

15.08 Scope:

Industrial properties shall include factories, warehouses and high risk buildings with special hazards.

15.0801 First engine placement:

Positioning of the engine is the responsibility of the driver. The engine shall be positioned keeping the following factors in mind:

Location of fire in building;
Access to building;
Keeping the front of building open for the truck company.

Generally, at industrial complexes, after locating the fire, the first engine shall park near an entry door that allows for the shortest access to the fire.

15.0802 First engine to arrive:

Depending on the size of the facility and the location of the nearest hydrant, responses where there is smoke showing, visible fire or confirmed alarm, the first arriving engine shall forward lay a 5-inch supply line from the nearest fire hydrant prior to arriving at the fire building. In some cases it may be necessary to position the first arriving engine company at the nearest entrance to the fire building and allow the officer and fire crew to investigate the condition of the reported fire building (hydrant person and driver/operator shall stay with the engine)

15.0803 Fire Brigade or Emergency Response Team:

If the facility has a known Emergency Response Team, the first-in apparatus or officer shall meet a team representative at the pre-determined location and obtain a size-up of the situation.

15.0804 First arriving engine responsibilities:

The first engine company (with the exception of the driver and hydrant person) shall form a fire verification team (officer and at least two firefighters). This team shall verify the condition inside of the building or complex and report this condition to command. This team shall take with them the equipment that they think that they may need such as hose-line (preconnected or high-rise pack), axes, pike poles, extinguishers, etc.

15.0805 Second arriving engine:

Sprinklered properties: The second arriving engine shall secure a water supply and support the building's automatic fire sprinkler system. Depending on the situation, the second arriving engine may be needed to provide a water supply to the first arriving engine.

Non-sprinklered properties: The second arriving engine shall locate an alternative hydrant and stand-by for further instructions from the Incident Commander. The firefighters from the second arriving engine may be utilized for rescue or the placement of additional hand-lines. Personnel of the second arriving engine should be held uncommitted and shall be ready to stretch lines from the first arriving engine to the fire area. At the option of command, these additional firefighters may be utilized for truck company activities, fire suppression, or as command desires necessary for control or mitigation of the incident.

15.0806 Fire attack:

Fire attack shall be made with at least (2) two 1 ¾" hand-line or greater and shall be in most cases from the unburned side of the building. Engine companies shall plan on use of the building's fire suppression system such as standpipes and sprinklers. Let the sprinkler system do its job! Sufficient hose size, length and nozzle selection is critical to this operation.

15.0807 Truck company positioning:

The Truck Company will most often position in the front of the building. Positioning will normally be the responsibility of the truck company officer, if not assigned by the Operations section chief. Positioning of the Truck Company will also be based on the size of the building, location of the fire, access, etc. It may also be advantageous to position on a corner of the building in order to sweep two sides. On commercial properties, positioning shall be made with the following objectives in mind:

- A. Use of ladder to roof
- B. Building collapse
- C. Master stream operations

15.0808 Support area:

The truck company officer shall designate a support area or the pooling of equipment to be used in combating of the fire. All available equipment shall be transported to this area.

15.0809 Ventilation:

Ventilation shall be carried out through the best and most efficient means. Roof ventilation is desirable; however, this may not always be available. Use of exhaust ducts/fans, ventilation systems, and roof vents fans shall be used to ventilate the effected area. Modern HVAC systems may be coordinated through the facility's maintenance crew.

15.0810 Ladders:

Truck company personnel shall be prepared to use ground ladders inside of buildings. The ladders shall be used for fire attack for various machines that may become involved with fires. Ladders may also be used to rescue trapped or endangered workers.

15.0811 Rapid Intervention Team:

When interior fire attack occurs within a structure, the Incident Commander shall assign a RIT team to the Operation Section Chief. The RIT team shall secure the necessary equipment needed to perform an effective and efficient removal of personnel should they experience trouble. It will be the responsibility of the RIT team leader to stay appraised with the probable location of all personnel who are operating within the structure. It will be critical to coordinate rapid intervention team activities with the Operation Section Chief along with the scene Safety Officer and the Accountability Director.

