

TotalFireE-News!

FDIC 2007

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-PLEASE USE CAUTION!

Within the last few months, the number of vehicle crashes involving firefighters has made headlines. In some of those headlines, they show firefighters who have lost their lives. In some of the headlines, firefighters have been critically injured...and in others **FIREFIGHTERS HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH MANSLAUGHTER!**

We at Total Fire Group are not new to the fire fighting business. Our CEO is a veteran Captain and our marketing staff has decades of fire fighting experience. From rural firefighters to FDNY veteran officers, we understand the business within the "Total Fire Group Family"....what's more is that we UNDERSTAND that in order for firefighters to safely do their job, they must ARRIVE ALIVE.

In an attempt to help remind all of our Total Fire Group family and friends the critical need to ARRIVE ALIVE, here are some suggestions (please make sure that your actual operations match your department SOPs and SOGs):

Any intersection controlled by a stop sign, yield sign, yellow traffic light or a red traffic light requires a complete stop by the emergency vehicle driver if all visible traffic in all lanes can not be accounted for. In addition, these steps must be followed:

- Do not rely on warning devices to clear traffic.
- Scan the intersection for possible hazards (right turns on red, pedestrians, vehicles traveling fast etc.) as well as driver options.
- Begin to slow down well before reaching the intersection and cover the brake pedal with the driver's foot, continue to scan in 4 directions (left, right, front, back).
- Change the siren sound not less than 200 feet from an intersection.
- Scan the intersection for possible passing options (pass on right, left, wait, etc.). Avoid using the opposing lane of traffic, if at all possible.
- If all visible traffic in all lanes can not be accounted for, the driver should bring the vehicle to a complete stop.
- Establish eye contact with other vehicle drivers; have your partner communicate all is clear; then reconfirm all other vehicles are stopped.
- Proceed one lane of traffic at a time, treating each lane as a separate intersection.
- Officers: SUPERVISE your drivers to ENSURE that they are using extreme caution in order for you and your crew to arrive safely.
- Drivers: are all of your personnel safely secured in their seats before you start responding?

Additionally, consider the personnel who are actually driving your emergency vehicles. The following are just some of the components that should be included in a comprehensive set of emergency vehicle procedures:

- Driver Selection Criteria
- Driver Qualifications
- Required Training
- Testing And Certification
- Skills Maintenance
- Periodic Recertification

Policies and procedures regarding the actual driving of an emergency vehicle should also be included. These "rules for the road" should include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

- Safety Inspections Prior To Driving
- Driver Behavior
- Use Of Warning Devices
- Non-Emergency Response
- Vehicle Control And Right-of-Way
- Response Speeds
- Intersection Practices
- Passing and Rate of Closure
- Riding Policy
- Backing Up
- Response In Privately Owned Vehicles

The ability for ANY Fire/Rescue/EMS agency to do their jobs successfully is completely negated if the crew and the equipment needed do not arrive on the scene successfully. Please take a moment to seriously consider these suggestions and compare them to your department's operations. Please ARRIVE ALIVE and THINK about who you will leave behind if you don't. That alone can sometimes be enough motivation! (Our thanks to ResponderSafety.com for the above information.)

-It's SHOW TIME at FDIC!

Next week, nearly 30,000 members of North America's Fire Service and firefighters from around the world will descend on Indianapolis for FDIC. While many of you know to visit the exhibits, don't miss out on the incredible EDUCATIONAL and TRAINING opportunities. Take a look at the agenda before heading out to Indy and plan your schedule now. If you are a FIRST TIME FDIC attendee, CONGRATS and welcome...prepare for what may be one of the BEST fire service experiences ever. And PLAN ahead by reviewing the many, many activities! Go to www.FDIC.com and take a look.

Additionally, amongst the many social activities, one very important one is the STOP, DROP and ROLL Fundraiser for the National Fallen Firefighters' Foundation on Thursday, April 19, 2007, 6:30 pm at the Marriott Hotel. Plan on joining other firefighters from around the world for an evening of good food, good music, and good cheer as American LaFrance hosts this annual fundraising bash. This fundraiser just keeps getting better and better each year! All proceeds from the evening will benefit the National Fallen Firefighters' Memorial Fund to support the FAMILIES of those who gave their lives.

