

OFFICE of the STATE FIRE MARSHAL

May 2010 Report

OSFM Monthly Report

- Message from Tonya L. Hoover
- Code Development & Analysis
- Fire and Life Safety Division
- Pipeline Safety Division
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OSFM Headquarters:
1131 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/>



*Acting State Fire Marshal
Tonya L. Hoover*

May Message from the Chief:

California is a State known for its diversity, attractive weather and beautiful landscapes. These are the primary reasons people come to visit and live in this great State. The landscape in particular brings much thought this time of the year as there is a large portion within our borders that is considered wildland. It's the beauty of the landscape that also draws more and more of the state's nearly 37 million residents to move into or near these wildland areas. The increased population into the wildland areas, as well as climate change and prolonged drought, are contributing to wildfires and statistics indicate nearly half of the largest wildfires in California history have occurred within the last 4 years.

The week of May 2-8 is proclaimed as "Wildfire Awareness Week" and initiates California's fire services heightened outreach campaign to alert citizens and visitors on preparing for the event of a wildfire. This year's slogan is "Wildfire is coming. Is your home ready?" and is part of the new, statewide "Ready, Set, Go!" campaign. This public education and outreach message focuses on preparing properties and citizens in advance of a wildfire by focusing on defensible space and hardening structures using fire-resistant building materials, preparing a family disaster plan and being prepared to evacuate early. This comprehensive message brings all the aspects of fire prevention, operations and training together for a holistic approach to wildfire. CAL FIRE's new website has been launched; giving Californians critical preparedness information for the heightened fire months. The website, www.ReadyForWildfire.org, will discuss "Ready, Set, Go!" defensible space and "hardening" homes.

Wildfire in California is simply a matter of "when" not "if" and every year the California fire service prepares, implements and evaluates its emergency response to wildfires. Fighting these fires requires a large number of trained personnel and equipment to mitigate the destruction of property, the environment and save lives. With over 94 percent of all wildfires caused by humans, either accidentally or intentionally, the public has a critical role in helping the fire service prevent wildfires.

I encourage all to focus on connecting with our communities on the important message of wildfire preparedness and sharing in the responsibility to protect our State. Let us reach out to our community groups and take an active role in our Fire Safe Councils. Let us work towards helping our communities be recognized as "firewise" and let us ask ourselves and our communities, "Wildfire is coming. Is your home ready?" It's all part of the wildfire preparedness picture, "Ready, Set, Go!"

Be Safe!

Tonya L. Hoover
Acting State Fire Marshal

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Code Development & Analysis Division

On August 27, 2009 the Office of the State Fire Marshal convened representatives from various disciplines to provide information and suggested training recommendations to the State Fire Marshal. The task force developed a communications strategy to educate stakeholders on best practices based on recommendations of the phase I (Water Purveyors) and phase II (Installation) reports. This strategy includes additional resources available for training in the permit, design and installation of residential fire sprinklers. The specific purpose of this training program ("Awareness Level Course" on residential fire sprinklers and the 2010 California Residential Code) is to recognize that the requirements for residential fire sprinklers are designed to be a "life safety system" to prevent flash over and allow for the evacuation or rescue from fire. This is in preparation for a statewide residential fire sprinkler requirement for new construction, scheduled for January 1, 2011 in the 2010 California Residential Code.

Key stakeholders include members of the California Fire Service, Building Industry, Building Officials, Manufactured Housing Association, Public Health Officials, State agencies, National Fire Protection Association, National Fire Sprinkler Association, League of California Cities and design professionals.

Target Audience for Training:

- Fire Department/Fire Prevention Personnel (Plan Review, and Inspections)
- Building Department Personnel (Plan Review, and Inspections)
- Water Purveyors (Plan Review, and Inspections)
- Home Builders (BIA Chapters)/Contractors (Plan Preparation, Submittals, and Installation)
- Contractors: General Building Contractors [B], Fire Protection Contractor [C-16]

The Office of the State Fire Marshal in conjunction with Cal Chiefs Fire Prevention Officers Section, Building Officials and other stakeholders has tentatively scheduled dates and general locations for the Awareness Level Course. Additional information will follow over the coming weeks and months.