For large operations as is the case with Industrial Properties, the Incident Commander or RIT team leader may request additional units to assist with Rapid Intervention Team assignments. The need for additional RIT personnel may be due to the size of the property or lack of sufficient manpower by the RIT team. In the event that more than one RIT team is operating on the scene, all personnel shall operate under the RIT team leader.

15.0812 Rescue company operations:

After arriving on location, the rescue company officer shall report to the Operation Section Chief for further instructions it will be the responsibility of the Rescue OIC, to prioritize the support activities to be performed according to the fire conditions presented. Although earlier arriving engine companies and/or Truck companies may have already implemented some of the duties; it will be the responsibility of the Rescue OIC to coordinate the remaining activities to ensure they will be completed. The following are some of the activities or duties that must be addressed: rescue, ladders, forcible entry, salvage, ventilation, RIT and utility control. Many of these duties can be carried out simultaneously with one another.

15.0813 Utility control:

The control of the various utilities such as gas, electricity, and water is essential for the containment of fires and to lessen the damage. Utilities shall be controlled as soon as possible but may require the expertise of plant personnel.

15.0814 Salvage:

Salvage efforts shall begin as soon as possible to limit loss. Use of plant personnel may be extremely helpful as they have access to machinery to aid in this task.

Property conservation measures should begin as soon as possible to reduce the property loss by fire, heat, and smoke. Property conservation efforts are to be performed by personnel when staffing levels and conditions permit salvage operations to begin. Salvage covers should be used to protect valuables and to prevent further damage by water and smoke.

15.0815 Plant Personnel:

Plant personnel shall not be used to combat fires. Plant personnel may transport equipment and provide valuable information to Fire Department personnel regarding a fire in their plant.

15.0816 Safety:

The safety of fire department personnel is of the utmost concern. No member shall be permitted to take part in fire suppression activities unless that person is wearing full protective clothing including Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). SCBA(s) shall be worn at all times on the interior of the building during fire suppression activities--including during overhaul. SCBA(s) shall be worn until it can be determined that the level of carbon monoxide in the structure is at a safe level. At that time the Operation Section Chief can grant permission to the operating teams to remove their SCBA(s).

All injuries to fire fighters requiring medical attention shall be reported immediately to Incident Commander.

15.0817 Rescue:

Rescue of a known life is the number one priority. A primary search shall be conducted immediately in most cases with a charged hand-line. With larger industrial properties this may be impractical. It may be more beneficial to use a search rope in place of the hose-line so crews have a lifeline to the exterior. It is also imperative that a hand-line be stretched to the seat of the fire by the first arriving engine in an attempt to stop the forward progress of the fire. This will facilitate the rescue effort and lessen the danger to the occupants. If the occupants are visible from the exterior of the building, an attempt shall be made to rescue them with the use of ground ladders. If staffing permits, the rescue should be carried out while a

hand-line is advanced to the seat of the fire. Members advancing the hand-line to the fire area can search that area as well as extinguishing or controlling the fire.

Ladders should be used (including aerial) to conduct the primary search as soon as possible and to rescue any occupants trapped by the fire. Search priorities shall be as follows:

- A. Fire area;
- B. Floor above fire;
- C. Top floor;
- D. Floors in between

Any emergency medical care shall be provided to the occupants of the facility as soon as possible, such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation. There shall be no hesitation in requesting emergency traffic for an ambulance to treat victims. Any working fire an ambulance will be automatically assigned to the incident.

15.0818 Primary search:

A primary search shall be performed at every fire situation, whether fire is showing or not. The only difference is the number of firefighters assigned this task by the operation section chief. In nothing showing situations, the primary search can be assigned to two firefighters, however, if a fire is located, more firefighters must be assigned to the task. The team performing search and rescue must be equipped with a portable radio to keep in constant communication.

