



May 2004

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# What's Happening

## Navy Fire & Emergency Services Newsletter

*Protecting Those Who Defend America*

### *From the Acting Director, Rick Brockman, EFO*

We recently received this e-mail;

“... I heard a...rumor that the Navy F&ES office is being shut down by CNI September this year. I hope this is not true. We need fire personnel...NOT bean counters...”

Not true. In fact, the F&ES staff has been working very closely with the CNI Public Safety to facilitate the transfer of our function from NAVFAC to CNI, that's scheduled to happen sometime around 1 October. It's a good fit organizationally, since F&ES is an important element of shore installation management.

Granted, there has been much gnashing of teeth over money and the perceived annihilation of Navy F&ES. We've been caught up in reorganization costs and the cost of war and have indeed suffered extensive budget cuts. I wish I could report that the worst is over, but only time and events will answer that question. The fact is, we are entering a new era of F&ES in the Navy and are being asked to shoulder much more of the economic load. That's a new paradigm for us.

Our job is to objectively gather and analyze the risks involved and then to accurately articulate those risks to the decision-makers. I equate it to the relationship between an Incident Commander and the Operations Officer; the Ops Officer gives the IC the facts and relies on the IC to make the final decision, and carry the ultimate responsibility. We (CNI and NAVFAC) are working diligently to insure a seamless transition and transfer of responsibility. Nobody promises an easy task, there will be some very difficult decisions to make that will impact real people living real lives. Everybody recognizes that, but the decisions are still out there to be made and in some cases, made very soon. The F&ES staff, along with regional and installation Fire Chiefs are charged with objectively identifying the risks associated with reducing costs and feeding that information to Regional Commanders and, ultimately, Commander, Navy Installations.

Those leaders are charged with balancing sound risk management with efficient budget management. I'll quote another e-mail we received in response to the message above:

“It would be good for you to ... get the straight skinny out to our firefighters now that we have a better handle on the ... F&ES consolidation. It will not all be good news in the current Navy economic climate, but RADM Weaver wants us to improve communications with our firefighters and listen to their recommendations on how to improve F&ES.”

- CNI Public Safety

Hard times are ahead ... but Navy F&ES will continue to play an important role in *Protecting Those Who Defend America*.

V/r Rick

## Last Alarms

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## Last Alarms

As of this publication date, 47 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2004. These line of duty deaths were reported since we published our last issue:

### Jeffrey C. Bergstrom

Firefighter/Paramedic  
Age: 34  
Date of Death: 04/27/2004  
Stone Park Fire Department (IL)

### Irwin "Buzz" Gross

Firefighter  
Age: 58  
Date of Death: 05/03/2004  
Brookline Fire Department (MA)

### Grady "Roy" Austin

Captain  
Age: 74  
Date of Death: 05/03/2004  
Henderson County Fire  
Department (TN)

### Joseph Edward Bowles

Age: 58  
Firefighter  
Date of Death: 05/11/2004  
West Area Volunteer Fire  
Department, Inc. (NC)

### Jeffrey W. Howell

Firefighter  
Age: 42  
Date of Death: 05/13/2004  
Sharon Springs Fire  
Department (NY)

### Randy Henderson

Firefighter  
Age: 42  
Date of Death: 05/13/2004  
U.S. Forest Service, USDA (MS)

### Michael Martin

Firefighter  
Age: 18  
Date of Death: 05/14/2004  
Ebenezer Volunteer Fire Department (SC)

### Harry E. Suggs II

Age: 28  
Fire Chief  
Date of Death: 05/13/2004  
Green Pond Volunteer Fire and Rescue  
Service (AL)

### Connie C. Bornman

Firefighter/EMT  
Age: 56  
Date of Death: 05/17/2004  
Middle River Volunteer Ambulance  
Rescue Company (MD)

## *A Fallen Firefighter's Prayer*

*Brother, when you weep for me, remember that it was meant to be. Lay me down and when you leave, remember I'll be at your sleeve. In every dark and choking hall, I'll be there as you slowly crawl. On every roof in driving snow, I'll hold your coat and you will know. In cellars hot with searing heat, at windows where a gate you meet, in closets where young children hide, you know I'll be there at your side.*

*The house from which I now respond is overstaffed with heroes gone. Men, who answered one last bell, did the job and did it well. As firefighters we understand that death's a card dealt in our hand, a card we hope we never play, but one we hold there anyway. That card is something we ignore as we crawl across a weakened floor, for we know that we're the only prayer for anyone that might be there. So remember as you wipe your tears the joy I knew throughout the years. As I did the job I loved to do I pray that thought will see you through.*

*Author Unknown*

## Still Under Warranty

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## Warranty Repairs ...

We have been very fortunate to have some excellent quality new fire apparatus delivered recently. We are continuing to work on our specifications to make sure we are procuring the right type of apparatus needed by our firefighters, and at the same time ensure we get the most for our limited funds. If you have apparatus with a problem that you believe should be covered by warranty, let us know. Some items may have "lifetime" warranties. Don't delay; get the word to Carl Glover or Ralph Herring. We don't want to be surprised by comments like "the new unit has been out of service for XX weeks" for repairs that are covered under warranty. Ralph has established contacts with the vehicle manufacturers and can obtain information or coordinate schedules for warranty repairs.



If you have a suggestion for future improvements or would like to comment on our new apparatus specifications, you should contact Carl Glover. Please, do not contact the apparatus manufacturers direct.

### Navy Fire Apparatus POC Information:

Carl Glover, 202-685-6861, [carl.glover@navy.mil](mailto:carl.glover@navy.mil)

Ralph Herring, 805-982-3098, [Ralph.herring@navy.mil](mailto:Ralph.herring@navy.mil)

## DoD Training Conference 2004

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### Department of Defense Fire & Emergency Services Training Conference

August 11-18, 2004  
New Orleans, LA

During the conference, each of the military DoD service components and the U.S. Coast Guard will have the opportunity to meet in a general session, have their own breakout sessions and if they choose, participate in Fire-Rescue International educational seminars and exhibits.

