

This Month's *Working Fire Training*...

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**Volume 97-11: November 1997
Approx. Program Length 55:30**

FIRELINE

**Riverside Trench Rescue
Mira Linda, CA**

Approx. length: 9:25

Soft ground gave way, spilling a construction worker into a ten-foot trench. A joint response by the Riverside County and Ontario (CA) Fire Departments involved participation by members of Ontario's heavy rescue team. Issues in the rescue include safety to the rescuers, victim, and onlookers; strategy for removing the victim; and dealing with the victim's state of mind. For more information, call Kim Bolan, Riverside County Fire Department, 3423 Davis, Room B, Riverside, CA 92518 or call 909-486-2883.

**Bus Mass Casualty Accident
Pittsfield, MA**

Approx. length: 4:37

A school bus passing through a construction zone without proper clearance sideswiped a piece of construction equipment as it pivoted on its base, hanging out into the street. All the windows on one side of the bus were broken out, spraying glass on the children on board, in clear view of parents waiting at a bus stop. Though two ambulance units responded with firefighters, there were no serious injuries. The incident depicts the packaging and transport of the more injured students. This subject is covered in greater detail in this month's Fire Medics with a mass casualty bus accident simulation. For more information, call Deputy Chief Stephen Duffy, Pittsfield Fire Department, 74 Columbus Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201 or call 413-448-9764.

HANDS-ON

**R.I.T./Firefighter Survival Series
Part IV**

Approx. length: 8:12

We continue with our Rapid Intervention/Firefighter Survival Series. This month we feature a demonstration of a thermal imaging camera and listen in on a question-and-answer roundtable as the suitability and application of Rapid Intervention Teams in smaller- and medium-sized departments are discussed. For more information, contact Asst. Chief Greg Jakubowski, Bryn Athyn Fire Dept., P.O. Box 557, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009 or call him at 215-947-1100.

This Month's "Working Fire"

Basic Forcible Entry

Approx. length: 8:30

This month marks the return of Trainer Ken Hines and several training evolutions on basic forcible entry. A number of techniques are demonstrated as well as a description and review of the tools involved. For more information contact Asst. Chief Ken Hines, Booneville Fire Department, Booneville, MO or call 573-446-6644.

FIRE MEDICS

Bus Mass Casualty Simulation St. Louis, MO

Approx. length: 10:12

Piggybacking on this month's Fireline bus accident in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, we journey to Sparta, Illinois and witness the Sparta Fire Department and a number of mutual aid departments in southern Illinois stage their own mass casualty bus accident simulation. This evolution also involved some vehicle extrication, primarily of the bus, but focused on the EMS response and procedures followed. For more information, contact Chief Bruce Dahlem, Sparta Fire Department, 112 W. Jackson, Sparta, IL 62286 or call 618-443-2917.

EVOLUTIONS 2000

Menlo Park Goes Above and Beyond

Approx. length: 7:49

Last month, we covered the Menlo Park Fire Department's response to the Green Oaks Academy school fire in East Palo Alto, California. But when the fire was extinguished, Menlo Park took their response to the next level. They got involved with the California Legislature by shepherding a bill requiring automatic fire alarms in school buildings. And they put themselves squarely in the middle of a media fundraising/rehab effort to restore Green Oaks to its former health. For more information, contact Captain Harold Schapelhouman, Menlo Park Fire Dist., 3100 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025 or call 415-688-8426.

This Month's "Working Fire"

**Kramer vs. Kramer:
"Community Service vs. Fire Service" Debate**

Approx. length: 5:53

Working Fire and Professor/Chief Bill Kramer present our Continuing Education segment that's worth one credit from the University of Cincinnati. This month, Kramer debates the pros and cons of the community service role fire departments should play within their jurisdictions. *Working Fire* subscribers can get one college credit each month from the University of Cincinnati by taking a C.E. test. For more information, contact the Open Learning Fire Service Program, College of Applied Science, 2220 Victory Parkway, ML #103, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206 or call 513-556-6583.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THIS MONTH'S INCIDENTS

Here are some questions for use in reviewing this month's incidents. Use them as discussion-starters in your own department's training sessions.

