

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM FOR TRANSPORTATION FIELD PERSONNEL- NCHRP 20-59 (30)

Poster Showcase
#IAEM23



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Competitive Division: Practitioner

Research Questions

- How can transportation field personnel be trained to use ICS before first responders arrive?
- How can they join existing ICS?
- How can they remember this seldom-used skill?



In person class with sand table exercise.



Sand table exercise with cars and equipment to simulate car accident and DOT response.

Strategies

- In-person courses
- Practical exercises – “sand table”
- Use of position checklists
- Use of ICS forms
- Use of supervisor’s folder
- Build-it-yourself
- Videos for self-study or group refreshers
- Morning briefing refreshers
- Tail gate refreshers

Remembering works best with:

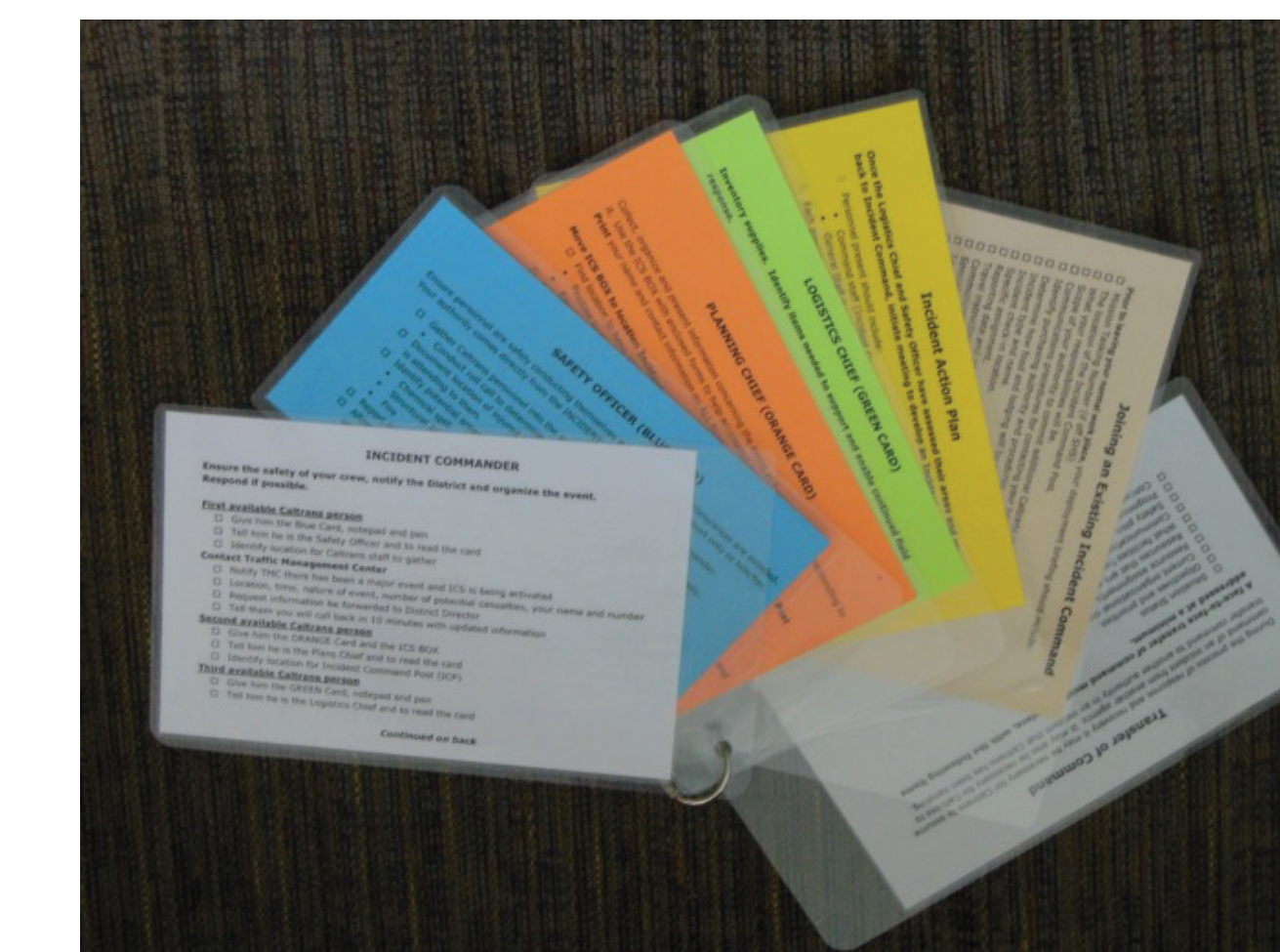
- Good initial training
- Frequent refreshers that supervisors can easily offer at briefings and tailgate meetings
- Good supporting materials
 - Videos to review
 - Position checklist cards that describe the steps for the first 15 minutes
 - Supervisor’s folder for organized field response
 - Cardboard folder
 - Plastic packing sleeves
 - Position checklist cards
 - ICS forms
 - ICS Field Operations Guide (FOG)
 - Note pads and pens

Outreach

- Transportation field staff training at all 12 Caltrans districts and headquarters
 - Class instruction
 - Sand table exercises
- Train-the-trainer courses in five state DOTs
- All materials and videos are available for free at the project’s website



DOT Incident Commander and Logistics Chief review position checklist cards.