Visit [www.iafc.org/conferences/dod/index.asp#dates](http://www.iafc.org/conferences/dod/index.asp#dates) for more details

### Agenda Highlights for Navy Personnel:

**Thursday, 12 Aug:** Fire Rescue International General & Educational Seminars

**Friday, 13 Aug:** Fire Rescue International Exhibits & Educational Seminars

**Saturday, 14 Aug:** Fire Rescue International Exhibits, Federal/Military Section Meeting, & IAFC Presidential Dinner

**Sunday, 15 Aug:** Fire Rescue International Closing Sessions

**Monday, 16 Aug:** Navy General Session & Navy/Marine Corps Awards Lunch

**Tuesday, 17 Aug:** Navy General Session & DoD Charity Golf Outing

**Wednesday, 18 Aug:** DoD General Session, Public Safety Breakout Meetings, and DoD Awards Banquet



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## California Certifications

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## DoD Firefighter Certification Update – California

The DoD Firefighter Certification Center recently provided this information about the State of California's Fire Training Programs:

**Good News:** The California Specialized Training Institute is now Pro-Board (NPQS) certified for the hazardous materials certification levels specified in National Fire Protection Association Standards (NFPA) 472 and 473. The specific levels are listed on the Pro-Board web site at: [www.theproboard.org/agencies/csti.htm](http://www.theproboard.org/agencies/csti.htm).



**Now for the Bad News:** Effective immediately, DoD is not authorized to grant reciprocity for the California Firefighter I Program, Firefighter II with supplemental performance testing, Fire Instructor I for completing their Instructor 1a/1b courses and Fire Officer I for completing their Command 1a/1b courses.

The State of California will have to become accredited for these levels for DoD to be able to grant reciprocity. This policy change is necessary to maintain IFSAC accreditation for the DoD Firefighter Certification System. IFSAC will allow DoD to accept the California certificates specified above for DoD reciprocity, as long as the completed certification request arrives to the DoD Administration Center **on or before 15 Jun 04**. Packages arriving after that date will not be accepted.

This additional time should allow DoD to make a smooth transition and issue applicable certificates to those DoD employees who have completed or are in the process of completing California courses.

For more information, please contact: Mr. Jim Podolske, HQ AFCESA/CEXF, 139 Barnes Drive Suite 1, Tyndall AFB FL 32403-5319

DSN: 523-6321 Fax: 6390 or Commercial: 1-850-283-6321 [Jim.Podolske@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:Jim.Podolske@tyndall.af.mil)

## Hazmat Conference

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Visit this web link for detailed information on the Hazmat Conference: <http://www.iafc.org/conferences/hazmat/index.asp>

## Department of Defense Day, Wednesday, 2 June 04

If you are registered for the conference and are a member of the military, you are eligible to attend a special DoD Day on Wednesday, June 2, at no additional charge.

## Assessment Visits

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## Program Compliance Assessment Visits

**Activities visited in May 2004:** Naval Weapons Station Charleston and Naval Weapons Station Earle



NWS Charleston Ladder 1

Ladder 1; in action at mutual aid residential fire



NWS Earle Engine 2



NWS Earle Brush Truck

## NATOPS Info

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## Rescue Vehicle Staffing ... NATOPS Clarification

Minimum on-duty requirement for major aircraft firefighting and rescue vehicles necessary to meet the minimum response for U.S Navy activities is three personnel. It is NAVAIR's perspective that the Fire Chief or Fire Emergency Officer may direct the response of additional vehicles, if available, and distribute on-duty personnel among the responding vehicles to achieve maximum effectiveness.

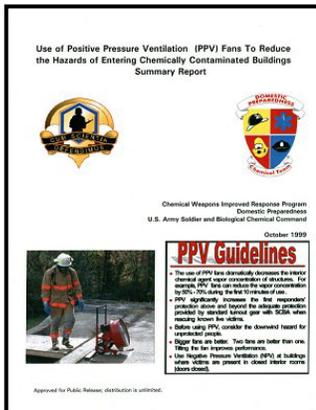
POC: S. Butler/CWO3/PMAA251F3/LOC: NAVAIR /  
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## CBRNE Response

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## Military Improved Response Program

Conducted at the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, this project has produced several products that are vital information to be used in development of local CBRNE Response programs.

### Materials produced/under development:

#### Installation Handbook:

- Compilation of numerous studies
- Provides CBRNE response information
- Provides response guidance based on best practices
- Currently completing the review process
- Anticipate forwarding to DoD this year for endorsement

### Turnout Gear Chemical Warfare Agent (CWA) Vapor Hazard Assessment:

- Revised August 2003
  - No longer recommends taping
  - Applied NIOSH CBRN Standard concentrations
  - Limit use to unknown environments
  - More emphasis on firefighters entering an unknown CWA environment
  - Emphasizes use of approved chemical protective clothing if available for CWA

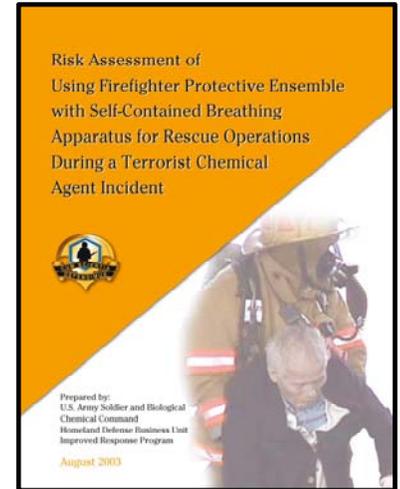
### Turnout Gear CWA Liquid Hazard Assessment

- Assess hazards presented to firefighters in turnout gear that come in contact with liquid CWA while performing casualty rescue
- Testing format similar to vapor hazard assessment
  - Conducted in four phases
  - Phase I – III completed
  - Phase IV currently being conducted

### WMD Emergency Dispatcher's Guide

- Developed by a working group of civilian and military dispatch supervisors
- Site visits conducted to determine the information and formats
- Guides are dedicated to CBRNE incidents
- Initial generic questions are used to direct the dispatcher to the specific guide
- Structured using key words for each type of incident
- Provides questions to aid the dispatcher to determine the type of incident
- Provides advice for callers regarding self-protection
- Draft version is being reviewed by members of the Dispatch Working Group

Additional Information Link: <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/hld>



## **CBRNE Response (cont)**

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## ***Military Improved Response Program (cont)***

The Military Improved Response Program is scheduled to be briefed on the **Navy Day General Session** as part of the DoD Fire & Emergency Services Training Conference (Aug 04).

