

REGIONAL FIRE OPERATIONS GROUP

Clackamas, Columbia, Multnomah,
Washington, and Yamhill Counties

Adopted 04/15/2008 Revised _____

Subject: Dividing an Incident

Purpose: To establish guidelines for dividing the scene of an emergency incident/area.

Responsibility and Authority: Company Officers and Incident Commanders

Policy:

1. The system uses a letter designation for each exterior side of the emergency incident building (or area).
2. The front (street address) side of the building is designated as “Alpha” and the word designations (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta) move clockwise around the structure.
3. Building exposures may also be identified with a similar system – using the letter designation to identify each exposure based on its location.

THE ABCD DESIGNATION SYSTEM STANDARD

DIVISION Charlie

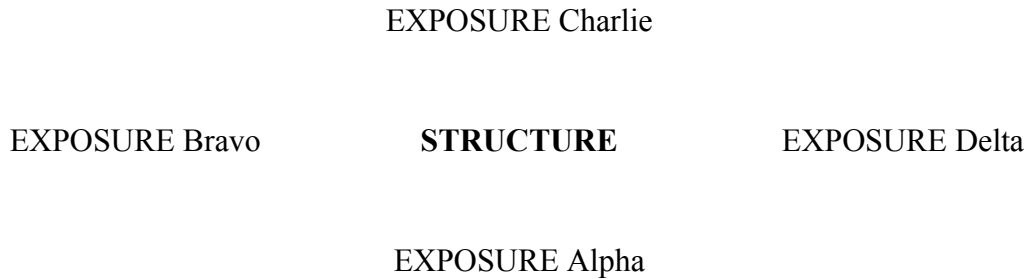
DIVISION Bravo

STRUCTURE

DIVISION Delta

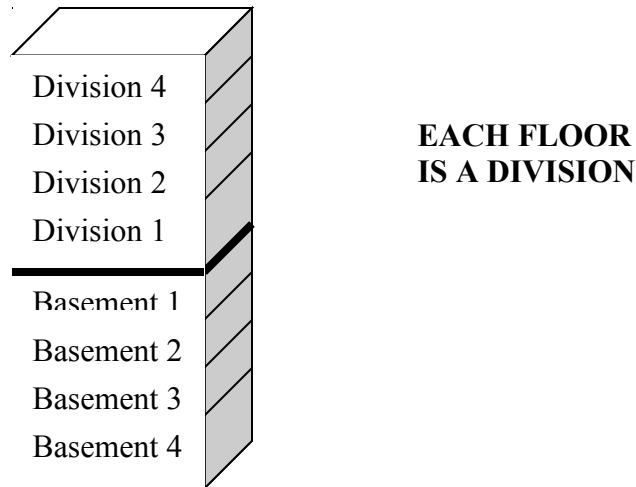
DIVISION Alpha

THE EXPOSURE DESIGNATION SYSTEM STANDARD



4. When operating in a multi-story structure, it may be necessary to designate geographic locations by floor. This system of geographic designation uses the floor number, as shown.

THE MULTI-STORY DESIGNATION SYSTEM STANDARD



KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- On incidents that are spread over a wide area (e.g., multiple vehicle accidents on a freeway), the scene may be divided by using the apparatus number or the unit assigned to that particular area (e.g., Division 8).
- When an incident becomes two significant incidents (e.g., one structure fire creates another structure fire) consider dividing the management of these incidents into two separate incidents (e.g., separate TAC Channels, additional alarms, etc.)