

LOW SPEED E.V.O.C. AND PRECISION SKILLS PAD COURSE FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS (Law Enforcement)

PURPOSE:

The Low Speed E.V.O.C. and Precision Skills Pad Course is designed for the Emergency Responder (Law Enforcement Personnel). It's Purpose is to teach precise driving skills under low speed, low stress conditions, while simulating an emergency response. The Low Speed E.V.O.C. and Precision Skills Pad Course focuses on precision handling and control as the drivers expeditiously maneuver through and complete the course within a specified amount of time.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course is configured to allow the driver to move from one exercise to another regulated at their own pace with each exercise presenting a different driving situation. There are three separate testing exercises. The first test starts two hundred (200) feet in front of the Offset Alley which the operator drives up to and through, then makes a left "U"-turn to the Serpentine/Five cone Turn-Around, then back through the Serpentine, makes a right "U"-turn and through the Offset Alley to the start position. The second test starts with the Lane Change, proceeds into and out of the T-box, then back through the Lane Change to the start position. The third and final Exercise is the Emergency Evacuation Backing and Turning Exercise which begins and ends at the three cone barrier located in the front of that exercise. The testing Driver will place his/her vehicle nose first at the three (3) cones in the start position. From there the vehicle will back one hundred (100) feet and back into a driveway without touching cones. The vehicle will then drive out of the driveway and into the U-Turn Box. Complete a U-Turn. The vehicle will then return to the driveway and drive nose first into it. Then back out of the driveway and back down the 100 foot straight away to the 3-point turn portion of this exercise. Complete a 3-point turn and return the car to the start position pointing in the same direction as it started.

PRE-COURSE INSTRUCTION AND CLASSROOM TIME:

The approximate three (3) hour classroom time will be divided between instruction of known liabilities and risks that pertain to emergency operation of an emergency vehicle and the general purpose and expectations of the Skills Pad exercises. During the instruction period of the Skill Pad exercises the instructors will explain that a blend of speed and precision is desired for the courses and that the drivers should maneuver smoothly and precisely through each exercise while moving as fast as is **safe and reasonable** for that course. During this time the instructors will explain the evaluation process and the expectations of the drivers. Once on the Skills Pad, one instructor will

drive a demonstration run as another instructor will explain that points as they apply to each exercise course. Throughout the demonstration, the instructor shall emphasize safe, precise handling of the emergency vehicle. Safety will be practiced at all times while on the Skills Pad.

COURSE EXECUTION:

After classroom time and demonstrations, drivers will be divided into three groups and given the opportunity for practice runs through the courses regulated at their own pace and under the guidance of an instructor. At the driver's own discretion, he/she will test and qualify on each of the three courses by completing each within the designated time for that course and striking **NO** cones. During testing the instructors will communicate via radio on an assigned channel to maintain safety and control. Those drivers not testing will assist with cones.

EQUIPMENT (VEHICLES)

Each Law Enforcement Agency that chooses to send drivers to participate in this course will be responsible for providing their own emergency vehicle. The vehicle provided must pass a Pre-Course vehicle inspection completed by a Certified Mechanic or a Public Works Mechanic before being allowed on the Skills Pad. A vehicle inspection sheet is provided with this course outline and must be completed by the mechanic. Maintenance and repairs derived from this course will be the sole responsibility of the driver's agency (Note: The Skills Pad is a low speed course and should not cause any more wear and tear on a vehicle than day to day operation).

COURSE EVALUATION:

The driver will be evaluated on overall technique, especially smoothness and speed control. An acceptable evaluation has occurred when the student completes all three courses within the allotted time without striking any cones.

08/07/08