



What's Happening

Navy Fire and Emergency Services Newsletter
Protecting Those Who Defend America



January 2014

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CEO, CQI – or CEUs?

By Ronny J. Coleman

Are you the boss? Are you high up there in the command structure of your organization? If we used the words chief fire executive, would you respond by saying yes? Are you the fire chief – or the fire marshal?

Congratulations.

The next question is: Are you the best you can be or are you resting on past laurels? This question can be further clarified and a specific answer given by responding to the following inquiries:

When was the last time you learned something new? Last year? Last month? Last week? How about this morning?

If you are having a hard time answering that question, you might start thinking about how well you are doing in your job as the CEO. There is an old saying that if you aren't getting better, you are bound to be getting worse. Nature abhors the status quo. If you aren't learning, you aren't living. So, let's go back to the opening paragraph and ask those questions again.

What did you learn in the last year? At one level, if you are in a job that requires decision making, the concept of experience plays a big part here. If you acted on things you should have learned a lesson about something every time. Can you recall what the lessons were?

The concept of continuous quality improvement (CQI) comes to mind here, for this is the timeframe we can truly reflect upon at both the individual and organizational level. Are you better at something now than you were one year ago? How about your personnel? What did you find out from them that has allowed you to see improved performance from them? Does your assessment the last year include the idea that your work product has improved?

At this level of discussion, CQI is not an abstract theory. It is manifested by incremental improvements that have resulted in a better you, or a better crew. Again, let us go back to the opening paragraph. Do you have to wait a whole year to seek improvement? I don't think so. It would just as easily be yesterday morning when you finished reading a textbook, or reading an email, or talked to a colleague.



Supporting the Fleet, Fighter, and Family



Chief's Clipboard (Cont.)

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Chief Ronny J. Coleman

You see incremental improvement occurs in both passive and active behavior on your part. According to the infamous Yogi Berra, the New York Yankee legend, "You can observe a lot just by watching." That is where the CEO job description fits into CQI. If you want to improve, seek out new information and add it to your experience portfolio on an ongoing basis. This leads us to assessing some of your personal behaviors. Such as what do you read to be current? Who do you talk to be informed? Do you actively seek knowledge, or are you waiting for it to drop into your lap? There is another three-letter acronym that might apply: Continuing Education Unit – or CEU.

CEU is a term readily accepted by many professionals, such as doctors and attorneys, but is sometimes over-looked in our profession because it is sometimes not readily achieved in a formal fashion. If

you are a person who thinks that you already know everything, then the CEU means very little. If you are a person who recognizes that knowledge is increasing your clarity and that access to that new knowledge gives you more influence over the future, then the CEU is your tool of choice.



As I prepared the column, I was thinking of how these two concepts of CQI and CEU are like the double helix of DNA. As we proceed through our lives, we have an opportunity to create a stronger, more resilient and more influential profile for ourselves by recognizing these two concepts in our daily decision making. By raising them to a level of consciousness where we actually apply them on a daily basis, we can project a higher level of performance for tomorrow.

To go a little further, we need to explore the opportunities in both a formal fashion and an informal fashion. For example, you could take a class. That is a formal activity to improve performance. On the other hand, you could read a book. That is an informal way to add to your knowledge. In both cases, they are conscious decisions. They can be mutually reinforcing. You might take a class that exposes you to a new book. Or, the class may expose you to an idea that you have to pursue by reading more about in many other forms.

Let's take a quick examination of your personal efforts right now. What was the last book you read because you chose to do it? What the last class you took because you wanted to learn a specific thing? What was the topic of the last speaker you went to hear at the last conference you attended? If you can answer those questions without hesitation you are on the right track. If you had to think about it before coming up with an answer, you are behind the curve. If you can't even remember, then you are in need of remedial counseling.

This idea is not unique to the fire service. CEOs in other professions are facing the same scenario. Some are growing as the pressure on them increases and some are losing ground. The point is that the ones who are growing are most likely acquiring new knowledge as a part of their survival strategy. They are not waiting for information to come to them, but are actively seeking it out through a continuous personal sense of quality improvement. The topic is not abstract when it is applied to your own behavior and performance.

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In summary, when you hear others talking about how hard things are today, ask yourself: How much time, energy and effort have they put into preparing themselves for the task they face? If they have relied entirely on an education that terminated 20 years ago or experience that was based upon traditional values of the past, they are likely to face even greater stress in the future. Then, look at yourself and ask what you are doing to give yourself new skills, new approaches and new solutions. In short, when was the last time you reached out and pulled yourself up to a new notch on the ladder of success?



So, in my last reference to the opening paragraph, I hope your answer to the question is: "Just a few minutes ago!"

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Ronny J. Coleman is currently the president of FireforceOne. He is the former California State Fire Marshal, past president of the IAFC, and past president of the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. Over his lifetime, he has received numerous awards including the AFSA's 1989 Henry S. Parmelee Award and the 2011 Mason Lankford Award from the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CSFI). For more info, go to his websites.

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Combs Cartoon



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Mr. Know-It-All

It's OK!
EVERYTHING IS
GOING TO BE
JUST FINE -
I'M HERE NOW.



COMBS
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ENGINEERING

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Last Alarms

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Last Alarms

The USFA reported 101 deaths to date in 2013 and 6 deaths to date in 2014. The following line of duty deaths were reported since we published our last issue:

<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013 Totals</u>
Terry Guss, Sr. South Zanesville, OH	Cosmo Paris ♥ Cliffside Park, NJ	♥ 43 (42%) ☠ 13 (13%)
Jeff Little Waycross, GA	Christ Swan ♥ Marietta, GA	<u>2014 Totals</u> ♥ 4 (66%) ☠ 0 (0%)
John Wayman Sr. ♥ Jefferson, OH	James Brooks ♥ Largo, MD	♥ Indicates cardiac related death ☠ Indicates vehicle accident related
Jon Schondelmayer ♥ Cary, NC	Greg Hennessey ♥ Rancho Santa Margarita, CA	
David Lidke ♥ Hightstown, NJ	Stephen Machcinski Toledo, OH	
Jeffrey Lee Fields ♥ Youngsville, NC	James Dickman Toledo, OH	

TCOoO Update



Taking Care of Our Own

Check with your Fire Chief if you wish to make a leave donation. There are currently 22 DoD firefighters in the Taking Care of Own program.

