

# This month's *Working Fire...*

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**Volume 00-3: March 2000**  
**Approx. Program Length: 53:05**

## **FIRELINE**

### **Orchards Apartment Fire Deerfield Township, OH**

**Approx. length: 13:26**

Fire broke out in a two-story, low-rise apartment complex and then spread the structure's cockloft. After going defensive initially to get knockdown on the fire, responders began an initial fire attack next to the originating fire unit with a Class-A foam blitz attack. They pulled down ceilings from beneath the cockloft and using chainsaws cut a roof trench above in an attempt to cut off the fire. Hand lines squirting into the attic finished the blaze off. Very little damage resulted beyond the two apartment units that were initially involved. During the incident a bystander was shot by an accidentally discharged firearm from one of the units. For more information, contact Chief Bill Kramer, Deerfield Township Fire Department, 8355 Snider Road, Mason, OH 45040 or call 513-459-0875.

### **Paint Factory Fire Glendora, NJ**

**Approx. length: 9:51**

Firefighters arrived at the fire scene to find an industrial warehouse complex fire well underway. The fire was too hot to maintain an interior fire attack, so responders went defensive with master streams from monitors, deck guns, and aerials. No foam was used. Air and water runoff pollution were monitored and determined not to be a problem. A utility trailer with acetylene tanks was a protected exposure as the radiant heat was severe. Incident Command controlled the incident well. A County coordinator helped handle resource management. For more information, contact Chief Michael Ricciardelli, Glendora Fire Department, 22 8th Avenue, Glendora, NJ. 08029 or call him at 856-939-6252,

## **HANDS-ON**

### **Firefighter Arson Part IV**

**Approx. length: 5:14**

In our conclusion to this series, our roundtable participants suggest some solutions to the problem including proactive awareness to risk groups and training, greater dialogue between departments and associations, and the need for better legislation. For more information, contact Working Fire at 800-516-3473.

## This month's *Working Fire*...

### HANDS-ON (cont.)

#### Tanker-Pumper Drafting Operation Part I

**Approx. length: 11:08**

This segment was designed for volunteer departments or urban departments whose jurisdictions may have areas outside the water system. Part One of this class presented by the Massachusetts Fire Academy covers the procedure for suctioning of water from portable water pens or "bags" directly into the primary pumper. Next month's conclusion covers tanker drafting. For more information, contact Joe Gervais, Field Instructor, Massachusetts Fire Academy, P.O. Box 1025, Stowe, MA 01775 or call him at 978-567-3100.

### FIRE MEDICS

#### Accidental Finger Amputation

**Approx. length: 6:17**

*Working Fire* rode along with Paramedics Bruce Van Hoy and Rick Arkis as they responded to a man who had severed three fingers with a circular saw. As it turned out, only one finger was amputated outright; the other two were badly dislocated and wounded. Paramedics stabilized the patient and dealt with some dizziness and elevated blood pressure, the result of shock. An IV was administered as was morphine as per the direction of the receiving hospital. Fortunately, the patient had the severed finger reattached and overall regained eighty percent of the use of his fingers. For more information, contact Lawrence Tan, Director of Paramedics, New Castle County Bureau of EMS, 3601 North DuPont Highway, New Castle, DE 19720-6395 or call 302-371-7961.

### EVOLUTIONS 2000

#### Kramer vs. Kramer Personnel Overkill On-Scene

**Approx. length: 2:20**

*Working Fire* and Professor/Chief Bill Kramer present our Continuing Education segment that's worth one credit from the University of Cincinnati. Following up on this month's *Fireline* segment presented by Bill in his own Deerfield Township, Ohio, Bill raises questions about engine company functions at fires and asks which are more important: engine or truck operations? For more information, contact Professor Bill Kramer at the Open Learning Fire Service Program, College of Applied Science, 2220 Victory Parkway, ML #103, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206 or call 513-556-6583.

## **This month's *Working Fire*...**

### ***From the Departments Involved...***

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THIS MONTH'S INCIDENTS**

The departments involved in this month's incidents pose some discussion questions that you can use as discussion-starters in your own department's training sessions. Let's kick it around!

