

TASK FORCE TIPS

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TASK FORCE TIPS

www.tft.com



DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

High Flows on Demand

Even at the local level, pre-planning for a department's response to a domestic terrorism incident has taken on importance of dramatic proportions. Certainly, in our free and open society, there is no way that we can identify all aspects or potential threats of a terrorist act, but many of the scenarios rely on a department's ability to provide large, uninterrupted supplies of water or foam for sustained periods of time.

Many opportunities for potential domestic terrorism involve flammable or poisonous liquids in either fixed storage facilities, being transported via rail tank cars, in over-the-road tankers, or moving through jurisdictions in underground pipelines. As most fire departments are under-equipped to supply adequate foam firefighting streams, many agencies have acquired TFT's Masterfoam nozzles. The flexibility of having a self-educing foam nozzle that can be used on the deck gun of an apparatus or portably on a Crossfire or Blitzfire monitor is a tremendous asset. Having a simple, reliable delivery system and an adequate supply of foam concentrate can help any department improve its overall response capability to high-hazard locations.

Another threat is the possible disruption, contamination, or destruction of a municipality's domestic water supply infrastructure. As fire departments may be called upon to move large quantities of potable water great distances for sustained periods of time, many agencies are improving their large diameter hose and hardware capabilities. Delivery of TFT's new line of LDH hardware has been just part of an overall plan many jurisdictions are implementing to improve their flow delivery capabilities.

With millions and millions of dollars in state, federal, and local funding becoming available for improvements in emergency response to domestic terrorist threats, Task Force Tips, Inc. stands ready to become an integral part of improving your department's fire streams management capabilities.

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WELCOME

As federal fire grant notifications are being made to jurisdictions around the United States, the importance of fire equipment dealer/fire department relationships becomes increasingly critical. Though, all too often, local fire equipment salespeople are not considered a strategic resource in a department's equipment planning and acquisition process, their role in information and technology transfer is crucial.



As an equipment manufacturer, this dealer sales professional/fire department customer relationship is an important channel for just some of the following support functions:

- Dealer sales professionals are the primary source for new and innovative product introductions and information from TFT, such as our introduction of over 500 products in the LDH hardware sector.
- The local dealer is easily accessible for service of equipment, repair parts, and supporting TFT's exclusive warranty program.
- The local authorized TFT sales representative is typically trained at our factory in Indiana and has complete access to and may carry an extensive supply of technical, training and support literature, videos, and CD-ROMS.
- Either independently or in conjunction with TFT regional managers, local sales staff will provide hands-on training and demonstration of products and offer competitive equipment review to departmental committee members.
- Most dealers carry a level of product inventory that allows for immediate delivery when emergency need or replacement is necessary.

Though the value of the local dealer is often questioned by departments looking directly to manufacturers for reduced pricing and direct delivery of products, the fact remains, that without a dealer network, few suppliers of fire equipment, TFT included, could currently provide or sustain the level of field service, training, or support our customers have come to expect.

As fire chiefs, purchasing agents, and city managers adhere to and advance the philosophy of local cooperative purchasing or bringing back the once defeated federal GSA cooperative purchasing initiative, the pressure on manufacturers to circumvent their local dealers and offer bottom-dollar direct pricing is substantial.

The mistaken belief that the low cost, factory-direct sales model will be the final answer for loose equipment acquisition should send a chilling message to all departmental members. The service of saving lives and protecting property should never be a decision based on the cheapest price for a piece of equipment, but on the total overall return on your investment. The value of training, demonstration, service, and support that the dealer brings to the transactional process is vitally important to the overall success of all emergency services providers. Consider your local sales representative as a strategic resource that brings value and information to your equipment specification and purchasing process.

Regards,



Stewart McMillan
President

UPCOMING SHOWS



Maritimes Fire Chief's Conference

July 6-8, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Larry Linton, TFT's Canadian Manager, will be displaying the LDH hardware line and his demonstration/training apparatus.

New England Fire and Rescue

June 22-24, West Springfield, MA

Chris and Jim from Cottrell Associates will be showing the complete line of redesigned LDH hardware, the new METRO II nozzle, and the Cottrell Associates Demonstration Vehicles.

Texas A&M Municipal Training Week

July 21-26, College Station, TX

Jerry Pilarski, Southern Regional Manager, will be coordinating TFT's participation in the premier fire-training school in the United States. This week-long, live fire-training program permits attendees to use TFT equipment in heavy fire situations.

Firehouse Expo

July 18-20, Baltimore, MD

Doug Miller, TFT's OEM Manager, and representatives from Cottrell Associates will be in attendance showing the latest in foam application equipment, LDH hardware, and the unique Blitzfire monitor.

