Northwest Arkansas Metropolitan Fire Chiefs' Association

Apparatus Typing and Nomenclature Guide

Last Updated: August 2013

List of Revisions

August 2013	Updated Aerial Apparatus Sheet (FEMA 508 v20130530)

Introduction

In 2013 the Northwest Arkansas Metropolitan Fire Chiefs' Association (NWAFCA) determined that it would be prudent to standardize apparatus naming and resources typing to more closely adhere to the requirements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). As part of that effort, a subcommittee was formed to explore the current apparatus resource typing situation and standardize apparatus in the region. Those committee members included:

Kyle Curry – Assistant Chief, Fayetteville Fire Department
Bryan Hinds – Deputy Chief, Rogers Fire Department
Tom Jenkins – Fire Chief, Rogers Fire Department
Greg Neely – Fire Chief, Siloam Springs Fire Department
Marc Trollinger – Fire Marshal, Benton County
Jimmy Vaughn – Division Chief, Springdale Fire Department

The goals of the subcommittee were to:

1. Identify ways to implement NIMS terminology and resource typing into the areas daily operations.
2. Standardize radio call signs and nomenclature to reflect standard definitions.
3. Improve mutual aid interoperability.

The subcommittee met twice in the months of May and June 2013 and developed the attached guide. It is recognized that many different variations of apparatus can be developed to address multiple missions and purposes. Because of this, all apparatus that don't clearly fit into the categories described should be submitted for typing to the NWAFCA at a monthly meeting.

This resource typing guide is designed for use during local and regional incidents. This document compliments the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) document titled "Typed Resource Definitions" for various resource types. Although this guide adheres to NIMS resource typing wherever possible, some resources that are not FEMA-typed are classified regionally in this guide. In addition, the committee offers some deviations from NIMS for local mutual aid incidents where nationally definitions are unrealistic or not applicable. Those deviations are noted conspicuously in this document.

The FEMA guides used to define Tier I resources for this project included:

- FEMA 508-3, Emergency Medical Services Resources
- FEMA 508-4, Fire and Hazardous Materials Resources
- FEMA 508-8, Search and Rescue Resources

Typing Process

The following steps are provided to help departments type apparatus into their appropriate categories.

1. Identify the specific mission of the apparatus. Many apparatus are multi-purpose, however *most* still have a single basic mission. For example, a basic fire engine (pumper) has the basic mission of fire suppression, although it may serve as an emergency medical first response vehicle, carry extrication equipment and have a water tank large enough to be considered a tender. The mission of the apparatus will allow it to be classified for resource typing purposes. The classification categories of apparatus are provided below:

a. Engines / Pumpers / Brush Units
b. Ladders
c. Tenders (Including Foam)
d. Medical Response (Transport and Non-transport)
e. Boat
f. Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF)
g. Support or Service Unit
h. Hazardous Materials Response
i. Technical Rescue Response

2. Use the appropriate guide page, based on classification, to determine the typing of the unit.

3. Units with a classification <u>other than technical rescue</u> may still be capable of carrying basic rescue equipment that is commonly requested during mutual aid situations. These apparatus receive a special classification by adding “Rescue” to the front of their radio designator or call sign. The minimum equipment to be carried to use this typing is:

- hydraulic extrication equipment (spreader, cutter, ram, and cribbing – combination tool also acceptable)
- water rescue equipment (PFD, throw bags)

This naming feature may be used in conjunction with Engines, Ladders, Tenders, and Medical Response units.

Category: Fire Suppression
Kind: Fire Engine, Pumper
Resource Tier: 1 (NIMS classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-4, NWCG	FEMA 508-4, NWCG	FEMA 508-4, NWCG	FEMA 508-4, NWCG
Radio Designation	"Engine"	"Engine"	"Brush"	"Brush"
Minimum Staffing	3 (NIMS: 4)	3	3	2
Training	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum Equipment	1000 GPM Pump, 400 gallon water tank, 1,200 feet of supply hose, 400 feet of attack hose, 200 feet of booster hose	500 GPM Pump, 400 gallon water tank, 1,000 feet of supply hose, 500 feet of attack hose, 300 feet of booster hose	150 GPM Pump, 500 gallon water tank, 1000 feet of attack hose, 500 feet of booster hose, Pump and Roll	50 GPM Pump, 750 gallon water tank, 300 feet of attack hose, 300 feet of booster hose, Pump and Roll