Name	Location	Point of Contact
Joey Tajalle	NAVBASE Guam	Julie.Quinene@fe.navy.mil
Stella Shimabukuro	USAG Presidio of Monterey, CA	Scott.Hudock@us.army.mil
Dana Picard	Westover ARB, MA	Diane.Lessard@us.af.mil
Edward Rust	DES Richmond, VA	Clyde.Hipshire@dla.mil
Billie Edwards	March ARB, CA	Melinda.Miller.2@us.af.mil
Wilson Humphries	USAG Camp Parks, CA	Alexis.A.Rivera8.civ@mail.mil
Peter Giles	Kirtland AFB, NM	Curtis2.Ray@kirtland.af.mil
Christopher Lumpkin	Fort Belvoir, VA	Joyce.R.Peck.civ@mail.mil
Chris Burke	Fort Wainwright, AK	David.Halbrooks@us.army.mil
Christopher Matthews	Portsmouth NSY, NH	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Annie Sands	Altus AFB, OK	Nils.Brobjorg@altus.af.mil
Mark Davis	JB Langley-Ft Eustis, VA	Dale.E.Hankins.civ@mail.mil
Michael McClure	Niagara Falls, NY	Peter.Stein@us.af.mil
Russell Reynolds	Niagara Falls, NY	Peter.Stein@us.af.mil
Richard Jefferson	Kirtland AFB, NM	Curtis2.Ray@kirtland.af.mil
Thomas Trost	Wright Patterson AFB, OH	David.Warner@wpafb.af.mil
Eric Schafer	Eglin AFB, FL	Kevin.Remedies@eglin.af.mil
Jeff Noel	Ft Campbell, KY	Charlotte.M.Epps.civ@mail.mil
Stephen Garman	Fort Detrick, MD	Katherine.M.Szamier-Bennett.civ@mail.mil
Robert Meola	DES Susquehanna, PA	Henry.Hoffman@dla.mil
David Gill	NAS Fort Worth JRB	Allen.Almodovar@navy.mil
Melvin Wilson	NAS Fort Worth JRB	Allen.Almodovar@navy.mil

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Chester Lanehart

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Andrew Thompson



Jack Mitchell



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Retired Andrews AFB Firefighter Passes Away



Chester "Chet" A. Lanehart, Jr. age 74, passed away on 29 November 2013.

Mr. Lanehart served in the U.S. Air Force for four years and served as a civilian firefighter at Andrews Air Force Base, MD for 39 ½ years. He also served as President of the International Association of Firefighters Local 297 for more than 30 years. After retirement he was the National Vice President of the National Federation of Federal Employees for 4 years.

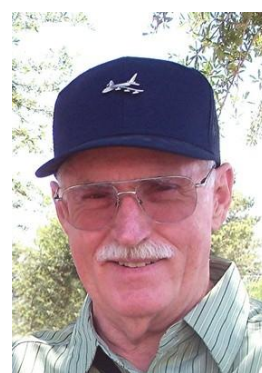
Retired Army Firefighter Succumbs to Cancer



Andrew R. Thompson, age 56, passed away Saturday, January 4, 2014. Andrew was born in Pontiac, MI on September 8, 1957. He enlisted in the US Navy after his high school graduation. After his military career he moved to New Baltimore, MI until moving to Lupton, MI in 2007.

Andrew retired from the US Army Garrison Detroit Arsenal in Warren, MI as Fire Captain. He also retired from the US Navy and Army Reserves. He enjoyed firefighting, fishing, singing, dancing, karaoke, and cooking

Retired USAF Fire Chief Answers Last Alarm



Jack L. Mitchell, 74, of Great Falls, MT died on January 6, 2014 at his residence.

Jack was born December 11, 1939, in Chambers, NE. He was the first born of eight children, and grew up in Wichita, KS. Jack attended All Saints Catholic School before joining the Air Force at the age of 17.

He proudly served in the Air Force for over 20 years, including a tour in Vietnam where he served as a paramedic on an HH43 "Pedro" helicopter crew. He received several medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross. After traveling with the Air Force, he settled in Great Falls, MT in 1974. He retired from active duty at Malmstrom AFB in 1977. Following his retirement, Jack was the fire chief at Malmstrom AFB, for over 22 years.

He loved camping with his family, Montana, and fishing, and was a talented artist.

On the Job - Mayport

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FPWG Corner



Sage Humor



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CPR Goes to the Dogs



Mary Maguire of the Naval Station Mayport MWR Youth And Child Development programs recently asked if there was a program to teach CPR for dogs.

The Mayport Fire Prevention Division and Army Public Health Command Staff Sergeant Bethzabe Lamarche of the Mayport Veterinary Clinic recently provided K-9 CPR training at the Mayport Youth Center.

NAVSTA Mayport fire inspectors and paramedics have been providing adult, child, and infant CPR classes to the population of Naval Station Mayport for the past three years. Last year over 300 certifications were issued.

K-9 CPR is an additional step in the process of further educating our sailors and their family members.

Electrical Concerns

Building Services, especially electrical, can be a big problem if not properly addressed.

NFPA 1, chapter 11, Electrical Fire Safety, provides some good guidance. Any approval of a new electrical install, or modification to an existing electrical system, should generally be performed by an electrical engineer or electrical worker utilizing NFPA 70, National Electrical Code, and other regulatory requirements.

However, in many instances the facility is occupied and the fire inspector must ensure that the existing electrical installation does not create an imminent hazard as part of their required periodic inspection. If inspectors focus their approach and use NFPA 1, they can validate that all electrical appliances, equipment, fixtures, and wiring are safe for use.

Wedding Advice

At a wedding, the DJ polled the guests to see who had been married longest.

The bride's grandparents took the honors.

The DJ asked the grandmother: "What advice would you give to the newly-married couple?"

She said: "The three most important words in a marriage are, 'You're probably right.'"

Everyone then looked at the grandfather as the DJ repeated the question.

He wisely answered: "She's probably right."

Back in the Day

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Tom Shand

Vietnam Era Pumpers

Story and photo by Tom W. Shand



During the decade of the 1960's and 70's most engine apparatus acquired by the Navy and Marine Corps Fire Services were built on commercial chassis. Chevrolet, GMC and International chassis were the most often utilized by several apparatus builders. Fire Trucks Incorporated located in Mount Clemmens, MI produced a number of pumpers for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps using an International model R-185 two door conventional cab chassis. Fire Trucks Incorporated started operations during 1957 and was the successor to the General Fire Truck Corporation that briefly operated as Fire Master until FTI was organized in 1960.

FTI was one of the principal suppliers of fire apparatus to all branches of the U.S. military until their closing in 1988, while they also built a wide range of commercial and custom chassis pumpers and aerial ladders for municipal departments. During that period there was little difference between Navy and Marine Corps structural apparatus as large orders were placed to supply both branches with commonly designed units.

Between 1963 and 1967 several orders were placed for pumpers using the International chassis which was built on a 175 inch wheelbase and powered by a gasoline engine rated at 285 horsepower with a five speed manual transmission. These units were equipped with Waterous two stage fire pumps rated at 750 gpm with a 200 gallon water tank. The apparatus had two body compartments on each side with a single center mounted rear compartment. During this period virtually every installation received one or more of these pumpers and many remained in their original configuration.

Several bases which had access to local shops or utilizing department resources modified their apparatus to meet local needs. The Ship Parts Control Center located in Mechanicsburg, PA were assigned two International FTI pumpers one 1967 model assigned as Engine 237 and a 1964 pumper that operated as Engine 337 as the installation was Company 37 in the Cumberland County Fire Service. Engine 237 was rebuilt with the removal of the hard suction hose with this space utilized for mounting of two smoke ejectors and SCBA units.

