

This month's *Working Fire...*

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Volume 00-4: April 2000
Approx. Program Length: 61:39

FIRELINE

Farmers Market Tire Fire Jacksonville, FL

Approx. length: 11:07

Firefighters tried an initial interior fire attack but the fire's rapid advance thwarted that effort. Responders fell back and went defensive with aerials, deck guns, and monitors. Exposure protection was successful as other adjacent buildings were spared. For a time, buildings on fire were electrified by fallen power lines and some firefighters received shocks. Long hose lays also were faced with low water pressure; relay pumping at the hydrants were necessary as well as the water company raising water pressure. For more information, contact Captain Rob Sorensen, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, 107 N. Market St., Jacksonville, FL 32202 or call 904-645-7074

Car/Guy Wire Rescue Deptford, NJ

Approx. length: 9:36

A suspected drunken motorist miscalculated a turn and drove his car off the road and up a utility pole guy wire where it hung suspended in a nearly vertical position. Rescuers fashioned a sling using cables and an aerial ladder apparatus to stabilize the car from above and used chocks and cribbing underneath. Using a flat-bed wrecker truck, rescuers were then able to remove the driver. EMS had worked with the motorist throughout and C-spined him in the vehicle before removal. For more information, contact Chief Michael Gallagher, Deptford Fire Department, P.O. Box 5535, 1370 Delsea Drive, Deptford, NJ 08096 or call 856-848-3098.

HANDS-ON

Tanker-Pumper Drafting Operation Part II

Approx. length: 7:51

Having covered pumping from portable pens last month, this month we cover the power-filling of tankers from a drafting source. 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/EMS Cross-Staffing

Approx. length: 7:08

North Naples (FL) Fire and Rescue has instituted an innovative program where paramedics from the local county-controlled ambulance division ride with firefighters on their apparatus and firefighter/EMTs ride with the ambulances, increasing each crew by one and supplying

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HANDS-ON (cont.)

additional EMS personnel for each call, the great majority of which are medical-related. For jurisdictions looking to maximize staffing and apparatus, this program should be studied. For more information, contact Chief Jim Tobin, North Naples Fire & Rescue, 1780 Immoklee, North Naples, FL 34110 or call 941-597-3222.

FIRE MEDICS

Seasonal Medical Responses Part I

Approx. length: 9:54

As Spring approaches, various seasonal EMS responses increase for medical responders. Covered this month are asthma, allergies, and snake and spider bites. Basic treatments are covered. Next month, we'll cover bee stings and a full discussion of an allergy that knows no season and is becoming an increasingly dangerous issue for responders and patients alike: latex allergies. For more information, contact Dave Frazier, Battalion Chief, EMS, West County EMS and Fire, 123 Henry Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63011

EVOLUTIONS 2000

North Carolina Firefighter Flood Relief

Approx. length: 9:11

One of the best-kept secrets in the fire service is that hundreds of firefighters and emergency responders in North Carolina lost all or nearly all of their household possessions in the recent flooding resulting from Hurricane Floyd and earlier rains. A large portion of the state was affected, yet N.C. responders put their own families second in order to respond to the needs of citizens. With the assistance of VFIS Insurance, a North Carolina Flood Relief effort has been formed for these responders and your help is desperately needed. To respond to the need or to find out more, see the information provided later in these Training Materials.

Kramer vs. Kramer Appropriate Apparatus Utilization

Approx. length: 2:54

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 *Hands-On* segment on Firefighter/EMS Cross-Staffing, Bill debates whether or not expensive firefighting apparatus should be used to make EMS calls, even with additional staffing. 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!

Farmers Market Tire Fire/Jacksonville, FL Captain Adrian Johnson/Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department

1. Does your department have contingency plans when low water pressure is encountered on the fire ground? Are you trained in long hose lays and booster pumping at the hydrant?
2. Can you access local utilities quickly should you run into a gas leak or electrification of a building that might endanger firefighters?
2. As you preplan manufacturing or storage businesses, note the arrangement and position of equipment and product and check that you'll have access to all areas in the event of a fire. Moving heavy articles is dangerous and time-consuming.