NWAFCA Type	Type V	Type VI	Type VII
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-4, NWCG	FEMA 508-4, NWCG	FEMA 508-4, NWCG
Radio Designation	"Brush"	"Brush"	"Brush"
Minimum Staffing	2	2	2
Training	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum Equipment	50 GPM Pump, 400 gallon water tank, 300 feet of attack hose, 300 feet of booster hose, Pump and Roll	50 GPM Pump, 150 gallon water tank, 300 feet of attack hose, 300 feet of booster hose, Pump and Roll	10 GPM Pump, 50 gallon water tank, 200 feet of booster hose, Pump and Roll

Notes:

1. FEMA reference 508-4, Page 7 (7/20/2005)
2. NWCG reference #006-2008, Page 3 (October 2007)
3. NWAFCA permits a minimum staffing deviation on Type I for local mutual aid incidents.

Category: Fire Suppression
Kind: Ladder
Resource Tier: 1 (NIMS classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type II	Type II
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4
Radio Designation	"Ladder"	"Ladder"	"Ladder"	"Ladder"
Minimum Staffing	3 (NIMS: 4)	3 (NIMS: 4)	3 (NIMS: 4)	3 (NIMS: 4)
Training	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum Equipment	76-100 feet aerial length 500 GPM ladder pipe 115 feet – ground ladders 750-1250 GPM Pump	76-100 feet aerial length 500 GPM ladder pipe 115 feet – ground ladders	55-75 feet aerial length 500 GPM ladder pipe 115 feet – ground ladders 750-1250 GPM Pump	55-75 feet aerial length 500 GPM ladder pipe 115 feet – ground ladders

Notes:

1. FEMA reference 508-4, Page 9 (7/20/2005)
2. NWAFCA permits a minimum staffing deviation on Type I and II for local mutual aid incidents.
3. Since the majority of ladders have a pump and water, it is expected that company officers will notify the incident commander if they lack this equipment even though it is not required.

Category: Fire Suppression
Kind: Tender, water
Resource Tier: 1 (NIMS classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type III
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4
Radio Designation	"Tender"	"Tender"	"Tender"
Minimum Staffing	1	1	1
Training	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum Equipment	2000 gallons of water, 300 GPM pump	1000 gallons of water, 120 GPM pump	1000 gallons of water, 50 GPM pump

Notes:

1. FEMA reference 508-4, Page 33 (7/20/2005)
2. If tenders are expected to operate tactically (structural interface or protection) minimum staffing is increased to two (2) firefighters.

Category: Emergency Medical Services
Kind: Ambulances (Ground)
Resource Tier: 1 (NIMS classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-3	FEMA 508-3	FEMA 508-3	FEMA 508-3
Radio Designation	"Medic"	"Medic"	"Ambulance"	"Ambulance"
Minimum Staffing	2 (1 PM, 1 EMT)	2 (1 PM, 1 EMT)	2 (1 EMT, 1 EMR)	2 (1 EMT, 1 EMR)
Training	ALS + Haz-Mat Operations	ALS	BLS + Haz-Mat Operations	BLS
Minimum Equipment	2 patient capacity	2 patient capacity	2 patient capacity	2 patient capacity

Notes:

1. FEMA reference 508-3, Page 10 (3/01/2009)
2. Type I and III ambulances should be capable of transporting patients who have been potentially contaminated by hazardous materials.

Category: Emergency Medical Services
Kind: Medical Response, Non-Transport
Resource Tier: 2 (Locally classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I
NIMS Typing	N/A
Radio Designation	“Squad”
Minimum Staffing	2 (at least one EMR or EMT)
Training	BLS
Minimum Equipment	BLS

Notes:

1. This is a locally-developed resource type designed to describe quick-response or similar type units where the primary mission is to respond to medical incidents to assist ambulance crews.

