank Chief Zipperman and Chief Kendall for their leadership, commitment, and contributions to the fire service in California! Their selfless dedication embodies the spirit and mission of FIRESCOPE.

# NEW BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS & PARTNER AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES



**Jennifer Hinckley**  
**Fish and Wildlife**  
**Service**  
FIRESCOPE Board  
Director



**Chief Mario Rueda**  
**National Fire**  
**Protection**  
**Association (NFPA)**  
FIRESCOPE Partner  
Agency



**Chief Erik Litzenberg**  
**International**  
**Association of Fire**  
**Chiefs (IAFC)**  
FIRESCOPE Partner  
Agency



**Aitor Bidaburu**  
**US Fire**  
**Administration &**  
**NWCG**  
FIRESCOPE Partner  
Agency



**Scott Carpenter**  
**National Oceanic**  
**and Atmospheric**  
**Administration**  
FIRESCOPE Partner  
Agency

*FIRESCOPE also recognizes:*

*Board Director Nathan Gogna – US Bureau of Indian Affairs*  
*Partner Agency – Dante Randazzo/Susan Waller - FEMA Region 9*  
*Richard Sexton - National Fire Academy*  
*Kim Zagaris – Western Fire Chiefs Association*

# MUTUAL-AID IN ACTION

## MAUI FIRE RESPONSE

### Maui Fires CalOES Mutual Aid Support

#### FEMA

30 Miscellaneous Overhead  
1 US&R CA-TF6 (Riverside)

#### EMAC

7 Local Government Fire Agency Overhead  
9 Local Government Emergency Management Personnel  
12 CalOES Overhead  
1 CAL FIRE Incident Management Team (included CHP and LG Fire)  
14 Miscellaneous State Agency Personnel





# **CALOES HAZMAT MOBILIZATION EXERCISE (MOBEX) SAN FRANCISCO**

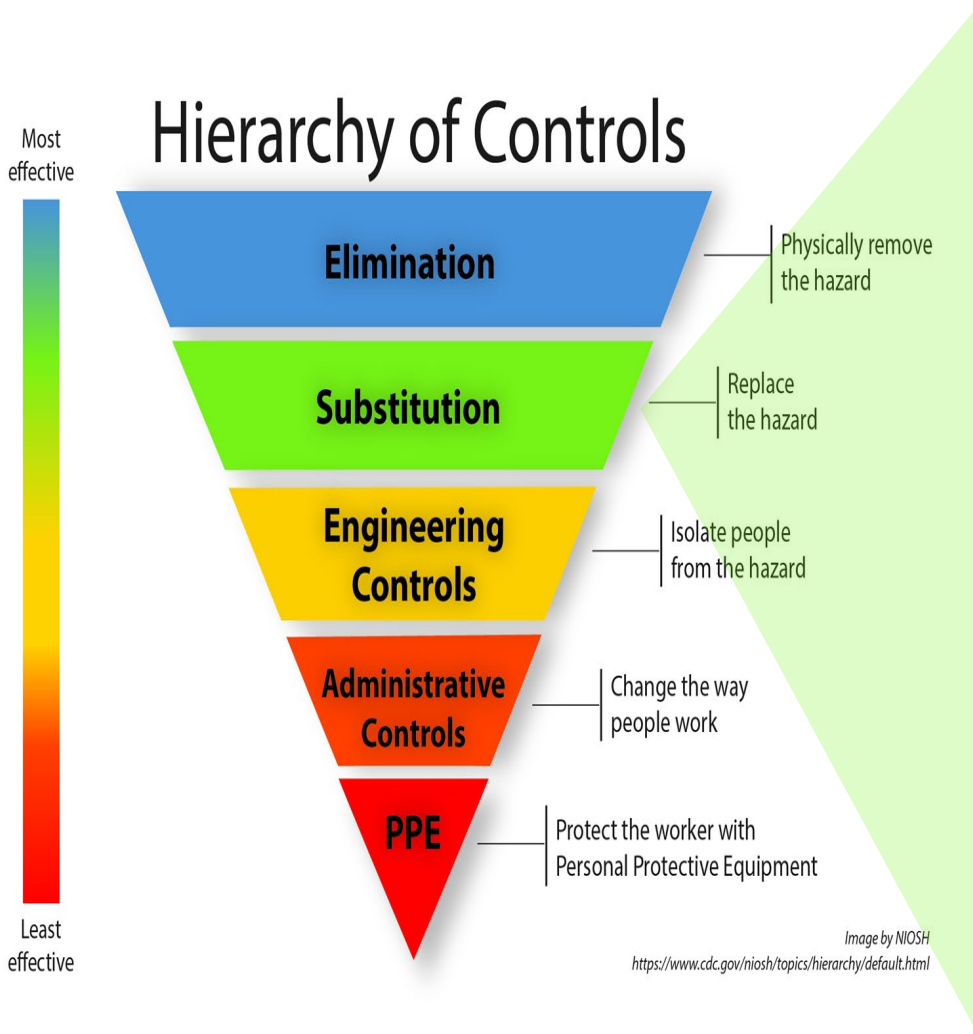
## **TYPE I MOBILIZATION**

- 3 TYPE I HAZMAT UNITS
  - 23 HAZMAT SPECIALISTS
  - 2 TASK FORCE LEADERS
- HM 12 – LOS ANGELES FIRE
- HM 52 – FRESNO FIRE
- HM 61 – SAN DIEGO FIRE-RESCUE

