



**State Fire Service
POLAND**



**Central School
of the State Fire
Service**

**The tasks of the Polish State Fire Service
in the field of chemical and environmental
emergency response within
the National Firefighting and Rescue System**

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Poland

Area – 312 685 km²

Population ~ 38 700 000



National Headquarters of the
State Fire Service



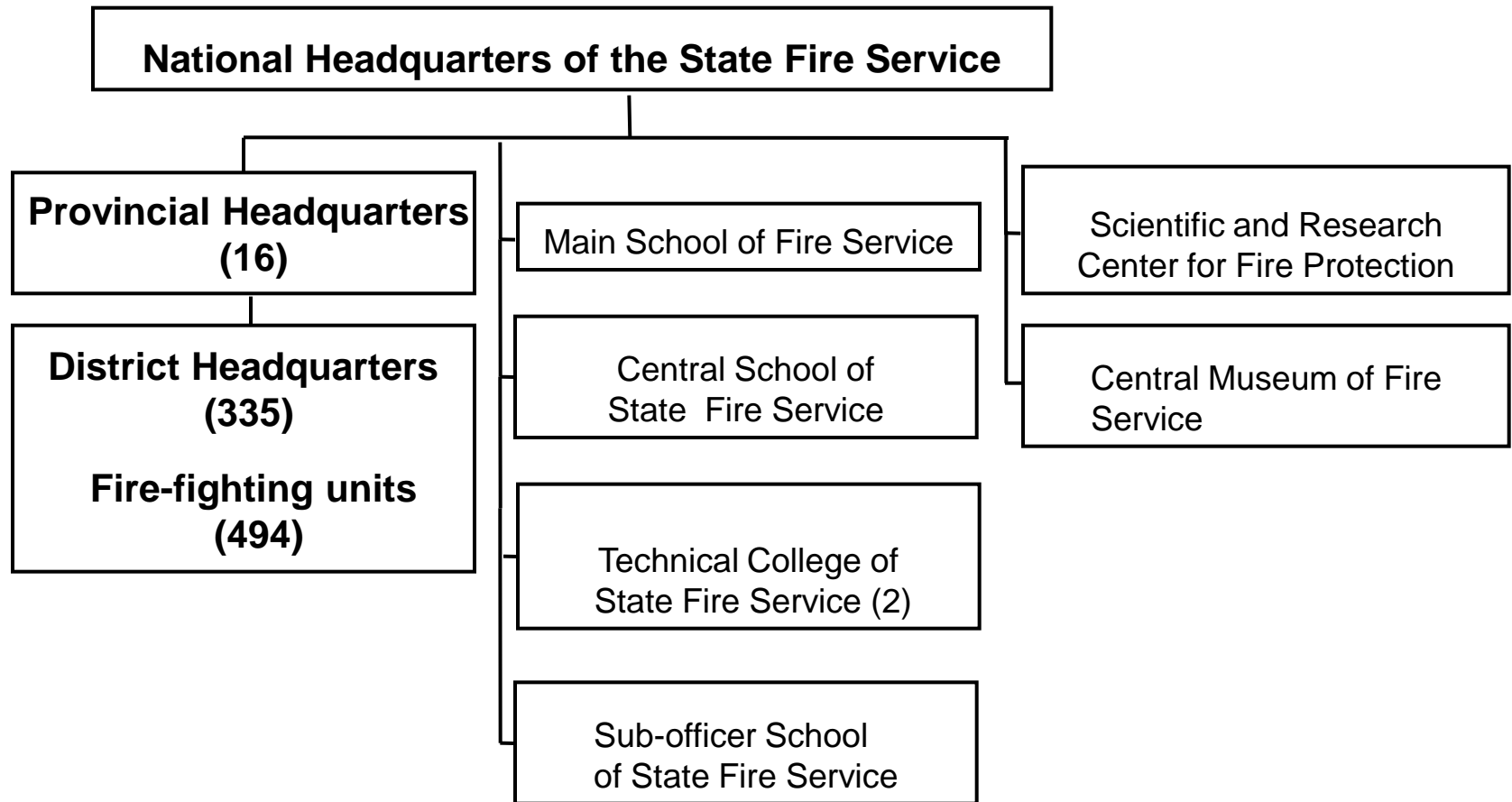
Provincial Headquarters
of the State Fire Service
(16)



District Headquarters
of the State Fire Service
(335)



Organizational structure



The State Fire Service – overview

- ✓ leading rescue service;
- ✓ professional & uniformed;
- ✓ fully harmonised & standardised in all country;
- ✓ organiser and core of The National Firefighting and Rescue System;
- ✓ State but strongly decentralised:
 - supervised by public administration authorities on each level,
 - budgets come from public administration authorities on each level,
 - appointment of Chief Fire Officers must be agreed with public administration authorities on each level,
 - rescue plans are approved by public administration authorities on each level.
 - subsidiarity rule is common (also in operational activities) .