Riverside Trench Rescue/Mira Linda, CA

1. Does your department have the specialized training or access to the trained personnel necessary to affect such a rescue?
2. Are you aware of major excavations occurring in your jurisdiction and do you pre-plan them as you would a major structure?

Bus Mass Casualty Accident/Pittsfield, MA

1. How would your department handle a mass casualty response and would you be prepared for the handling of parents on-scene?
2. Do your firefighters/first responders have basic medical/EMT training?
3. Are other agencies (i.e. police) in your jurisdiction prepared to give hands-on assistance in the early stages of such an incident when EMS resources will be overwhelmed?

Enhanced Training

R.I.T./Firefighter Survival Series, Part IV

Objectives

After watching this program the student shall:

1. understand the function and value of a thermal imaging camera
2. understand the implementation of R.I.T. in the small- to medium-sized department
3. learn the value of mutual aid specialization in response and budgeting.

Standards and Regulations

This training is consistent with NFPA 1500 and 1561 and recognizes applicable state OSHA standards.

Training Outline

EQUIPMENT REVIEW – Thermal Imaging Camera

A. Operation

A Thermal Imaging Camera is a heat-sensitive imaging apparatus which can pick up heat sources such as a human body or a seat of fire and transmit these images through the camera. It's light and easy to carry.

B. Cost

\$10,000 and up

C. Use

1. It's very useful in search-and-rescue and salvage/post-fire overhaul assignment, especially in low- or no-visibility environments.
2. It can be fitted with a transmitter to send pictures outside to Incident Command should that be desired.
3. Use of the camera can reduce the time to find a victim to less than a minute. With conventional methods finding a victim used to take five to eight minutes.

Answers to quiz on following page:

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

R.I.T./Firefighter Survival Series, Part IV

RAPID INTERVENTION TEAMS IN THE SMALL- TO MEDIUM-SIZED DEPARTMENT – Roundtable Discussion Topics

A. Focus

It doesn't take a lot of money to launch a rapid intervention team. It takes training on the basics and then focusing those basics in one direction. It's nice to have funds and a dedicated vehicle, but a ladder or engine company can do it. Just change the direction to that purpose.

B. Specialties

Different departments in your mutual aid group can focus on different specialties; one may be the group's R.I.T., another may be the confined space experts, another for aerials, ventilation, etc. but everyone works together to decide who does what.

C. Resources

A department can institute a Rapid Intervention Team with minimum equipment and by focusing attention to that purpose; start with a set of basic rescue tools, ropes, ladders, forcible entry tools, etc. Departments must start thinking about "subbing out" with other departments. A mutual aid program is a strength for RIT as well as other specialty teams.

D. Budgeting

Thinking on a regular basis about special equipment needs and planning for budgeting over a five-year period. Mutual aid departments should consider pooling money for equipment for one department's specialty that will benefit the whole group. Each year, another department's specialty can be planned and budgeted for. Planning can prepare for agreements and political problems to be worked out in advance. Considering volunteer departments, very few can provide all functions by themselves but should rely on their neighbors for specialized skills.

R.I.T./Firefighter Survival Series, Part IV: Quiz

Date _____

Chief/T.O. _____

Firefighter (print) _____

Education Credits/
Hours/Units _____

Signature _____

Select the best answer:

1. True or False Large amounts of money and a dedicated vehicle are necessary to start up a R.I.T. team.
2. True or False A thermal imaging camera can “see” right through smoke and walls.
3. True or False It’s not necessary to coordinate mutual aid outside your own department.
4. True or False It is important in mutual aid planning that ALL departments take part in ALL long range planning.
5. True or False A thermal imaging camera has application to search and rescue only and can’t be used for anything else.

(Correct answers can be found at the top of the previous page)

Enhanced Training

Basic Forcible Entry

Objectives

After watching this segment the student shall have a basic understanding of the tools, methods, and safety precautions involved in successful and safe forcible entry.