- MIRP Overview
- Installation CBRNE Fire Response Handbook
- CBRNE Dispatch Handbook
- Turnout Gear Assessments
- Previous Findings
- Current Testing
- Preliminary Results for Liquid Assessment (expected)

### **Point of Contact for Additional Information:**

Mr. John Lazier  
Titan Corporation  
[john.lazier@us.army.mil](mailto:john.lazier@us.army.mil)  
410-436-3814



## **Fire Academy Update**

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## ***DoD Fire Academy Business Plan Update***

The DoD Fire Academy has developed a Business Plan to:

- Illustrate who needs training
- Provide training to ALL branches
- RIGHT training ... at the RIGHT point in a firefighters career
- REDUCE the TDY/TDA-to-school costs for the respective service and especially the Fire Chief ...
- Provide OUTSTANDING DoD Fire Protection Training *by* DoD Member Instructors *to* DoD Fire Departments ...
- Eliminate out of pocket spending for training ... Fire Chiefs are having to spend too much money for training

<http://www.goodfellow.af.mil/~trs312/newfire/index.htm>

## ***Proximity PPE***

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## ***NAVAIR Policy on Proximity PPE***

Reference (a): NAVAIR 00-80R-14 NATOPS *U.S. Navy Aircraft Firefighting and Rescue Manual*

Reference (b): NFPA 1976 *Standard on Protective Ensemble for Proximity Fire Fighting*, 2000 Edition

1. This message is to inform and clarify the standards for protective ensemble, (proximity suit), for aircraft proximity fire fighting.

2. Proximity suit shall meet NFPA 1976 standard 2000 edition for Naval aviation aircraft fire fighting. As per references (a) and (b). A complete proximity suit shall include garment (trousers and coat with liners), gloves (shell), gloves (inserts), flash hood (sock), proximity helmet, and boots. Authorized proximity ensemble elements can be identified as per ref (b) chapter 3, which states: "Each element of the protective ensemble shall have at least one product label permanently and conspicuously located inside of each element." The following compliance statement shall be printed legibly on each product label: "This meets the requirements of NFPA 1976 standard on protective ensemble for proximity fire fighting 2000 edition. Do not remove this label." Aviator summer flight gloves should be used as a substitute for ensemble glove inserts and do not require NFPA labeling.



3. Standard fire fighting boots (NFPA labeled) not having exceeded ten years of their manufacture date are authorized for use, for proximity fire fighting. However, all new procurements of footwear for proximity fire fighting (proximity fire fighting boots) shall be IAW NFPA 1976 standard 2000 edition.

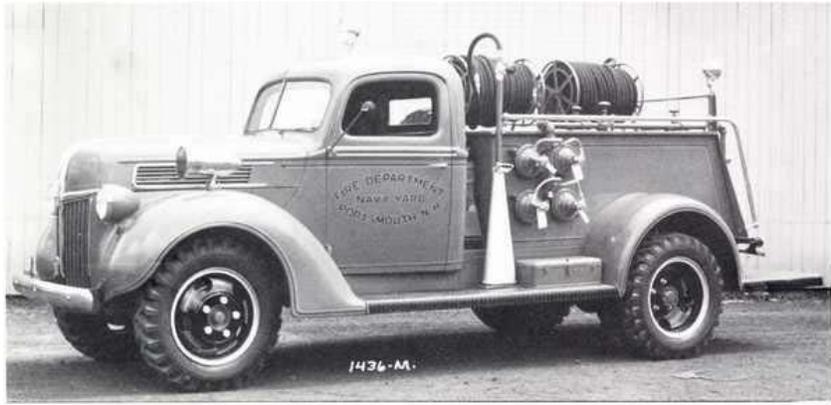
4. Mil-C-24938A, coat, (firemen, structural/aluminized proximity) does not meet reference (b) standards and shall not be used as part of the proximity ensemble.

5. Proximity suit local item control number, 1HM 0000-II-CQA-6860 is being removed from allowance equipage list (AEL) 2-830028002. Proximity suits shall be obtained through open purchase as stated on page 1 of the AEL.

6. POC: S. Butler/CWO3/PMAA251F3/LOC: NAVAIR /  
TEL COM: 301-757-6998 TEL DSN: 757-6998 TEL FAX: 757-6800  
email: [stephen.d.butler@navy.mil](mailto:stephen.d.butler@navy.mil)

## Trivia Answered

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### Truck Type

Chief Stu Cook from NAS Fallon (NV) guessed that this is a 1940 vintage Ford engine by Van Pelt; Communications Supervisor James Collie from NAS Key West (FL) guessed a 1940 vintage International; Lt Tonny Verkuyl and Fire Inspector Paul Hape from NAS China Lake guessed that it's a CO<sub>2</sub> Firefighting truck; Bill Cahill from the Garfield (GA) Fire Department guessed a 1941-1943 vintage Cardox engine and also pointed out that many small airports and Naval Shipyards used similar trucks. Tom Shand correctly identifies this as a 1941 Ford-American LaFrance, Registration number 1396, from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, NH. You were all correct in varying degrees and are all winners of all the coffee and war stories you can stomach whenever you visit your Navy F&ES office. Thanks for playing!

## Retirement

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### Fire Chief Retires ...

