

The Woodlands Fire Department Operational Guidelines

F-06 – TWO IN/TWO OUT

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To establish guidelines for firefighting personnel entering IDLH atmospheres on initial fire attack that comply with the requirements set forth by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

2.0 DEFINITION

- 2.1 IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health) – Any atmosphere that poses an immediate hazard to life, or that produces immediate, irreversible, debilitating effects on health. Potential indicators include:
 - A. Lack of visibility due to smoke condition
 - B. Presence of extreme heat
 - C. Rapid deterioration of interior/exterior of structure

3.0 GUIDELINE

- 3.1 Fire crews will not enter a structure in which one or more potential indicators of an IDLH atmosphere exists until the two in/two out requirements are met.
- 3.2 Apparatus staffed with a minimum of four personnel meet the two in/two out requirements and may initiate an interior attack prior to the arrival of additional apparatus. Apparatus staffed with less than four personnel do not meet the two in/two out requirements and must wait for a second apparatus to arrive on location prior to making an interior attack.
- 3.3 One outside crew member must be dedicated to monitoring the status of interior crew members while the second outside crew member may assume other duties such as the pump operator or the IC.
- 3.4 Anytime human life is in jeopardy, fire (rescue) crews may enter the structure without the required minimum two outside personnel.
- 3.5 When fire crews enter non-IDLH atmospheres and conditions change resulting in a suspected IDLH atmosphere, interior crews must verify that two standby personnel are available outside the structure, or they must exit the structure immediately.