Category: Fire Suppression & Search and Rescue
Kind: Boats (Fire Suppression and Rescue)
Resource Tier: 1 (NIMS classified – Fire Boats), 2 (Locally classified – Rescue Boats)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type III	Type IV
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4
Radio Designation	"Fire Boat"	"Fire Boat"	"Fire Boat"	"Rescue Boat"
Minimum Staffing	2	2	2	2
Training	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum Equipment	5,000 GPM	1,000 GPM	250 GPM	None

Notes:

1. FEMA reference 508-4, Page 8 (7/20/2005)
2. This resource type is to be used for boats that are hard-hulled and capable of sustained operations, not quick-deployment inflatable boats.

Category: Fire Suppression
Kind: Foam Tender
Resource Tier: 1 (NIMS classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4
Radio Designation	“Foam”	“Foam”
Minimum Staffing	1	1
Training	N/A	N/A
Minimum Equipment	500 gallons	250 gallons

Notes:

1. FEMA reference 508-4, Page 10 (7/20/2005)

Category: Fire Suppression
Kind: Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting
Resource Tier: 2 (Locally classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I
NIMS Typing	N/A
Radio Designation	“ARFF”
Minimum Staffing	1
Training	N/A
Minimum Equipment	Foam proportioner or injection system with pump, 100 gallons of FAA foam

Notes:

1. FIRESCOPE reference Field Operations Guide Page 13-3

Category: Fire Suppression
Kind: Support Units
Resource Tier: 2 (Locally classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type III
NIMS Typing	N/A	N/A	N/A
Radio Designation	"Light"	"Air"	"Support"
Minimum Staffing	1	1	1
Training	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum Equipment	Light Tower and other ground lighting with generator	Breathing air support	General incident support (rehabilitation, etc), not otherwise specified

Notes:

1. The radio designations for these units can be combined within this typing to better describe the various kind of support provided by the unit. For example, a unit carrying breathing air equipment, light tower, ground lighting and a generator should be called an "Air and Light" unit.

Category: Hazardous Materials
Kind: Hazardous Materials Response Team / Company
Resource Tier: 1 (NIMS classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type III
NIMS Typing	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4	FEMA 508-4
Radio Designation	"Haz-Mat"	"Haz-Mat"	"Haz-Mat"
Minimum Staffing	3 (NIMS: 5)	3 (NIMS: 5)	3 (NIMS: 5)
Training	Haz-Mat Technician	Haz-Mat Technician	Haz-Mat Technician
Minimum Equipment	Intervention, decontamination, PPE, technical reference, sampling to manage WMD chemical and biological incidents as well as known and unknown chemicals.	Intervention, decontamination, PPE, technical reference, sampling to manage incidents involving known and unknown chemicals. Radiation monitoring: Alpha, Gamma and Beta	Intervention, decontamination, PPE, technical reference, sampling to manage incidents involving known chemicals. Minimum monitoring: Oxygen deficiency, lower explosive limit (LEL), Carbon Monoxide, and Hydrogen Sulfide. Radiation monitoring: Gamma and Beta

Notes:

1. FEMA reference 508-4, Page 16 (7/20/2005)
2. Hazardous materials response units may be combined with other on-duty resources to meet the minimum response requirements.

Category: Search and Rescue
Kind: Rescue Apparatus
Resource Tier: 2 (Locally classified)

NWAFCA Type	Type I	Type II	Type III
NIMS Typing	N/A	N/A	N/A
Radio Designation	"Rescue"	"Rescue"	"Rescue"
Minimum Staffing	2	2	2
Training	Vehicle and machinery extrication, water rescue, rope rescue (high angle), confined space rescue	Vehicle and machinery extrication, water rescue, rope rescue (high angle)	Vehicle and machinery extrication, water rescue
Minimum Equipment	Hydraulic extrication equipment, cribbing, PFD, throw bags, rescue rope and associated hardware, confined space rescue equipment, SCBAs	Hydraulic extrication equipment, cribbing, PFD, throw bags, rescue rope and associated hardware	Hydraulic extrication equipment, cribbing, PFD, throw bags

Notes:

1. Technical rescue response units may be combined with other on-duty resources to meet the minimum response requirements.
2. Specialized rescue units that have finite and specific missions should be titled appropriately. Examples include:
    a. Collapse Rescue – US&R, trench, etc
    b. Cave Rescue