After 38 years of Federal Service, NAS Corpus Christi Fire Chief John Veselka has announced his retirement from the Navy Fire Service effective 31 May 2004. He started his fire service career in the NAS Corpus Christi Fire Department and subsequently transferred and served in the NAS Mayport and NAS Chase Field Fire Departments, before returning to NAS Corpus Christi. Congratulation to Chief Veselka for completing a rewarding Navy Fire Service career.



**Best Wishes to Chief Veselka and family!** Enjoy your retirement.

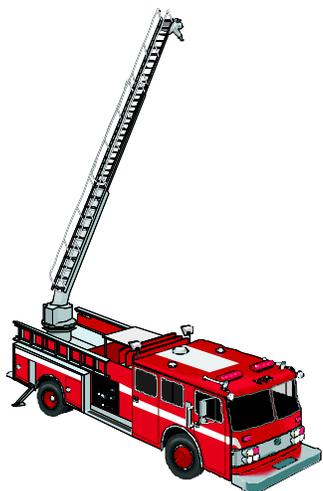
Mercy mercy me.... things aren't what they used to be...

- Marvin Gaye

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## *New Squirts*

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## *Nostalgia*

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## *Navy Teli-Squirts Under Construction*



Naval Station Ingleside and Federal Fire Department Guam Units



*Do you recognize  
any of these fine  
YOUNG  
firefighters?*



## *After the Fire*

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**Oak Harbor, Wash. (Apr. 6, 2004)** - A firefighter assigned to the Puget Sound Federal Fire Department pulls a 50-foot hose back to the fire truck after his hose team extinguished a kitchen fire. The fire was located in Navy Housing near Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island, Wash. Local firefighters respond to an average of three kitchen fires per year in Navy housing aboard NAS Whidbey Island. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Michael Larson.

## *Firefighter Secures Equipment After Kitchen Fire*



## *Enhanced Coordination*

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## *FEMA Course to Help Fire and Emergency Services Officials Enhance Coordination*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today the offering of a new two-week pilot course that provides partnership opportunities for senior fire executives and their community planning partners. The course is scheduled for August 23 through Sept. 3, 2004, but interested students need to submit applications by June 4, 2004.

"In this post-9/11 environment, it is important that all members of the first responder and emergency management community work together to determine risks and coordinate their responses," said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response. "This pilot course is important as it provides a forum for partnership and local and regional coordination centered on President Bush's and the Department of Homeland Security's National Incident Management System (NIMS)."

National Fire Program Specialists at the U.S. Fire Administration developed the new course, "Partnering for Fire Defense and Emergency Services Planning." In addition to coordination and strategy planning, the course will offer information on interoperability, risk assessment, data collection and analysis, and the interdependence of community services and emergency services on a community. Targeted students include local, regional and state fire and emergency services officers who are responsible for data collection, analysis and planning, as well as local, regional and state community risk planners.

Students must complete the FEMA General Admissions application. For complete course information, go to: [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fire-service/nfa/courses/oncampus/nfa\\_pilot\\_off\\_P-507.shtm](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fire-service/nfa/courses/oncampus/nfa_pilot_off_P-507.shtm)

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## ***Firefighter Training***

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**Below** - Two hose teams advance and engage their hoses on a firefighting trainer at the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Fire School. U.S. Navy photos by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Michael Larson.



## ***Firefighter Training***

**Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash (Feb. 11, 2004)** - A hose team of U.S. Coast Guardsman prepare to advance and engage a fire on a firefighting trainer at the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Fire School. Sailors and Coast Guardsman from both ships and bases throughout the Pacific Northwest learn aircraft firefighting techniques.



## ***Wildfire Course***

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The training program is a joint effort of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group and USFA's National Fire Programs Division. The course takes between two to eight hours to complete; those successfully finishing it receive a certification of completion.

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## ***FEMA's New On-Line Course Helps Urban Firefighters Battle Wildfires More Safely***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is unveiling today an on-line, independent study course that will enable urban firefighters with expertise in responding to structure fires to safely participate in a wildland/urban interface event.

"The 2004 wildfire season is predicted to be long and hard, and will pose a challenge to all of this nation's firefighters," said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response. "This course is important as it provides another tool for the fire service so that urban firefighters can safely assist in battling wildfires."

Specialists at the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy developed the online course, Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Operations for the Structural Firefighter Self Study (Q618). The online course identifies many of the operational activities and safety concerns for the structural firefighter in the so-called interface areas, where housing is located in or near wildlands. The course also includes wildland fire behavior, safety issues and operational issues.

The course is located at:

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/applications/nfacsd/display.jsp?cc=Q618>

## Restored Fire Truck

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Military Firefighters Heritage Foundation Web Link:

<http://www.dodfire.com/heritage/Index.htm>



Larry Daniels, a Holloman firefighter, cleans out the O-6 Cardox fire crash truck after it was donated by a local firefighter's union. The truck sat for 30 years and was infested by rodents and covered in sand.

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## Military Firefighter Heritage

**Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.** -- Crews of the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron fire and emergency services department recently finished restoring a 1958 O-6 Cardox fire crash truck. They presented it to the military firefighter's heritage museum at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, during a dedication ceremony.

Mark Giuliano, fire chief, said restoring the crash truck was a testament to the ingenuity of firefighters everywhere.

While visiting a friend, Mr. Giuliano passed the truck sitting behind a dusty café. The café's owner, had purchased the truck from the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office after its decommissioning in the early 1970s.



"I felt that such a unique piece of Air Force fire-protection history should be on display at Goodfellow with other historical fire trucks," Mr. Giuliano said. "It was suggested that we keep the truck here to put on display. But because we believe this is the only O-6 in existence, it needs to be where it can be honored."

A local firefighter's union purchased the crash truck for \$500 after learning of Mr. Giuliano's intentions to restore it. Then, the organization donated it to the base fire department. Local businesses also donated more than \$1,500 for the restoration project, said Gregory Bouten, a firefighter at Holloman AFB.

An auto body shop stripped the truck to the metal and repainted it. A paint store donated primer and safety-red paint for the restoration.

Mr. Giuliano said the truck held a nostalgic value for both present and future-day firefighters.