Car/Guy Wire Rescue/Deptford, NJ Assistant Chief Keith Kemery/Deptford Fire Department

1. Do you have a heavy rescue squad in your jurisdiction? Are your general firefighters trained in heavy or unique rescue situations?
2. Rescues happen in all weather conditions. Do you train in inclement weather, no matter how messy it gets?
3. Always insure the safety of your responders in such a rescue with vehicle stabilization, cribbing, and safety harnesses on rescuers who might be high off the ground.

Enhanced Training

Tanker/Pumper Drafting Ops., Pt. II

Objectives

After watching this program, the student shall understand:

1. the procedure for power filling a tanker from a drafting source
2. the tips and techniques involved to maximize the procedure.

Standards & Regulations

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

Training Outline

I. POWER-FILLING TANKERS WITH ENGINE

A. Essentials:

1. 1,000 gpm pump or better
2. A floating dock strainer is preferred.

B. Two filling stations:

1. 3" hose at the front of the pumper
2. 4" hose at the rear of the pumper
3. A person directs incoming tankers to each station

C. When pump is up to speed:

1. engine pump should be up to 150 psi.
2. tankers should be filled at approximately 1,000 gpm or better, depending upon the engine piping.
3. Another option: 4" hose straight out of a pumper; 1200 gpm can be achieved.

D. Drafting off front suction:

1. is usually not rated at full pump capacity
2. can probably only achieve 800-900 gpm out of a 1250 gpm pump.
3. Its true maximum will come off the side discharge.

Answers to the questions on Page 6:

1. False 2. False 3. False

4. a. 5. b.

Tanker/Pumper Drafting Ops., Pt. II

II. POWER-FILLING TECHNIQUE

- A. Pumper engine shuts down first.
- B. Then close the gate on the tanker.
- C. If there's no fill gauge, watch for water overspill
- D. DO NOT slam the tanker's gate shut during power-filling or serious water hammer will result.

III. MAKING/BREAKING COUPLINGS

- A. Use two people; it's more efficient
- B. Make couplings just hand-tight; keep a set of wrenches handy in case they overtighten.

IV. FINAL NOTES

- A. 4" filling will have no restrictions, allowing for faster filling. 3" piping has restrictions.
- B. Get a cap for 4" intakes that doesn't spin; makes for a quicker hookup and release.
- C. New couplings with snap rings: they'll slow the filling procedure but add safety features that should not be defeated.
- D. Pressure felt at hose disconnect is head pressure from the tank and is perfectly normal. Only a little water will come out at disconnect.
- E. If there's pressure in the hose, just open the tanker gate.

Tanker/Pumper Drafting Ops., Pt. II: Quiz

Date _____

Chief/T.O. _____

Firefighter (print) _____

Education Credits/
Hours/Units _____

Signature _____

Select the best answer:

1. True or False Tanker head pressure is dangerous.
2. True or False With power-filling, there is no chance of creating water hammer.
3. True or False It's okay to defeat the safety features on snap-ring couplings.
4. When it comes to power-filling, which step is incorrect
 - a. Tanker shuts down first
 - b. Close the gate on the tanker
 - c. Watch for fill completion to avoid overspill
 - d. Do not slam the tanker gate shut during filling
5. Which statement is false?
 - a. If there's pressure in the hose, just open the tanker gate.
 - b. 3" intakes will fill faster than 4" because the 4" has restrictions.
 - c. Developing tanker head pressure during filling is normal.
 - d. New couplings with snap rings have safety features.

(See answers at the top of page 5)

Enhanced Training

Fire/EMS Cross-Staffing

Objectives

After watching this program, the student shall:

1. understand the issues involved in staffing for emergencies
2. understand the strengths of fire/EMS cross-staffing.

Standards & Regulations

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

Training Outline

I. BACKGROUND

North Naples Fire & Rescue is located in one of the fastest growing areas in the country and handles its own fire and rescue calls while Collier County runs the EMS system. The ambulances are garaged in North Naples' station houses. Medical calls already generate the majority of runs. As the population in the area is projected to double in the next five years, medical responses will only increase as the retirement population grows. So the mission was to provide a higher level of medical response with the same numbers of personnel.

Typically, ambulances have a two-person crew while fire apparatus has a three-person crew. Often, both vehicles respond to the same call.

II. NEW THINKING, A NEW PLAN

Using "out of the box" thinking, city, county, and union officials got together and developed a unique plan, Through a sharing of personnel:

- A. North Naples provides a firefighter/paramedic to respond with the EMS crew on medical calls
- B. The County provides a paramedic to ride along on fire/rescue calls.
- C. Fire crews now consist of four, while ambulances now carry three.