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USFA Info Exchange



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The top mounted booster reel was removed and replaced with a Harrisburg Blitz Box to hold four preconnected attack lines. This design was developed by the nearby City of Harrisburg Fire Department during the war years of the 1960's to provide their engine apparatus with multiple preconnected attack lines on units which only had one rear body discharge. By using the side pump panel 2.50 inch discharges with a gated wye it was possible to add four to six preconnected lines of different sizes and lengths using the Blitz Box concept. Engine 237 was assigned Navy property number 73-01934 and also carried a two inlet wagon pipe over the hose bed area.

These two units served the installation until the early 1980's when they were replaced with newer Spartan chassis custom pumpers built by FTI in the new U.S. Navy yellow livery. Several of these International FTI pumpers were rebuilt by outside contractors and the Navy Construction Battalion where crosslay hose beds, high side body compartments and enhanced warning lights were installed with some pumpers painted yellow and a few in a lime green color. While these pumpers were very basic when compared to today's structural apparatus they served the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Fire Departments well with many years of service.

Fire Prevention and Public Education Exchange

The Fire Prevention and Public Education Exchange serves as a centralized location for national, state and local fire prevention and life safety practices and public education materials that organizations may wish to share with other communities. The materials that are available here should serve to provoke and inspire new ideas and at the same time offer fire safety practitioners immediate access to proven, effective tools that can be put to use in their own communities right away.

Search the Exchange

We now have over 600 items and many are available for download. Contact information is provided to learn more or find a way to obtain an item not available for download.

Model programs

Innovative fire prevention programs used around the country that have measurable impact and outcome measures.



Featured programs

- *Effective community risk reduction through marketing and leveraging community resources* (PDF, 51 Kb)
School- and media-based safety education programs aimed at improving home evacuation behavior and preventing drowning.
- *Sound the alarm* (PDF, 55 Kb)
A pilot program for community outreach and education designed to reduce rural community fire hazards and other potential dangers in homes.

For more information visit; <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/library/catalog/exchange.shtml>

TSP Summary

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TSP Ends 2013 on a Positive Note

By Eric Katz, Government Executive

Nearly all the funds in the Thrift Savings Plan were in the black during the last month of 2013. Federal employees' retirement investments rounded out the year with four consecutive months of gains. The F Fund (fixed income) was the only one to finish the year in the red, dropping 0.56% in December and 1.68% during the last 12 months, according to the latest numbers.

The S Fund, which is invested in small and midsize companies and tracks the Dow Jones Wilshire 4500 Index, had the strongest December, gaining 2.94% during the month. It was also the top performer of the year, ending 2013 up 38.35%.

The C Fund, invested in common stocks, also had a good year, jumping 32.45% in 2013 and gaining 2.54% in December. The I Fund, which invests in international stocks, ended the year up 22.13%, increasing 1.51% last month.

The G Fund, invested in government securities, continued its modest growth in December, increasing 0.19% and gaining 1.89% during 2013.

The L Funds -- designed to move investors to less risky portfolios as they near retirement -- all yielded across-the-board positive returns in 2013. The L Income Fund for TSP participants who already have started withdrawing money gained 0.58% in December. L 2020 increased 1.25% last month; L 2030 gained 1.56%; L 2040 was up 1.77%; and L 2050 saw a 1.98% boost.

In 2013, L Income was up 6.97%; L 2020, 16.03%; L 2030, 20.16%; L 2040, 23.23%; and L 2050, 26.20%.

With the recent boom in the market, many TSP participants have shifted their investments away from the G Fund -- considered the plan's safest offering -- into equity funds. TSP officials, however, have said feds may be "chasing the market," a troubling sign not seen since the months leading up to the 2008 market crash.

	L Income	L 2020	L 2030	L 2040	L 2050	G Fund	F Fund	C Fund	S Fund	I Fund
Jan	1.10%	2.83%	3.56%	4.11%	4.63%	0.13%	(0.56%)	5.18%	6.96%	4.45%
Feb	0.27%	0.41%	0.49%	0.54%	0.56%	0.13%	0.51%	1.36%	1.00%	(0.99%)
Mar	0.73%	1.69%	2.12%	2.44%	2.71%	0.13%	0.07%	3.75%	4.69%	0.88%
Apr	0.67%	1.58%	1.91%	2.13%	2.41%	0.12%	1.02%	1.93%	0.65%	5.32%
May	0.19%	0.33%	0.43%	0.51%	0.53%	0.12%	(1.78%)	2.34%	2.71%	(3.12%)
Jun	(0.30%)	(0.94%)	(1.20%)	(1.40%)	(1.59%)	0.14%	(1.53%)	(1.34%)	(0.99%)	(2.77%)
Jul	1.21%	2.95%	3.72%	4.29%	4.83%	0.18%	0.13%	5.10%	6.88%	5.29%
Aug	(0.39%)	(1.22%)	(1.60%)	(1.87%)	(2.11%)	0.18%	(0.48%)	(2.89%)	(2.76%)	(1.31%)
Sep	1.12%	2.71%	3.40%	3.90%	4.42%	0.19%	0.99%	3.14%	5.89%	7.41%
Oct	1.01%	2.23%	2.75%	3.11%	3.47%	0.19%	0.89%	4.60%	2.94%	3.38%
Nov	0.58%	1.24%	1.54%	1.74%	1.93%	0.18%	(0.35%)	3.05%	2.49%	0.75%
Dec	0.58%	1.25%	1.56%	1.77%	1.98%	0.19%	(0.56%)	2.54%	2.94%	1.51%
Last 12 mo	6.97%	16.03%	20.16%	23.23%	26.20%	1.89%	(1.68%)	32.45%	38.35%	22.13%

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Wellness Corner

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Noise Induced Hearing Loss

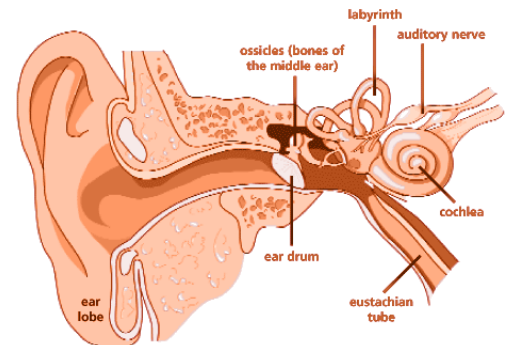
What is noise-induced hearing loss?

Every day, we experience sound in our environment, such as the sounds from television and radio, household appliances, and traffic. Normally, these sounds are at safe levels that don't damage our hearing. However, when we're exposed to harmful noise — sounds that are too loud or loud sounds that last a long time — sensitive structures in our inner ear can be damaged, causing noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL).

What causes NIHL?

NIHL can be caused by a one-time exposure to an intense "impulse" sound, such as an explosion, or by continuous exposure to loud sounds over an extended period of time, such as noise generated in a woodworking shop.

Sound is measured in units called decibels. Sounds of less than 75 decibels, even after long exposure, are unlikely to cause hearing loss. However, long or repeated exposure to sounds at or above 85 decibels can cause hearing loss. The louder the sound, the shorter the amount of time it takes for NIHL to happen.



