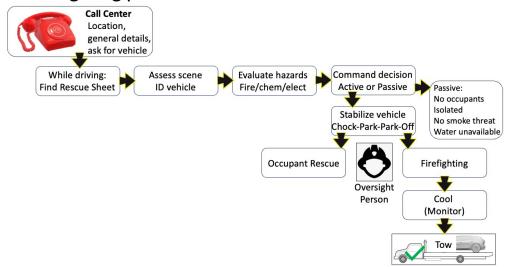
## www.HowItBroke.com

## ELECTRIC VEHICLE FIREFIGHTING CLASS REMINDERS

## **EV Firefighting process**



https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/training-high-voltage/story html5.htm

- 1. Don't get complacent. Remember the warning signs of sight, sound, and smell:
  - a. Popping, whistling, or other venting sounds
  - b. Exposed battery or orange-colored parts
  - c. Smoke
  - d. Flame
  - e. Fluid leaks
- 2. Vehicle identification: Watch for vehicle labels, charge ports, and orange colored components.
- 3. EVs and hybrids have TWO batteries One 12V and one high voltage (typ. 400+ Volts)
  - a. Cut Loop tags mark 12V control circuits and are **not** high voltage
- 4. Is there room to work?
  - a. Immobilize as-is or after moving because EVs can move silently.
  - b. CHOCK wheels, PARK brake, PARK shifter, OFF power
  - c. Don't get trapped in confined spaces and have an oversight person.
- 5. Fuels: 1. Vehicle interior and plastics. 2. Batteries. 3. Gas/diesel. 4. Surrounding structure
- 6. Use SCBA and cover all skin. Batteries can spit sticky burning material.
  - a. Smoke can be flammable and may contain acids or metals. Protect bystanders.
- 7. DANGER Arc flash hazard and energy stranded in battery case are invisible dangers.
  - a. Heat and impact damage destroy battery internal insulating materials.
  - b. Do not puncture or put any pressure on a potentially damaged battery.
  - c. Do not handle anything orange or exposed battery internals.
  - d. Batteries have re-ignited both hours and days after being extinguished.
  - e. Even if no longer smoking do not trust a battery which has undergone thermal runaway.
- 8. High voltage batteries may require cooling bottom of vehicle to extinguish.
  - a. Electricity found to not travel up a water stream to nozzle.
  - b. Water stream into vehicle interior does not reach a burning/smoking battery beneath.
  - c. If battery is breached, train water stream INTO casing to flood and cool cells.
- 9. Fire blankets can be used to prevent daisy chain" events but flammable gasses can accumulate.
- 10. Can cover door sill and rocker panel during extrication for protection from potential venting flames.
- 11. Turn off electrical power to charge station(s) at source. Damaged cabinets may be energized.
- 12. Resources:

EnergySecurityAgency (ESA)
EV Rescue App for ERGs on phone or tablet:

24/7 Response Center

or

855-372-7233

NFPA ERGs:

Google search: EV ERG NFPA

www.autorescueapp.com www.EVSafetyTraining.org

Railroad App for firefighters:

www.askrail.us

Underwriter Laboratories: Australian Government:

www.ulfirefightersafety.org www.EVFireSafe.com