Answers to the questions on Page 9:

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

Fire/EMS Cross-Staffing

This creates an ample number to take care of nearly all medical calls, which, in turn, allows the engine company to remain at the station for other fire-related calls or respond to the next medical call as an ALS engine.

- D. Both vehicles still respond to larger incidents such as a car rescue or large fire.

III. TRAINING

- A. Paramedics (who are state-certified firefighters) are put through an 80-hour fire department orientation.
- B. Paramedic/Firefighters from the fire department undergo paramedic procedures and orientation under the direction of the County Medical Director.

IV. BENEFITS

- A. To the taxpayer:
 1. more professionally trained responders
 2. better trained in alternative disciplines
 3. more efficiency on-scene
 4. quicker arrival of appropriate apparatus and equipment.
- B. To the responders:
 1. An opportunity to pursue new career objectives.
 2. An opportunity to become more valuable to the department by developing additional skills and flexibility.
 3. A possible disadvantage for responders is that additional training is needed and then must be maintained.
- C. To the department:
 1. Competition between fire and EMS is eliminated.
 2. Greater camaraderie and respect between both bureaus have developed.

V. SUMMARY

- A. Maximized utilization of personnel.
- B. More cross-trained staff delivers more trained responders on-scene without increasing staff numbers.
- C. Sharing responders allows apparatus deployment to be targeted toward more specific calls.
- D. Higher morale now exists as all employees are doing the same thing and identify more with each other.

Fire/EMS Cross-Staffing: Quiz

Date _____

Chief/T.O. _____

Firefighter (print) _____

Education Credits/
Hours/Units _____

Signature _____

Select the best answer:

1. True or False: EMS paramedics can become firefighters with little or no training.
2. True or False: Personnel from both bureaus in North Naples like the program.
3. True or False: Taxpayers should love this program.
4. Which benefit is incorrect?
 - a. Personnel is maximized.
 - b. Cross-trained staff means more expertise on scene per responder.
 - c. Shared responders means everyone should go to all calls.
 - d. Better allocation of apparatus.
5. Which training and staffing fact is incorrect?
 - a. Fire crews now carry five while ambulances carry four.
 - b. Paramedics get 80 hours of fire department training.
 - c. Firefighters undergo paramedic training supervised by the County Medical Director.
 - d. The "second unit out" on an EMS call will be an ALS engine.

(See answers at the top of page 8)

Evolutions 2000

North Carolina Flood Relief

North Carolina Firefighter/EMS Flood Relief

I. INTRODUCTION

Hurricane Floyd and the rains that preceded it devastated a large part of the State of North Carolina. An area the size of Maryland was underwater with 10,000 families losing their homes.

Assisting those unfortunate citizens were a number of very brave firefighters and emergency service personnel who put their own families second as they worked to help others. As many as 300 of these tireless rescuers lost their own homes and are now in need of relief.

II. FLOOD RELIEF

With the support of VFIS insurance, two relief funds have been set up to assist these responders. Call this toll-free number:

Toll-free: 1-877-848-1788

and these additional numbers:

The Hurricane Floyd Relief Fund for Firefighters

1-252-753-2626

The Hurricane Floyd Relief Fund for Rescue and EMS Personnel

1-919-736-0506

In addition, a slightly longer version of the segment seen this month in *Working Fire* is also available for showing to civic groups and other organizations who might be compelled to contribute to this worthwhile cause. A :30 version suitable for television broadcast is also available. Take advantage of your contacts at your local TV stations and ask them to run this :30 announcement as a public service.

Additional information can be found by visiting this internet site:

www.ncflood.com

or call Working Fire at 800-516-3473.

Your department's assistance in contributing, fundraising, and raising the public's awareness is greatly needed and deeply appreciated. Remember, it could be *your* department needing help. If it were you, you would want others to help.

Evolutions 2000

University of Cincinnati Continuing Education Program

Appropriate Apparatus Utilization

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 00-4

Kramer vs. Kramer: Appropriate Apparatus Utilization

Complete written responses to the following three essay questions:

1. List the advantages and drawbacks of having an engine or other fire unit accompany a transporting squad on medical emergencies.
2. Does the size of a department affect your answer to question #1?
3. What is *your* procedure and why would you retain it or change it?

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.