Here are the average decibel ratings of some familiar things:

- The humming of a refrigerator — 45 decibels
- Normal conversation — 60 decibels
- Noise from heavy city traffic — 85 decibels
- Motorcycles — 95 decibels
- An MP3 player at maximum volume — 105 decibels
- Sirens — 120 decibels
- Firecrackers and firearms — 150 decibels

Although being aware of decibel levels is important to help us protect our hearing, how far away we are from the source and how long we are exposed to the sound are equally important. A good rule of thumb is to avoid noises that are too loud, too close, or last too long.

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Who is affected by NIHL?

People of all ages, including children, teens, young adults, and older people, can develop NIHL. Approximately 15 percent of Americans between the ages of 20 and 69 — or 26 million Americans — have hearing loss that may have been caused by exposure to loud sounds or noise at work or in leisure activities. Recreational activities that can put someone at risk for NIHL include target shooting and hunting, snowmobile riding, listening to MP3 players at high volume through earbuds or headphones, playing in a band, and attending loud concerts. Harmful noises at home may come from lawnmowers, leaf blowers, and shop or woodworking tools.

Wellness (Cont.)

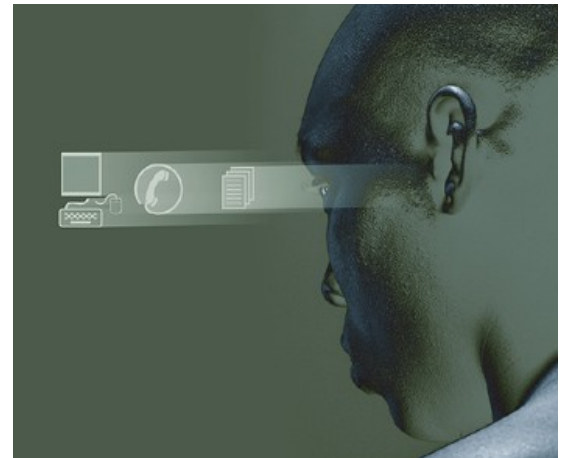
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How can noise damage our hearing?

To understand how loud noises can damage our hearing, we have to understand how we hear. Hearing depends on a series of events that change sound waves in the air into electrical signals. Our auditory nerve then carries these signals to the brain through a complex series of steps.

1. Sound waves enter the outer ear and travel through a narrow passageway called the ear canal, which leads to the eardrum.
2. The eardrum vibrates from the incoming sound waves and sends these vibrations to three tiny bones in the middle ear. These bones are called the malleus, incus, and stapes.
3. The bones in the middle ear couple the sound vibrations from the air to fluid vibrations in the cochlea of the inner ear, which is shaped like a snail and filled with fluid. An elastic partition runs from the beginning to the end of the cochlea, splitting it into an upper and lower part. This partition is called the basilar membrane because it serves as the base, or ground floor, on which key hearing structures sit.
4. Once the vibrations cause the fluid inside the cochlea to ripple, a traveling wave forms along the basilar membrane. Hair cells — sensory cells sitting on top of the basilar membrane — ride the wave.
5. As the hair cells move up and down, microscopic hair-like projections (known as stereocilia) that perch on top of the hair cells bump against an overlying structure and bend. Bending causes pore-like channels, which are at the tips of the stereocilia, to open up. When that happens, chemicals rush into the cell, creating an electrical signal.
6. The auditory nerve carries this electrical signal to the brain, which translates it into a “sound” that we recognize and understand.



Most NIHL is caused by the damage and eventual death of these hair cells. Unlike bird and amphibian hair cells, human hair cells don't grow back. They are gone for good.

What are the effects and symptoms of NIHL?

When we're exposed to loud noise over a long period of time, we gradually start to lose our hearing. Over time, the sounds we hear may become distorted or muffled, and it may be difficult to understand other people when they talk. If you have NIHL you might not even be aware of it, but it can be detected with a hearing test.

NIHL can also be caused by extremely loud bursts of sound, such as gunshots or explosions, which can rupture the eardrum or damage the bones in the middle ear. This kind of NIHL could result in immediate hearing loss that may be permanent.

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Loud noise exposure can also cause tinnitus — a ringing, buzzing, or roaring in the ears or head. Tinnitus may subside over time, but can sometimes be permanent, continuing constantly or occasionally throughout a person's life. Hearing loss and tinnitus can occur in one or both ears.

Sometimes exposure to impulse and continuous loud noise causes a temporary hearing loss, which disappears 16 to 48 hours later. Recent research suggests, however, that although the loss of hearing seems to disappear, there may be residual long-term damage to your hearing.

Can NIHL be prevented?

NIHL is the only type of hearing loss that is completely preventable. If you understand the hazards of noise and how to practice good hearing health, you can protect your hearing for life. Here's how:

- Know which noises can cause damage (those at or above 85 decibels).
- Wear earplugs or other protective devices when involved in a loud activity (activity-specific earplugs and earmuffs are available at hardware and sporting goods stores).
- Be alert to hazardous noises in the environment.
- Protect the ears of children who are too young to protect their own.
- Make family, friends, and colleagues aware of the hazards of noise.
- Have your hearing tested if you think you might have hearing loss.

Reprinted courtesy of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. For more information, please visit nidcd.nih.gov.

TSP Catch Up



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TSP Catch Up Contributions

Federal employees who participate in the Thrift Savings Plan and will turn age 50 during the year are eligible to make TSP catch-up contributions. "Catch-up contributions" are supplemental tax-deferred contributions that employees age 50 or older (or turning age 50 during the calendar year) can make to the TSP beyond the maximum amount they can contribute through regular contributions.

To be eligible to make catch-up contributions, you must be: age 50 or older anytime during the calendar year in which the catch-up contributions are being made (even if you become age 50 on December 31 of this year); currently employed and in Pay Status; making regular contributions to a civilian or uniformed services TSP account (or both) and/or an equivalent employer plan that will equal the maximum allowed by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). See <http://www.tsp.gov/> for the current year's limit.

You are not eligible to make catch-up contributions (or regular contributions) within 6 months of making a financial hardship withdrawal from the TSP, nor while in a "non-pay" status.

Please visit the TSP website <http://www.tsp.gov/> for additional information regarding catch-up contributions.

Tactically Speaking

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Structural Firefighting with Limited Staffing

By John M. Buckman III

What are your strategic priorities when arriving on the scene of a structure fire with two or three interior qualified firefighters? Offensive or defensive? When will your next company arrive? What is the risk to the firefighter? What do we gain if we go offensive? What happens to the fire spread if we put water on it from the exterior with limited staffing? What will the outcome be if we try to go offensive but can't sustain the attack and the fire continues to grow? How much fire could be extinguished with defensive operations? How much water is required and available?

These questions must be answered and a response formulated in about 15 seconds when arriving at the scene of the fire. Many articles and books on strategy and tactics usually include a staffing component of 12 to 16 firefighters for a single-family, one-story residential structure fire.

