

BACKGROUND: During the course of a bombing incident, events unfold at an alarming rate. When that occurs, exchange of information is often transmitted quickly using terms which are in the form of acronyms or unique terms relevant to the Bomb Squad community. Like many specific disciplines or skill sets, the Bomb Squad community has its own jargon and often is conveyed in the form of acronyms relevant to the Bomb Disposal field. The following lists of terms and acronyms are provided to assist the participants in maneuvering through the training program.

Best Practice: A best practice evaluates what already exists, what lessons have been learned, and what should be changed or avoided to make it possible to achieve defined goals. Sometimes best practices may be copied from other successful events.

Command Post (CP): The center and focal point of an incident where primary decisions are made for the overall success of an incident. In matters pertaining to bombing incidents; typically the bomb squad will advise in determining the location of the CP.

Down Range: The site of the incident where an explosive device is located,

Evacuation Distance(s): The optimum safe distance from an IED or detonation. In many cases, depending on the environment and situation, the optimum distance cannot be obtained or will vary depending on the type of device and the amount of explosives involved. Using the Job Aid provided in this program, evacuation distances are listed and should be adhered to when possible.

Fragmentation (Frag): Fragments of an IED container or materials (e.g. ball bearings, nails, nuts/bolts, etc.) inserted into a device used to increase lethality. Fragmentation travels at a high rate of speed and will disperse in a 360 degree pattern. There are typically two types of fragmentation:

Primary Fragmentation: These are pieces of the container, or a material added to the container to increase lethality; traveling at 1000s of feet per second. Primary fragmentation is typically the primary source of fatalities or casualties.

Secondary Fragmentation: These are pieces of materials in the surrounding area that are picked up by the blast wave and pushed out in the direction of the blast wave (e.g. shattered windows, rocks, trees, garbage cans etc.). These pieces move at a speed of 100s of feet per second and can also cause casualties or fatalities.

Going up/down on a device: The act of the bomb technician accessing the immediate area the device is located.

Homemade Explosives (HME): Explosives that are made or manufactured from common household chemicals or other commercially available, over-the-counter precursor materials.

Improvised Explosive Device (IED): A device placed or fabricated in an improvised manner incorporating destructive, lethal, noxious, pyrotechnic, or incendiary chemicals and designed to destroy, incapacitate, harass, or distract.

Kill Zone/Danger Zone: This is typically the area surrounding the device which falls within blast zone where increased PSI or over-pressure is likely to result in a fatality to a human being.

Over-Pressure: The pressure caused by a shock wave over and above normal atmospheric pressure during an explosion.

P-1 or P II: Refers to Position 1 or Position II, this is a process for identifying the responsibilities of bomb squad team members, typically P-1 serves as the primary individual to conduct an RSP. The P-II typically is denoted as the team member who has the responsibility to support the primary's efforts to mitigate the situation.

Render Safe Procedure (RSP): The process used for mitigation or neutralization procedure(s) implemented by a Bomb Squad/Bomb Technician in order to alleviate the threat of the device. Caution should be exercised when an RSP is employed due to the potential for a high order detonation, as there are no assurances the procedure will be successful.

Time on Target: The time when an individual is exposed to a known or suspect Improvised Explosive Device. This may also include periods when a suspect device is being investigated, or during periods when a responder may be required to take necessary actions. Violating "Time on Target" should be held to minimum and done only when required. When the rule of "Time on Target" must be violated, the individual should be employing procedures on the device or obtaining vital information that would help facilitate the response and mitigation of the incident.