"I want both (current) and future Air Force firefighters to look at the truck and wonder what it was like to be a firefighter in the early days of the Air Force," Mr. Giuliano said. "I hope they appreciate how far we have progressed as a firefighting profession over the past 40 years."

<http://www.dodfire.com/heritage/Index.htm>

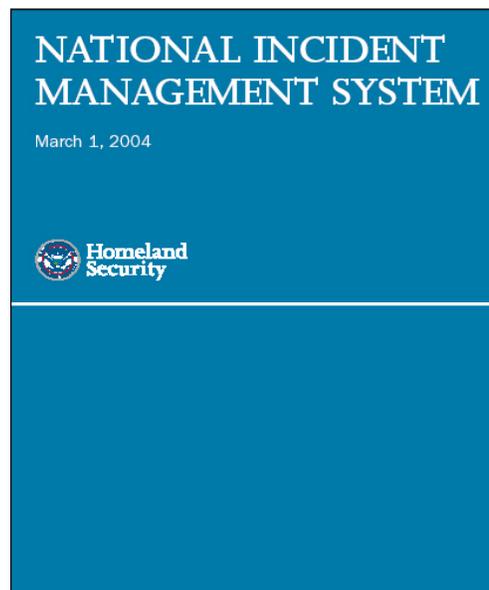
## Incident Management

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### *The Department of Homeland Security Approves the National Incident Management System*

On March 1, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced its approval of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and released the *National Incident Management System* document, which outlines the principal components of the system and establishes mechanisms for further development and refinement of supporting national standards, guidelines, protocols, systems, and technologies.

Mandated by the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5, Management of Domestic Incidents, the NIMS is designed to provide a



consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local, and tribal governments to work together effectively and efficiently to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. It represents a core set of doctrine, concepts, principles, terminology, and organizational processes to enable effective collaborative incident management and will serve as the framework for the National Response Plan (NRP), also mandated by HSPD-5.

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Principal NIMS components include:

- **Command and management** based on three key organizational systems: the Incident Command System (ICS), multi-agency coordination systems, and public information systems
- **Preparedness** through planning, training, exercises, personnel qualification and certification, equipment acquisition and certification, mutual aid, and publications management
- **Resource management** through standardized mechanisms and processes to describe, inventory, mobilize, dispatch, track, and recover resources over the lifecycle of an incident
- **Communications and information management** through a standardized framework for communications, information management (collection, analysis, and dissemination), and information sharing
- **Supporting technologies** that are based on standards for interoperability
- **Ongoing management and maintenance** to refine the system and its components over the long term

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## *IMS Continued*

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## *Homeland Security Info (Cont)*

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## *National Incident Management System (continued)*

HSPD-5 requires all federal departments and agencies to adopt and use the NIMS and to make **adoption of the NIMS by state and local organizations a requirement for federal preparedness assistance** (through grants, contracts, and other activities) beginning fiscal year 2005.

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) released a joint press release on March 1, *IAEM and NEMA Applaud "One plan, one team, one fight"*, to announce their support for the system.

The E Team solution supports the principal components of NIMS and can be a valuable tool for organizations seeking to adopt the system. For additional information, write [info@eteam.com](mailto:info@eteam.com) or schedule a live demo at <http://www.eteam.com/demo/index.html>.

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## *DHS Launches Homeland Security Information Network*

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as part of its Homeland Security Information Network initiative, has announced the expansion of its computer-based counterterrorism communications system to all 50 states, five territories, Washington, D.C., and 50 major urban areas to strengthen its flow of threat information.

This communications capability will deliver to states and major urban areas real-time interactive connectivity with the DHS Homeland Security Operations Center through the Joint Regional Information Exchange System (JRIES). This secure system will significantly strengthen the flow of real-time threat information at the Sensitive-but-Unclassified (SBU) level to all users immediately, and provides the platform for future classified SECRET communications to the state level. This collaborative communications environment, developed by state and local authorities, will allow all states and major urban areas to collect and disseminate information between federal, state, and local agencies involved in combating terrorism.

"The Homeland is more secure when each hometown is more secure," said Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge. "Better information that is shared and understood faster between the federal government and our state and local partners is the way to achieve that security, and this technology system delivers on our promise of an ever more effective partnership."

## ***Homeland Security Info (Cont)***

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## ***Homeland Security Information (continued)***

Each state and major urban area's Homeland Security Advisor will receive software licenses, technology, and training to participate in this Homeland Security Information Network for information sharing and situational awareness. Under the leadership of state and local homeland security advisors, the broadened JRIES community of users will include Adjutant Generals (National Guard), State Emergency Operations Centers, local emergency services providers including firefighters, law enforcement, and others. Future program expansion will include the county level, communication at the classified SECRET level, and the involvement of the private sector. The expanded JRIES system will continue to support the law enforcement and intelligence counterterrorism mission, and will also provide communications, collaboration, and information exchange between DHS and other Federal agencies and local partners.

JRIES is a counterterrorism communications program founded and managed in conjunction with state and local

governments, counterterrorism authorities, and law enforcement agencies. At the request of state and local partners, this platform has been adopted by Homeland Security as the system of choice for information sharing between DHS partners as part of the Homeland Security Information Network.



JRIES provides real-time collaboration and advanced analytic capabilities.

Already in constant use in the 24-7 DHS Watch of the Homeland Security Operations Center, JRIES is an integrated component of the wider DHS information sharing and collaboration architecture that will help provide situational awareness, information sharing, and collaboration across the 50 States, U.S. territories, and major urban areas. This program helps fulfill the Department of Homeland Security's charge to enable real time information sharing of threats to the homeland with a variety of homeland security partners throughout the federal, state and local levels.

## Fallen Firefighters

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Memorial  
Weekend  
2004



## National Fallen Firefighters

Courtesy of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

**Emmitsburg, MD** -- The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and the United States Fire Administration (USFA) have announced that they will honor 106 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2003, along with three firefighters who died in earlier years. These brave men and women will be honored at the 23rd Annual Memorial Weekend to be held October 2-3, 2004. Most events will be held on the National Fire Academy campus, site of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

"Every time a firefighter loses his or her life in the line of duty, all of us should stop and acknowledge the sacrifice, the loss of one more true American hero," declared NFFF Executive Director Chief Ron Siarnicki. "The Memorial Weekend is when our country pauses to remember what the brave men and women of our firefighting community do for all of us."