The first strategic consideration that needs to be put back into your incident commander (IC) toolbox is that fires can be suppressed by putting a sufficient volume of water on the fire quickly to absorb the British thermal units from wherever.

Strategic Deliberation

On arrival, answer the following questions:

- What's the structure type, what construction materials are used, how much of the structure is involved in fire, and what is the color of the smoke?
- Are occupants accounted for? Are people at home? If so, are they trapped? When lives are at risk, even with limited staffing, our strategic choices and tactical implementation will be different than if no lives are at risk.
- What are the neighboring exposures? Are power lines down? Does the fire appear to be spreading?
- Is your staffing adequate to implement the tactical choices? There is nothing wrong with choosing a defensive strategy because the on-scene staffing is not sufficient to engage in interior structural fire operations.

Defensive operations can save contents and valuables inside the structure if they are aggressive and flowing lots of water in the right places. There is nothing wrong with a defensive choice when the risk to our firefighters is too great or the ability to mount an aggressive interior fire attack is not possible because of limited staffing.

Scene Size-Up

Complete a 360° assessment before choosing a strategy. This is a critical step in fire suppression. Before you as the IC choose and begin to implement the tactics, you must have as much information as possible to make an intelligent decision, which will impact your life and the lives of the firefighters with you. Failure to gather adequate information BEFORE choosing a strategy will put firefighters at unnecessary risk.

Tactics (Cont.)

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So many times, ICs have told me that nothing could be done because of inadequate staffing. You can take many tactical actions to prepare for the arrival of additional staff. We are not going to just stand around with three firefighters on the scene. Planning is critical in firefighting, even more so with limited staffing because we are unable to assign tactical tasks simultaneously. With limited staffing, you may have to assign tactical tasks sequentially, while other critical tasks will have to wait for initial crews to accomplish the first task or for the arrival of additional staff.

Request adequate staffing resources early, and request more than you think you might need. In many areas where limited staffing impacts our strategic and tactical choices, the arrival of additional staffing may be 20 to 30 minutes away. If you delay requesting additional resources, you will severely limit your choices. The IC may delay the request for additional resources for many reasons, but none are valid. If the IC is dispatched to a structure fire knowing that staffing is fewer than 12 to 16 firefighters, he has a moral obligation to his firefighters to request additional resources at that moment. Don't let ego, competition with neighboring fire departments, or fear of chastisement stand in the way of requesting additional resources.

Offensive Strategy and Tactical Choices

First-due engine action items, with persons possibly inside the residence.

- Park close enough for the crosslay to reach throughout the home to the fire area but far enough from the home to avoid damage from a structural collapse or from the intense heat.
- Without additional staffing, adding more hose to the line will be difficult.
- Place apparatus into pump gear before exiting the cab, and set the wheel chocks.
- The driver completes a 360° survey before choosing a strategy and implementing tactical operations. The driver communicates the action plan through the communications system and requests a second alarm.
- If choosing an offensive strategy, pull a 1¾-inch preconnect and stretch it to the appropriate location. Charge the handline, set the proper pressure, and engage the automatic pump governor (you have 2,300 gallons of water).
- Prepare for entry by donning self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The driver will check for any immediate internal and external exposures. Personnel should also consider whether they are qualified when deciding whether the crews should go inside the structure. Consider the crew members' training, experience, and fitness levels, especially when there are only two or three firefighters on the scene.

First-due tanker parks on scene within one hose length of the engine (50 feet).

- Always remember in positioning the tanker that engines may have ladders that come out from the rear.
- Put the pump into gear.

Tactics (Cont.)

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- The driver dons appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (depending on the strategy chosen) and meets the engine driver.

Interior operations.

- Perform a primary search for the victim; locate the victim and remove him. The tactical considerations for a rescue include what action will best help to achieve the rescue objective (e.g., attack the fire, vent the building, or go for the victim; go through the front door or up a ladder).
- Sometimes, as Deputy Chief (Ret.) Vincent Dunn from the Fire Department of New York says, putting the fire out takes care of 90 percent of the problem. There is some truth to that, but it will not *always* be the first objective, so *think* about what action performed *first* best meets the rescue objective.
- Control the fire if it is within 15 feet of the exterior door; retreat to defensive operations if access to the fire requires penetration of more than 15 feet into the building.

Third-arriving person/crew.

- Advise the interior crew of exterior smoke/fire conditions. Sound the evacuation signal if necessary. Request a second alarm if it has not already been requested.
- Check the pump panel of the engine for proper pressure, and increase the pressure from the tanker in the supply line to the engine. Open the intake valve, monitor the residual pressure on the gauge, and refill the water tank on the engine as the water supply allows.
- Don PPE including SCBA for emergency rescue of firefighters.
- Control utilities.
- Set up positive-pressure ventilation.

Defensive Strategy and Tactical Choices

First-due engine action items for a defensive strategy.

If there is no life hazard or if the home is vacant, set up for an exterior attack. Through a front door or a window, check the structural integrity; be cautious and look out for any power lines connecting to the home. Some additional defensive firefighting operational considerations include the following:

- There is no savable life-i.e., anyone who is inside is dead because the building is fully involved or the smoke/fire conditions present are clearly not compatible with life.
- Fire involvement that is compromising structural components (e.g., rafters, joists, studs, beams, and so forth).
- The speed of the fire growth exceeds the resources available.
- Park close enough for the crosslay to reach throughout the home to the fire area but far enough from the home to avoid structural collapse and heat damage.

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Tactics (Cont.)

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John M. Buckman III

- If additional staffing does not arrive, adding more hose to the line will be difficult.
- Place the pump into gear before exiting the cab, and set the wheel chocks.
- The driver completes a 360° survey before choosing strategy and implementing tactical operations. Communicate the action plan through the communications system. Request a second alarm.
- If a defensive strategy is selected (choice A):
 - Pull a 1¾-inch preconnect and stretch to the appropriate location.
 - Protect exposures first, or use a window for applying streams.
 - Charge the handline, set the proper pressure, and engage the automatic pump governor (you have 2,300 gallons of water).
- If a defensive strategy is selected (choice B):
 - Deploy the blitz fire nozzle from the passenger side pump panel. Return to the pump and charge the line to blitz the fire. Set the pressure to 130 pounds per square inch for the preconnect line. This is not a 2½-inch handline since one person can't safely deploy a 2½-inch handline.
 - Protect the exposures or deliver water to the interior through a window or a door.

First-due tanker parks on scene within one hose length of the engine (50 feet).

Remember that the engines have ladders that come out from the rear. The driver stretches and connects the hose from the engine to the tanker, providing water supply to support a defensive attack. Charge the line from the tanker to the engine.

- Don the appropriate PPE and move toward a 1¾-inch handline to assist with water application, or
- Pull a second 1¾-inch handline for exterior operations using a window or a door.
- The driver of the tanker may assist in removing exterior components of the structure, such as siding or windows, to facilitate extinguishment from the exterior.
- If the engine selected the blitz fire option, make sure all the water supply connections are good.

Third-arriving person.