International Association of Fire Chiefs

August 23-26, Kansas City, MO

Visit TFT's training staff and review the newest in high-performance fire streams management equipment.

Arizona State Fire School

September 6-10, Phoenix, AZ

Visit with Dave Burns, TFT's Southwestern Regional Manager, and take a look at his completely outfitted demonstration and training apparatus.

New Jersey Firefighters

September 13-14, Wildwood, NJ

Stop by and preview TFT's newest water delivery equipment with representatives from Cottrell Associates.

The TYPHOON

TFT's Big Boy



Braggin' rights don't mean much when the facility you're tasked with protecting processes, stores, and transports millions of gallons of hazardous liquids and gasses every day. The potential for loss is incredible, and the costs of business interruption, should an incident occur, are even greater. So, where do you turn when you need big flows and even bigger reach and the best stream quality? The answer is TFT's 4000 gpm automatic Typhoon nozzles.

Originally created in a joint development project with Refinery Terminal Fire Corporation, Pierce Manufacturing, and Schwing America, the Typhoon represents the state-of-the art in high-volume master stream nozzles.

The Typhoon has a flow range of 500-4000 gpm with stream reach measurements up to 350 ft. As the world's largest automatic nozzle, its unique ability to compensate

automatically for varying fire ground water supply conditions allows it to provide a consistently hard-hitting and far-reaching stream. The Typhoon is the only nozzle in the world to integrate a user-selected operating pressure control. As operating conditions on the fire ground change, the nozzle's operating pressure can be user modified to operate from 80 psi up to 120 psi. Available in either a manually operated or remotely controlled configuration, the Typhoon can deliver over 33,000 lbs. of water or foam solution a minute for cooling or extinguishment purposes.

The Typhoon is recognized worldwide as the automatic nozzle of choice when winning is the only option. For additional information, specifications, and pricing on TFT's BIG BOY and to see the Typhoon in use at some high-hazard locations, visit the Task Force Tips, Inc. web site at www.tft.com.

PROTECTING THE STEEL CITY

Hittin' It Hard and Fast!



When the first-due company arrives with limited staff and finds heavy involvement, a pre-piped Crossfire monitor and an Extend-a-gun make a perfect choice for a quick knock down. With an engine pressure of 150 psi on the pump, the flow through this full 3" waterway and Monsoon 2000 gpm automatic master stream nozzle can easily surpass that of five handlines. Often, a 30-second, high-flow blitz attack is enough to darken down even the most involved fires, giving the crew a chance to pull a handline for final extinguishment.



Replacing the ole' deuce-and-a-half playpipe is no simple task when crews have counted on this high-flow option for decades. Today, Gary FD and departments worldwide have chosen the new Blitzfire as their high-flow weapon of choice. Rated at 500 gpm, this modern-day "step gun" easily becomes an integral part of a rear 2 1/2" pre-connect and is easily deployed by a single firefighter.



With the unique safety valve, the unit's 500 gpm capacity is easy and safely managed in either a manned or unmanned operation.

The Pre-Con 150 play is still the mainstay of the fire attack arsenal. A 150' - 1 3/4" pre-connected automatic handline with 150 psi on the pump gives about 150 gpm through each line. A short "jump line" on the front bumper can provide over 200 gpm if necessary, and is easily deployed for a blitz attack. As additional staff becomes available for suppression duties, another handline can be quickly pulled and advanced. With 50-350 gpm rated automatic nozzles, there will never be a problem with the nozzle restricting the available flow. That's fire streams management to the MAX.



Proper fire streams management takes into consideration not only staffing on the first-due companies, but available water supplies, engine pressure, hose length, nozzle operating pressure, and apparatus placement. As fire loads and BTU generation have increased throughout the years, flowing 95 gpm through 1½" hoselines and small capacity nozzles just doesn't get the job done anymore. The concept of the "blitz" attack is to provide maximum flow within the first few moments of arrival no matter how limited your personnel are.



The only folks that aren't big fans of the "hit it hard and hit it fast" blitz attack are the guys on the truck company. When the fire is darkened down quickly, it gives them less opportunity to open up and "break" stuff. A quick extinguishment of the fire also solves many fire ground problems, such as primary search, ventilation, and exposure protection and normally prevents a bunch of "chiefs" from showing up.

Not unlike hundreds of other older cities in the Midwest's "rust belt," Gary, Indiana, is plagued by the effects of a declining economy and a substantial loss of jobs and tax revenue from the local steel producing industry, due largely to foreign competition.

Revenues from a local gambling boat, located at nearby Buffington Harbor, have gone a long way toward funding improvements in the city's fire and safety infrastructure, but the fact remains that the fire suppression challenges faced by this department's 300 fire and EMS personnel are substantial and growing. Protecting a population of over 110,000 residents and 47,000 homes and businesses, the Gary Fire Department's dispatch center receives over 18,000 calls for assistance annually.

