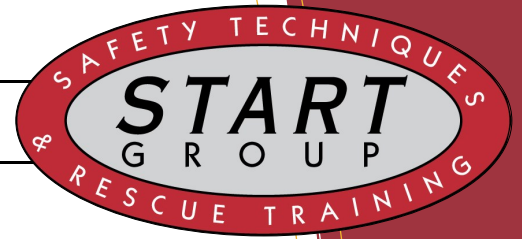


Executive Summary



COMPANY OVERVIEW

START Group is a nationally recognized corporation that provides specialized safety and technical rescue services. **START** Group's core expertise includes classroom and manipulative skills training related to OSHA Compliance, Technical Rescue, Industrial Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Training, Emergency Preparedness and Traffic Control. In addition to training, **START** Group also provides specialty services including confined space attendant and rescue services, respirator fit testing, transit emergency management, expert witness and loss control evaluations. Training and specialty services are delivered through a nationwide network of certified, experienced and highly knowledgeable staff comprised of firefighters, rescuers, EMT personnel and safety and loss control professionals.

START Group is a privately owned corporation managed under the leadership of Director, Michael J. Kelly. The corporation is currently comprised of nineteen primary instructors, thirty-one secondary instructors, twenty back-up rescuers and six office support personnel. **START** Group was founded in 1995 and was originally known as Michael J. Kelly Safety Consulting. For more than 20 years, **START** Group has provided service to countless public and private entities throughout the United States. Clients include municipalities, fire departments, park districts, schools, hospitals, manufacturing, construction, commercial businesses and more. **START** Group delivered 810 days of training and specialized services in the year 2014.

STAFF CREDENTIALS

START Group instructors and rescue personnel are specialists within their respective fields, having expertise in vertical, confined space, collapse and trench rescue. A number of **START** Group's personnel have been instrumental in establishing technical rescue curriculum throughout the Midwest, including the State of Illinois. Personnel are highly trained and knowledgeable of course content and have extensive field experience that further enhances presented material and activities. Personnel have been certified through the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal and are currently employed firefighters/rescuers in various Illinois cities.

CORE VALUES

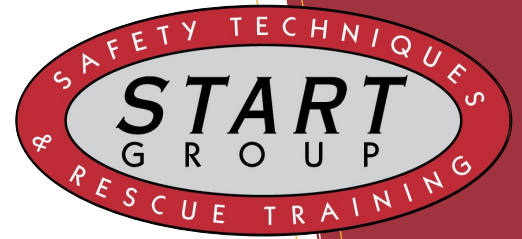
To ensure a highly successful learning experience, each **START** Group member believes and practices the following Core Values:

- Never talk down to or show lack of respect for the students we are teaching;
- Always leave our students better informed than when they arrived;
- Always remember that the students' life safety rests in our ability to share our knowledge and experience;
- Always remember our place in the equation: a conduit between the students, management and labor groups; and
- *Always "make it happen" for all of our students.*



No matter the endeavor, *START* Group staff is committed to delivering a superior level of service and developing long-term relationships with each of our clients.

*-Michael J. Kelly, Director, **START** Group*



EXPERT WITNESS SERVICES

The confined space, trench compliance and rescue services conducted by **START** Group are held in high esteem industry-wide and in 1998, the company began providing expert witness testimony related to these fields. In 2003, **START** Group's Director provided expert testimony and information to the National Committee on Uniformed Traffic Control Devices and in 2005 was selected for the corresponding Federal Highway Committee. Recent work includes completion of an expert witness report for a wrongful death accident involving a collapsed trench in Decatur, Illinois.

EQUIPMENT

In order to provide our customers with simulated real life experience for hands-on training and to provide rescue equipment, **START** Group owns and maintains five fully equipped, customized trailers. Three of the trailers are dedicated to confined space training and standby/rescue services. One of these trailers is used for fire extinguisher training. The largest and most sophisticated trailer is used for live fire training.

SPECIALIZED TRANSIT TRAINING PROGRAMS

In addition to classroom training and field work, **START** Group has contributed significantly to developing curriculum and conducting training programs for transit emergency response and rescue. This endeavor resulted in the highly successful Washington DC Metropolitan Area (WMATA) Managing Metro Emergencies Awareness and Operations courses. These courses have been adapted and conducted for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), and Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) emergency operations personnel. The courses are designed for federal agencies, law enforcement, fire and rescue, department of transportation and operations personnel. Transit emergencies including collisions with vehicles and/or persons, derailment, mechanical malfunction, acts of terrorism and more are addressed in these courses.

In conjunction with the Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP), United States Department of Homeland Security, **START** Group also developed and offers a *Transit Emergencies Quick Reference Guide*, which is a pocket-sized site and system-specific reference guide customized to metropolitan transit operations. These guides include the metropolitan area's general transit information and map; bus, light and heavy rail equipment descriptions and operations; special needs; and specific information for the metropolitan area's response to transit emergencies, including acts of terrorism using weapons of mass destruction.

PUBLICATIONS

START Group's specialized training, rescue and safety expertise has been highlighted in numerous publications including *Fire and Rescue Magazine*, the *Daily Freeman Newspaper* (Kingston, NY) and the *Chicago Tribune*.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To learn more about how **START** Group can help your organization become better equipped for managing safety, emergency response, regulatory compliance and technical rescue, please contact Michael J. Kelly, Director, **START** Group at 630-894-0298 or visit www.startgrouptraining.com.