- Complete a scene assessment by doing a 360° walk around the entire structure.
- Request a second alarm if it has not already been requested.
- Control utilities.

Originally appeared in December 2013 issue of Fire Engineering magazine. Reprinted by permission of author.

JOHN M. BUCKMAN III is the director of firefighter training for the State of Indiana. He has served 41 years as a volunteer firefighter and 35 years as chief at the German Township (IN) Volunteer Fire Department. He was president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs in 2001-2002 and founder and chair of the Volunteer and Combination Officers Section from 1990-1998. He is a co-author of the 3rd Edition of Recruiting, Training and Maintaining Volunteer Firefighters, editor of the Chief Officer's Desk Reference, and co-author of Lessons Learned from Fire-Rescue Leaders.

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On the Job – Kings Bay

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Useless Knowledge



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Joint Trauma Life Support Training Exercise

By Paramedic/Captain Eric Pittman



Recently, NSB Kings Bay Fire and Emergency Services Department (KBFD) hosted the two day Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) course. The free course was sponsored by the National Association of Emergency Medical Services Professionals.

EMS providers from KBFD, Naval Branch Health Clinic Kings Bay, Marine Corps Security Force

Battalion, as well as mutual aid partners from Camden County GA EMS participated. The course consisted of two days of intense advanced medical training designed to prepare and test EMS provider advance treatment skills. Students received several hours of classroom instruction that culminated with a realistic course evaluation exercise. During the exercise, professional role players dramatically simulated traumatic injury scenarios; students were required to apply their new found skills and answer a battery of “what if” question from instructors. Paramedic/Captain Steven Land commented “the training was definitely intense and stressful at times, but it’s beneficial to be placed under stress in training environment, it helps to prepare you for the real event”.

The training was a huge success; everyone walked away smarter and better prepared to contend with real life pre-hospital trauma emergencies. The course complimented Kings Bay’s continuous efforts to provide the Navy’s best emergency medical services inside and outside the fence line.

Thanks and appreciation go out to course coordinators and instructors from Southeast Regional EMS, Georgia Association of EMS, Lanier County EMS, Air-Evac 86, and Air-Evac 95 team members for making this event possible.

What Song is This From?

Back by tepid demand, a mindless distraction that illustrates the diversity of my personal music library. On occasion, I will provide a song lyric from a selection currently on my iPad and the challenge to you is to tell me what song and artist the lyric comes from. Google and other search engines are discouraged but I don’t really know why.

Okay, here we go, an easy one to get started back again. Name the song and artist that includes this lyric;

**I just can't beat that old dog eat dog
The rats keep winnin' the rat race**

E-mail your answer to ricky.brockman@navy.mil

Keep It Simple

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Three Things

By: Tom Lyszkowski, Station Chief, First Coast Navy Fire and Emergency Services

We've all heard the acronym K.I.S. – keep it simple. That's how I like to keep things. It can be applied to most anything and it will make things better. I want to share one way I apply this principle and how it can help us all be better Firefighters/EMTs/Paramedics/Professional Emergency Responders. Here is my philosophy: I believe, that in order to be a good firefighter, there are three things that we must do every shift: 1) Maintain your equipment, 2) Maintain your mind and 3) Maintain your body. Sound too simple? It is, but it works. Let's take a look at each.

Maintain your equipment. - If we show up on scene and our equipment does not work the job doesn't get done.

Maintain your mind. (Training) - If we show up on scene and we don't know what to do...i.e. how to operate equipment, which strategies to use, where utility shuts off are...etc. the job doesn't get done.

Maintain your body. (Physical Fitness and Nutrition) - If we show up on scene and we physically can't use a saw or work in full PPE or pick up a patient the job doesn't get done.

If any one of these pieces is missing there is a strong possibility the emergency, any emergency, will not go as smoothly as it should.

To be better doesn't mean we have to do marathon training sessions or shift after shift of drills. It doesn't mean running for miles, power lifting or starving yourself. It does mean ensuring you do each of these things every shift. Take out a piece of equipment you haven't used in a while and play around with it. Instead of watching another rerun on TV, read a professional magazine. Instead of playing another game on the computer just get up, get in the gym and do anything. Keep improving.

We are not trying for perfection, just a little bit better than yesterday.

Do these three things every shift and you'll be alright.

IT Humor



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Printing Yellow

I had been doing Tech Support for Hewlett-Packard's DeskJet division for about a month when I had a customer call with a problem I just couldn't solve. She could not print yellow. All the other colors would print fine, which truly baffled me because the only true colors are cyan, magenta, and yellow.

For instance, green is a combination of cyan and yellow, but green printed fine. Every color of the rainbow printed fine except for yellow. I had the customer change ink cartridges. I had the customer delete and reinstall the drivers. Nothing worked. I asked my coworkers for help; they offered no new ideas.

After over two hours of troubleshooting, I was about to tell the customer to send the printer in to us for repair when she asked quietly, "Should I try printing on a piece of white paper instead of this yellow paper?"

Pay Issues

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Review Your Leave and Earnings Statement

Department of Navy Civilian benefits Center Bulletin 2014-2

This is to remind you of the Department of the Navy policy that you are responsible for reviewing your biweekly Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) to ensure proper deductions have been withheld and to avoid errors for which you could be indebted. It is especially important to review the LES you receive on 31 January 2014 since it will reflect any election you made during the Federal Benefits Open Season.

Bulletin Highlights

- Review your LES each pay period to be sure proper deductions have been withheld.
- Benefits open season elections are reflected in the pay check you receive on 31 January; not in the one you receive on 17 January.
- A Self and Family health insurance enrollment does not automatically change to a Self Only enrollment when you no longer have family members eligible for coverage.
- Option C – Family life insurance enrollment does not automatically terminate when you no longer have family members eligible for coverage.

Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB)

Health insurance premiums are listed on your LES as “FEHB”. Your FEHB enrollment code will be listed next to the premium under the “Code” column. If you are enrolled in FEHB, verify the amount withheld.

- A list of 2014 FEHB premiums is available at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/rates/index.asp>.
- If you were enrolled in 2013 in an FEHB plan that is not participating in 2014, you were required to make an open season election to continue FEHB coverage. If you failed to make an election, you are no longer enrolled in FEHB and there will be no deduction for FEHB on your LES.
- If you made an open season election, the FEHB deduction will be the 2014 premium for your new health insurance plan.
- If you did not make an open season election, the deduction will be the 2014 premium for your current health insurance plan.

A reminder that a Self and Family FEHB enrollment does not automatically change to a Self Only enrollment when you no longer have family members (a spouse or children under age 26) eligible for coverage.

- Review the last digit of your FEHB enrollment code. If it is 2 or 5, you are enrolled in a Self and Family plan (Examples: 105, 112, 315, 342, 455, LP2, etc).
- If you are enrolled in a Self and Family plan and have no eligible family members call the Benefits Line.

Pay (Cont.)

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Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI)

If you elected FEGLI, verify that the options you elected match the deductions on your LES.

