

# Understanding ISO's Fire Grading Program

## Who Is ISO, Insurance Services Office?



ISO is a network of the national standards institutes of 147 countries, on the basis of one member per country, with a Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, that coordinates the system.

ISO is a non-governmental organization: its members are not, as is the case in the United Nations system, delegates of national governments. Nevertheless, ISO occupies a special position between the public and private sectors. This is because, on the one hand, many of its member institutes are part of the governmental structure of their countries, or are mandated by their government. On the other hand, other members have their roots uniquely in the private sector, having been set up by national partnerships of industry associations.

Therefore, ISO is able to act as a bridging organization in which a consensus can be reached on solutions that meet both the requirements of business and the broader needs of society, such as the needs of stakeholder groups like consumers and users.

## What Can ISO Do For You?

*Lowering your ISO rating can result in fire insurance premium reductions for the properties served by your fire department. In addition, the classification improvement may be a tool that can be used by your economic development agency to attract business to your community. This workshop provides an overview on how the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule is used to classify your fire protection delivery system. Participants will be provided with the tools ISO uses to conduct the grading and an explanation on how to use them to prepare for an evaluation.*

*FACT: Less than 3% of the Communities in Connecticut have a Class I ISO Rating*

## Course Objectives

- ◆ Discuss each element in the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule that is used to classify a jurisdiction's fire defense system
- ◆ Learn about the information available to Fire Chiefs that ISO uses in the evaluation
- ◆ Discover where within ISO to go for help if needed
- ◆ Discuss ISO's policies and procedures relating to the evaluation and subsequent distribution of the results to insurers
- ◆ Distribute the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule and companion questionnaire to class attendees
- ◆ Inform the attendees of substitute equivalencies that can be used in place of items called for in the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule
- ◆ Examine alternative water supplies as an equivalency to a public municipal water supply
- ◆ Discuss how to determine Needed Fire Flow for a building
- ◆ Look at national statistics on ISO gradings

## Course Details

**Lead Instructors:** Dennis Gage, Manager, Insurance Services Office, Jersey City, NJ and Ed Straw, Senior Technical Coordinator, Insurance Services Office, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Course Locations & Dates:** Milford Fire Department, November 21, 2003 or Kensington Fire Department, November 22, 2003. Directions to training sites will be sent with confirmation.

**Course Time:** 8:30am - 4:30pm

**Intended For:** Fire Chiefs, Operations Chiefs, Administrative Chiefs responsible for responding to a site visit by ISO -- *Register Today-Class Sizes Are Limited*

**Cost:** \$10.00

**Continental Breakfast Included**  
Students are responsible for their own lunch.



A separate application is required for each program

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COURSE TITLE: **Understanding ISO's Fire  
Grading Program**

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8:30am-4:30pm

\_\_\_\_\_ Kensington Fire Dept.-11/22/03- Course #04120223

8:30am-4:30pm

If you have any questions please contact:

Wallace F. Becker, Special Programs Coordinator  
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