

How to Speak Incident Command - February 2003

A quick and incomplete guide to some of the acronyms you may encounter

- AD#** Administratively Determined. A category of temporary employment on a fire. The number denotes the level of pay.
- AFMO** Assistant Fire Management Officer
- BDU** Battle Dress Utility. A specific style "cut" of the current nomex pants the National Cache system is changing to.
- BIA** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior
- BIFC** Boise Interagency Fire Center, now called National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC)
- BLM** Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior
- CEQ** President's Council on Environmental Quality
- CTR** Crew Time Report, filled out daily and submitted to the Time Unit on large incidents
- CWN** Call When Needed
- C Number** Crew number
- DIC** Deputy Incident Commander
- DOI** Department of Interior, parent of the BIA, BLM, NPS, FWS
- DP#** Drop points are numbered and marked locations on a fire where people meet, equipment is exchanged, and resources may be stationed.
- EOC** Emergency Operating Centers, part of the ICS, also called Expanded Dispatch. Emergency Command and Control Centers, etc. EOCs are used in various ways at all levels of government and within private industry to provide coordination, direction, and control during emergencies. EOC facilities can be used to house Area Command and MACS activities as determined by agency or jurisdiction policy.
- ETA** Estimated Time of Arrival
- ETD** Estimated Time of Departure
- E number** Equipment number
- FMO** Fire Management Officer
- FIO** Fire Information Officer - person who deals with the news media.
- FLHB** Fire Line Hand Book put out by NWCG.
- FOIA** Freedom of Information Act
- FS** United States Forest Service
- FWS** Fish and Wildlife Service
- GACC** Geographic Area Coordination Center. There are 10 GACC's around the country: Alaska, California, Northwest Eastern Great Basin, Western Great Basin, Northern Rockies, Rocky Mountain, Eastern, and Southern.
- GS** Ground Support
- General Message** A yellow, 3 copies, form used for requesting items or sharing information
- IA** Initial attack
- IAP** Incident Action Plan for an incident contains objectives reflecting the overall incident strategy and specific tactical actions and supporting information for the next operational period.

IC Incident Command or Incident Commander (ICT#, with the numbers 1 through 5 being the Types; For example, a Type 1 team is a national level team, Type 2 team is a regional team, etc.)

ICP Incident Command Post, part of the ICS, the Incident Commander (IC) is located at an Incident Command Post (ICP) at the incident scene. Defined as the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedure and communications operating within a common organizational structure

ICS Incident Command System, an on-scene structure of management-level positions suitable for managing any incident.

ICT Incident Command Team

IIBMH Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook.

IIMT Interagency Incident Management Team. Type 1 and Type 2 teams from around the United States that are called in to manage large fires and other kinds of natural and man-made disasters

JHA Job Hazard Analysis

KISS Keep It Simple Stupid

LCES Lookouts, communication, escape routes, safety zones

LE Law Enforcement - generally used to refer to some action going on at the Incident.

LEO Law Enforcement Officer (as in FS LEO)

LMA Land Management Agencies (FS, BLM, NPS, FWS, etc)

MAC Multiple Agency Coordinating Center, part of the ICS. An activity or a formal system used to coordinate resources and support between agencies or jurisdictions. A MAC Group functions within the MACS, which interact with agencies or jurisdictions, not with incidents. MACS are useful for regional situations. A MACS can be established at a jurisdictional EOC or at a separate facility.

MOA Memorandum of Agreement, agreements the federal government makes with other autonomous entities, such as Tribes

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

NIFC National Interagency Fire Center, Boise, Idaho

NWCG National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group provides standards for prescribed burns, fire classes, and training.

OAS Office of Aircraft Services

OH Overhead

O number Order number

OPS Operations

PPE Personal Protective Equipment including nomex pants and shirt, hardhat, gloves, boots, and fire shelter.

PTBs Position Task Books, they contain all critical tasks which are required to perform the job. Successful completion of the tasks during OJT is the basis for recommending red card certification for that job.

R1 These are U.S. Forest Service Regions. Other land management agencies have different regional boundaries. **Region 1** 'Northern Region', including parts of Montana and South Dakota. **R2** Region 2 'Rocky Mountain Region', includes parts of Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Nebraska. **R3** Region 3 'Southwest Region', including parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma. **R4** Region 4 'Intermountain Region' or Great Basin, including parts of Idaho, Utah and Wyoming & Nevada. **R5** Region 5 'Pacific Southwest', California, Hawaii, Guam, and other Pacific Islands. **R6** Region 6 'Pacific Northwest', Oregon and Washington. **R8** Region 8 'Southern Region', including parts of Arkansas, and North and South Carolina. **R9** Region 9 'Eastern Region', includes Forests on twenty states. **R10** Region 10 'Alaska Region', Alaska.

RA Resource Advisor

SIT REPORT Interagency Management Situation Report summarizes statistics on the fires burning across the United States by individual fire, region, for both prescribed burns and wildfires and reports resources that are committed on that day.

STL Strike team leader

S number Supply number

"204" form A daily form used to outline the division or group assignments in the incident action plan

"209" form A daily form used to report accomplishments and status of the incident. Includes number of resources committed, agencies involved and costs to date.

TIC Trainee Incident Commander

TFLD Task Force Leader

UAC Unified Area Command or Area Command, part of the ICS, established as necessary to provide command authority and coordination for two or more incidents in close proximity. Area Command works directly with Incident Commanders. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multi-jurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an EOC facility or at a location other than an ICP.

UC Unified Command, an application of the ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction. Agencies work together through their designated Incident Commanders at a single ICP to establish a common set of objectives and strategies, and a single Incident Action Plan.