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# EMS Safety Net Seminar

Development and Conduct  
of the  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Emergency Vehicle Operator Course  
(Ambulance)  
National Standard Curriculum

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# American Integrated Training Systems, Inc. (AITS)

Billy Rutherford  
*President*

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# What does AITS do?

- Develop multimedia training programs typically for distribution on the customers website
- Developed 500 hours of prehospital care lessons ranging from first aid to brain trauma
- Developed the US Department of Transportation Emergency Vehicle Operator Course:  
(Ambulance) National Standard Curriculum & Train-the-Trainer Course

## What does AITS do? (Contd)

- Developed an Emergency Response Training Kit by assembling 43 CD-ROMs with over 200 hours of training for emergency responders
- The most fun thing we do is conduct the Train-the-Trainer course for the EVOG

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# **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), U.S. Department of Transportation**

- Bystander Care
- First Responder
- EMT-Basic, Intermediate, Paramedic
- Dispatch
- Air Medical
- Educator Guidelines
- EVOC

# NHTSA

- Coordinates with other federal agencies on areas of mutual interest
  - **General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Specification for the Star-of-Life Ambulance KKK-A-1822E**
  - **Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Fire Administration**
  - **Health Resources Administration**
  - **Department of Labor, OSHA**
  - **Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services**



# Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC)

- NHTSA Scheduled the revision of the EVOC to:
  - Separate the Ambulance operation from the Fire and Law Enforcement training in the existent course
  - Emphasize obeying the speed limit
  - Emphasize stopping to clear all controlled intersections
  - Focus on Ambulance Operations

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# **EVOC**

## **Development Coordination**

- Five Major National Organizations would provide personnel for the Curriculum Development Group
- General Services Administration
- U.S. Fire Administration
- Federal Interagency on EMS (FICEMS)
- State EMS Directors



# Pre-cursor Revision Actions

- Notified all state EMS directors about the project to revise the EVOC – asked for examples of EVOC programs in their state
- Contract training team visited ambulance organizations
- Attended American Ambulance Association Trade Show
- Reviewed 50+ EVOC Courses

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# **EVOC**

## **Train-The-Trainer**

- **Established Curriculum Development Group (CDG)**
  - Representatives from 5 major EMS organizations
  - Initial Meeting in Washington Area
  - Developed Concept
  - Developed a Task List
  - Developed Design Document
  - Developed List of Modules, Lessons and Appendices



# The NSC Concept

- Use the “Good Stuff” from existing courses
- Use Ms. Daisy driving style
- No skid pads
- No time trials
- Allow for editing the EVOC to “localize” the course materials

# The Design

- Develop comprehensive lesson plans that novice instructors can use
- Provide visuals- overhead transparencies now PowerPoint visuals
- Provide checklists
- Provide driving exercises
- Learn lesson materials in the classroom, ambulance operations on the driving range and then practice with On-the-Job Training in your organization




# The National Standard Curriculum

- Module A – 10 Lessons, Narrative Style
- Module B – Driving Exercises
- Module C – On-The-Job Training
- Appendices with supplemental information:
  - Checklists, Work Request, Hand Signals



# Performance Oriented Training

- Tell the participant what you want them to do
  - Demonstrate the exercise
  - Coach
  - Allow practice time
  - Evaluate
- 



# EVOC NSC

- Training Team designed and developed each segment and sent to CDG for review
- Prepared Draft Instructor Guide and Participant Manual
- Conducted Pilot Courses in Miami, FL for urban validation and Bucks County, PA for rural area validation

# EVOOC

- Some Considerations
  - States must approve all prehospital courses
  - State Statutes, Laws Prevail
  - Organizations must establish Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
  - Operators must know and abide by the SOPs

# EVOC

- Organization Management Philosophy is major consideration – Establishes the operational behavior
- Training , Record Keeping – No Record – It did not happen
- Litigation
- Human Loss



EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATORS COURSE

AMBULANCE

**INSTRUCTOR**



# Train-The-Trainer (T3)

- 2 ½ day course to qualify instructors to conduct the EVOC
- Validated the T3 at the Pilot Courses
- Trained several trainers
- Returned in 8-10 weeks to observe the trainers conducting a course
- Evaluated their performance
- No revisions were necessary



# Train-The-Trainer

- T3 includes presentation techniques, adult learning, how to conduct OJT and training management
- Each lesson in the Instructor Guide is reviewed with suggested methods for presenting the materials (Tips at the beginning of each lesson)
- Participants learn the driving skills for being a coach, instructor and evaluator to implement Performance Oriented Training
- Each participant makes a 15 minute practice presentation
- T3 instructors demonstrate “how to conduct the course”



# Train-The-Trainer

- AITS personnel have over 10 years of experience conducting the T3 Course
- Very successful program
- AITS has the opportunity to see and discuss ambulance operations throughout the US
- Interesting observations!

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# Other Training Requirements

- *Pediatric Transport Procedures*
- *Decontamination Procedures – OSHA*
- *Air Medical Evacuation Coordination*
- *Mass Casualty Situations*
- *Emergency Readiness*



# Technology Trends

Driving Simulators

Communications

Navigation





# Driving Simulators

- Federal Interagency Committee on EMS Ambulance Subcommittee is evaluating the potential for using driving simulators to:
  - improve operator training
  - conduct post crash evaluations
  - conduct refresher training
  - implement new technology

# Army and Marines Driver Simulator Facility Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.



# Army and Marine Corps Driving Simulators



# FDNY EMS Academy



# Road Safety, Inc. Driving Simulator





# Simulator Assessment

- FICEMS has established a website for simulator information:  
<http://simulator.workforceconnect.org>
- As information is collected and assessed it will be posted to the site
- Information will be submitted to Chair, Ambulance Safety Subcommittee
- More information forthcoming



# Technology Trends

- Communications
  - Smaller size, improved quality
  - Increase in integration of system
  - Improved 911 system
  - Voice Recognition Systems
- Navigation Systems
  - GPS
  - Integration with other systems



Actions that Management can take  
that can have an immediate  
*Positive* impact on operations

# Actions:

1. Implement the EVOC National Standard Curriculum
2. Have qualified EVOC Trainers in your organization
  - Proficiency and Experience
3. Have FTO/Supervisor evaluate operators during vehicle operations, prepare a written evaluation and place it in the persons training record
4. Develop pocket size Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)



## **Actions (contd)**

5. Think standardized ambulance operator compartments
6. Implement a training management program
7. Implement a management philosophy that emphasizes safe, professional operations

# Summary

- EVOC NSC is meeting the training requirement
- Each organization must have qualified trainers
- Simulators and other technology have the potential to improve training and operations
- Getting ambulances to the scene safely and then to the medical facility is the most important part of our job!

# Questions

- This presentation may be viewed at:

**[www.aitstraining.com](http://www.aitstraining.com)**