- Basic insurance premiums are listed on your LES as "FEGLI". Your FEGLI enrollment code will be listed next to the premium under "Code". This enrollment code should match Block 27 of your most recent SF 50, Notification of Personnel Action. You pay \$0.15 biweekly for each \$1,000 of your Basic Insurance Amount.
- Optional insurance premiums are listed separately on your LES as "FEGLI OPTNL". Under "Code" the options will be identified as "A" for Standard, "B" for Additional or "C" for Family.

The premiums for optional insurance are based on your age. A list of premiums for each option is available at http://opm.gov/insure/life/rates/em_rates.asp. Note that at age 55 the premiums increase substantially.

Option C – Family enrollment does not automatically terminate when you no longer have family members (a spouse or children under age 22) eligible for coverage. If you have deductions for Option C and have no eligible family members call the Benefits Line.

- The Office of Personnel Management calculator can help you determine the cost and value of your life insurance. The calculator is available at <http://www.opm.gov/calculator/worksheet.asp>.

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)

If you elected to contribute to TSP, verify the amount withheld.

- Regular TSP contributions are listed on your LES as "TSP Savings". If your contributions are based on a percentage of your salary, the percentage is listed in Block 22. Your regular TSP election continues from year to year unless you make a change.
- TSP catch-up contributions are listed on your LES as "TSP CUC". Your 2013 TSP catch-up election does not continue in 2014; you must make a new election. You can make the catch-up election at any time.
- Additional information about participating in TSP during calendar year 2014 is available in Benefits Bulletin 2013-8. The bulletin is available at <http://www.public.navy.mil/donhr/Benefits/resources/Pages/Default.aspx>.

Federal Flexible Spending Account Program (FSAFEDS)

If you made an open season election to contribute to FSAFEDS in 2014, verify that the biweekly amount you elected has been withheld.

- Healthcare FSAFEDS contributions are listed on your LES as "FSA-HC".
- Dependent Care FSAFEDS contributions are listed on your LES as "FSA-DC".

Pay (Cont.)

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- If you have questions, call FSAFEDS at 877-372-3337, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time. The TTY number is 800-952-0450.

Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)

Dental insurance premiums are listed on your LES as “Dental” and vision insurance premiums are listed as “Vision”. If you are enrolled in FEDVIP, verify the amount withheld.

- A list of 2014 dental premiums is available at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/dental/rates/index.asp> and 2014 vision premiums at <http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/dental-vision/plan-information/premiums/visionpremium.pdf>.
- If you made an open season election, verify that deductions are withheld for the new plan.
- If you did not make an open season election, the deduction will reflect the 2014 premium for your current plan.
- If you have questions about FEDVIP, call BENEFEDS at 877-888-3337, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time. The TTY number is 877-889-5680.

Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)

Long term care insurance premiums are listed on your LES as “Long Term Care”. If you are enrolled in FLTCIP, verify the amount withheld.

If you have questions about FLTCIP, contact Long Term Care Partners at 800-582-3337, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Eastern Time, except on federal holidays. The TTY number is 800-843-3557.

Social Security Benefits

An important part of your financial planning is whether you will be eligible to receive benefits from the Social Security Administration. You can request a Social Security Statement online at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount/>.

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Additional Information

Additional information about your LES is available at <http://www.dfas.mil/dfas/civilianemployees/understandingyourcivilianpay/LES.html>.

If you have questions about FEHB, FEGLI, TSP or retirement, call the Benefits Line at 888-320-2917, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m., Eastern Time, except on federal holidays. The TTY number is 866-359-5277.

You may also email your questions to navybenefits@navy.mil. You must include your full name, pay plan, grade, contact telephone number and the best time to call you but please do not include Privacy Act Information such as date of birth or Social Security number.

SA Matters!

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Are You Assuming Risk Or Creating Risk?

By Rich Gasaway, PhD.

I recently read an article where the author was taking exception to the risk management maxim: 'We will risk a lot to save a lot and risk little to save little.' There are several variations on this maxim, including: 'Great risks will be taken to save savable lives; Moderate risks will be taken to save savable property; and, No risk will be taken to save what is unsavable.' Risk management is an essential component to the development and maintenance of strong situational awareness. The premise of the author was firefighting is, by its nature, risky and no catchy phrase is going to make it safer. I agree. In fact, I wholeheartedly agree. But there is fundamentally a huge difference between assuming the risk and creating the risk. Here's what I mean...

A video I recently watched of a structure fire demonstrates the point. First, let me say (as I often do) I am not judging the fire department operating at this emergency scene. There are plenty of pundits out there who rant from their high perches of judgment, often in non-productive and disrespectful ways. Tuck this lesson away and recall it often: When we're judging, we cannot be learning. I hope those who visit my site are here to learn, not to pass judgment.

In the video, the firefighters are performing vertical ventilation at a residential dwelling fire. The fire conditions are significant. It's a little difficult to assess the building construction type but I think it is fair to surmise the structure is well on its way to losing its battle against gravity as a result of the fire weakening the components of construction.

Let's apply the maxim: We will risk a lot to save a lot. Will the risk these firefighters took to create a ventilation hole be rewarded with a worthwhile outcome?

Firefighting is risky. Every firefighter knows that. But there is a big difference between assuming the risk of a fire and creating the risk by performing tasks in ways that are unsafe or inconsistent with best practices and then hiding behind the testosterone-laden mantra: We're firefighters. That's what we do!



I am a firefighter too. Well, at least I was one... for 30+ years. But I also had other obligations (roles) that were important to me. I was a husband, a dad, a son, and a brother (both in the biblical and fraternal sense). Maybe I was just a selfish person, but I always did everything in my power to make sure I did not create risk through my behaviors or orders and everyone who was under my command returned home to fulfill their non-firefighter obligations.

It takes a real hero to stand up for safety, especially if surrounded by others who are consumed by their self-anointed hero status. Thank you, but I'd rather be a hero to my grandson than to my widow.

SA Matters! (Cont.)

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Rich Gasaway, PhD.

Nutrition Tips



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SOLUTION

1. Acknowledge the risks inherent in the work we do.
2. Learn everything possible about how firefighters get hurt and killed by reading near-miss and line-of-duty death reports.
3. Discuss how to manage risk by using best practices.
4. Ensure the risks being taken are worth the potential reward.
5. Train on SOMETHING every day. The way to ensure peak performance is to make incremental improvements over time.
6. Learn from the outcomes. Even when the outcomes are good, ask “Did our actions make sense? What were the potential risks? What was the reward we were trying to accomplish?”

Dr. Gasaway is a fire service professional with 33 years experience, including 22 years as a chief officer and incident commander. He is considered to be one of the nation's leading authorities on public safety decision making and situational awareness in high-stress, high consequence environments. His programs are noted for providing strong content that are immediately usable by first responders. If there is anything I can do to help improve your situational awareness or decision making under stress, please contact me at: Rich@RichGasaway.com

Baked Eggs with Mushrooms and Spinach

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 6 (1-oz) slices whole-grain bread | Salt and freshly ground black pepper |
| Canola oil cooking spray | 6 cups baby spinach leaves, loosely packed |
| 1 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil | 6 large eggs |
| 1 medium onion, chopped | 1/2 cup unsweetened almond milk or low-fat milk |
| 2 cups sliced mushrooms | 6 green onions, chopped, including green stems |
| 1 Tbsp. chopped parsley or chives | 1/2 cup reduced-fat cheddar |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In toaster, lightly toast bread. Coat a 9x13-inch baking pan with cooking spray. Arrange toast in flat layer without overlapping.

