**Focus Group Goal: How does GFD perform search and rescue and how could tech improve it?**

1. Introduce ourselves
2. Are you comfortable with us recording the meeting

----------MICHAEL----------

3. What is the extent of your S&R experience?
    a. Right haand vs left hand search departments
4. What are the most important goals of S&R?
    a. Communicating
5. What do S&R procedures look like for your company?
    a. How many people do a search at one time?
    b. If any, what are some challenges that you face during S&R situations?
    c. During S&R, how are tasks divided between team members?
    d. How often is SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) followed in the field?

----------TJ----------

6. How do team members communicate?
    a. What is typically communicated between S&R team members?
    b. Do any communication errors happen?
    c. How do you stay oriented with the rest of your team members during an op?
7. What are you listening for during S&R?
8. What are the most important visual cues (things to look for)?
    a. How do you deal with low visibility environments?

---------- MICHAEL----------

9. What role does technology play during S&R?
    a. How is this information used to make decisions?
    b. Can you describe what technology is most commonly used?
10. Imagine the ideal S&R tech tool. What would it look like?
11. How could the existing tech you use for S&R be improved?

----------TJ----------

12. What role do emotions play in these situations?
13. What procedures are common/different between your firehouse and others you may have worked with?
14. How are attacks coordinated with other fire houses?

7/6 additions:

The papers that I read used focused groups to evaluate their participant group's needs and their ability to use the product they were developing. One paper was developing services for stroke victims utilizing information from focus groups. They targeted primary care and hospitals in NW England and explored the idea of the ideal stroke service. They based their questions off of the four main components for the development of integrated stroke services created by the NSF: prevention, immediate care, early and continuing rehabilitation, transfer of care and long-term support. The other papers focused on questions relating to usability and used quantitative and qualitative methods to analyze the responses. When choosing a sample population, they generally took them from one location and the community (racial, ability, profession, interest, etc.) they were targeting. Those types of questions seem more useful when there's a prototype developed.

New Questions

1.

7/5 additions:

Who makes up a fire attack team?

The standard makeup is 2 engine companies (trucks) and 1 ladder company from each department involved. The ladder company focuses on VES while the engine companies work on fire extinguishment with forcible entry and then search. The engine team consists of engine work and truck work. Engine work deals with operating the nozzle and entering the building. Truck work is to assist all that's going on in the building - operating the pump and coordinating with team members via radio. In practice, many departments don't have specific companies for engines and ladders. They just see what they need when they get there.

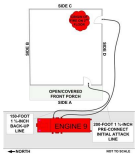
First Responders: Firefighters, police, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics
Response Situations: accident, disaster, medical emergency, structure fire, crime, or terrorist attack

Sources:
FireRescue: SAR - Firefighters SAR Stories and News
FireEngineering: SAR - Firefighters SAR Stories and News
FireEngineering YT - Search Training Videos
AuroraFDP - Search Training Videos
FireTrainingToolbox - SAR Training
FireHose - What to listen for and tools to use
SanDiegoSARManual - Good Overview
Fireground Coms

MapQuest - What is Search and Rescue?
FloridaDisaster - SAR terminology for Florida GOV
KentuckyGov - Search and rescue techniques/terminology
SARWiki - Types of SAR and other resources
FireProductSearch - Preparing for Search and Rescue

Topics:

- Size-Up
    - Includes known life hazards, potential life hazards, size and extent of the fire, water sources, available equipment, construction, and occupant accountability/survivability
    - Sides of the structure exterior are labeled A,B,C,D with A being the side closest to the point of entry and the following letters moving clockwise around the building
    - Inside, the walls are generally labeled as 1,2,3,4




- Search Tools
    - PPE, Radio, Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC), Rope and drop bag, forcible entry tool, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
- Primary Search
    - Either done by a fire attack team on the initial hose or an SAR team.
    - Search efforts should begin in the are with the most potential for a rescue where the possibility of human life is still possible
    - Most likely places to find survivors…
        - Bedrooms
        - Hallways
        - Within 6 feet of the point of egress
        - The living room
    - VES: Vent, Enter, Search. Used when entering through windows typically when a ladder is needed.

    - Priorities in SAR: Rescue (life safety), fire control, an property (in order of importance)
    - Aggressive searches are necessary; Not fast and furious, but rather controlled, deliberate, and thorough
    -
    - Information gathering phase:
        - Is there enough staff available for a two person search team?
        - Has a water source been established?
        - What are the points of entry?
    - Two-Person Search
        - Searches should be done in pairs. Can be tethered with rope or hose line
        - Open the door and move into the room staying low. Control the door and close it to cut off ventilation. Scan the area with the TIC and identify any victims.
        - Search the perimeter of the room holding a foot to the wall. Check all beds and closets
        - FF1 has a mental map of the room and stays on the wall while FF2 can move closer to the middle as long as the two are connected.
        - After the room is searched and cleared, mark the door and continue
    - Large-Area/Tethered Searches
        - A tag-line should be placed at entry
    - Oriented Search
        -
- Basic Rescue
    - Carries
    - Drags
- Secondary Search
    - After the fire is under control, a secondary search needs to be conducted to ensure all victims are out of the house and surrounding area
    - Also take note of how the structure is doing
    - Usually involves searching for any fatalities
    - Thorough, not particularly speedy
- Searching for hints
    - Tactile, Visual, and Auditory hints
    - Frequently raise a hand over head to feel the heat condition
    - Remain calm and collected, wear proper PPE, maintain communication with team leader
- Essential Communication during SAR

Topics by slide (for focus group)

- Title
- Introductions
- Basis of the lab research/ how it relates to what they are doing (Purpose Statement)
- Questions for discussion