With a fleet of over 40 apparatus working out of 14 stations ranging in age from 2 to 100 years old, the Gary Fire Department, under the direction of Chief Robert Walker, provides just some of the following services: hazardous materials response to numerous steel and chemical processing facilities; Interstates 80, 90, 94, and 65; and multiple rail lines.

A marine unit works the harbors, inland rivers, and lakefront areas of Lake Michigan.

An airport station offers crash, fire, structural, and EMS protection to the Gary/Chicago Municipal Airport. The Gary FD provides Fire and EMS

services to citizens and guests within Gary's 47-square-mile boundaries.

Though the demographics of Gary and the fire department are common to many other localities around North America, the "hit it hard and hit it fast" philosophy of initial fire attack the Gary Fire Department uses is not. When dealing with aging buildings, high-fire loads, often heavy fire showing upon arrival, and limits in staffing, engine companies in Gary will use the entire arsenal of 200+ gpm handlines, portable ground monitors, and even their high-flowing, pre-plumbed deck guns on initial attack.

Mother Nature doesn't care if you are in Indiana or Idaho. The chemical chain reaction called "fire" is a very straightforward, often unforgiving demon. If you don't add sufficient gallons per minute into the fire space to absorb the BTUs being generated, the fire generally won't go out. The concept used in Gary, Indiana, and elsewhere around the world is to take an aggressive approach to structural firefighting and to use their equipment to provide maximum flows with limited staffing, a formula that is proven successful every day.

For additional information on the "Fire Streams to the MAX!" training programs or to get your free copy of the Task Force Tips, Inc. fire flow calculator, contact our customer service hotline at 800-348-2686.

SERVIN' UP A COLD DRAFT!



It's an accepted fact that most departments in this country are not blessed with access to a pressurized municipal water supply for their fire suppression efforts. It's also commonly accepted that effective rural water delivery is a combination of art, science, and a whole lot of practice.

Though terms like drafting, dry hydrants, porta-tanks, and tanker shuttles may be foreign to many urban and suburban departments, a rural agency's ability to provide high fire flows requires a thorough understanding of these key components.

DRAFTING OPERATION FAST-FACTS

- A fire pump's rated delivery capacity is based on a 150 psi pump discharge pressure. At a 200 psi discharge pressure the pump will provide only 70% and at 250 psi discharge pressure performance will be limited to only 50% of the pump's rated capacity.
- 1000 gpm, 1250 gpm, and 1500 gpm pumps are rated for a maximum drafting lift of 10 ft. Less lift, and you will have a higher potential flow capacity. More than 10 ft. lift, less capacity.
- To achieve maximum flows with 1000, 1250, and 1500 gpm pumps, a 6" hard-suction line should be used for maximum drafting performance. To increase flow capabilities, two suction lines can be used at once.
- When designing and installing dry hydrants, bigger is usually better. The best dry hydrant-planning program is from the National Interagency Fire Center – visit <http://www.firewise.org/pubs/operation/water> for your copy of "Operation Water." It shows you every step you can take to maximize and take advantage of your local water supply resources.
- Often, the low-level strainer used during drafting operations in porta-tanks will restrict your flow dramatically. Inspect your drafting equipment to make sure you are getting maximum performance.

- Using multiple porta-tanks with jet-siphons in between to transfer water allows tankers to off-load at the pump and quickly head out to refill. In a tanker relay, maximum water delivery relies on reducing the time a tanker is sitting. An effective tanker should be dumping, driving, or refilling.
- Back filling the hard suction line with water from the tank before starting the drafting process often reduces the time to secure a draft, as well as saves wear and tear on the primer pump and motor.
- Often, turbulence and bubbles created by water being dumped by tankers into a porta-tank can be drawn into the suction hose, causing a loss of prime. Within your porta-tank, try to keep your dump location as far away as possible from your pickup location.
- A good pump operator will keep, as a priority, the complete refilling of the pumper's water tank. If the tanker shuttle fails to keep up with demand, the operator can switch back to tank water allowing inside crews time to safely back out.

The new **TFT BIV – Ball Intake Valve** – is designed with all of these critical drafting operations in mind. The patented, quarter-ball configuration



is ideal for making that all-important "tank water to drafting" transition. The visual valve position indicator helps the pump operator make a smooth changeover, reducing the potential of losing the prime. A unique swiveling inlet allows incoming hoselines to be positioned at any angle, giving the driver incredible flexibility in apparatus placement and hose movement between porta-tanks. Finally, the new BIV provides maximum flow performance with minimal loss and is designed for years of rugged durability.