In large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add onion and sauté 5 minutes. Add green onion and sauté 3 minutes.

Add mushrooms and cook until they begin to brown, about 2-3 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Cook another 4 minutes. Stir in spinach and let wilt, about 2-3 minutes.

Evenly spread mushroom and spinach mixture over toast.

Crack an egg over each piece of toast. Lightly season with salt and pepper, to taste. Pour milk over eggs and sprinkle with cheese.

Bake until egg whites are set, about 28-30 minutes. Garnish with parsley or chives. Cut into 6 sections and serve hot.

Makes 6 servings.

Nutritional values per serving: 209 calories, 9 g total fat, 3 g saturated fat, 309 mg sodium, 19 g carbohydrate (3.5 g dietary fiber), 13.5 g protein

Reprinted courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research. For more information, please visit aicr.org.

ESAMS Summary

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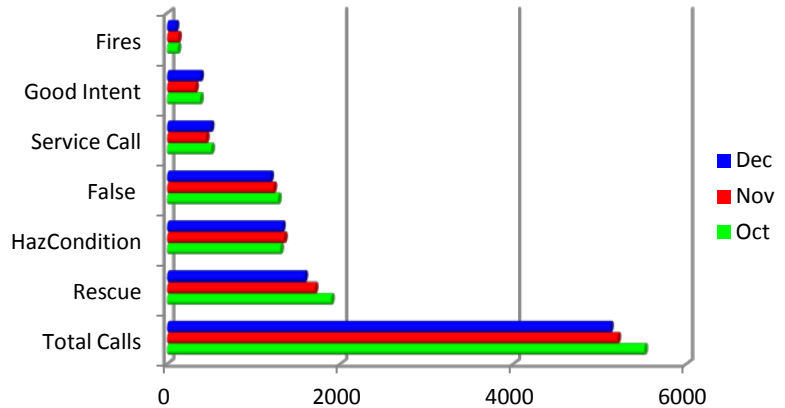
ESAMS Corner

By Clarence Settle, ESAMS Fire Technical Support

December 2013 Statistics

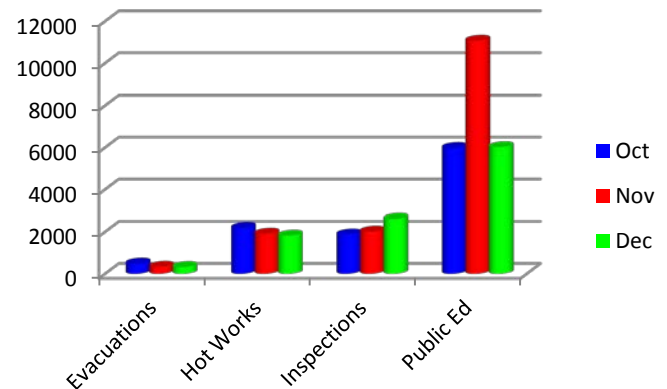
Operations

Total Incidents – 5,120
Fires – 99
Rescue & EMS – 1,587
Hazardous – 1,329
Service Call – 505
Good Intent – 384
False Alarm – 1,193



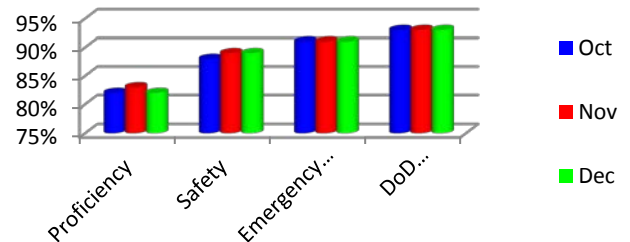
Prevention

Fire Inspections Completed – 2,609
Hot Work Permits Issued – 1,824
Building Evacuation Drills – 325
Public Education Contacts – 6,019



Training

Emergency Management - 91%
Safety Training – 89%
Proficiency, Skills, & Practice – 82%
DoD Certification – 93%



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F&ES On Duty Mishaps Report

Mishaps Reported – 11
Total Lost Work Days – 2

ESAMS Summary

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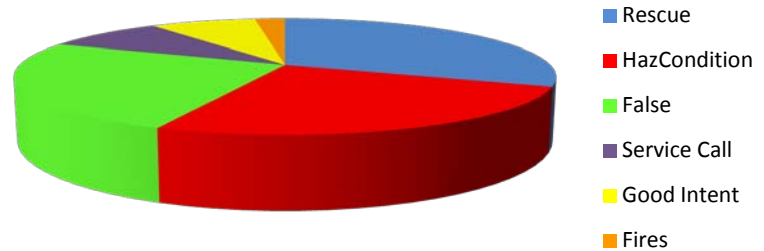
ESAMS Corner

By Clarence Settle, ESAMS Fire Technical Support

2013 Statistics

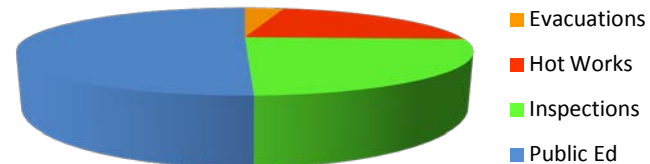
Operations

Total Incidents – 69,990
Rescue & EMS – 22,000
Hazardous – 18,282
False Alarm – 17,313
Service Call – 5,671
Good Intent – 4,835
Fires – 1,603



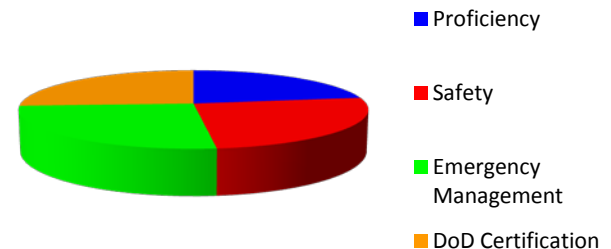
Prevention

Building Evacuation Drills – 5,571
Hot Work Permits Issued – 25,084
Fire Inspections Completed – 34,223
Public Education Contacts – 73,725



Training

Proficiency, Skills, & Practice – 82%
Emergency Management - 91%
Safety Training – 88%
DoD Certification – 92%



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F&ES On Duty Mishaps Report

Mishaps Reported – 236
Total Lost Work Days – 860

F&ES POCs

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Strangely enough, I would turn to the Almighty, and say, "If you allow me to live just a few years in the second half of the twentieth century, I will be happy." Now that's a strange statement to make, because the world is all messed up. The nation is sick. Trouble is in the land. Confusion all around. That's a strange statement. But I know, somehow, that only when it is dark enough, can you see the stars.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