## **TRAINING**

- WMD RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS
- HAZARD ASSESSMENT
- INTEGRATION BETWEEN CALOES HAZMAT UNITS
- INTEGRATION WITH LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL AGENCIES
- EQUIPMENT FAMILIARIZATION

# THE NIOSH HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS FOR EXPOSURE REDUCTION: SUBSTITUTION



- While eliminating sources of exposure is the most effective way to reduce cancer risk for firefighters, **substituting** sources of exposure for less hazardous ones whenever possible is also highly effective.
- Substitution approaches can be applied at little to no cost in emergency and non-emergency settings to keep firefighters healthy.
- The Hierarchy of Controls is not a checklist, it is an approach that can be applied in a multitude of formats by all members of the fire service.

### *Policy Development*

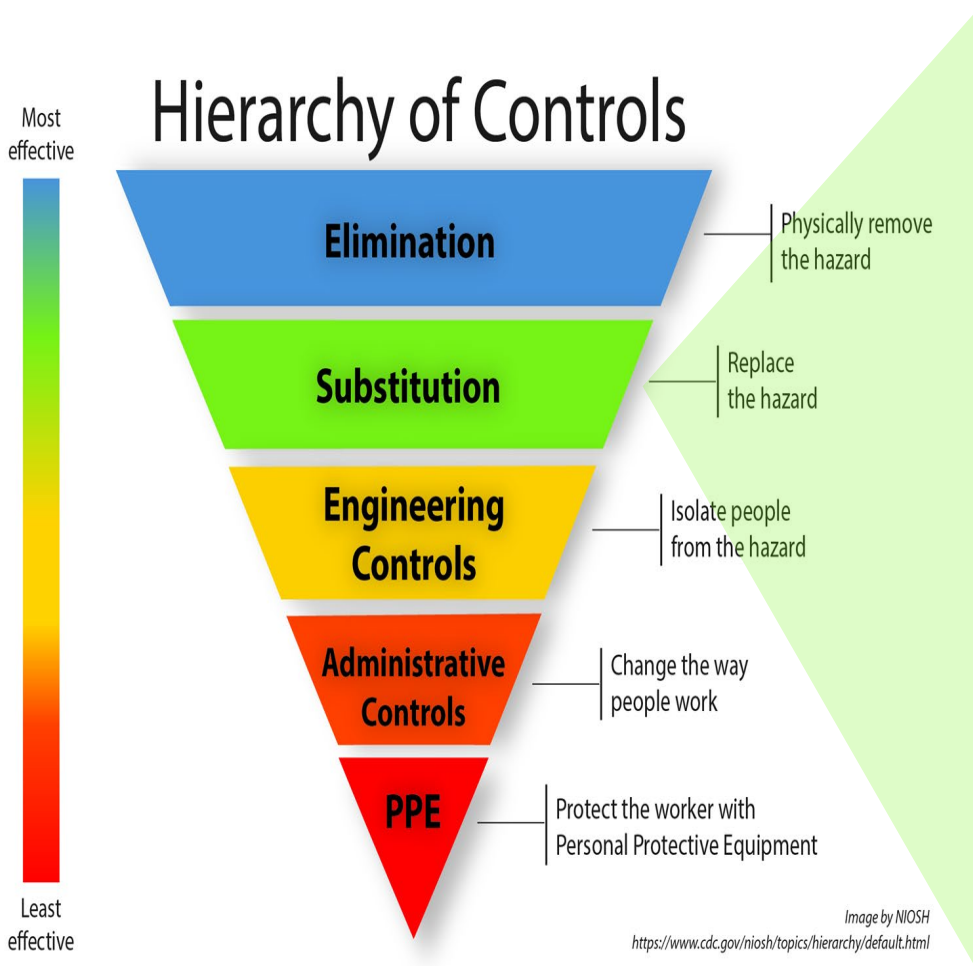
### *Culture*

### *Lifestyle (e.g. diet)*

- The following are some examples of how substitution can be applied in the fire service. These are also excellent topics for constructive discussions:
- **Diet - Processed Meat:** The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classifies the consumption of processed meat as a Group 1 known human carcinogen [1]. Processed meat refers to any meat that has been treated by industrial processes such as: salting, curing, fermentation, smoking, or any other process that enhances flavor or extends preservation. Examples include but are not limited to bacon, sausages, canned corned beef, pepperoni, and dried/salted meats [1]. Note that industrial processing is distinct from home preparation and a comprehensive review of this topic can be found in Reference [1] below. Dietary substitutions that replace processed meats with unprocessed meats are an easy and effective way for firefighters to reduce cancer risk and improve overall health and fitness.