#### ***Orchards Apartment Fire/Deerfield Township, OH Chief Bill Kramer/Deerfield Township Fire Dept.***

1. Good truck work sometimes means getting close to the fire, either to cut it off or to uncover the seat of the fire. This experience is getting harder and harder to acquire as departments respond to fewer and fewer fire suppression incidents. Are your firefighters getting the training they need in this area?
2. Is it possible to "go defensive" on part of the fire ground, while advancing an interior attack on another front, at the same time?
2. What sort of responsibility, if any, does the fire department have toward the personal property and possessions at the fire location owned by the citizens displaced by the fire?

#### ***Paint Factory Fire/Glendora, NJ Chief Michael Ricciardelli, Glendora Fire Company***

1. Our department chose not to use foam in this incident. What are the protocols and procedures in your department which determine when you do or do not use foam or foam-related products?
2. Does your department mandate SCBA to be worn by all personnel on the fire ground or only if so ordered by the EPA or other air-standards authority in the case of a haz-mat incident?
3. Does your county or fire dispatching authority automatically dispatch additional resources as a fire escalates or must you ask specifically for everything you receive?

# Enhanced Training

## Firefighter Arson. Pt. IV

### Objectives

After watching this program, the student shall understand:

1. some of the ways solutions can be developed for this problem
2. how better awareness, training, and dialogue can help.

### Standards & Regulations

This training is consistent with NFPA 1500 and appropriate OSHA regulations.

### Training Outline

#### I. POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS THROUGH GREATER AWARENESS

- A. Raise awareness about the issue of firefighter arson in Arson for First Responders courses to new firefighter and police recruits at local fire and police academies.
- B. Also raise awareness at explorer and junior firefighter programs, making it clear that individuals engaging in such activities will most likely be found out and apprehended.
- C. Greater dialogue between fire chiefs, firefighter associations, and the Fire Marshal's office about potential firesetting activities.

#### II. CONTINUING TRAINING REVEALS FIRESETTING TENDENCIES

- A. As firefighters are exposed to more and more training at the fire academy, a firefighter arsonist will often reveal his true firesetting personality and "screen himself out" when he knows such behavior will be dealt with severely.

#### III. POSITIVE SCREENING

- A. Recruitment and retention are always important issues for the fire service, especially on the volunteer side. However, screening techniques must be employed to remove the problem firefighters.

Answers to the questions on Page 6:

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. e.
5. c.

## Firefighter Arson, Pt. IV

- B. Such training will be welcomed by the upstanding members of the department because the firefighter arsonist puts the good members in danger.

### IV. TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAMS

- A. Specific training delivers some of the screening techniques and tools used by the Fire Marshal's office to department training officers themselves and teaches them about the role of the Fire Marshal's office in such investigations.

### V. BETTER LEGISLATION

- A. Through a roundtable attended by department chiefs, presidents, chairmen, membership committee chairmen and local prosecutors, it came out that there is a need for better legislation regarding the screening of applicants.
1. This would provide the "teeth," for example, to mount a criminal investigation against a firefighter arsonist, such as what the police would do.
  2. Allowing background checks and fingerprinting across the board would help to screen for good people.

## Firefighter Arson, Pt. IV: Quiz

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief/T.O. \_\_\_\_\_

Firefighter (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Education Credits/  
Hours/Units \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Select the best answer:

1. True or False      New police recruits have no reason to learn about firefighter arson.
2. True or False      Greater discussion among interested parties will do a lot to help raise awareness of this problem.
3. True or False      Additional training will teach the firefighter arsonist how to avoid detection.
4. Important issues in the fire service, especially on the volunteer side, are:
  - a. recruitment
  - b. retention
  - c. positive screening
  - d. greater awareness
  - e. all of the above.
5. Better legislation in this area would not allow for:
  - a. more "teeth" to investigate
  - b. fingerprinting
  - c. higher pay
  - d. background checks
  - e. all of the above.

*(See answers at the top of page 5)*

# Enhanced Training

## Tanker/Pumper Drafting Ops., Pt. I

### Objectives

After watching this program, the student shall:

1. understand the procedure to draft to the attack pumper from portable folding tanks or “bags.”

### Standards & Regulations

This training is consistent with NFPA 1500 and all relevant OSHA regulations.

### Training Outline

#### I. INTRODUCTION

This evolution is the first of two parts which will outline the procedure to set up and execute the drafting to an attack pumper from portable water tanks. This technique is useful for departments who have no permanent water supply system to work with, such as hydrants, or for departments who have areas of their jurisdiction with either no or low water supply.

