Monitoring Crew Progress	**Fire Engineering** **Safety Officer**	Standard References NFPA 1521; 6.2.3

Instructors should always include department references and procedures in this and any training session.

How Are They Doing?

Background: Another function that the safety officer performs while completing scene surveys and monitoring of incident conditions is to evaluate the progress of fire suppression activities. Knowledge of suppression activities is key to this function. The safety officer must be aware of factors that indicate progress, crew location and operational needs of the companies to evaluate the effectiveness of the operation. Progress reports from crews along with visual cues will often provide feedback.

Indicators of Company Progress

- Smoke color changes
- Knockdown of visible fire
- Smoke and/or fire from ventilation holes
- Water supplies being established
- Escalation of alarms
- Radio reports of location within the structure
- Breaking of windows from the inside
- Requests for additional resources to specific areas
- Time operating within an area
- Requests for more hoselines or water
- Reports of under control status
- Primary search reports
- Stability of the overall incident

Which of these indicators are potential warning signs that may signal additional monitoring or actions by the safety officer?

What additional progress signs may indicate an incident becoming more stable?

How is time an important measure of progress?

How would you measure the progress and safety of crews in these situations?

A fire on the second floor of a wood frame single family dwelling with potential rescues?	A commercial fire in a non-combustible strip center.	A report of a basement fire in a large single family dwelling with heavy smoke showing.
A crew is operating on a roof attempting to ventilate a fast moving interior structure fire.	Crews are performing aggressive overhaul attempting to locate potential fire in cocklofts, void spaces and other hidden areas.	Crews have been rotating through many tactical assignments during a lengthy operation.