Full set of position checklist cards. The ring allows them to be distributed to individuals as the jobs are assigned.

Methodology

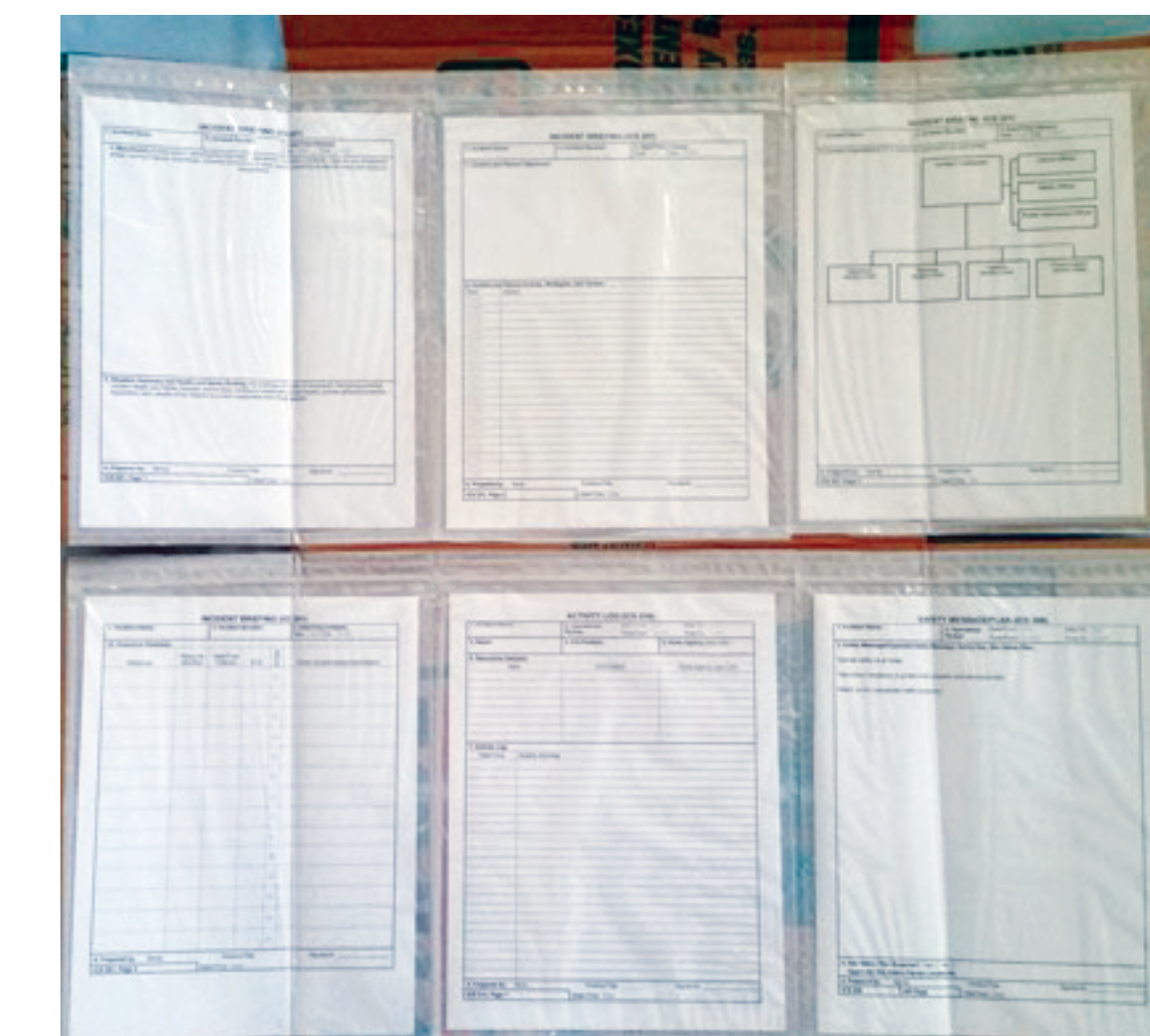
Literature review, course study, interviews, field testing, pilot testing

Rationale: Transportation Needs ICS

- Transportation field personnel are frequently assigned to join ICS to assist first responders at accident scenes, wildland fires, disasters
- Transportation personnel are frequently present at accidents before public safety personnel arrive
- Transportation organizations must use ICS in multi-agency events to be eligible for Federal Preparedness Grants.



Supervisor placing folder on the side of a work truck.



Supervisor’s folder with packing sleeves and ICS forms. The top “unzips” for access to the forms.

Findings

- In-person instruction with practical application is most effective method for learning a seldom-used skill
- Supervisor’s folder with resources supports remembered actions
- Periodic refreshers maintain ICS concepts & skills

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