THE TENNESSEE WILDFIRE

An in-progress incident worked by Salamander representatives Mark McColman & Adam Fray starting on November 30th, 2016.

On November 30th, 2016, Salamander Technologies deployed to Gatlinburg, Tennessee to aid in the suppression of the Sevier County Wildfire.

The wildfire started on November 23, 2016 in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Chimney Tops area. It was originally reported to be slow-moving, consuming approximately three acres. Five days later, on Monday morning, November 28th, the wildfire had grown to 500 acres due to 20mph winds. Later that same day, a small fire, which is believed to have been started from embers from the original fire at Chimney Tops, was reported south of Gatlinburg. That evening, hurricane force winds blew through the area, exceeding 50mph.

The combined wildfires took numerous lives, as well as left 130 people injured, 17,000 acres burned, and more than 1,700 structures destroyed. This large-scale incident has been named the worst catastrophe in the history of the state of Tennessee.
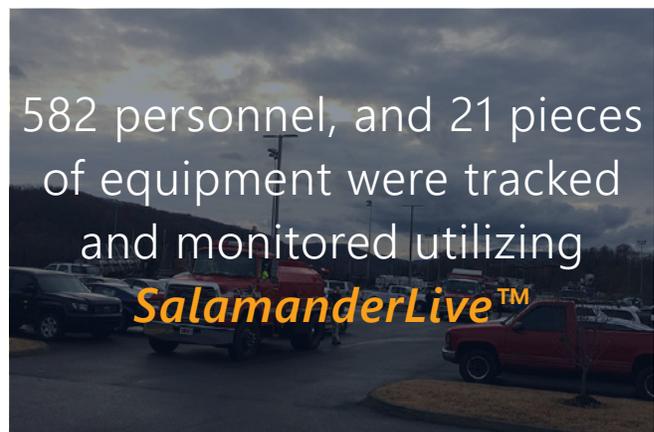
Solution

The Salamander team arrived at the Command Post to support Gatlinburg Fire Department to implement Salamander's INTELLIGENT ACCOUNTABILITY™ solutions on-site.

Access to SalamanderLive™ and two

COMMAND and two RAPID TAG systems were given to the response teams to achieve situational awareness. There were 40 TRACK APPs and 500 TAG APPs issued. TRACK APPs were deployed first to track responders in real-time, via SalamanderLive, for safety and resource deployment. With Salamander's import feature, 54 troopers from the Tennessee Highway Patrol, and 142 Tennessee National Guard personnel were downloaded from a .csv file into SalamanderLive within five minutes.

The RAPID TAG system was then deployed at the staging area and the Command Post to capture responding resources and assets at check-in.

582 personnel, and 21 pieces of equipment were tracked and monitored utilizing *SalamanderLive™*

Salamander solutions were not previously deployed by Gatlinburg or neighboring counties. With very little instruction, their personnel were fully operational and self-sufficient at utilizing SalamanderLive™, COMMAND, RAPID TAG, TRACK and TAG to execute the relief of the incident.

On Friday, December 2nd, there were 582 personnel, and 21 pieces of equipment checked in on-scene for the dayshift operational period.

Salamander personnel demobilized and returned to their home bases, leaving the solutions in place for as long as public safety personnel were deployed for this wildfire.

Intelligent Accountability™
above the rest

Salamander Technologies would like to recognize the personnel of the Gatlinburg Fire and Police Departments, and all the agencies and volunteers that aided the Sevier County community.

You all are true Heroes.

About Salamander

There are a number of organizations that fulfill only one of the three needs of reliable accountability during large-scale incidents, such as wildfire situations. Today, there is limited situational visibility due to manual and reactive workflows in place. To gain order and control, it takes boots on the ground to assess the incident as well as resource identification.

Accountability is mandatory, and it is imperative that the Incident Commander has visibility at all times. Life safety, incident accountability, command and control, and leadership liability make tracking who is on-scene, with what qualifications, when they arrive or depart, and where they are located of the utmost importance.

Salamander Technologies™ leads the pack by combining all three functions into one integrated solution, Intelligent Accountability™, that provides a real-time operational picture and visibility of jurisdiction resources to all stakeholders involved: TAG, TRACK and REPORT. Utilizing Intelligent Accountability makes sure you have the right people, in the right place, at the right time, with the right credentials for natural disasters, events and more.

For more information on tools available today, visit www.salamanderlive.com.

CONTACT
INFORMATION

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