

Protecting Exposures

Discussion

Exposure protection is an essential function of our mission. Defensive operations typically feature these types of operations which require a careful mix of defensive fire control with offensive line advancement into and around exposure properties. Care must be exercised to insure that companies are aware of the entire strategic plan. Stretching additional handlines into exposures, use of exterior streams operated by elevated streams, portable master streams and handlines will improve your ability to keep the fire from progressing. Careful observation of the collapse danger zone in the initial fire buildings as well as observations of utility hazards are just some of the safety concerns during these operations. Consult your SOG's for defensive operations and further information on how to handle these operations.



Define a plan of action to protect these exposures.



Exposure Protection Considerations

- What is the water supply
- How will the exposures be protected
- Can lines be stretched inside the exposure
- Can the main fire be knocked

Discussion Questions

1. Describe how the first-in engine at a defensive fire with exposures can determine if the exposure is threatened?
2. What steps can be taken to insure that the exterior of a structure is protected?
3. What methods of heat transfer should you be concerned with in relation to fire extension?
4. How many ways can a stream capable of flowing in excess of 250gpm be put to work off of your engine, off of your truck?
5. In the Incident Management System, how are exposure buildings to be labeled and referred to on the radio and within the system?
6. How can an interior operation at an exposure building prevent the spread of fire?
7. Which is more effective, a coating film of water on the exposure or a stream being sprayed between the fire and the exposure?
8. What additional means of exposure protection must be completed in addition to placing water on exposure buildings?

Exposure Designations

