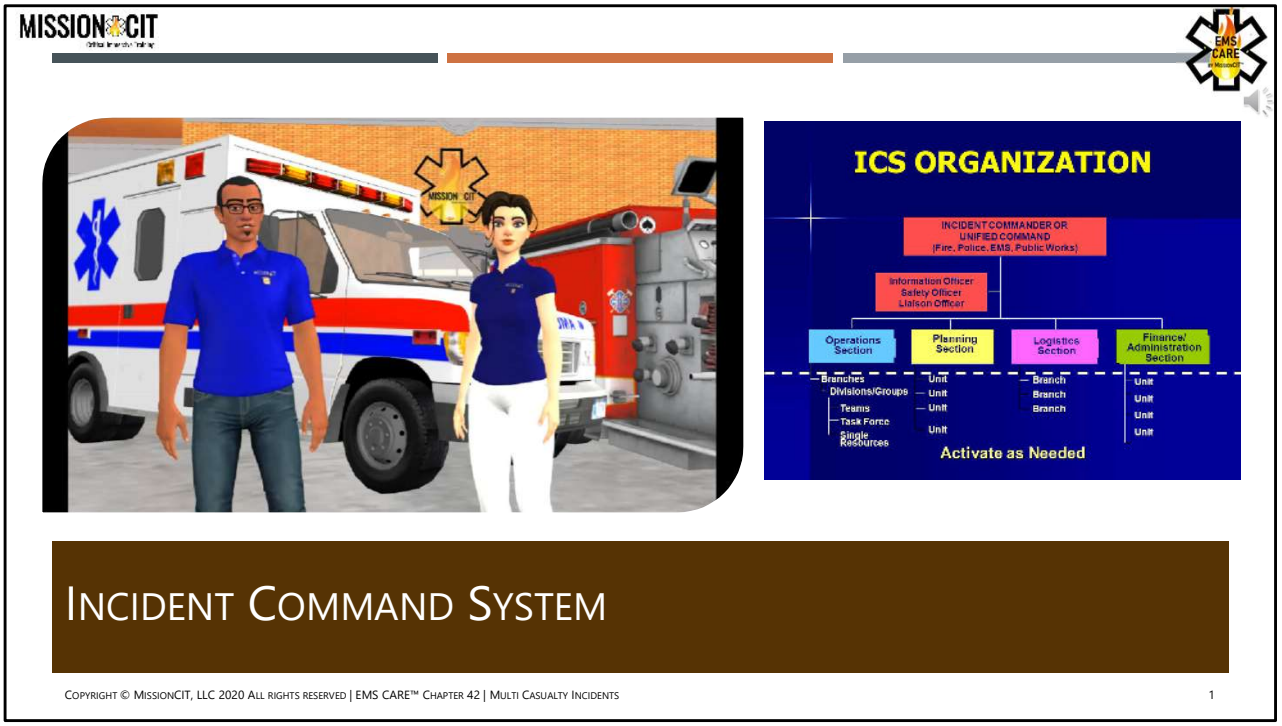


Thank you Missah!

In this lesson, we will talk about the Incident Command System, its purpose, the roles and responsibilities of personnel, command staff, and the different operations.

Let’s get started.

Purpose Of I C S

- ICS is a flexible and standardized mechanism
- Facilitates collaboration and coordination
- Set of best practices to
  - Meets the needs of incidents of all sizes
  - Allow personnel of different departments to work together
  - Provide logistical and administrative support
  - Cost effective and avoid duplication



