

RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE ROPE RESCUE SERVICE

ADM 2

Purpose: To define the employers responsibility to provide high angle rope rescue service at work locations.

Scope: The ongoing training of BC fire fighters in the techniques of technical high angle rope rescue.

Guidelines: **Employer Responsibility**
British Columbia's Occupational Health & Safety Regulation requires employers to establish and maintain the means necessary to safely and efficiently rescue workers who may become injured or otherwise stranded at elevations during the performance of their work.

To meet this highly technical rescue requirement, employers in specified WorkSafeBC Assessment Classification Units whose workers have a high probability of requiring high angle rescue collaborated with the construction employers and labour, WorkSafeBC, and the BC Fire Service to provide this rescue capability through the establishment, funding, and overseeing of the train the trainer program for BC fire fighters in the techniques of technical high angle rope rescue.

THARR Program funding does not obligate a fire department to provide rescue in unsafe situations. Firefighters have a right to refuse unsafe work.

Employers in the following classifications of industries fund this initiative through a special levy charged to their WSBC Assessment Classification Units:

Industry Classifications

721003	Blasting or Avalanche Control
721005	Building Demolition
721006	Cellular, Microwave, Radar or Transmission Tower Erection, Installation, Service or Repair
721008	Commercial Refrigeration or Commercial Air Conditioning Work
721010	Concrete Placing, Finishing, Surfacing or Repair
721012	Concrete Reinforcing
721013	Construction Labor Supply or General Labor Supply (not elsewhere specified)
721014	Crane Operation
721018	Drywalling or Acoustic Board Installation
721019	Electrical Work
721028	Industrial, Commercial, Institutional or Highrise Residential Construction
721033	Lathing
721035	Log Home Construction
721036	Low Slope Roofing
721037	Masonry
721041	Painting or Wallpapering
721042	Plastering or Stucco
721043	Plumbing, Heating, Vent, Residential Air Conditioning or Central Vacuum System Installation or Repair
721046	Power Pole, Powerline or Transmission Line Installation, Service or Repair

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721047	Scaffolding, Tent, Staging or Display Booth Rental and Installation
721049	Siding, Awning or Gutter Installation, Service Repair
721050	Sign Installation, Service or Repair
721051	Steep Slope Roofing
721052	Structural Concrete Forming
721057	Welding Services or Ornamental Metal Installation
721058	Mechanical Installation
722001	Bridge, Overpass or Viaduct Construction or Repair
722003	Pier, Wharf or Dry Dock Construction or Repair
722005	Steel Frame Erection or Structural Repair of Steel Frames
722006	Steel Frame Painting, Bridge Painting or Bridge Cleaning
722007	Structural Concrete Reservoir, Flume, Dam, Dyke, Causeway or Jetty Construction or Repair
723006	Road Construction (not elsewhere specified)
753004	Local Government and Related Operations
764057	Window, Gutter or Awning Cleaning

If a workplace is located outside the service area of a municipal fire/rescue department providing high angle rescue service, or the employer is not in a funding classification unit as listed above, the employer has to provide for any necessary high angle rescue requirements by other acceptable means.

If there is a fire department within the jurisdiction of the workplace that is not a THARRP funded fire department a funded department may enter into a mutual aid agreement with the unfunded department in order to provide rescue service.

As an alternative, for a workplace located in an area serviced by a fire/rescue department, and where the local department has high angle rescue capabilities, the employer may be able to arrange for the local fire department to provide rescue services for the employer's operation.

For workplaces with a tower crane (as defined by as defined by WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 14.73.1) in place and work at high elevation is expected to exceed 60 days, and where site conditions are regularly changing such as at a high rise construction project, a more formal written agreement needs to be established between the employer and the fire department. These employers may use the following form "FIRE SERVICE APPLICATION FOR TECHNICAL HIGH ANGLE ROPE RESCUE SERVICE" (ADM2 page 5 of 6). A copy of the written agreement must be available at the workplace.

Once an employer has applied for the rescue service as per the Fire Service Application for Technical High Angle Rope Rescue Service, the employer is entitled to rescue services, and the fire service shall provide said rescue service.

The municipal fire service shall specify the terms and conditions for the provision of rescue service and the most expedient means to be used by the employer to summon aid (the rescue team) from the fire service.

The following municipal fire/rescue departments are participants in this program and

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have developed high angle (rope) rescue capability using techniques and equipment for workplace rescue:

Guidelines continued:

Abbotsford Fire Rescue Service	North Vancouver City Fire Department
Burnaby Fire Department	North Vancouver District Fire Rescue
Campbell River Fire Department	Penticton Fire Department
Coquitlam Fire Rescue	Port Alberni Fire Department
Delta Fire Rescue	Port Coquitlam Fire & Emergency Services
District of Squamish Fire Rescue	Port Moody Fire Rescue
Ft. St. John Fire Department	Powell River Fire Rescue
Golden Fire Rescue	Prince George Fire Rescue Services
Kamloops Fire & Rescue	Quesnel Fire Department
Kelowna Fire Department	Richmond Fire Rescue
Kitimat Fire & Rescue Services	Saanich Fire Department
Kootenay Boundary Regional Fire Rescue	Surrey Fire Service
Langford Fire/Rescue	Terrace Fire & Rescue Services
Langley City Fire-Rescue Service	Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services
Maple Ridge Fire Department	Victoria Fire Department
Nanaimo Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services	West Kelowna Fire Rescue
Nelson Fire Rescue	West Vancouver Fire & Rescue