#### II. OBJECTIVE/GOAL AT THE FIRE SCENE

- A. Attack crews will take 1 3/4” or 2” lines into a fire scene which will be supplied initially by the booster tank water on the pumper.
- B. The primary focus is to keep nozzlemen supplied with water so they don’t run out.

#### III. GATED SYSTEM

- A. When you move from a booster tank operation to a draft operation, your water intake should be gated.
  1. Electric gates work well because pump operators can control their water level.
  2. Otherwise, hose couplings will have to be used on the suction intake.

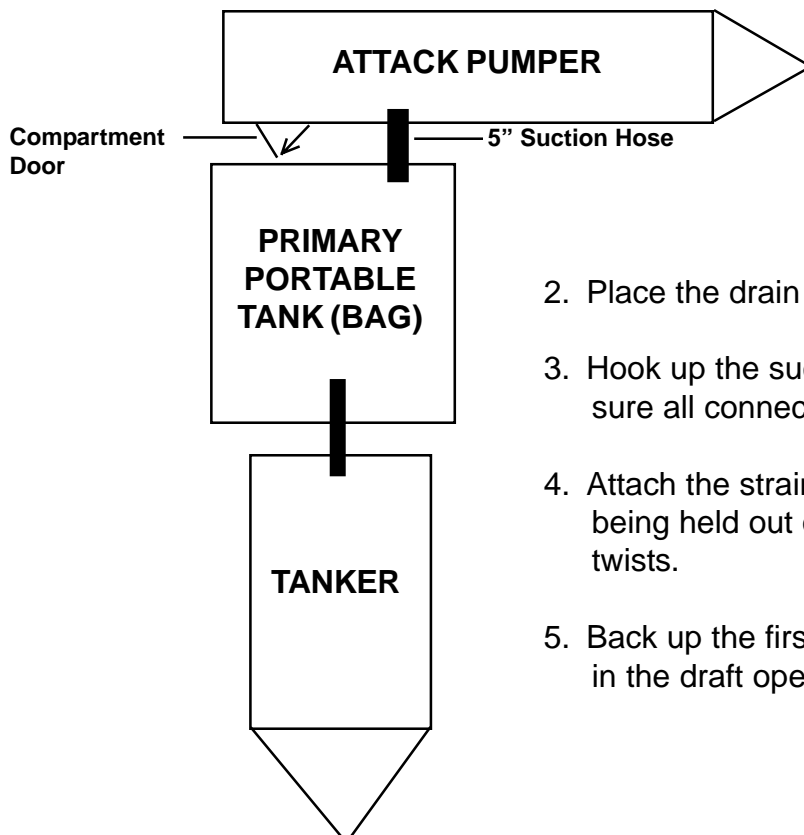
# Tanker/Pumper Drafting Ops., Pt. I

## IV. TRAINING EVOLUTION OBJECTIVE

- A. Start by running off the booster tank.
- B. Set up and fill the first portable tank.
- C. Convert from the booster tank to drafting from the portable tank without losing prime, so the water supply is never interrupted. The flow rate goal will be 500 gal./minute.

## V. TRAINING DRILL

- A. Set up the first (primary) portable tank (bag).
  1. Open the pumper compartment door to help gauge the placement distance of the tank next to the pumper.



