

Alton Fire & Rescue Department

Standard Operating PROCEDURES (SOP)

SOP 1.3.4 Backing – Up Apparatus

PURPOSE: To insure the safe backing up of apparatus

SCOPE: All Driver/Operators of apparatus

SPECIFICS:

- Driver/operator's role
 - **The vehicle shall not be backed until all spotters are in position and communicate clearance** to start the backing to the driver/operator. Spotters will remain visible to the driver/operator. Anytime the driver/operator loses sight of the primary spotter, the vehicle shall be stopped immediately until the spotter is visible, and the communication to continue backing is indicated.
 - **The vehicle shall not be backed until all spotters are in position and communicate clearance to the driver/operator** to start backing. Spotters will remain visible to the **driver/operator**. Anytime the **driver/operator** loses sight of the primary spotter, the vehicle shall be stopped immediately until the spotter is visible, and communication to continue backing is indicated.
 - When vehicles must be backed where other vehicles traffic exists, the vehicle's emergency lights (**if equipped with such lights**) **shall be operating and safety vests shall be worn by all spotters.**

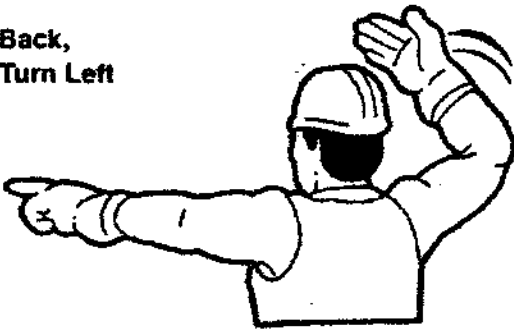
- Spotter's Role and Responsibilities:
 - The driver/operator will discuss the backing plan with the engineer/driver before proceeding.

- The communication/warning process will be agreed upon prior to backing.
 - Windows will be in the down position to allow for maximum communication/hearing between spotters and the driver/operator.
 - The spotters will utilize standardized backing-up hand signals in addition to any other communication method used.
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- Apparatus Backing-Up Signals in appended visual (Standard Hand Signals).

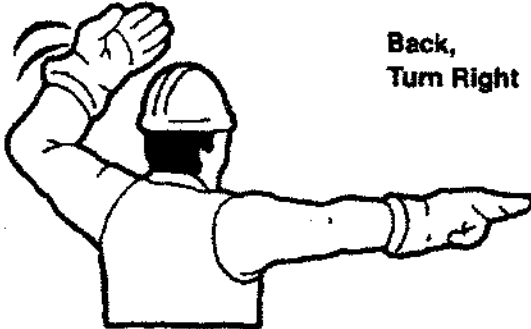
DATE: Approved: 2/27/06 REVISED 1/27/2009

STANDARD HAND SIGNALS

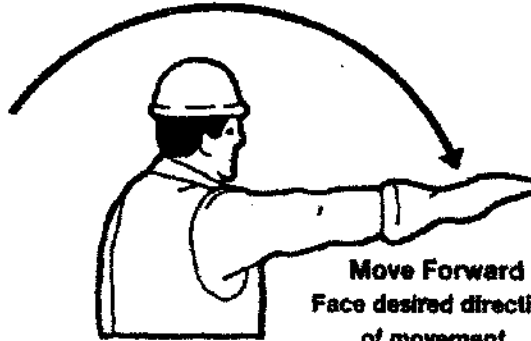
Back,
Turn Left



Back,
Turn Right



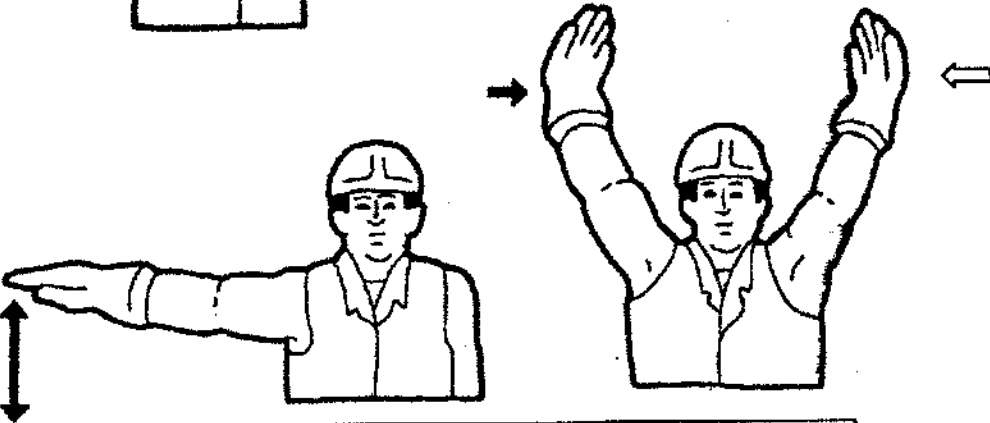
Back Up



Move Forward
Face desired direction
of movement.



Stop



| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <p>Slow Down Move Arm up and Down</p> | <p>Distance Left to Back</p> |
|---|----------------------------------|