Responsibilities



**Organisation of National
Rescue and Firefighting
System, whose main task is the
protection of people,
properties and environment by:**





Fighting the fires





Fighting against local threats





Chemical and ecological emergency response





Technical rescue





Rope rescue, Urban Search and Rescue





Water and diving rescue



First Medical Aid



Other task of Polish firefighters

- ❑ Recognition of fire hazards and other local threats,
- ❑ Training of human resources for the State Fire Service, other fire protection units and for civil protection,
- ❑ Supervising the compliance with the fire regulations,
- ❑ Developing the research work in the fire protection field



National Rescue and Firefighting System

- ✓ Integral part of the internal security system, financed by government
- ✓ In charge of the Chief Commandant of the State Fire Service
- ✓ Supervised by the Minister of Interior



National Rescue and Firefighting System

Operates on three administrative levels corresponding with the administrative structure of the country

- ❑ **DISTRICT** – *main executive level, where interventions are carried out by district resources*
- ❑ **PROVINCIAL** – *coordination and assistance to the rescue operations when resources in the district are insufficient,*
- ❑ **CENTRAL** – *rescue operations` assistance and coordination when resources in the province are insufficient.*



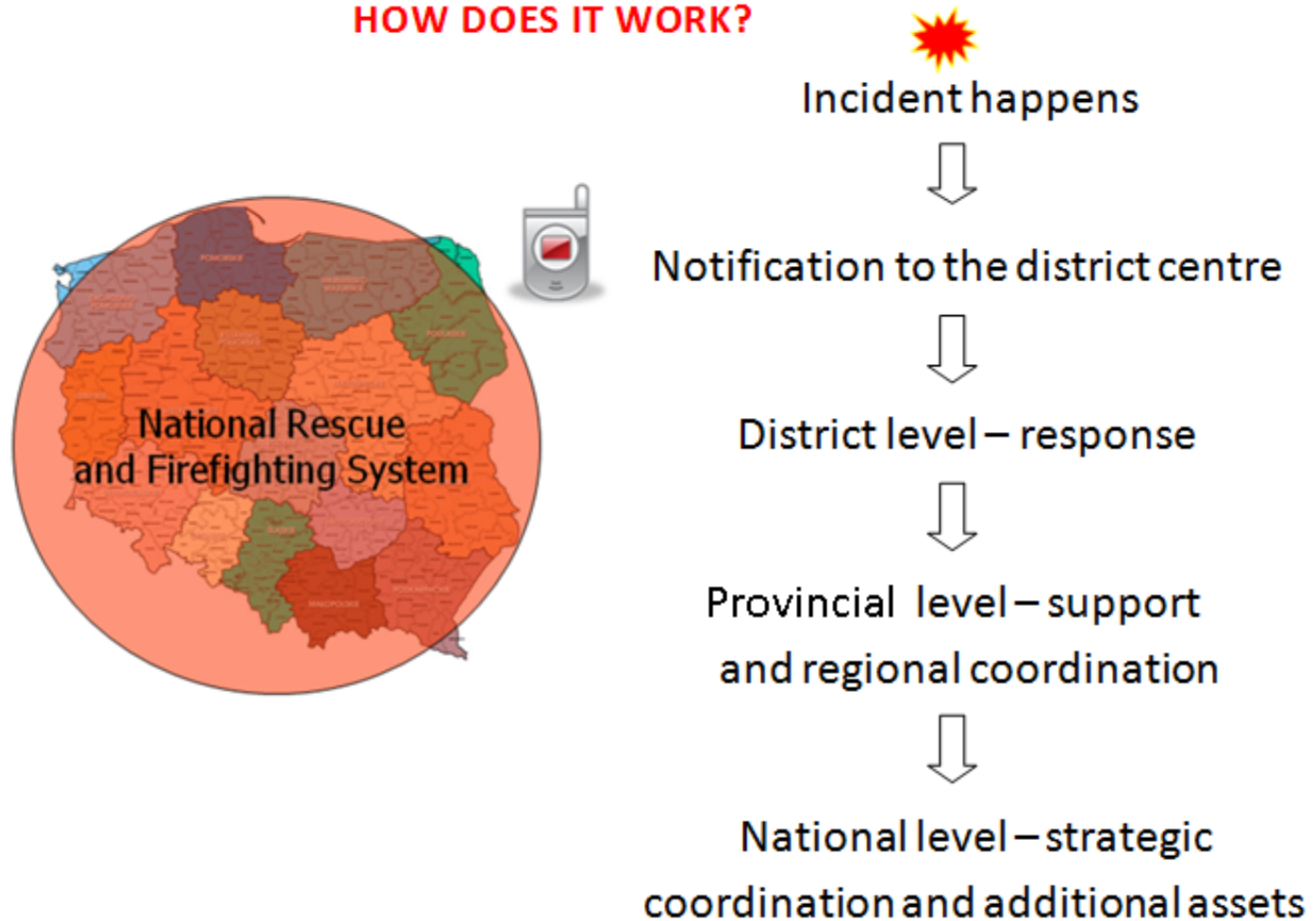
Main functions of the National Rescue and Firefighting System