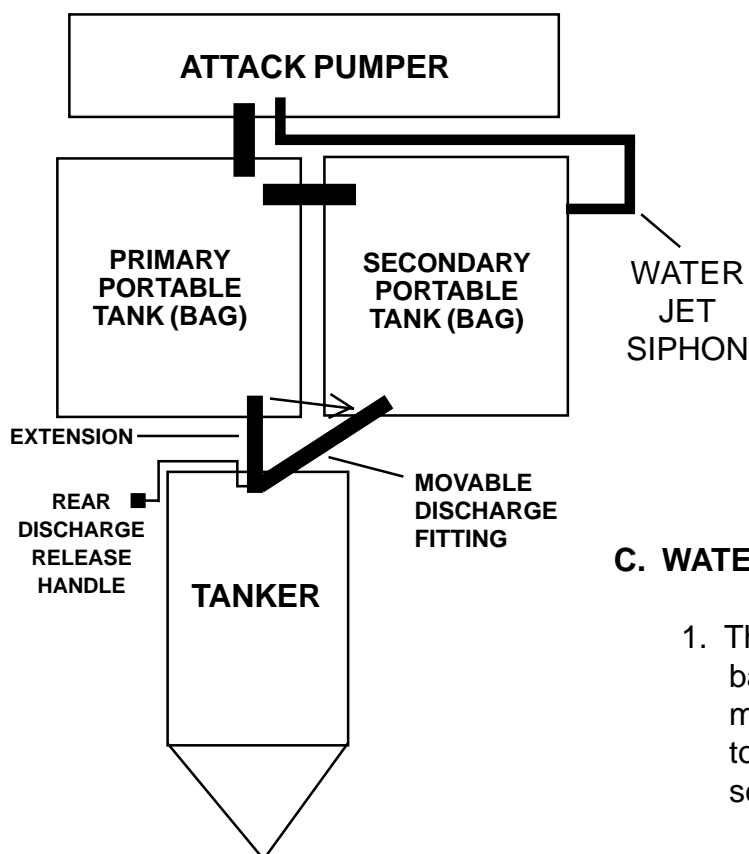
2. Place the drain tube at the lowest point in the tank.
3. Hook up the suction hose to the pumper. Make sure all connections are tight.
4. Attach the strainer to the suction hose while it's being held out of the tank to avoid kinks and twists.
5. Back up the first tanker to the portable tank and cut in the draft operation.

Answers to the questions on Page 10:

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. d.
5. c.

## Tanker/Pumper Drafting Ops., Pt. I

B. Set up the second (secondary) portable tank (bag) next to the first.



1. The tanker empties its load into the first tank.
  - a. If the tanker has a movable discharge fitting, it can empty any excess water into the second tank. Otherwise, the tanker has to physically back up to the second tank.
  - b. An extension on the discharge fitting is desirable because it allows the tanker to keep some distance between it and the portable tank when backing up to it.

### C. WATER JET SIPHON

1. This moves water from tank to tank to balance the water supply at approximately 500-600 gal./minute. This is used to keep the primary tank filled from the secondary or holding tank.
2. It's better to have the rear discharge release handle off to the side rather than at the rear of the tanker so the tanker operator doesn't have to stand behind the tanker or get pinned against the tank.
3. A 150 gal./minute flow rate was achieved, sufficient for 1 3/4" lines. The rate can now be increased to our desired 500 gal./minute. This, of course, will put a greater demand on keeping the primary tank filled.

## Tanker/Pumper Drafting Ops., Pt. I: Quiz

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief/T.O. \_\_\_\_\_

Firefighter (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Education Credits/  
Hours/Units \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Select the best answer:

1. True or False: We start the operation with booster tank water.
2. True or False: It's okay if the nozzleman runs out of water because he would need to take a break anyway.
3. True or False: A gated system doesn't make it that much easier to suction water.
4. A good thing to have on a tanker is a:
  - a. warning light
  - b. movable water discharge fitting
  - c. a rear discharge extension
  - d. two of the above are true.
5. The water jet siphon will:
  - a. help you with recreational water fun
  - b. reclaim water you lost
  - c. help balance the water between the primary and secondary tanks
  - d. allow you to get by with one less tanker
  - e. none of the above are true.

*(See answers at the top of page 9)*

# Evolutions 2000

## University of Cincinnati Continuing Education Program

### Engine vs. Truck Companies

If you're enrolled in the **Open Learning Fire Service Program** at the **University of Cincinnati**, here's your opportunity this month to earn one college credit hour for watching *Working Fire*.

#### VOLUME 00-3

#### **Kramer vs. Kramer: Engine vs. Truck Companies**

**Complete written responses to the following three essay questions:**

1. List the key functions assigned to engine companies at structure fires.
2. List the key functions assigned to truck companies at structure fires.
3. Why are engine or truck operations more important than the other? *-OR-*  
Why are they equally important?

**Send your responses to:**

**Mr. Bill Kramer  
University of Cincinnati  
College of Applied Science  
2220 Victory Parkway, ML #103  
Cincinnati, OH 45206**

#### **ENROLLMENT INFORMATION:**

For more information on enrolling in the Open Learning program to gain college credit, call *Working Fire* at 800-516-3473 for a brochure or, to register directly, call the University of Cincinnati at 513-556-6583. Associates and Bachelors programs are available. Call to have your transcripts evaluated.