Combined Equipment & Training/Guidance Standards

1. Guidance for implementation and operation of a public safety small unmanned aerial system (sUAS) program
Many public safety agencies are using small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUASs) for emergencies, situational awareness, search and rescue, scene documentation, and other situations. Standardized guidance is needed for developing an agency policy for sUAS use; compliance with laws and regulations; restrictions; use procedures; personnel qualifications; and training.

2. Guidance for tactical emergency medical support personnel deployed with law enforcement
A standard is needed for emergency medical support personnel that are deployed with law enforcement during operations including tactical team operations, police response to a mass assault, and active shooter responses. The standard should address considerations, recommendations, and best practices; this guidance should not specify requirements.

3. Guidance for initial first responders at an incident involving chemical agents
A guidance document is needed for initial first responders to an incident involving chemical agents. The chemical agents may be toxic industrial chemicals or materials, chemical warfare agents, or pharmaceuticals. The guidance should address minimum resources, personnel, and capabilities to perform assigned duties.

4. Guidance for initial first responders at an incident involving biological agents
A guidance document is needed for initial first responders to an incident involving biological agents. The biological agents may be naturally occurring or potential biothreat agents, pathogens, spores, toxins, or viruses. The guidance should address minimum resources, personnel, and capabilities to perform assigned duties.

5. Specification and test methods for biological field detection instruments
Test methods and/or specifications are needed for instruments intended to detect and identify biological agents, and levels of detection should be included. These instruments are used by responders in the field, but there are no standards for assessing whether the instruments perform as expected.

6. Guidance for selection and use of body armor by non-law enforcement responders
A standard guidance document is needed for the selection and use of body armor by non-law enforcement responders. The concern for other responders is that the use and wear conditions are different than for law enforcement, requiring specialized guidance on how body armor works, limitations of body armor, levels of protection, threat assessment, use and care, compatibility with other required protective gear, and training.

7. Standard practice and accreditation program for special weapons and tactics (SWAT) teams
A standard and an accreditation program are needed (1) to increase the confidence in SWAT teams and their capabilities and (2) to enhance consistency and interoperability among SWAT teams. There are some existing standards for SWAT teams; however, they do not meet the need for an accreditation program.

8. Performance specification and test methods for distraction devices
A performance standard is needed for noise flash diversionary devices, also known as distraction devices or flash-bangs. These devices are used by law enforcement and corrections to temporarily disorient subjects by overwhelming the senses, allowing officers to gain tactical advantage.

9. Performance specification for flight clothing worn by civilian responders on emergency medical services aircraft
Since the late 1980s, it has been recommended that occupants of emergency medical services (EMS) aircraft wear flame- and heat-resistant clothing; however, there are currently no standards specifically addressing flight clothing worn by civilian law enforcement, firefighters, and EMS responders. The standard for civilian flight clothing should address flame resistance, heat resistance, and other protection requirements similar to those for military flights suits; however, the standard should also include size and fit requirements for women.

10. Guidance for standardizing colors of firefighter helmets
There are currently no standards for the color of a firefighter’s helmet, and this is an often-overlooked challenge associated with interoperability. When firefighters from different organizations arrive at an emergency scene, it is important that they be able to readily and easily identify each other, supervisors, command staff, and probationary firefighters from a distance.

11. Performance specification for flight survival vests worn by civilian responders
There are no standards for survival vests worn by civilian law enforcement, fire, and EMS responders. Survival vests for civilian responders should be standardized to address attributes such as fire-resistance, durability, modularity, and interoperability with other equipment and should include size and fit requirements for both men and women.

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Equipment Standards
Training or Guidance Standards