The number of firefighters killed in the line of duty last year is slightly higher than the annual average of 100 firefighter fatalities per year. There were seven multiple fatality incidents which accounted for 20 deaths, or 19 percent of all 2003 fatalities. The state of Oregon suffered the nation's greatest number of line-of-duty firefighter deaths (13) followed by the states of Pennsylvania and Texas (8 fatalities each).

"All firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice in 2003 will be remembered for both their contribution and their loss," said NFFF Chairman Hal Bruno. "We need to honor their memories by never forgetting them or those they left behind, and we do that by providing support to their families and friends."

"One of the saddest responsibilities as USFA Administrator is to participate in the remembrance of those firefighters who have given their lives in service to their communities," said USFA Administrator R. David Paulison. "It is my sincere hope that the day will come when, regardless of the emergency, all firefighters go home safely."

For more information on the 23rd Annual Memorial Weekend or the NFFF, visit [www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org)

## NATOPS Updates



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The below listed documents have been updated. Departments should ensure that have the current editions of the documents (all documents dated Oct 2003).

NAVAIR 00-80R-19, *NATOPS U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT CRASH & SALVAGE OPERATIONS MANUAL (AFLOAT)*

NAVAIR 00-80R-20, *NATOPS U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT CRASH & SALVAGE OPERATIONS MANUAL (ASHORE)*

NAVAIR 00-80R-14, *NATOPS U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT FIREFIGHTING AND RESCUE MANUAL*

NAVAIR 00-80R-14-1, *NATOPS U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY RESCUE INFORMATION MANUAL*

## ***Response Video***

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## ***Dangers of Emergency Response***

By: Glen Greenough, Assistant Chief for Training, NAS Whiting Field

Our long-awaited highway safety awareness video is now available for shipment. This vital, new training aid was created by the Emergency Responder Safety Institute, an active committee of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Fireman's Association, in concert with VFIS, through funding provided by the U.S. Fire Administration.



This video provides the viewer with an awareness of the dangers faced by all fire, police, and emergency medical workers as they operate on the highways of North America. This critical effort has grown out of the efforts of the participants at Halfway MD, who met back in March of 1999 for the first ever Fire Police Summit. Their dedicated efforts led to the publication of Protecting Emergency Responders on the Highways: A White Paper.

Arrangements have been made for [Respondersafety.com](http://respondersafety.com) to partner with Firefighter Advantage, a fire service support group, located in Virginia to serve as the distribution point for this document. The link for the order form will allow you to order your free copy of this valuable new training tool. The link is [http://firefighteradvantage.com/email\\_forms/](http://firefighteradvantage.com/email_forms/)

Owing to the limited number of tapes available, distribution is being limited to Fire, Police and EMS chiefs and training officers.

Web Site: [http://respondersafety.com/news/2003/3/28\\_video.html](http://respondersafety.com/news/2003/3/28_video.html)

## ***Get Well Bill***

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## ***Get Well Soon Bill!***

### ***-Navy F&ES Staff***

Director Bill Killen underwent back surgery on May 26<sup>th</sup> and is recovering at home under Carole's loving touch. Send your expressions of support to the editor

[ricky.brockman@navy.mil](mailto:ricky.brockman@navy.mil)



## ***CFSI Dinner***

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Note: Mr. Bill Killen and Carl Glover attended this years CFSI Dinner

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## ***Congressional Fire Services Institute Annual Dinner Honors America's Firefighters and Emergency Personnel***

Vice President Cheney featured as keynote speaker; says "the federal government must do its part in providing critical resources that our firefighters need."

**Washington, DC** - The 16th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner, a fundraising event drawing nearly 2,100 attendees, was held on Wednesday, May 5 to honor America's firefighters and emergency personnel. In addition to raising funds, the dinner served to increase awareness of the critical initiatives released last month to meet the United States Fire Administration's (USFA) stated goal to reduce firefighter fatalities by 25 percent in five years and 50 percent in ten years.

In his acceptance speech as Congressional Fire Services Institute's (CFSI) Fire Service Leadership Award, USFA Fire Administrator R. David Paulison stated, "We must make sure all firefighters go home. We must reduce the number of heroes dying everyday. I'm a realist. We may never get to zero but one hundred is way too many."

In order to meet USFA's goals, the federal government must commit critical resources so that our firefighters are able to receive state-of-the-art safety equipment and training. Senator Paul Sarbanes (MD), co-chairman of the CFSI congressional caucus stated, "more needs to be done to ensure that firefighters are provided with the tools, gear, and equipment necessary to safely and effectively respond to the next alarm."

Congressman Steny Hoyer (MD), co-chairman of the caucus added, "Congress and the Administration remain committed to ensuring that the men and women serving our country receive the most advanced equipment and best training available. But for too long, our nation's firefighters and emergency personnel have been asked to risk their lives every day protecting our homes, our families, and our places of business, with outdated equipment and insufficient training. I am committed to ensuring that these domestic defenders have the best training and equipment necessary to do their jobs safely and effectively."

Vice President Dick Cheney summarized our country's need to support our first responders best when he said, "We must support our nation's firefighters and emergency personnel, because the demands of your job are greater than ever. You are prepared, after all, for the millions of calls that must be answered every year. And in this period of testing for America, every firefighter knows that the next alarm could be a terrorist attack. You have always been essential to the security of our communities, and now you are essential to the defense of our homeland."

For more information on the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the critical initiatives to significantly reduce firefighter fatalities, visit <http://www.firehero.org/>.