[1] <https://monographs.iarc.who.int/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/mono114.pdf> Accessed on Nov 27, 2023

# THE NIOSH HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS FOR EXPOSURE REDUCTION: **SUBSTITUTION**



- **Cleaning and Disinfecting Products:** Many cleaning and disinfecting products contain hazardous chemicals, some of which are known carcinogens such as ethylene oxide and formaldehyde. Maintaining a high standard of cleanliness and disinfecting EMS equipment are essential duties in the fire service, but the use of cleaning and disinfecting products should be limited to their intended applications with the use of appropriate PPE. Substituting mild soaps, detergents, and even simple hot water, when possible, can reduce firefighters' exposures to hazardous chemicals.
- **Live Fire Training Fuel Packages:** Published research examining biomarkers of exposure to carcinogenic products of combustion in firefighters participating in live fire training has demonstrated that the use of engineered wood products bonded with synthetic resins such as OSB and plywood resulted in markedly higher exposure to carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and benzene as compared to propane or untreated lumber such as spruce and pine which resulted in lower exposures [2,3]. Leading fire service cancer researchers have recommended against the use of engineered wood products bonded with synthetic resins in training fires to reduce firefighters' cancer risk [2,4,5]. Training is an essential component of the fire service that must be prioritized, and live fire training objectives can be met while reducing carcinogenic exposures by substituting the use of engineered wood products bonded with synthetic resins in favor of less hazardous alternatives.

[2] Laitinen, Juha, et al. "Fire fighting trainers' exposure to carcinogenic agents in smoke diving simulators." *Toxicology letters* 192.1 (2010): 61-65.  
[3] Fent, Kenneth W., et al. "Firefighters' and instructors' absorption of PAHs and benzene during training exercises." *International journal of hygiene and environmental health* 222.7 (2019): 991-1000.  
[4] <https://www.ffcs.org/component/edocman/live-fire-training-instructors/download?Itemid=0> Accessed on Nov 27, 2023.  
[5] Fent, Kenneth W., et al. "Understanding airborne contaminants produced by different fuel packages during training fires." *Journal of occupational and environmental hygiene* (2019).

# NEWLY APPROVED DOCUMENTS AND UPDATES



[Firing Checklist – ICS 610](#)



[Hazmat MEL](#)



[Search and Rescue ICS 162](#)



[Night Flying Guidelines](#)

*\* Documents are externally linked pending ADA formatting compliance*

# FIRE INTEGRATED REAL-TIME INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM PROGRAM (FIRIS) & SLACK

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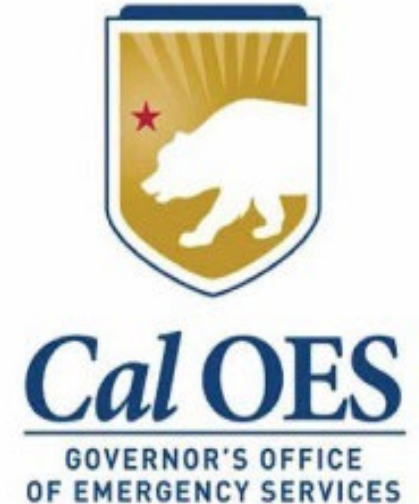
CAL FIRE and Cal OES have enabled SLACK to empower clear communication channels that will provide real-time Intelligence to, All hazard First Responders, and Others. With this implementation, we will increase the efficiency of first responders and decision-makers to save lives, property, and the environment while rapidly responding to California's 38 million residents who need us most.

## **Background:**

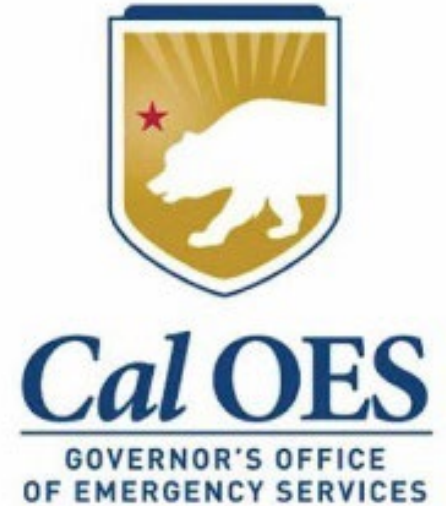
The WhatsApp application served as the official application since 2019 that provided the California First Responder community and supporting agencies a means to receive Fire Integrated Real-Time Intelligence and Information from 2 state of the art aircraft strategically positioned in Southern and Northern California.