- **permanent watch and relief**, every rescue operations implemented by own measures of a commune and a district
- **rescue operations beyond district level took up in case of every disaster**, support and coordination from higher level (provincial or central)



National Firefighting and Rescue System

HOW DOES IT WORK?



the System is supported by:

- Police
- Border Guard
- Medical Service
- State Inspection for Environmental Protection
- Institute for Meteorology and Water Management
- National Atomic Energy Agency
- Central Mining Rescue Station
- Maritime Search and Rescue Service
- Military Forces
- Voluntary Fire Service, Mountain Voluntary Rescue Service, Water Voluntary Rescue Service, and many others



Operational Reserves the State Fire Service within the National Rescue and Firefighting System

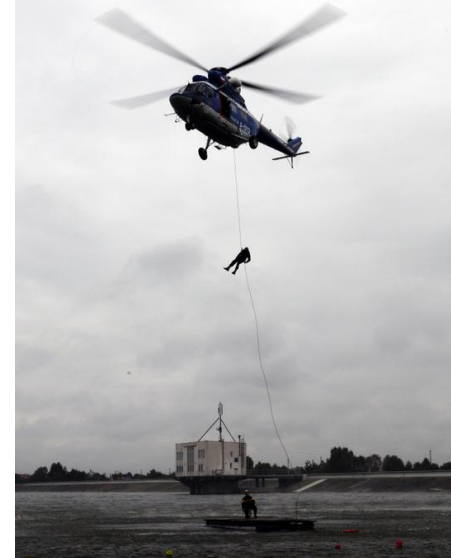
Some part of resources of National Rescue and Fire-fighting System is organised in the form of **operational reserves**.

Operational reserves – 16 provincial brigades, one battalion of **central operational reserve** including companies of provincial operational reserve and specialized teams.



Central Operational Reserve Structure

- ✓ 25 firefighting companies;
- ✓ 23 special purposes companies;
- ✓ 2 logistic companies;
- ✓ 5 firefighting schools' companies;
- ✓ 10 water and diving rescue teams;
- ✓ 14 rope rescue teams;
- ✓ **16 chemical response teams;**
- ✓ 7 technical rescue teams;
- ✓ 5 search and rescue teams;



Chemical and environmental emergency response in within the National Rescue and Firefighting System

- organizational measures and the use of rescue techniques and means of neutralizing, absorbing, limiting or stopping pollution necessary to eliminate the direct effects of hazards of substances dangerous to humans, animals, the environment or property.



Levels of specializations in chemical and environmental emergency response in State Fire Service

Basic level - applies to the tasks during the rescue operations, the rescue equipment owned and size of **each fire-fighting unit**.

The minimum range of tasks performed at a **basic level** includes:

- ✓ identifying and securing the scene,
- ✓ evacuation of victims, vulnerable people and animals out of the danger zone,
- ✓ warning and alarming about the threat, informing about the rules of conduct,
- ✓ mitigation of oil leakage,
- ✓ putting water curtains,
- ✓ victims flush with water, medical first aid qualified outside the danger zone,
- ✓ logistical support of the action and rescue by hardware capabilities, implemented outside the danger zone.



Levels of specializations in chemical and environmental rescue in State Fire Service

Specialist level - applies to the full range of tasks during the rescue operations carried out by a specialized **chemical rescue teams**.

Chemical response team - subdivision numbering at least 12 rescuers with specialized training in the field of chemical and environmental emergency response and specialized car (chemical, rescue, fire) as well as equipment and powers to special rescue operations.



Levels of specializations in chemical and environmental response in State Fire Service

The minimum range of tasks performed at a **specialized level** includes:

- ✓ hazard identification, assessment and prediction of their development, including an attempt to identify or sampling preparation for analysis of chemical substances,
- ✓ evacuation of victims, vulnerable people and animals out of the danger zone,
- ✓ warning and alarm about the threat, informing on the rules of conduct,
- ✓ putting dams on water areas threatened by petroleum substances,
- ✓ neutralizing and binding the chemical sorbents,
- ✓ putting water curtains,
- ✓ conducting decontamination of people,
- ✓ conducting decontamination of equipment,
- ✓ pumping and the replacement chemical tanks,
- ✓ emissions reduction and retention of chemicals,
- ✓ collecting chemicals.



