

The first arriving fire unit plays a crucial role in assessing the scene and providing initial information to guide firefighting operations. Conducting a 360-degree size-up involves a systematic examination of the entire incident scene, providing critical information for incident command and subsequent firefighting efforts. Here's a breakdown of the first arriving fire unit size-up and 360-degree assessment:

#### First Arriving Fire Unit Size-Up:

##### Initial Report to Dispatch:

- Provide a brief initial report to dispatch, including the address or location of the incident, type of incident (e.g., structure fire, vehicle fire), and any immediate hazards or visible conditions.

##### Approach to the Scene:

- Approach the scene cautiously, observing conditions and potential hazards such as heavy smoke, flames, or blocked access points.

##### Size-Up from the Street:

- Conduct an initial assessment from the street level, observing the exterior of the structure and surrounding area.
- Note the building type, construction materials, occupancy, and any visible signs of fire or smoke.

##### Positioning of Apparatus:

- Position the fire apparatus strategically to provide access for firefighting operations and ensure firefighter safety.
- Consider factors such as proximity to hydrants, potential collapse zones, and access for additional apparatus.

##### Initial Actions:

- Begin initial firefighting actions as necessary, such as deploying hose lines, establishing incident command, and performing reconnaissance.

#### 360-Degree Assessment:

##### Starting Point:

- Start the 360-degree assessment from the initial position of the fire apparatus or incident command post.

##### Clockwise or Counterclockwise Rotation:

- Begin a systematic rotation around the structure in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction.

##### Observations:

- Assess all sides of the structure, paying close attention to windows, doors, vents, and other openings.
- Note any signs of fire, smoke conditions, structural damage, or hazards such as downed power lines or unstable structures.

**Utilities and Access Points:**

- Identify utility shutoff locations (e.g., gas, electricity) and access points for firefighting operations.
- Note the location of fire hydrants, stairwells, and other potential ingress and egress points.

**Adjacent Structures and Exposures:**

- Evaluate adjacent structures and exposures for potential fire spread or involvement.
- Consider the need for additional resources or exposure protection measures.

**Communication with Incident Command:**

- Communicate findings to incident command, providing clear and concise updates on scene conditions and observations.
- Relay any critical information that may impact firefighting tactics or safety.

By conducting a thorough first arriving fire unit size-up and 360-degree assessment, firefighters can gather essential information to guide effective firefighting operations and ensure the safety of personnel and civilians at the scene. Regular training and practice in size-up techniques are vital for enhancing situational awareness and operational effectiveness in dynamic emergency situations.