



# THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON DROWNING PREVENTION, VIETNAM, 2011



## DUBLIN FIRE BRIGADE WATER RESCUE UNIT

Dublin Fire Brigade was founded in 1862; in 1898 an emergency ambulance service was introduced, and in 2000 a Water Rescue Unit was added.

All fire tenders are crewed by water rescue trained firefighters and carry water rescue equipment.

### 2010 WATER RESCUE TRAINED HUMAN RESOURCES

- 1000 Water Awareness trained personnel
- 150 First Responders
- 350 Swift Water Rescue Technicians (SRT 1)
- 60 Advanced Swift Water Rescue Technicians (SRT 2)
- 24 Swift Water Rescue Instructors
- 12 Rescue Powerboat Instructors

### TRAINING

1. Water Awareness – a one day course concentrating on personal water safety.
2. First Responder – a three day course dealing with rescue situations in still water or slow moving water situations.
3. Swift Water Rescue Technician (SRT 1) – a five day course dealing with rescue situations in fast moving water.
4. Swift Water Rescue Technician Advanced (SRT 2) – a five day advanced course for holders of SRT 1 qualifications.
5. Swift Water Rescue Technician Instructor – this ten day course trains holders of the SRT 2 qualification as SRT instructors.
6. Irish Sailing Association / National Powerboat Handling Award – this five day course trains participants as powerboat helmsmen.

### EQUIPMENT

1. 6.5 metre rigid inflatable boat powered with twin 60 horse power engines.
2. 4.0 metre Avon inflatable with a 15 horse power engine.
3. A 33 metre Turntable Ladder with a depressible cage
4. A Jason's Cradle for horizontal removal of a casualty  
Six lengths of inflatable pathway to form a 5 to 30 metre bridge
5. Inflatable fire hoses to form a long floating boom.
6. A variety of ropes and technical equipment

### FLOODING

Fire fighters are faced with the following flood hazards;

1. Manholes – water pressure may lift and open manholes.
2. Chemicals – water contaminated by household or industrial chemicals.
3. Fuel – water contaminated by fuel from vehicles or storage tanks.
4. Surface change – underwater walking surfaces covered with objects.
5. Electricity – electricity may be conducted through the water.
6. Debris – flood debris may become a safety hazard.
7. Pollution – water may be polluted by sewerage.
8. Contaminants – water may be contaminated by unknown contaminants.
9. Viral / Bacterial Infection – rescuers may be infected by pollutants



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