June 1 Roseville
June 2 Davis

June 16 Humboldt Co.
June 17 Lassen Co.

July 7 San Diego
July 8 Riverside Co.

July 21 Santa Rosa
July 22 Contra Costa Co.

Aug 4 San Jose
Aug 5 Monterey



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Aug 18 Orange Co.
Aug 19 Los Angeles

Sep 1 Butte Co./Chico
Sep 2 El Dorado Co.

Sep 15 San Luis Obispo Co.
Sep 16 Santa Barbara

Sep 28 Fresno
Sep 29 Modesto

Oct 6 Palm Springs

Oct 20 North area
Oct 21 North area

Nov 2 Central/South area
Nov 3 Central/South area
Nov 4 Central/South area



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Fire and Life Safety Division

There has been some confusion regarding the Standard 850 Fire Safety Inspection Request form from the California Department of Social Services requesting a fire clearance for foster care homes that house 6 or fewer children. Health and Safety Code Section 13143 specifically exempts any requirements other than those that are applicable to any other single family dwelling when providing care or supervision of "Ambulatory" children. When a request for an 850 Fire Clearance from the Department of Social Services is received for care and supervision of "Non-Ambulatory" children then all provisions contained in the 2007 CBC Section 425 for Group R-3.1 occupancies shall be required. Furthermore, requirements contained in the Health and Safety Code section 13235, regarding pre-inspection and fire clearance requirements for "Non-Ambulatory" children will then be applicable.

Pipeline Safety Division

Third party damages to underground pipelines cause disruption in public services, pollute the environment, and cost millions of dollars annually in damages, resulting in serious injuries and in some cases, loss of life.

In a lot of cases the excavator does not know the existence of pipelines in the area being excavated. Federal law and California law requires pipeline operators and utilities to mark their pipelines. Pipeline markers need to be posted at public road crossings, at each railroad crossing, and in sufficient number along the remainder of each buried line so that its location is accurately known



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(CFR Part 195.410(a) (1)). Pipeline markers do not necessarily mean that the pipeline is directly beneath the marker -only that it is nearby. The regulation also requires that "the marker must state at least the following on a background of sharply contrasting color: The word "Warning," "Caution," or "Danger" followed by the words "Petroleum (or the name of the hazardous liquid transported) Pipeline" or "Carbon Dioxide Pipeline" all of which, except for markers in heavily urban areas, must be in letters at least 1 inch high with an appropriate stroke of ¼". In addition, the marker must have the name of the operator and a telephone number (including the area code) where the operator can be reached at all times.

The State Fire Marshal's Pipeline Safety Division urges all first responders that are responding to a pipeline release to look up and down the general area for these line markers.

The Manufacturing of Steel Pipelines

Federal pipeline safety regulations require that pipelines used to transport hazardous liquids must be constructed of carbon steel and be properly coated. In order to obtain a complete understanding of steel pipelines, it is necessary to learn the manufacturing process of these steel pipelines and how these pipelines have a protective coating applied to them. On March 24, 2010, Division Chief Robert Gorham, Supervising Pipeline Safety Engineer Chuck Mac Donald and Pipeline Safety Engineers Doug Allen, Adriana Crasnean, Tommy Flores, Dan Le, Xuan Nguyen and Tom Williams visited the California Steel Industry (CSI) steel mill and the Bredero-Shaw coating facility, both located in Fontana, CA.

The manufacturing process starts with bulk deliveries of 20–30 tons of raw steel slabs that are imported from Brazil, Japan, Mexico and other countries by cargo ships. The slabs are up to 36" long, 9" thick and 30" to 74" wide. These steel slabs are then loaded on rail cars and shipped to the 450-acre steel mill in Fontana. (Side note: Kaiser Steel selected Fontana as the site of the steel mill to be out of range of the Japanese submarine missiles during WWII). These slabs are thoroughly inspected for quality control purposes. The slabs have different chemical properties based on what their ultimate use will be. Each is entered into a fully computerized and automated system. The slab is then rolled into a heat furnace for up to three hours of 2,400° F. It is then rolled out of the furnace as a hot almost molten slab to have a 1,400 PSI water jet spray put on it to remove any surface oxide scale. The steel is then run through six 7500 HP roughing mills where it is flattened into a stock of elongated sheet steel and then finally rolled into a coil. "Edgers" along the path keep the width to what is required. The process from hot slab to coiling takes about two to three minutes.