Standards and Regulations

NFPA 1500, all state OSHA regulations and local building codes and construction methods and building styles.

Training Outline

Before undertaking any entry, know and understand basic building construction codes and building styles!

A. Powered Tools

Good for heavy rescue, auto extrication, building collapse.

1. Hydraulic ram
2. Hydraulic spreader
3. Hydraulic power supply
4. Spreader and wedge
5. Forced entry saw, K-12 saw, chain saw; good for metal doors

B. Irons

1. Flathead ax; good for prying with other pry bars
2. Pickhead/pike ax, non-sharp end; good for use as a wedge when prying
3. Halligan bar with claw, plate, or pick on end
4. Basic crowbar with plate or pick on end
5. Basic pry bar, no serration; good for prying, has leverage due to its length.
6. "#10 foot wedge" (kicking doors correctly)

Answers to quiz on following page:

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

Basic Forcible Entry

C. Entry Techniques

1. Doors that swing away from the firefighter:
 - a. "Try before you pry."
 - b. Use "foot wedge" (kick the door open).
 - c. Kick the door at the locking mechanism. Balance yourself first.
 - d. Don't use your shoulder!
 - e. If not successful, go to forcible entry tools.

FORCIBLE ENTRY WITH TOOLS:

- f. Two personnel necessary for this entry
 - g. Place a flathead ax between the door and jam, about 6 " above the latch.
 - h. Place a pry bar in the jam and move it back and forth.
2. Doors that open in toward the firefighter:
 - a. "Try before you pry."
 - b. Pop hinges with a screwdriver and hammer.
 - c. Place a Halligan bar or pry tool between the casing and the door at the lock.
 - d. Grab a bite with the claw end of the bar.
 - e. Use a second tool to maintain the bite while grabbing a deeper one.
 3. Entry from outside with door opening in:
 - a. "Try before you pry."
 - b. Take hinges out.
 - c. If the door has glass, remove it.
 - d. If the door has a keypad entry or external keylock, take a flathead ax and strike downward on the door lock or keypad housing.
 4. Garage doors:
 - a. With a side lock, the lock is located by the door guide rails.
 - b. With a center lock, the lock is in the middle of the door about waist-high. Take out the door panels in the center, reach in, and unlock.
 - c. If the fire is involved, the springs may have failed and the door will have to be propped open.
 - d. With an automatic garage door opener, firefighters may have to take the panels out if the door can't be disconnected from the drive chain.
 - e. If the door can't be forced open, take the panels out and go in on hands and knees.

Basic Forcible Entry: Quiz

Date _____

Chief/T.O. _____

Firefighter (print) _____

Education Credits/
Hours/Units _____

Signature _____

Select the best answer:

1. True or False A K-12 saw, a chain saw, and a saw horse are all powered entry tools.
2. True or False Some forcible entry techniques take two personnel.
3. True or False A good shoulder shove can break through just about any door.
4. Trying to enter forcibly should always include:
 - a. prying
 - b. a foot wedge
 - c. trying to open the door first
 - d. all of the above.
5. When entering a locked garage door:
 - a. try popping the hinges first.
 - b. determine whether it has a center or side lock.
 - c. short-circuit the electric garage door opener.
 - d. all of the above.

(Correct answers can be found at the top of the previous page)

Evolutions 2000

Kramer vs. Kramer/ Continuing Education Program

Community Service vs. Fire Service Debate: Pro or Con?

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 97-11: COMMUNITY SERVICE VS. FIRE SERVICE DEBATE: PRO OR CON?

Complete written responses to the following three essay questions:

1. Explain whether or not you feel "customer service" and "marketing" should be addressed directly in the modern fire service.
2. Show how the treatment of citizens as "customers" pays dividends for a fire department.
3. How would you institute or improve customer service in your organization?

Submit 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. Associate and Bachelors programs are available. Call to have your transcripts evaluated.