Entitlement to Service at no Cost

As part of the fire department’s agreement to participate in the THARR Program, employers in the specified industry classification units are entitled to this rescue service at no charge if provided by participating municipal fire departments in the fire department’s defined area(s) of operation(s)

Entitlement to Participation

Employers in the specified industry classification units are entitled to this rescue service provided by participating municipal fire departments in the employer’s area(s) of operation(s) providing:

- The employer has applied for the service at the respective municipal fire service, and has agreed to the standard terms and conditions as outlined on the “Fire Service Application for Technical High Angle Rope Rescue Service” form. and
- The employer’s specialized equipment (e.g., tower cranes, swing stages, etc.), from which a high angle rope rescue might be required, or on which a municipal fire service might periodically train its high angle rope rescue personnel, is equipped, used, inspected, serviced and maintained in accordance with British Columbia’s Occupational Health & Safety Regulation and where specified, with manufacturer’s specifications.

Municipal Fire Service Responsibility - Adjudicating Refusals of Service

Few situations involving a refusal of service are anticipated. However, should an employer applying for the rescue service and the municipal fire service disagree on terms and

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conditions for the provision of service, or continued provision of the service, the fire department's representative (fire chief, training officer, rescue team leader) should immediately contact the BCCSA THARR Program Representative who will assess the situation, and take whatever steps are reasonable and practicable to resolve the matter in an equitable and timely fashion. This resolution must be consistent with the mandate of the Technical High Angle Rope Rescue Steering Committee and related Terms of Reference.

Forms

- **Fire Service Application for Technical High Angle Rope Rescue Service**

All Standard Operating Procedures have been reviewed and approved by the Technical High Angle Rope Rescue Steering Committee.

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TECHNICAL HIGH ANGLE ROPE RESCUE PROGRAM FIRE SERVICE APPLICATION FOR TECHNICAL HIGH ANGLE ROPE RESCUE SERVICE

We, the undersigned, being authorized representatives of the business named herein (hereinafter referred to as the "Company"), and contributors to the funding of the Fire Service Rope Rescue Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Service"), hereby request said Service for the duration of the Company's construction project indicated below. The Company acknowledges and understands that eligibility for, and access to the Service shall remain contingent upon the Company's continuing compliance with the prerequisite Terms and Conditions of Service defined in this document. The Company further acknowledges that from time to time, authorized representatives of the Service reserve the right to verify the Company is in compliance with the Terms and Conditions of Service and agree to cooperate with the representatives during such verifications. The Company fully understands that failure to comply with the Terms and Conditions of Service may result in termination of Service, which may result in the Company being in contravention of Workers' Compensation Board's Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. **"Tower Crane Technical High Angle Rope Rescue Service or Service is understood to mean: Command and execution of a rope rescue by a Fire Department and does not imply any guarantee of the success of a rescue."**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

1. The Company shall ensure that the information contained herein is communicated to all persons employed by the Company who are, or may become responsible for, the establishment and maintenance of the Terms and Conditions below.
2. The Company shall ensure that a facility at, or on, the project named herein, has been designated as the Fire Service Technical Rescue Command Post, and has been appropriately identified and equipped with signage acceptable to the representatives of the Service.
3. The Company shall designate one (1) liaison person from the head office, to whom the Service shall have reasonable access on a twenty-four (24) hour basis, and two (2) liaison persons at the project site to whom the Service shall have immediate access to during normal business hours and on-call access on a twenty-four (24) hour basis. Portable communication devices to be utilized shall be acceptable to the representatives of the Service.
4. The Company shall provide to representatives of the Service a plot plan of the project complete with the street address, on which shall be identified the Service's staging area, access routes to the site, temporary structures and utilities, locations and particulars of where a rescue may need to be performed.
5. The Company shall ensure the access point and staging areas are maintained in such a fashion as to accommodate the requirements of the vehicles, materials and equipment of the Service. The Company shall immediately notify the Service of any deviation from this requirement that may affect the response time of the Service.
6. If, upon a site survey, a Fire Department identifies a need for special or extra equipment out of the ordinary, a *Department representative should contact the BCCSA THARR Program Representative at 1.877.860.3675 or tharrp@bccsa.ca.*

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**FIRE SERVICE APPLICATION FOR TOWER CRANE TECHNICAL HIGH ANGLE ROPE RESCUE SERVICE
APPLICATION PARTICULARS**

Company Name:

Company Address:

Company Liaison:

Name: _____ Position: _____

Phone (day): _____ Phone (evening): _____ Pager/Cell: _____

Project Name:

Project Address:

Project Liaison:

Name: _____ Position: _____

(Primary)

Phone (day): _____ Phone (evening): _____ Pager/Cell: _____

Project Liaison:

Name: _____ Position: _____

(Secondary)

Phone (day): _____ Phone (evening): _____ Pager/Cell: _____

Anticipated service requirement end date:

Type of Request (please check):

- first site survey multiple cranes
- second site survey due to relocation or addition of a crane on the site
- or annual site survey on long-term project
- Other

Crane Manufacturer/Crane Specific ID: _____

Crane Manufacturer/Crane Specific ID: _____

Crane Manufacturer/Crane Specific ID: _____

Crane Manufacturer/Crane Specific ID: _____

Please explain: _____

The crane(s) will be available on the following date(s) for fire department training: _____

****Please note: this form must be completed in its entirety.***

