Fire Apparatus Placement and Scene Security

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Case Study

• Shelby, Iowa Fire and Rescue
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Pride in the Fire Service
Knowledge objectives

• Identify apparatus placement by water source
• Describe the Drivers/ operators responsibility with proper hose lays
• Describe the cab procedures when positioning apparatus
• Describe the Drivers/ Operators responsibilities when exiting the cab
• Identifying standpipe and sprinkler connections
• Safe pump operations
• Positioning apparatus in other emergencies
Fire Pump Operations

• Securing a water source is a Drivers/Operators responsibilities. The following are potential water sources that can be secure:
  • 1- Internal water tank
  • 2- Pressurized water sources
  • 3- Static sources
Internal water tank

• Includes water in the apparatus
• Limited amount of water
• Must be supplemented by another source of water before it runs out
Pressurized source

- Water from a hydrant or another fire pump
- Hydrants are the most common
- Gets its pressure from water towers are pump stations
Static source

• Water sources such are a portable folding tank, lake, pool, Etc.
• Must use a hard suction hose to draw it into the tank
Fire pump operators

• The driver/operator must be capable of transferring water from an internal water tank to an external source. This must be practiced frequently.
Pre-incident planning

Pre-incident planning will allow the operator to know where to park based on the water source available, road layouts, number and type of units responding, etc.

Practicing this Pre-incident planning is important to make this a routine.
In-cab procedures

• When approaching the scene, place your apparatus according to your procedures
• Turn your wheels to the curb
• Turn off unnecessary emergency light
• Place the apparatus in neutral or park, depending on the design. Set the parking brake
• Change the transmission from road gear to pump gear. Pumping procedure varies by manufacture.
Exiting the truck

• Chock the wheels
• Follow your department’s procedures on proper wheel chocking
Fire fighting

- Water from the internal tank will be used to initially attack the fire.
- Must switch to a different source due to the limited amount of water.
- The apparatus will need to be positioned to use both tank water and the alternative water source.
- The apparatus will also need to protect the driver/operator while pumping water, based on your department’s policies.
Hose lays

• Forward lays are the most often used. A forward lay starts at the fire hydrant or water source, and ends with the apparatus next to the fire scene.

• A reverse lay starts at the fire scene and ends at the water source. It is typically to supply water to an apparatus on scene already.
FDC and standpipe connections

• A FDC can be attached to increase the effectiveness of an automatic fire suppression system

• A standpipe is used to lessen the amount of hose required to be taken inside the structure which increases the speed of fire extinguishment.
  • Standpipe systems can be dry or wet
Breakout session

What would you do?
Summary

• Proper apparatus placement provides a safe and efficient way of responding to emergency.
• This is the Driver/Operator responsibility
• It starts with Pre-Incident Planning
• Follow your SOP/SOG
• Be a champion on your department
• Help improve your SOP/SOG and Pre-Incident plans.