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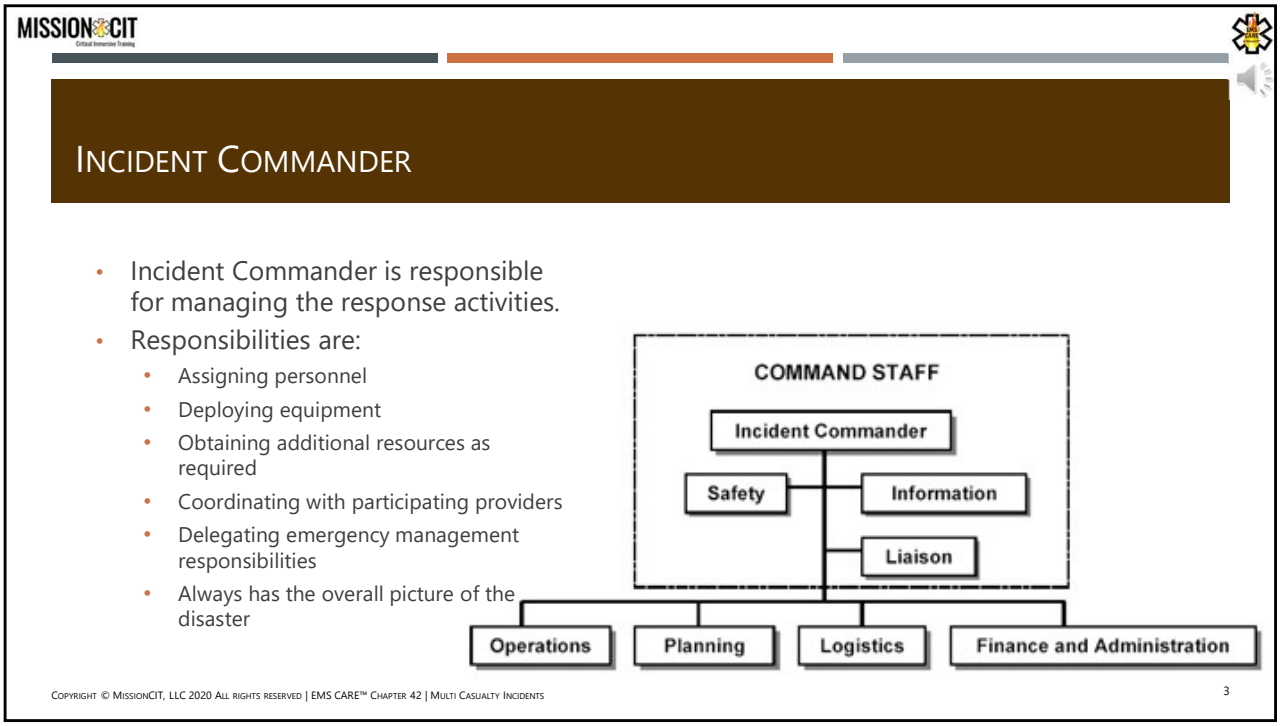
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Incident Command System or I C S is a flexible, yet standardized mechanism that facilitates coordination and collaboration among many local agencies that are involved in emergency response and management.

It combines the facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications within an existing organizational structure, so multiple agencies can coordinate better. It is a set of best practices that is both interdisciplinary and flexible to meet the following challenges.