-What Can YOU expect to see at Total Fire Group's MASSIVE exhibit at FDIC ? (We are just inside the RCA Dome, you CANNOT miss us!)

It would be impossible to list ALL of the THIRTY TWO (Yes-32!) new and patented INNOVATIONS we are going to have on display at FDIC this year! But here are a few things to watch for:

*The new SUPER GLOVE! Gloves are an often "taken for granted" item...until firefighters need them! We have spent years working on this ABSOLUTELY NEW firefighter glove with features such as:

- FIT-like NEVER before!
- COMFORT: like NEVER before!
- PROTECTION: like NEVER before!

Fit...Comfort...Protection and INNOVATION? Who leads the industry when it comes to PPE in these critical areas? Total Fire Group...that's WHO! So it is only natural that we offer a FIRE FIGHTING GLOVE like no other! Come see the new SUPER GLOVE at FDIC!

*SERIOUS FOOTWEAR FOR SERIOUS FIREFIGHTERS!

Some vendors want you to wear "soft and comfy" boots that reduce your protection and serviceability. Sure they look cute and feel good initially, but how well are you protected initially- and for the long term...inside and out??

You're going to FIRES....not to the GYM!

The new PRO 5006 fire fighting boot gets you the comfort you deserve with the safety you demand....

- Patented PowerToe for 3 TIMES the wear life of any toe protection out there.
- Patented PowerHeel protects against abusive donning and doffing and it's reflective.
- Same great PRO thermal protection of 7.5 oz KEVLAR EXCLUSIVE TO THE PRO LINE.
- Fire and Ice sole gets you better traction in ice and snow....and a great rung catch when maneuvering on ladders.
- Goodyear welt protection for not just comfort but support for the LIFE of your boots....your boots become an extension of you.
- Reflectivity that is visible Because it's all about being seen.
- Patented PowerBack for less weight and more comfort.
- Lower profile toe than cement constructed boots so driving is easy and deadman's switch clearance isn't an issue.
- Removable insert designed to accommodate custom orthotics.
- Lightweight and available in over 100 sizes.
- Certified to NFPA 1971, 2007 edition and NFPA 1992, 2005 edition.

=FIREFIGHTER EYE PROTECTION FOR TRADITIONAL HELMETS?

Come see BRAND NEW NFPA certified deployable eye protection from Morning Pride!

Additionally, come see the latest in FIRE FIGHTING BUNKER GEAR including Project Heroes Bunker Gear-currently in field testing with features such as:

- The hood is always deployed, sealed together with the coat at the collar line. It is constructed

of outer shell, moisture barrier, and thermal liner. A flexible gasket seal designed to fit SCBA is built into the hood. The coat closure zipper extends upward to seal hood around face piece.

- The coat has a FIN liner attachment that creates a baffle that allows sealing with a vapor tight zipper.
- The gloves interface with the coat sleeves with a magnet gasket seal. Lateral locks prevent disengagement but detach with twisting action.
- Sock-like bootie liner extension from the pant leg fits into boots that accept the bootie. A flap over the top of the boot prevents liquid leakage, keeping feet 100 percent dry.
- An innovative system captures the SCBA exhalation, feeding into a duct system in the coat. It provides positive pressure against exterior penetration and an upper torso cooling system.

While these features are truly innovative, one area our researchers are strongly focused on is the "modern" FIRE FIGHTING ENVIRONMENT. And with FIRE FIGHTING CANCERS being a major issue of focus, our PROJECT HEROES Bunker Gear has INCREDIBLE features that can also help minimize firefighter exposure to what has been identified as significant cancer-causing factors to firefighters. From the smoke to the soot and the carcinogens that firefighters are exposed to, PROJECT HEROES can significantly impact that exposure through the design itself including the SCBA exhalation system that provides positive pressure against exterior penetration.

It takes a company owned and made up by FIREFIGHTERS to genuinely FOCUS on the ISSUES impacting FIREFIGHTER SAFETY, HEALTH AND SURVIVAL.

We look forward to seeing you at FDIC next week in Indianapolis! And when you come see us, be sure to ask for your FREE CD filled with HUNDREDS of downloadable FIRE COMPANY TRAINING DRILLS. From engine company and truck company operations to subjects such as water supply and ventilation, this CD is the perfect addition to every fire department's training library.

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