

ANNEX 21O

COMPARTMENT WITHDRAWAL - FIREFIGHTER/WATERWALL NOZZLES IN USE

During firefighting operations it may become necessary for the firefighting team to withdraw for various reasons such as injury, operation of BA whistle (see [Para 2127](#)), operation of team members BA bypass valve or a tactical withdrawal. Before any withdrawal commences the TL is to inform the remainder of the team of the requirement to withdraw. TLs should then withdraw their team as safely and swiftly as possible using the following routines as a guideline:



Note. For compartment withdrawal where the Multi Purpose Nozzle is in use see [Annex 21B](#).

a. **Withdrawal from a Compartment on the Same Level through a Watertight Door**

- (1) Order **“FIREFIGHTER PERSONAL PROTECTION”** or **“OUT FB5X, “OFF FB5X”**.
- (2) Stand up the whole team and withdraw backwards to an area adjacent to the door keeping the waterwall between the team and the fire. It is essential at this stage that hose handlers and hydrant operators assist the team to ensure a safe exit.
- (3) When at the door the TL passes through the door and checks the door integrity.
- (4) When the TL has confirmed the integrity of the door he orders FF back through the door and directs him to take control of the door and prepare to close it.
- (5) Once in position, the TL orders WW back through the door.
- (6) When whole team is in position, TL orders WW to get down on one knee adjacent to the non-hinge side of the door in the same position for opening with nozzle on the door frame.
- (7) When satisfied that door is sealed TL orders **“FF CLOSE DOOR TO 45°”**.
- (8) When satisfied the TL orders **“FF CLOSE THE DOOR”**. At this point WW withdraws his nozzle, FF closes the door and ensures that a minimum of 1 clip is closed to ensure the door is secure. The FF is to retain control of this clip until the WW nozzle is shut.
- (9) Whilst backing up the WW operator, the TL now orders **“OFF WATERWALL”** and on completion orders **“FF DOWN ON ONE KNEE”**. When the FF is in position the TL orders **“OFF FF”**.

(10) When the nozzles are shut, the TL checks the teams air supply and if safe to do so orders the person with the highest pressure to establish BC with either FF nozzle or CFHR on the door. The TL, now backing up the WW, isolates and drains down the hoses not in use.

(11) TL then either withdraws the remainder of the team to the FCP or acts as ordered by I/C Main Group/HQ1.

b. **Withdrawal from a Compartment upwards through a Hatch**

(1) Order **“FIREFIGHTER PERSONAL PROTECTION”** or **“OUT FB5X, “OFF FB5X”**.

(2) Stand up the whole team and withdraw backwards to an area adjacent to the ladder keeping the waterwall between the team and the fire.

(3) If a fire is still burning all nozzles are to remain open throughout the ladder phase of the withdrawal to afford maximum protection to the team and ship.

(4) The TL now proceeds up the ladder, through the hatch and takes up position to supervise the ladder ascent of the remainder of the team.

(5) Once in position the TL gives ladder clear and orders **“FF UP THE LADDER”**. As the FF approaches the top of the hatch the TL takes control of the FF nozzle and hose. He places the nozzle in the hatch combing before ordering FF to exit the ladder and take control of his nozzle.

(6) When the FF has control of his nozzle and has confirmed the nozzle is still in personal protection, the TL gives the ladder clear and orders **“WW UP THE LADDER”**. As the WW approaches the top of the hatch the TL takes control of the WW nozzle and hose. The TL places the nozzle in the hatch combing before ordering the WW to exit the ladder and take control of his nozzle.

(7) When WW has control of his nozzle the TL prepares to close the hatch.

(8) When ready, the TL closes the hatch by 45°.

(9) The TL orders **“OUT WW AND OUT FF”** nozzles whilst simultaneously closing the hatch and securing by at least 1 clip.

(10) Whilst backing up the WW operator, the TL now orders **“OFF WATERWALL”** and on completion orders **“FF DOWN ON ONE KNEE”**. When the FF is in position, the TL orders **“OFF FF”**.

(11) When the nozzles are shut, the TL checks the teams air supply and if safe to do so orders the person with the highest pressure to establish BC with either FF nozzle or CFHR on the hatch. The TL, now backing up the WW, isolates and drains down the hoses not in use.

(12) TL then either withdraws the remainder of the team to the FCP or acts as ordered by I/C Main Group/HQ1.