Levels of specializations in chemical and environmental response in State Fire Service

Resources:

Basic level – 494 fire units (first fire engines);

Specialist level – 16 chemical response teams – each regions;

Chemical reconnaissance vehicle – 16 – each regions;

Mobile laboratory – 3 units Katowice, Poznań, Warszawa.

Equipment to carry out chemical and environmental response operations for firefighters in basic level

- ✓ Splash suit (TYCHEM F)
- ✓ Breathing apparatus or filter mask.
- ✓ Gloves
- ✓ Bots
- ✓ Water curtain and other standard equipment and rescue vehicles to carry out basic operations of rescue
- ✓ Portable device to detect concentration of gases (CO, H₂S, O₂, LEL)



Equipment to carry out chemical and environmental response operations for firefighters in specialist level



- ✓ chemical protective suit;
- ✓ breathing apparatus and filter mask;
- ✓ sealing equipment;
- ✓ pump fittings;
- ✓ containers for the collection of hazardous materials;
- ✓ equipment to reduce oil spills on water;
- ✓ neutralizers and sorbents;
- ✓ equipment for exposure assessment;
- ✓ and other necessary equipment



Equipment for exposure assessment in chemical incidents for firefighters on mobile laboratory level

- ✓ First Defender/STREET LAB – Raman spectroscopy (for solid and liquid),
- ✓ GCMS (solid, liquid, gases)
- ✓ IR spectroscopy (solid, liquid, gases),
- ✓ RAID M – IMS (for toxic gases e.g. CWA)
- ✓ Portable device to detect concentration of gases
- ✓ Detector PID
- ✓ Detector tubes
- ✓ Dosimeters (for radiological incidents)



Training of human resources in the State Fire Service on the example of the Central School in Czestochowa



One of the basic tasks assigned by legislation to the State Fire Service is to educate the staff for the purposes of the State Fire Service and fire protection units. In accordance with its statutory duties, Central School of the State Fire Service prepares firemen for fire fighting, natural disasters and other local threats on the medium level of education.



State Fire Service POLAND

Central School of the State Fire Service



Training facilities of the Central School in Czestochowa

School's training ground, laboratories and lecture rooms are equipped with modern audio-visual and teaching aids as well as training stands.

Our teaching and training base encompasses:

- ◆ 15 lecture rooms,
- ◆ Assembly 1 hall for 200 persons,
- ◆ Assembly 2 hall for 100 persons
- ◆ Assembly hall for 60 persons,
- ◆ 2 computer rooms,
- ◆ 8 laboratories,
- ◆ A library and reading room,
- ◆ Training ground with 48 stands,
- ◆ Sports premises,
- ◆ Fire and rescue unit.



The Central School of the State Fire Service in Czestochowa – types of training

Full-time course for Aspirants of the National Fire Service

Full-time course for Aspirants of National Fire Service is a two-year vocational college preparing commanding staff of the medium level for units of the National Fire Service and other units of fire protection.

Extramural course for Aspirants of the National Fire Service

The course is based on the syllabus binding from the year 2000 and is aimed for the firefighters being on duty in the units of the National Fire Service, units of fire protection and other rescue subjects.



The Central School of the State Fire Service in Czestochowa – types of training

Supplementary Course for Firefighter of Fire Protection Unit

The course is designed for the firefighters to be on duty at the positions for non-commissioned officers in the units of the National Fire Service, units of fire protection and other rescue subjects.

Course for staff responsible for fire prevention in their place of work

The aim of this course is to prepare people to deal with fire protection in their workplace and to carry out tasks ensuring protection of life, health and property against fire, natural disasters and other local threats.



The Central School of the State Fire Service in Czestochowa – types of training

Trainings in Civil Protection and Civil Defence

The trainings in this field started in the year 2002 and are aimed at organs and staff of national and local governments. During such a training people are prepared to fulfil tasks in the field of civil protection.

Trainings are carried out in accordance to syllabuses adjusted to individual needs of participants.



The Central School of the State Fire Service in Czestochowa – types of training

Specialist trainings

Training on Chemical and Environmental Response

First Aid Training

Rope Rescue Training



The Central School of the State Fire Service in Czestochowa – types of training

International specialized training

Principles of organization of the mass decontamination during the chemical threat

Identification and elimination of hazards during fires, chemical and technical rescue

Tactics in technical and medical rescue operations

Training Course in Sampling Preparation and Analysis of Toxic Chemicals (in cooperation and with the help of OPCW)



Thank you for your attention



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