As the Fire Integrated Real-Time Intelligence System (FIRIS) Program transitions from the Orange County Fire Authority to the State of California, Cal OES elected to migrate from WhatsApp to a more robust, secure application known as Slack.

**The FIRIS Slack Application rolled out in full production to the California Fire Service on June 15, 2023.**



# FIRE INTEGRATED REAL-TIME INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM PROGRAM (FIRIS) & SLACK continued...



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## The FIRIS Slack Application will provide the following:

Incident alerts of emergent incidents (Fire Rescue Mutual Region Specific and statewide channel)

Wildland Fire Modeling with 3-hour spread projections without fire suppression.

FIRIS aircraft intel that includes perimeters, videos, and snapshots.

All hazard Intelligence and Information (earthquake, Tsunami, flood, mud, and debris)

To register see the FIRIS Slack Application QR Code.

Due to licensing, access is limited to your assigned Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Regional channel. If you require additional access to the other Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Regions, you will have the option to receive FIRIS intelligence and Information in a Statewide channel.



FIRIS SLACK  
APPLICATION



SLACK TRAINING  
VIDEO

# INTTERRA NEXT GEN SCOUT INTTERRA

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)—in collaboration with CAL FIRE has implemented Next Generation (NG or Nex-Gen) SCOUT (Situation Awareness and Collaboration Tool) powered by Intterra. This tool provides the California first responder community, emergency response coordinators, and other supporting agencies with a web-based tactical and operational response platform to assist in communication, coordination, and collaboration. The Next-Gen Scout tool went into live production to the California Fire Service on May 31, 2023.

In February 2021, project efforts started for planning and implementing a modernized Common Operation Picture (COP) solution to serve as Nex Gen SCOUT. In June 2022, the project finalized solution analysis and formed an agreement with Intterra. In December 2022, project activities focused platform configuration and preparing for rollout.

Phase 2 of the project will include other disciplines such as response, Law, and Emergency Medical Services.

A governance charter is being established in the very near future and will be signed between Cal OES and CAL FIRE. The structure includes an Executive Committee responsible for NG SCOUT vision, strategy and funding decisions, a supporting Steering Committee to manage program operations and Training, Operations and Technical Subcommittees to address defined operational needs.

There is only one level of administration for the NG SCOUT platform:

Agency Administrator is responsible for the following:

- Determine the SCOUT strategy overseeing statewide use of SCOUT, platform maintenance and support, and managing the training curriculum.
- Participating Agency management, coordination, and support.
- Manage the Participating Agency's SCOUT standard operating procedures, user account administration, user training and helpdesk support.

# INTTERRA NEXT GEN SCOUT **INTTERRA**

Authorized users will be able to create, view, search and add incident information based on user roles and permissions for a variety of incident types, including but not limited to wildland fires, floods, search & rescue missions, special events, earthquakes, and homeland security incidents. NG SCOUT integrates incident information with other relevant geographical information, such as weather conditions, road conditions, utilities, census information, known hazards, and government boundaries.

Authorized users can access NG SCOUT through any network connected device (e.g., PC, laptop, tablet, or smartphone) that is approved through their agency. There is no direct cost to the agency or user for operating expenses associated with maintaining, supporting, and operating the NG SCOUT platform.

Agencies interested in joining NG SCOUT will be required to review and complete the NG SCOUT Agency Participating Agreement prior to receiving an account.

For training and Next Gen Scout information, agencies use this QR code:



# FIRESCOPE's MISSION AND VISION



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of FIRESCOPE is to provide recommendations and technical guidance to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) on matters involving mutual aid; to maintain the FIRESCOPE decision process; and to continue the operation, development, and maintenance of the FIRESCOPE Incident Command System (ICS) and the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS)

## FIRESCOPE VISION STATEMENT

The FIRESCOPE vision is to continue national leadership in the development of all-hazard incident and multi-agency coordination systems, to enhance and encourage full participation by the California fire service in the statewide Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and to provide a common voice for the California fire service relating to these issues.

January 2024

# FIRESCOPE ADVISORY MESSAGE



**Deputy Chief Jim Johnstone**  
[James.johnstone@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:James.johnstone@caloes.ca.gov)  
951.312.8966



The Quarterly Brief is intended to be widely shared among the California fire service, its federal partners, and affected stakeholders.

Agency Administrators, or responsible representatives, should ensure that this material is thoroughly reviewed and communicated within their respective organizations.

**VISIT THE FIRESCOPE WEBSITE:**  
<https://firescope.caloes.ca.gov>

