

Stretching and Advancing the Initial Attack Line

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Firefighter Basics

Goals

The goals that will be accomplished with this training plan are for members to know the what, why, and how to stretch an initial attack line and prepare it for advancement.

Overview

During the training members will be introduced to the three-line concept. This concept involves understanding the basic deployment of hand lines required for the initial attack line to be deployed; a secondary line, and a backup line that is often referred to as a safety line. Members will be shown how to deploy the lines, how to set it up for advancement, and advancement techniques. Members will be critiqued in the area of chasing kinks and minimizing friction points while the hose line is being advanced. Members shall demonstrate or be shown the proper nozzle mechanics, and how to operate fog, and solid stream nozzles. The training will also show members how to select the correct line, where to place the line, and how to reposition quickly. Members shall also be shown and demonstrate how to overcome a hostile fire event.

Objectives

1. Members shall learn the following about the nozzle(s) before fire attack:
 - A. Nozzle operation (how it works) shall be covered
 - B. Nozzle emergencies shall be covered
2. Members shall learn the following about hose before fire attack:
 - A. The type of hose loads and its uses
 - B. How to deploy the hose load
 - C. Challenges encountered with the hose load
 - D. Advancement techniques for the hose load

Instructional Points

1. The instructors shall teach the following points:
 - a. Firefighter I and II shall deploy the hand line until it is clear the hose tray.
 - b. Firefighter I shall advance the first 50 ft (working length) to the desired location for entry into the structure
 - c. Firefighter II shall ensure that the hand line is flaked out properly
 - d. Firefighter I shall call for the line to be charged and bleed the nozzle of air checking the stream and pattern. Bale must be fully opened
 - e. Firefighter II will recheck for kinks and ensure that the line is setup for success.
 - f. Instructor shall guide the member's decision making on initial line deployment
 - g. Instructors shall provide guidance on the various techniques that can be employed by the backup man to make the nozzle advance smooth and minimize nozzle reaction.
2. The Instructors for the Second hand line shall teach the following points

- a. Instructor shall direct the second line where to be placed
 - b. Instructor shall ensure the line is placed in a position to protect the initial fire attack line and search crews when necessary
 - c. Instructor shall ensure that the points for the initial line are followed for the second line
 - d. Instructors shall ensure that having crossover lines is avoided or minimized.
3. The Instructor for the third (safety) line shall teach the following points
- a. Deployment to a staging position
 - b. Deployment to an interior position
 - c. Larger caliber line if two smaller diameter lines

Assessment Questions

1. What NFPA standard governs emergency scene operations?
2. What is the minimum gpm's suggested for a structural fire?
3. What is the minimum pressure required at the nozzle for a fog nozzle?
4. What is the minimum pressure required at the nozzle for a solid stream?
5. Are there any exceptions for either type of nozzle?
6. What concept for deploying hand lines do we use?
7. What is the job of the nozzle firefighter?
8. What is the name of the second firefighter on the line?
9. What is the job of the second firefighter on the line?
10. What is the primary job of the second line?
11. Where does the second line go?
12. What is the job of the third line?
13. Where does the third line go?
14. On any hose line what are two major concerns for proper hand line advancement?
15. What is the main goal for all personnel on the fire ground regarding fire attack?