## **IAFC News Alert**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***Terrorist Threat***

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## ***U.S. Officials Say Terrorists Ready to Attack United States***

**Fairfax, Va., May 26, 2004...**Top homeland security officials announced May 26 that they have information suggesting that terrorists may be planning to “hit the United States hard” sometime this summer or fall, according to U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. At a press conference, both Ashcroft and FBI Director Robert Mueller cited several upcoming national events—including the G-8 Summit, Fourth of July celebrations, the Democratic and Republican National Conventions and the presidential election—as attractive targets for terrorists.

“Over the next few months, we have reason to believe that there will be a heightened threat to U.S. interests around the world. Unfortunately, we currently do not know what form that threat may take,” Mueller said. Information gathered from intelligence sources and from public statements made by terrorist organizations suggests that preparations for a major terrorist attack are underway.

Ashcroft said that the FBI is seeking “unprecedented cooperation with state and local law enforcement...to disrupt Al Qaida cells.”

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At the press conference, Ashcroft and Mueller identified six men and one woman who are suspected of terrorist activity and who have ties to Al Qaida. They asked Americans to “be on the look out” for these individuals (photos of the seven and additional information is available at [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)).

While there are no current plans to raise the threat level to orange (high), the IAFC reminds fire chiefs to continue to be vigilant and prepare for possible terrorist activity in the United States.

A number of resources are available to help fire chiefs prepare for large-scale terrorist incidents:

- Homeland Security Advisory System Recommended Actions (<http://www.iafc.org/downloads/hscoloralert.pdf>)
- National Incident Management System (<http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/NIMS-90-web.pdf>)
- IAFC Model Procedures for Responding to a Package with Suspicion of a Biological Threat ([http://www.iafc.org/downloads/suspicious\\_packages.pdf](http://www.iafc.org/downloads/suspicious_packages.pdf))
- FEMA document “Responding to Incidents of National Consequence” (<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa-282.pdf>)

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## HAZMAT Survey

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### *Fire Chiefs Urged To Return HAZMAT Survey*

*Fairfax, Va., May 10, 2004...*Initial results of the IAFC hazmat team survey indicate a total lack of any hazardous materials response capabilities in some states and a limited response capability in many others. Because of the lack of full response to the survey, the results are currently unreliable. The IAFC is requesting that fire chiefs return their surveys immediately so that accurate information may be compiled. The information gathered from the survey will prove valuable when it comes to ensuring adequate resources and response to critical hazmat incidents.

The IAFC's survey was originally launched April 8 and seeks information on the hazardous materials team capabilities of U.S. and Canadian fire departments. The information gathered from the survey will be shared with the Department of Homeland Security to convey the hazmat capabilities and needs of these fire departments.

It is critical that all organized Level A (Type I) and Level B (Type II) teams are requested to participate and return the completed survey immediately.

#### **To complete the survey**

To participate in the survey, e-mail [reardon@northbrook.il.us](mailto:reardon@northbrook.il.us) or visit [http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu/Homeland\\_Security/index.cfm](http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu/Homeland_Security/index.cfm) (the link is in the middle of the page where it says "International Association of Fire Chiefs Questionnaire"). All completed survey questionnaires should be forwarded to [execdir@illinoisfirechiefs.org](mailto:execdir@illinoisfirechiefs.org) or faxed to 708/460-1086.

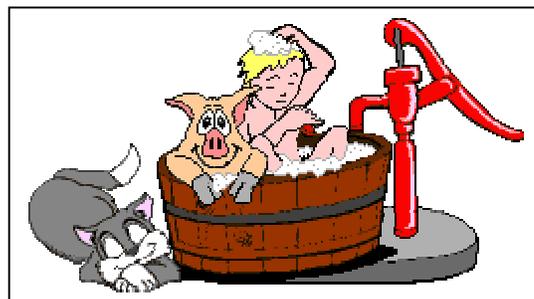
It is important that all hazmat teams complete the survey immediately, so that an accurate profile of U.S. and Canadian hazmat capabilities can be developed. The Illinois Fire Chiefs Association will compile the data to generate this profile, which will help in recognizing local capabilities as well as where and what local hazmat capabilities are lacking. The IAFC will provide a summary document on the findings to its members; however, all critical information will remain confidential.

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## History 101

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### *Life in the Sixteenth Century*



Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women, and finally the children, last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying,

**"Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."**

## ***Pump Damage***

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## ***Major Incident Recommendations***

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## ***Brush Truck Pump Issues***

By Stu Cook, NAS Fallon Fire Department

During a recent controlled burn we noticed the pump on our brush truck seemed to be putting out less volume and pressure. We sent the vehicle to the mechanic and we found stainless steel bolts, nuts and washers imbedded in the impeller of our brush truck pump. We asked the mechanic to remove the top of the water tank so it could be checked for other debris. Once we looked inside, we determined it was a case of poor quality control during maintenance, prior to us receiving the truck. Three of the center baffle plates had been removed and were lying on the bottom of the tank along with assorted bolts, nuts and washers. The pump was pretty much destroyed.

***What's in Your Tank?*** This incident shows the importance of detailed after maintenance inspections of all fire apparatus.

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## ***FEMA Releases Recommendations for Emergency Response to Major Incidents***

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today released a report, "Responding to Incidents of National Consequence," which includes recommendations for fire and emergency services based on the events of September 11, 2001, and other similar incidents. The report was developed by the National Fire Programs Division of the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), and includes a prioritized checklist of recommended actions for emergency response agencies and other support information.

"This report is important for those emergency response leaders who coordinate or support local incident management at major or complex emergencies and disasters," said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response. "The guidance will help them function efficiently and effectively under the National Incident Management System."

The report provides guidance to fire departments and emergency services across America to prepare for, respond to, and recover from major multi-jurisdictional local incidents that have national consequences and may involve national resources. The issues and recommendations in the report were identified in various after-action reports and interviews with the leaders of the organizations that responded to, participated in, and managed these events.

