



Designation: F3024 – 13 (Reapproved 2022)

# Standard Guide for Training of a Land Search and Rescue (SAR) Strike Team/ Task Force Leader<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F3024; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This guide establishes the minimum training for Land SAR Strike Team/Task Force Leaders as it relates to their general, field, and search and rescue specific knowledge, skills, and abilities.

1.2 A Land SAR Strike Team Leader/Task Force Leader is responsible for direct supervision, general leadership, wellness, and safety of multiple SAR teams and resources operating on all land and water environments, including intertidal areas, but not oceans or swiftwater.

1.3 Type I-IV teams which may utilize personnel trained to this guide are Kind A (wilderness), Kind B (urban), and Kind C (mountainous/alpine), Kind D (disaster/collapse), Kind E (inland water), Kind G (cave), Kind H (mine), Kind I (avalanche), Kind J (evidence/cadaver), Kind K (aircraft), and/or Kind L (unclassified). See Classification F1993.

1.4 A Land SAR Strike Team Leader/Task Force Leader may work in remote areas including urban or disaster areas that may be isolated or have lost their infrastructure.

1.5 Further training may be required depending on the regulations or policies of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

<sup>1</sup> This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F32 on Search and Rescue and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F32.03 on Personnel, Training and Education.

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## 2. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:<sup>2</sup>

F1773 Terminology Relating to Climbing, Mountaineering, Search and Rescue Equipment and Practices

F1993 Classification System of Human Land Search and Rescue Resources

F2209 Guide for Training of Land Search Team Member

F2685 Guide for Training of a Land Search Team Leader (STL)

F2751 Guide for Training of a Land Search and Rescue Team Member

F2890 Guide for Hazard Awareness for Search and Rescue Personnel

### 2.2 NFPA Standards:<sup>3</sup>

NFPA 1006 Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications

NFPA 1670 Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents

## 3. Terminology

### 3.1 Acronyms:

3.1.1 ASTM—American Society for Testing and Materials

3.1.2 AHJ—Authority Having Jurisdiction

3.1.3 AM—Aviation Management

3.1.4 DOI—Department of the Interior

3.1.5 ERI—Emergency Response International

3.1.6 FEMA—Federal Emergency Management Agency

3.1.7 ICS—Incident Command System

3.1.8 NASAR—National Association for Search and Rescue

3.1.9 NFPA—National Fire Protection Association

3.1.10 NPS—National Park Service

3.1.11 NWCG—National Wildfire Coordinating Group

3.1.12 PTB—Position Task Book

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

<sup>3</sup> Available from National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471, http://www.nfpa.org.

- 3.1.13 *SAR*—Search and Rescue
- 3.1.14 *STL*—Strike Team Leader
- 3.1.15 *TFLD*—Task Force Leader

### 3.2 Definitions:

3.2.1 *authority having jurisdiction, n*—an organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, and installation or procedure.

3.2.2 *division/group supervisor, n*—in ICS terms, responsible for supervising equipment and personnel assigned to a division or group. May also act as a Strike Team Leader/Task Force Leader.

3.2.3 *land search and rescue, n*—search and rescue operations that take place on ground and water environments on land, including intertidal areas, but not oceans. May also be referred to as “Inland SAR.”

3.2.4 *SAR technician, n*—an individual trained to perform wilderness search and/or rescue.

3.2.5 *single resource boss, n*—responsible for supervising a single piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or an established crew or team of individuals, equivalent to a Squad Officer in SAR operations.

3.2.6 *squad officer, n*—responsible for supervising and leading a group or team of SAR Technicians. Equivalent to a Single Resource Boss.

3.2.7 *strike team leader, n*—in ICS terms, manages five to seven (or fewer) combinations of the same kind and type of resources.

3.2.8 *task force leader, n*—in ICS terms, manages five to seven (or fewer) single resources of different types and/or kinds.

3.2.9 Refer to Terminology **F1773**, Classification **F1993**, and Guides **F2209**, **F2685**, **F2751**, and **F2890** for a broader range of defined search and rescue terms.

3.3 The AHJ may use different acronyms or abbreviations for the positions defined above.

## 4. Significance and Use

4.1 This guide establishes the minimum standard for training Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leaders as it relates to their general, field, and search and rescue specific knowledge, skills, and abilities.

4.2 This guide is to be used by individuals and AHJs that wish to identify the minimum training required for a Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader.

4.3 Every person who is identified as a Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader shall have met the requirements in this guide.

4.4 It is the responsibility of the AHJ to determine the depth or detail of training needed to meet the requirements in this guide and it may include additional requirements for its own members.

4.5 This guide by itself is not a training document. It is an outline of the topics required for training or evaluating a Land

Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader. It can, however, be used to develop, or as part of, a training document or program.

4.6 This guide does not stand alone and must be used with the referenced documents to provide specific information needed by a Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader.

4.7 This guide can be used to evaluate a document to determine if its content includes the topics necessary for training a Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader. Likewise, this guide may be used to evaluate an existing training program to see if it meets the requirements in this guide.

4.8 The knowledge, skills, and abilities presented in the following sections are not in any particular order, and do not represent a training sequence.

4.9 The AHJ will determine the evaluation process to assess a person’s knowledge. This may be by written exam, oral exam, demonstration, or other means specified by the AHJ.

## 5. General Knowledge and Skills

5.1 A Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader shall complete the training defined in Guide **F2685** for Training of a Level II Land Search Team Member, or equivalent.

5.2 A Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader shall complete the following FEMA and National Incident Management System (NIMS) training, or equivalent:

5.2.1 ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents.

5.2.2 IS-800: National Response Framework (NRF), An Introduction.

5.2.3 E/L984 NIMS ICS All-Hazards Task Force/Strike Team Leader.

5.3 A Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader shall complete the following:

5.3.1 Land search operations and planning training to meet the requirements of the AHJ, such as National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR): Managing the Lost Person Incident (MLPI),<sup>4</sup> Emergency Response International (ERI): Managing Land Search Operations (MLSO),<sup>5</sup> NPS Search Management, U.S. Coast Guard: Inland SAR Planning Course,<sup>6</sup> or equivalent.

5.3.2 Department of Interior (DOI), Aviation Management (AM) Directorate Course A101—Aviation Safety, or equivalent.

5.4 A Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leader shall demonstrate an understanding of the concepts, principles, and processes of Operational Risk Management<sup>7</sup> (Human Factors, Threat and Error Management), or AHJ equivalent.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.nasar.org/page/20/Managing-the-Lost-Person-Incident-MLPI-course/26>

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.eri-online.com/Managing\\_Land\\_Search\\_Operat.php](http://www.eri-online.com/Managing_Land_Search_Operat.php)

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.uscg.mil/TCYORKTOWN/Ops/SAR/Inland/inland.asp>

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.uscg.mil/directives/ci/3000-3999/CI\\_3500\\_3.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/directives/ci/3000-3999/CI_3500_3.pdf)