The finished coil stock can then go to the pipe mill to be manufactured into pipes used for the transmission of oil products or natural gas. The coiled stock is unraveled into a flat stock and run through an automated process that measures, cuts, forms and welds the pipe. CSI is the only active Electric Resistance Weld (ERW) pipe mill on the west coast. CSI can make pipe sizes from 4.5" to 16" diameter pipe and makes approximately 250,000 tons per year. CSI welcomes visitors for a tour of their facility.

Immediately next door to CSI is Bredero-Shaw. Bredero-Shaw can apply a wide range

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of different coatings (both internal and external coatings) including Fusion Bonded Epoxy, Pritec, 3-layer Polyethylene and 3-layer Polypropylene coating on pipes up to 42" in diameter. Each individual length of pipe is preheated; the mill scale is removed, inspected, pretreated and sprayed with the appropriate coating as it rotates through a coating booth. After drying, a section sample is taken and analyzed for quality control analysis before being sent to the end user. Bredero-Shaw also welcomes tours of their facility.

Fire Plan Division

On May 4, 2010, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) moved to post State Responsibility Area (SRA) Regulation changes for 45-day public comment. These changes will streamline the SRA Review process and enable CAL FIRE to readily capture ownership changes that effect SRA classification. CAL FIRE Units have completed the scheduled five year review of SRA; the changes will be submitted to the Director and Board in June-July of 2010.

After incorporation of public comment, the final draft of the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan was presented to the Resource Protection Committee on May 4th, and will be forwarded to the Board for approval in June. This vision of the Strategic Fire Plan is, "A natural environment that is more resilient and man-made assets which are more resistant to the occurrence and effects of wildland fire through local, state, federal and private partnerships." The Strategic Fire Plan can be viewed at, http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/board_committees/resource_protection_committee/current_projects/.



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<http://sft.fire.ca.gov>

State Fire Training

State Fire Training ID Cards and InspiroScan Forms

State Fire Training is now issuing "State Fire Training ID" cards (SFT ID) in an effort to discontinue the requirement for students to provide Social Security Numbers (SSN) on all score sheets.

The process for issuing SFT ID cards takes place when a CFSTES course is processed by State Fire Training. The student will receive a document that contains two removable copies of the new SFT ID card. This card provides the student with an SFT ID number which should be used in place of the students' SSN when identifying themselves on all new InspiroScan (Black and White) scoring sheets. The new InspiroScan score sheet contains fields for both the students' SFT ID number and their Social Security number SSN. When using the new InspiroScan form, the student may enter either their SFT ID number or their SSN.

Students must provide their SSN under the following circumstances:

- If they are provided with an old scoring sheet (Scantron – color)
- If the student forgets to take their card to their next SFT class
- If this is the first CFSTES course they are attending

It is very important that the student retain these cards for their records. A fee will be assessed for the replacement of SFT ID Cards, and due to student security, we will not provide a duplicate SFT ID number over the phone or via e-mail. We urge the student to keep track of their issued card and to utilize the option of providing their SFT ID number when using all new InspiroScan forms.

Please note that our system is voluntary and we do not require that students provide Social Security Numbers. If a student chooses not to provide a SSN or SFT ID Number, the following will occur:

- For California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) courses, the student will not receive a score letter nor will they receive a course completion certificate and there will be no computerized record of the student's attendance on file with SFT.
- For Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) classes, the instructor will issue a completion certification at the end of the class and there will be no computerized record of the student's attendance on file with State Fire Training.
- For both (CFSTES and FSTEP), State Fire Training will not be able to issue future duplicate or replacement certificates.

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If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Mary.Wilshire@fire.ca.gov or any staff person in State Fire Training for additional clarification.