To learn more about the Task Force Tips, Inc. full line of high-flow, large-diameter hose hardware, ask for the new "LDH hardware" video.

NEW PRODUCTS

Trash Talkin'



Pump Discharge Pressure	1" Hose x 50 Feet Flow	1" Hose x 100 Feet Flow
100 psi	58 GPM	41 GPM
110 psi	68 GPM	48 GPM
120 psi	77 GPM	55 GPM
130 psi	86 GPM	61 GPM
140 psi	93 GPM	66 GPM
150 psi	100 GPM	71 GPM
160 psi		75 GPM
170 psi		80 GPM
180 psi		84 GPM
190 psi		88 GPM
200 psi		91 GPM
210 psi		95 GPM
220 psi		98 GPM
225 psi		100 GPM

NOTE:
 1. Number in each box indicates flow.
 2. The average nozzle pressure is 75 psi.
 3. Flows may vary with brand or condition of hose.
 4. Flows are approximate and do not reflect losses in pre-connect piping.

It hasn't been that long since the vast majority of fire apparatus being delivered had single or even twin booster reels loaded with as much as 200-250 ft. of 1" red line and 24 gpm nozzles. As time and tactics changed and fire flow application rates were better understood, departments moved toward higher initial-attack fire flows, pre-connected lines, and larger-capacity nozzles.

Today, it's rare to see a new apparatus with a booster reel installed. Though, it isn't uncommon to find pre-laid trash lines on apparatus front bumpers, hose bags packed with small diameter hose, or one pre-connected line devoted specifically to trash and dumpster fires, wash downs, or the occasional brush fire. Though the booster reel may be going the way of riding the rear tailboard, the demand for a small, lightweight, easily-maneuverable line is still high when dealing with many nuisance-type fires.

Even though overall flow capabilities cannot rival 1 3/4" handlines, it is not unusual for a 50' or 100' section of rubber 1" hose combined with TFT's high-flowing Ultimatic nozzle to provide up to 95 gpm with relatively low pump discharge pressures. Unlike the high-friction losses that must be overcome when pumping a 250' section of red line on a booster reel, a short section of rubber 1" line can provide substantial flows quite efficiently. This short section of hose, combined with the 75 psi operating pressure of the Ultimatic low-pressure model, offers great stream performance (typically 65 gpm - 90 gpm flows) with a 100 ft. stream reach and a protective fog pattern at pump operating pressures from 125 psi-150 psi.

Consider these "trash line" operational features:

- A single operator is provided with outstanding maneuverability, even in tight quarters, such as attics or crawl spaces.

- Flows provided are typically adequate for dumpster, refuse, and brush fires, as well as for structural overhaul after knockdown with a higher flowing line. Departmental operating guidelines should be followed.
- Lines are easily stored, deployed, and are quickly cleaned and packed for the next use.
- Low-pressure automatic nozzle offers maximum flows with limited pump discharge pressure.

Though booster reels with 1" lines are no longer common on newer apparatus, the need for a quickly-deployable, highly-flexible utility line still exists within most department's operations. As your agency reviews your overall fire streams management capabilities, consider a modern "trash line" for your low-flow requirements.



Mike Greich
Service Manager
800-348-2686

For a copy of the new LDH Hardware Videotape or our Fire Streams to the MAX and Foam Streams to the MAX PowerPoint training programs, contact TFT Customer Service

Annual Service Seminars
Oct. 21-23
Oct. 25-27

Contact Mike
for Your Application

Q:

The local Akron salesman was through recently showing us his new nozzles and said that all TFT automatics have to be sent back to the factory for calibration on a regular basis. Is this true?

A:

NO, absolutely not. The issue of flow and pressure "calibration" on a nozzle takes place at the time of original assembly and testing at TFT and is not something that changes in the field, even after years of heavy use. What can affect flow and pressure performance, though, is extended rugged usage with little or no attention to ongoing maintenance. Following our published maintenance recommendations for occasional lubrication will keep your TFT nozzles working fine and ready for the next "big one." If you have any questions or would like the nozzles checked by our service team here at the factory, please give me a call on the toll free number. Also, I'd send that local salesman back "down the road."

Q:

We recently purchased six Blitzfire portable monitors and now have decided we would like to have two of them with the new Oscillating feature. Can our units be retrofitted?

A:

Yes, they can. The units can be retrofitted in the field or can easily be done by our service department and are usually completed the same day they arrive. The part number for the conversion package is X-ON. This conversion includes all parts, labor, testing to our ISO 9001 standards, and shipping back to your department. There is no reason to send the nozzles back in and, if these units are in service on apparatus, we can send out loaners, if necessary, as we make the conversion.



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