

OUTLINE FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION ACTIVITY

Background

Fires that occur in buildings under construction fall into two categories. They are insignificant and catastrophic. The reason for this observation is that small fires do not attract a lot of media attention. Large loss fires do attract the media. In many cases the fires are so catastrophic they bring into question the fire departments operations and the credibility of the building industry.

Factors that should be considered in a fire suppression and operations program for buildings under construction include:

ACCOUNTABILITY

Yes No N/A

The designated person to be a fire prevention program superintendant has made contact with the fire department?

Yes No N/A

A meeting has been held that includes fire and other emergency services to establish background information needed to respond to an emergency?

Yes No N/A

The fire authority is aware of security measures on the site?

PRE-FIRE PLANNING

Yes No N/A

An approved pre-fire plan in cooperation with the local authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), including building and fire has been developed?

Yes No N/A

The pre-fire plan is developed in concert with locally developed standards, but conforms with the spirit and intent of NFPA 241?

Yes No N/A

The AHJ, including the fire operations officer are to be notified of any changes effecting the utilization of information contained in those plans that effects tactics and strategy?

Yes No N/A

Coordination efforts should be made to visit the construction site by fire suppression personnel that would likely make up the first alarm assignment. This coordination should involve all shifts. In the event that the department relies on mutual aid they should be informed of opportunities to visit the site also?

Yes No N/A

The AHJ, including the fire operations officer are to be notified of any changes effecting the utilization of information contained in those plans that effects tactics and strategy?

WATER SUPPLY - The following provisions are being checked on by the fire prevention bureau. These actions and activities should be monitored by fire suppression

Yes No N/A

An approved water supply for fire protection either temporary or permanent, shall be made available as soon as combustibile material arrive on the site?

Yes No N/A

Care must be taken to prevent any blocking or obscuration of water supply for the building?

Yes No N/A

When hydrants are installed they should be in service prior to combustibles accumulating on site?

Yes No N/A

Due to visibility issues hydrants should be flagged by a vertical 2x4 painted red identifying their location?

Yes No N/A

Any impairment to the water supply, to automatic sprinkler systems must be addressed immediately?

Yes No N/A

Where fire hydrants are subject to impact by motor vehicles, guard posts or other means of protection should be provided?

SITE ACCESS - The following provisions are being checked on by the fire prevention bureau. These actions and activities should be monitored by fire suppression

Yes No N/A

The address numbers of the property and lot numbers or project location shall be plainly visible or legible fronting the property at the fire apparatus access point or as otherwise approved?

Yes No N/A

Are access roads of sufficient width and clearance for fire department use?

Yes No N/A

Vehicle access shall be provided by either temporary or permanent roads, capable of supporting vehicle loading of fire apparatus?

Yes No N/A

The recommendation is that the roadway should consist of compacted sub-base and six (6) inches of road base material (class 2 aggregate base rock) both compacted to a minimum of 95% of maximum grades of 15%?

Yes No N/A

Grades that exceed 15% shall be paved?

Yes No N/A

There should be a minimum of 14ft to allow aerial apparatus to maneuver in the area?

Yes No N/A

Dead end fire access roads in excess of 150ft in length shall be proved with approved turnarounds?

Yes No N/A

Approved vehicle access for firefighting shall be proved within 100ft of access to the building?

Yes No N/A

Security fences and gates shall not be placed across fire apparatus access roads without approval of the fire department?

EMERGENCY REPORTING

Yes No N/A

A readily accessible emergency telephone shall be provided in an approved location at the construction site. The street address of the construction site and the emergency telephone number of the fire department shall be posted adjacent to the telephone.?

TEMPORARY HEATING EQUIPMENT

Yes No N/A

All devices shall be listed and labeled with the International Mechanical Code or the International Fuel Gas Code?

Yes No N/A

Installation, maintenance and use of all temporary heating devices shall be in accordance with the terms of the listing?

Yes No N/A

Fuel supplies for LP gas fired heaters shall comply with Chapter 38 of the International Fuel Gas Code?

Yes No N/A

The use of temporary heating devices shall be supervised and maintained by competent personnel only?

HOT WORK OPERATIONS - The following provisions are being checked on by the fire prevention bureau. These actions and activities should be monitored by fire suppression

Yes No N/A

Is a hot-work permit system used for all cutting, welding, and soldering operations?

Yes No N/A

Is hot-work equipment, including torches and fuel/gas cylinders, regularly inspected and serviced?

Yes No N/A

Are portable gas cylinders used in welding and cutting operations stored and used in accordance with NFPA 55, *Standard for the Storage, Use, and Handling of Compressed and Liquefied Gases in Portable Cylinders*, published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)?

Yes No N/A

Are multi-purpose, portable fire extinguishers kept nearby whenever hot-work operations are undertaken?

Yes No N/A

Is a fire watch provided during hot-work operations and for at least one hour after operations have been completed?

UTILITIES

Yes No N/A

The pre-fire plan should include the cutoffs of water, natural gas and electricity to the building?

FIRE PROTECTION

Yes No N/A

Is there a sufficient number of listed/approved portable fire extinguishers, and are they properly located and maintained, as required in NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers* or in compliance with Model Code?

Yes No N/A

Are employees trained in the use of portable fire extinguishers?

Yes No N/A

Are fire alarms, detectors, and fixed fire protection, such as automatic sprinklers, installed in temporary structures?

Yes No N/A

In buildings in four or more stories in height, there should be at least one standpipe for use by fire department during construction?