

**CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER NUMBER 16
CANCELLATION OF TOOL AND EQUIPMENT SPECIALIST (J-256) JOB AID**

BACKGROUND

The position within the Incident Command System (ICS) entitled Tool and Equipment Specialist was listed in the Executive Summary (Modifications to the Wildland Fire Training and Qualifications System, 1991) as a position scheduled to be developed as a job aid. A decision was made by the development group, not to develop the job aid.

CURRENT STATUS

The development group was charged with the development of three job aids; Ordering Manager, J-252, Receiving and Distribution Manager, J-253 and Tool and Equipment Specialist, J-256. Although the group agreed that this is still an important position within the ICS structure, they concluded that a task book and job aid were not necessary for the following reasons:

1. The position of Tool and Equipment Specialist is not listed in the Wildland Fire Qualifications Subsystems, 310-1.
2. During the original development of tasks books for positions within the ICS, no task book was developed for this position.
3. The basic tasks listed in the Fireline Handbook NWCG 410-1 for the position are covered in other courses, i.e., Basic Firefighter, S-130.
4. In a majority of cases, the individual that would fill this position would have a background in tool use, and be experienced in maintaining and organizing tools and equipment assigned to the position.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Although the development group decided against developing a separate job aid for the Tool and Equipment Specialist, the duties, responsibilities and skills needed for the position are listed in the job aid for Receiving and Distribution Manager, J-253. The Tool and Equipment Specialist position is supervised by the Receiving and Distribution Manager in the Supply Unit. This will give the Receiving and Distribution Manager an evaluative tool with which to evaluate the Tool and Equipment Specialist.

The tool and equipment section of the Receiving and Distribution Manager job aid includes: Laying out the tool and equipment work area, maintaining tools and equipment (sharpening, inspecting), safety of the area (using a power grinder and/or hand sharpening) and security of the area.

For these reasons, the development group felt that it is not necessary to develop a separate job aid for the position of Tool and Equipment Specialist.

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

Upon approval of the recommendation:

Delete Tool and Equipment Specialist (J-256) from Appendix B of the 310-1.
Appendix B is the only location the Job Aid or position is mentioned.

APPROVED:

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Chairman, Training Working Team

10/20/11
Date