- Meet the needs of incidents of any size and kind

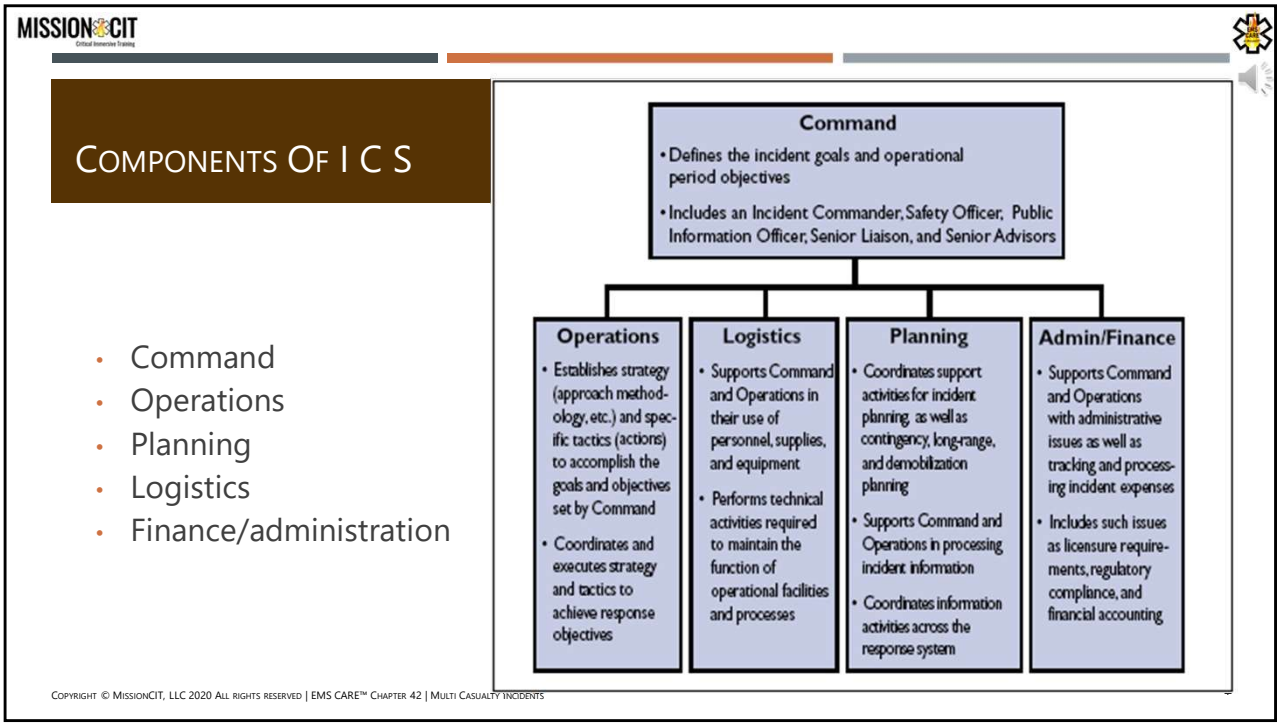
- Allow personnel from a variety of agencies to meld rapidly into a common management structure.
- Provide logistical and administrative support to operational staff.
- Be cost effective by avoiding duplication of efforts.



In I C S, a central commander called the incident commander is responsible for managing the response activities. This commander is responsible for,

- Assigning personnel
- Deploying equipment
- Obtaining additional resources as required
- Coordinating with participating partners
- Delegating emergency management responsibilities as required
- Always has the overall picture of the disaster situation

As you can see, there is a unified command under the framework as it makes it easy to integrate the resources of multiple agencies and enhance collaboration.



I C S has five major components, and they are:

- Command
- Operations
- Planning
- Logistics
- Finance/administration

The command is responsible for developing, directing, and maintaining communication and collaboration with all those involved.

The operations component handles the tactical

operations, coordinates the command objectives, and directs all the necessary resources to the incident site.

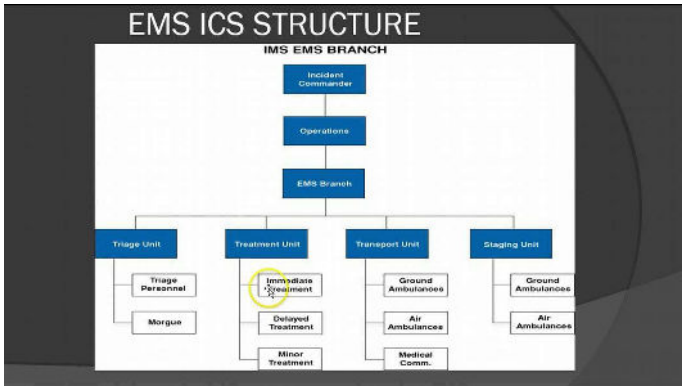
Planning provides the necessary information to the command center to develop the action plan needed to achieve the established goals.

Logistics is responsible for providing the required personnel, equipment, and support to the command center.

Finally, the finance department is responsible for handling the funds needed for the emergency.

Role Of EMT In I C S

- Patient care is the primary operation
- Providing ambulance services
- Following established standards
- May be requested to participate in other operations
- Follow the instructions of incident commander



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Now, let's see the role of an EMT within the Incident Command System.

Patient care is the primary operational function of an EMT. This includes providing ambulance services as needed according to the established standards and protocols.

As an EMT, you will have to be prepared with the appropriate training to handle these situations. At the time of emergency, you have to follow the established communication channels, size up the scene, and

document the same.

Besides this primary care, EMTs may also be requested to participate in other operational areas such as responder monitoring, rehabilitation efforts at incidents such as the release of hazardous material, and anything else that the incident commander may request.

With this understanding, we come to the end of this lesson. In the next one, Missah will go in-depth on the medical branch of the I C S as your primary role will be in this area.