

MILWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT
Operational Guidelines

Approved by: Chief Mark Rohlfing
Compliant with Milwaukee County Shared Services SOG #5.0

2020

4.0 – AUTOX (Auto Extrication)

PURPOSE

AUTOX (Auto Extrication) assignments can result from a wide variety of vehicle accidents. These can range from single-vehicle rollovers to multi-vehicle accidents with significant damage resulting in patient entrapment. This run type can also include individuals pinned under vehicles. Further complicating this response is the likelihood that the involved vehicles' electrical, airbag, and/or fuel systems will be compromised.

SCOPE

Initial responding units should approach such incidents cautiously, paying close attention to the presence of spilled petroleum products (or other chemicals) and damaged buildings. Attention should also be paid to the possibility of electrical lines or light poles being compromised; any electric (or other) line should be considered energized until proven otherwise or confirmed de-energized by We Energies-Electric or City of Milwaukee Bureau of Electrical Services (BES) officials. Vehicles upon which wires have fallen should not be touched or worked in or on by members until the lines have been appropriately de-energized by a WE Energies or BES official.

It is important to investigate for damaged gas meters where vehicles have struck buildings; WE Energies-Gas should be requested in this case.

GUIDELINE

1. Establish Command
2. Conduct scene size-up
 - a. If upon investigation, an incident involves an automobile fire follow the *AUTOX* (Auto Fire) operational guidelines.
3. Position apparatus to protect the safety perimeter and working area
4. Determine strategy & incident action plan
5. Initiate and maintain communications
 - a. Provide first in report
 - b. Request dispatch make notification to law enforcement for traffic control
6. Implement incident action plan
 - a. Initially pay close attention to placarding on a vehicle indicating that it is transporting a hazardous substance
 - b. Establish a safety perimeter in accordance with the risk.
 - c. Ensure the vehicle is sufficiently stabilized, de-energized, deglazed, and otherwise prepped for cutting.
 - d. Recognize and account for the likely presence of air bags
 - e. Remove victims safely and efficiently.
7. Provide follow up and progress reports as necessary
 - a. Request additional resources or other agencies as needed