The report is based on information gathered about the responses to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorism incidents in New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania, the anthrax incident in Boca Raton, Fla., in fall 2001, the 2002 Winter Olympic preparations in the Salt Lake City area, and the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City. The report will be provided to students who enroll in certain National Fire Academy courses and can be downloaded from:

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa-282.pdf>

## Command Unit

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## NDW West ... Command Unit

The NDW West Fire Department (Dahlgren) *Command Unit* is a 2002 E-350 extended van with four-wheel drive, added by Quigley 4x4.

The command area was designed to accommodate a work area for the computer and a desktop area for the incident commander. It has specific storage areas for pre-fire plans, reference manuals, area maps and other items of various sizes.

The unit is equipped with AC and DC electrical outlets in the command area, that are energized in the field as well as on station power to keep electrical equipment such as cell phones, radios, computer, and printer fully operational.

Green lighting is provided in the emergency lighting package on all four sides of the vehicle to easily identify command location.

Four of the NIMS boards are mounted on the side doors of the vehicle to aid in command functions. The rear storage area is separated by a partition for storage of SCBA, turnout gear, and other equipment. Total cost for the vehicle and conversions is approximately 60K.

This vehicles serves as a great example of a properly configured Fire Incident *Command Unit*.



Fire Chief Jay Thompson noted, "Assistant Chiefs Branich and Schenemann worked very hard to develop the concept and see the project all the way through to completion."

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## ***Alternative Foam***

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### ***28 Ft<sup>2</sup> Fire Test***



### ***Burn-Back Test***

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## ***Adversity***

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## ***Alternative Environmentally Friendly Firefighting Foams***

Technical POC: Dr. Richard Lee, NFESC

Program Objectives:

- To assess and evaluate alternative firefighting foams without perfluorooctyl sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) type fluorosurfactants
- To demonstrate and validate the performance the candidate fire fighting foam
- To coordinate with AFFF Mil Spec custodian (NAVSEA) & approval authorities of services for implementation



### ***Pool Fire With Obstructions Fire Test***

The Environmentally Friendly Firefighting Program is tentatively scheduled to be briefed on the *Navy Day General Session* as part of the DoD Fire & Emergency Services Training Conference (Aug 04).

"Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents, which in prosperous circumstances would have lain dormant."

- Horace

## *Professional*

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## *Professional or Cool – That is The Question*

By Steve Cox, CFO, CFPS

America's fire service is comprised of millions of dedicated, motivated and highly skilled individuals who participate in an extremely demanding profession. When a citizen experiences an extraordinary event such as a medical emergency, fire or accident they summon our assistance. Everything that has meaning - their property, loved ones and even their life is in our hands. Undoubtedly, we respond in a professional manner, identified by our uniform or equipment to provide assistance and manage the situation in a organized and professional manner.

Although I have attempted to outline the manner in which we operate, there are times when we display an image of a less "professional" manner. I'll be specific and get to the point, by addressing one area where I feel we lack professionalism.

Throughout the nation, departments have established policies for uniforms for work, dress and response. Academies and teaching institutions have also established dress codes for students enrolled in class. Many academies have specified acceptable attire for classroom settings, attire for practical laboratory settings, and acceptable attire for graduation exercises. Although department policies are in place as well as the academy's policies, I shake my head when I see a Fire Chief report for an executive level program in shorts, sandals and a T-shirt or the ever-popular tropical style shirt. What makes this worse is that same chief is on travel and administrative time to attend the program representing the United States Navy Fire & Emergency Service.

In another instance, a department officer was in torn jeans and a T-shirt for an administrative program. Although I can cite hundreds of situations similar to those listed, I was appalled when I heard about the Fire Chief, who went to class in shorts and sandals, bragging that he wears the same attire at work. **WHERE'S OUR PROFESSIONALISM GOING?** We want to reap the benefits of our position but **REFUSE TO SET AN EXAMPLE**. We should be leading by example.

Please do not conclude that all personnel present this image. There are countless professionals who set an excellent example. In every class there are those students who follow procedures, exceed the minimum standards and strive to display a professional appearance. To those of you that do, I compliment you. I encourage you to challenge those that do not dress or act appropriately. We all must do our part to keep the Emergency Services professional, if we expect to gain the confidence and respect we truly deserve from the people we serve.

## Thingamajig Answer

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## Thingamajig Answered

The “*Thingamajig*” in our April edition of “*What’s Happening*” is a “**Fire Well**”. The folks from NAF Key West rely on this thingamajig on a daily basis so it was not surprising that Captain Richard Hadlock, Assistant Chief Antonio Mendez and Bert Bolton guessed correctly. The only other guess came from Tom Shand who supposes this is a mounting bracket for a hydrant valve or hydrant gate. The “*Thingamajig*” is actually a well cover that identifies an underground water source for firefighting. That’s right folks; the troops at NAF Key West don’t have hydrants, but draft for all of their water.

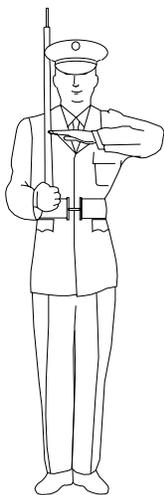
Although NAS Key West has very few hydrants, they have many of these **Fire Wells**. The primary source of water for firefighting operations is drafting from one of these **Fire Wells**. The NAS Key West firefighters demonstrated their proficiency with drafting operations (pictured below) during the Program Compliance Assessment (Apr 04).

NAS Key West firefighters reload hose after the drafting exercise: Note the **Fire Well** to the left of the pumper.



The hard sleeve (suction hose) is stored for easy deployment, with the strainer pre-attached.

## Memorial Day



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“For well over a century, our great Nation has set aside the last Monday in May to honor our fallen Service men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice to ensure America's freedoms, liberties, and way of life. We must never forget the valor and patriotism of those who have paid the ultimate price to defend our sovereignty and heritage.”

- RADM Mike Loose  
Commander, NAVFAC  
Chief of Civil Engineers



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## *News Distribution*

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**Newsletter Distribution:** If you would like to receive this newsletter automatically, send a request to [ricky.brockman@navy.mil](mailto:ricky.brockman@navy.mil) to be added to the *What's Happening* distribution list