Rescue Systems Instructor Update Classes

The last of the Rescue Systems Instructor Update classes were delivered by the Rescue Systems Cadre on May 4th and 5th at the Los Angeles Fire Department, Station 88 training facility in Sherman Oaks. This gave the cadre one more opportunity to review the site requirements, task books, and instructor qualifications.



The Cadre recognized that many fire departments are struggling to maintain their training budgets and have reviewed the site requirements to lessen the financial impact of delivering a Rescue Systems 1 and/or Rescue Systems 2 class. An adjustment has been made to the amount of materials that need to be ordered to deliver training. The updated State Fire Training documents are available on our web site at: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/rescuesystems.php>.

If you have any questions regarding the Rescue Systems training program please contact Rodney.Slaughter@fire.ca.gov.

Fire Investigation 1A Pilot Scheduled

Task Force Leader, Joe Konefal, delivered the new Fire Investigation 1A course in Sacramento on April 19-23, 2010.

Course Design

Fire Investigation 1A satisfies portions of the NFPA 1033 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator as well as NFPA 1021 command standards for Fire Officer I, II, and III. The course is one of the educational requirements for State Fire Training's certified Fire Officer and Fire Investigator.

Fire Investigation 1A: Fire Origin and Cause Determination, is a 40-hour course. Each topic within the course covers a different aspect this level of fire investigation.

Required Textbooks

Two manuals are required for this course. [NFPA 921: Guide to Fire & Explosion Investigations](#), 2008 Edition provides the student with a systematic procedure and methodology to effectively conduct a fire and/or explosion investigation. Fire and explosion investigators developed this guide and underwent extensive peer review. [Fire Investigation 1A Student Supplement](#) published by SFT contains information that is

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necessary for a complete understanding of the topic that is not found in the NFPA 921: Guide to Fire & Explosion Investigations.

INVESTIGATION 1A CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DAY	TOPIC	TITLE	TIME	ACTIVITY	EVALUATION
Day 1	1	Orientation and Administration	1:00		
	2	The Role of the Fire Investigator	1:00	2-1	
	3	Scientific Method	1:00		
	4	Fire Development for the Investigator	2:00		
	5	Legal Aspects of Fire Investigation	3:00	5-1	
Day 1 Total			8:00		
Day 2			1:00		Formative Test 1
	6	Expert Testimony	1:00	6-1	
	7	Arson Law	1:00	7-1	
	8	Fire Scene Documentation	1:00	8-1	
	9	Point of Origin Determination	4:00	9-1	
Day 2 Total			8:00		
Day 3			1:00		Formative Test 2
	10	Ignition	2:00		
	11	Accidental Ignition Sources	3:00		
	12	Electrical Ignition Sources	2:00		
Day 3 Total			8:00		
Day 4			1:00		Formative Test 3
	13	Incendiary Fire Indicators	3:00	13-1	
	14	Incendiary Devices	2:00		
	15	Structure Fire Investigation	2:00		
Day 4 Total			8:00		
Day 5	16	Vehicle Fire Investigation	2:00		
	17	Wildland Fire Investigation	2:30	17-1	
	18	Explosion Investigation	2:30		
			1:00		Summative Test
Day 5 Total			8:00		
Course Total			40:00		

Command 1A and 1B Curriculum Development Cadre Appointed

SFT began work on the new Command 1A: Command Operations for the Company Officer on March 16, 2010 in Sacramento. Thank you for the many applications we received. The following cadre members were selected.

SFT Project Leaders
Bill Vandevort and Alicia Hamilton

Cadre Members
Mike Ayers, Tiburon Fire Protection District
Mark Doliva, Los Angeles County Fire Department

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Maurice Johnson, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Steve Horner, Santa Ana Fire Department
Jason Ralls, Clovis Fire Department
Mike Ridley (Retired)
Kevin Spellman, San Rafael Fire Department
John Weber, Manhattan Beach Fire Department

The cadre will work on the new Command 1A course through June 2010. Then, continue for the next four months updating Command 1B: All-risk Command Operations for the Company Officer.



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