

Five Cs Technique

Using the five Cs technique helps to simplify both awareness and reaction to a suspected IED.

- **Confirm** the presence of a suspected bomber or device. This should be a one-person risk and needs to be done from a distance whenever possible. Maximum use should be made of hard cover and spotting equipment such as binoculars or scopes.
- **Clear** the area around the suspected bomber or device of all personnel, working from the suspected bomber or device outwards. Maximum use should be made of hard cover, such as buildings, and no one should be in clear sight of the suspected area.
- **Call** in a report while the area around the IED is being cleared. The report includes the information necessary to assess the situation and prepare an appropriate response.
- **Cordon** the danger area and set-up an Incident Control Post for follow-on agencies. People who are being cleared from the area should be checked at random to deter command attacks by third-party handlers.
- **Control** the area inside the cordon to ensure only authorized access is achieved. Only emergency services personnel should be allowed to breach the cordon through the control point. Any breaches of the cordon should be reported immediately to the incident commander.