Unit 6: Unified Command



Unit Objectives

- Define Unified Command.
- List the advantages of Unified Command.
- Identify the primary features of Unified Command.
- Differentiate between command and coordination.

Unit List

- ✓ Course Overview
- ✓ ICS Overview
- ✓ ICS Features & Principles
- ✓ Incident Commander & Command Staff Functions
- ✓ General Staff Functions
- → Unified Command
- Course Summary –
 Putting It All Together

Activity: Optimal Strategy

Instructions: Working individually . . .

- 1. Review the scenario presented in the Student Manual and select the optimal strategy that provides the best solution.
- 2. Be prepared to share your answer in 5 minutes.



Unified Command

The Unified Command organization consists of the Incident Commanders from the various jurisdictions or organizations operating together to form a single command structure.



Fire &
Rescue
Incident
Commander

Local Law
Enforcement
Incident
Commander

HazMat Incident Commander



Unified Command Benefits

- A shared understanding of priorities and restrictions.
- A single set of incident objectives.
- Collaborative strategies.
- Improved internal and external information flow.
- Less duplication of efforts.
- Better resource utilization.





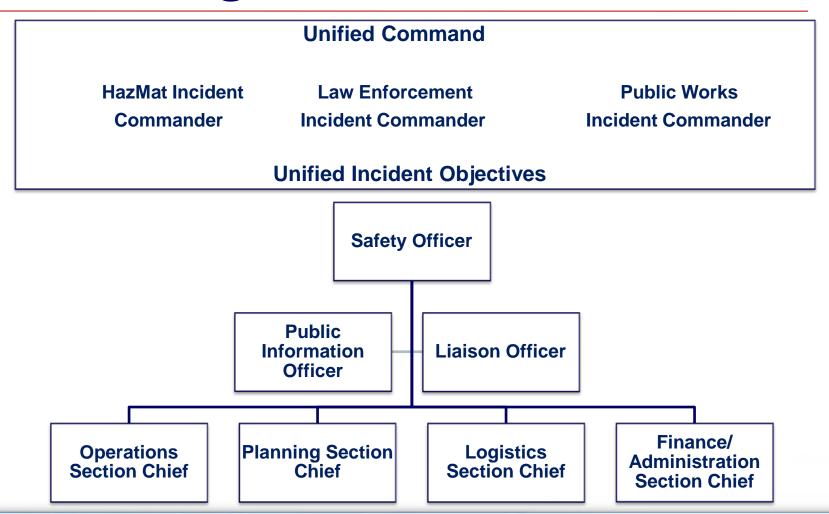


Unified Command Features



- A single integrated incident organization
- Co-located (shared) facilities
- One set of incident objectives, single planning process, and Incident Action Plan
- Integrated General Staff –
 Only one Operations Section
- Coordinated process for resource ordering

Possible Organization





Discussion Question

What are potential barriers to implementing Unified Command?



Making Unified Command Work

- Include key community response personnel.
- Make sure that first responders know their legal and ethical responsibilities.
- Learn ICS.
- Train and exercise together.



Incident Coordination



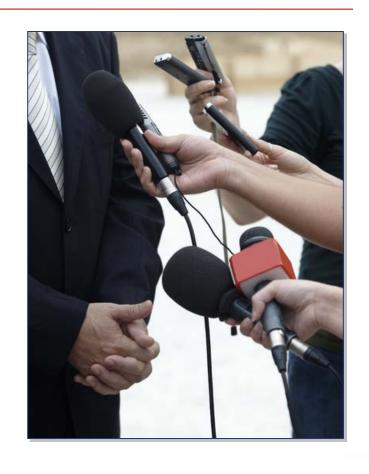
Coordination activities include:

- Establishing policy.
- Collecting information.
- Establishing priorities.
- Resolving resource issues.
- Facilitating support.
- Synchronizing public messages.

Joint Information Center

The Joint Information Center (JIC):

- May be established to coordinate public information activities.
- Serves as the central point of contact for all news media.



Activity: Unified Command

Instructions: Working as a team . . .

- 1. Review the scenario and questions presented in the Student Manual.
- 2. Refer to the quick-reference guides in the Student Manual as needed.
- 3. Select a spokesperson and be prepared to present your work in 20 minutes.



Summary

Are you now able to:

- Define Unified Command?
- List the advantages of Unified Command?
- Identify the primary features of Unified Command?
- Differentiate between command and coordination?

Unit List

- ✓ Course Overview
- ✓ ICS Overview
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