When conditions indicate there is a fire or the first arriving company reports a fire in their size-up, a primary search must be performed to locate and remove endangered occupants, or to verify that civilians have escaped the fire. The fire attack team can perform the primary search of the immediate fire area while the truck or rescue company personnel begin the primary search on the floor immediately above the fire. All searches must be made using a search pattern indicated in Section 15.0510. If time and staffing permits, the search and rescue teams operating above the fire should do so with the protection of a hand line. This will provide protection for the firefighters performing this task. Tagline/rescue rope should be used as a minimum protection device to lead search personnel to the way out of the building. This will provide protection for the firefighters performing this task. Firefighters performing the primary search must have forcible entry tools with them to force open locked doors or to aid the escape of the firefighter should he/she become trapped in a building or room.

Victims are often overcome attempting to escape the fire. For this reason, firefighters performing the primary search will commonly find the victims next to doors and windows. Firefighters should pay close attention for signs of trapped or injured occupants. Coughing, moaning, or cries for help indicate people may have not escaped the fire. If occupants of victims are located, this should be communicated to the operation sections chief immediately. Victims should be removed via the interior stairway, if at all possible, or the closest exit point. Ladders should be used only if passage down the stairway is not possible.

15.0819 Secondary search:

As soon as possible a secondary search shall be made to verify that there are no occupants in the building. The results of this search shall be transmitted to the Incident Commander.

15.0820 Forcible entry:

Look for a KNOX BOX! The truck and/or rescue companies should be prepared to force open doors, locked gates, windows removal of bars, etc. to provide for access to the building. Truck/Rescue company personnel shall carry with them forcible entry equipment such as axes, pike poles, pry bars, halligan bars, saws, etc. Entry shall be made in the quickest and most cost-effective manner.

15.0821 Property conservation:

Property conservation measures should begin as soon as possible to reduce the property loss by fire, heat, and smoke. Property conservation efforts are to be performed by personnel when staffing levels and conditions permit salvage operations to begin. Salvage covers should be used to protect valuables and to prevent further damage by water and smoke.

15.0822 Overhaul:

When the fire has been confined and/or declared under control, overhaul efforts should begin. At least one hose line shall remain in service during overhaul. Overhaul will be continued at the discretion of the Operation Section Chief. Truck company personnel will assist engine company personnel with the task of overhaul. Truck company personnel must pull walls and ceilings that have been exposed to fire to search for hidden fire prevent a rekindle. Use of a thermal imaging camera is essential during overhaul to spot hidden fire without having to open all the walls and ceilings within the structure. Consider starting the investigation before overhaul. This may limit the destruction of evidence during overhaul.

15.0823 Safety:

The safety of fire department personnel is of the utmost concern. No member shall be permitted to take part in fire suppression activities unless that person is wearing full protective clothing including Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). SCBA(s) shall be worn at all times on the interior of the building during fire suppression activities--including during overhaul. SCBA(s) shall be worn until it can be determined that the level of carbon monoxide in the structure is at a safe level. At that time the Operation Section Chief can grant permission to the operating teams to remove their SCBA(s).

All injuries to fire fighters requiring medical attention shall be reported immediately to Incident Commander and required medical attention given. Personnel accountability and an ambulance standby are important during an industrial property incident.

Incidents involving any industrial property, the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) shall be retrieved and used for life safety, incident stabilization and property conservation initiatives. The MSDS shall provide useful information for the onsite chemicals located at the facility and may be used in conjunction with the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG).

Because of known and unknown hazards, CAUTION shall be taken at industrial properties!
LOCK-OUT/TAG OUT procedures shall be followed.

15.0824 Team Units:

Teams are to stay together. If their officer is assigned to another detail, a new team leader shall be designated. It is imperative that units operate as teams at industrial property incidents.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Cumru Township Fire Department
Standard Operating Guidelines
Section 15.08

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES

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15.0825 Greater Alarms:

Depending on life hazards and the fire situation present, the request of one additional Engine and one additional Truck should seriously be considered for staging purposes.