



Near-Miss Matters

Volume 10, October 5, 2010

The topic of aerial ladders is this month's Near-Miss Calendar case study, written by Chief Greg Cade. Using the search term "aerial ladder" results in more than 100 reports. Many of these reports deal specifically with using aerial ladders around energized electrical equipment. Take some time this month to review the case study in the 2010 near-miss calendar and read some of the other aerial ladder reports. We are also looking for sample policies and procedure dealing with aerial fire apparatus. If you have any that you would like to share with other fire departments via our resources page, please email atippett@iafc.org.

Check It Out!

→ Congratulations to the Burlington Fire Department (NC) for being named the winner of the 2010 National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System Safety Leadership Award. If you would like to request a copy of the department's award essay or General Order please send an email to rgibbs@iafc.org.

Work has begun on the 2011 Near-Miss Calendar, which will be available in December. If you have a testimonial about how you or your department uses the Near-Miss Program and would like to be featured in the calendar, please e-mail rgibbs@iafc.org. We will begin to take orders for the free 2011 Near-Miss Calendar beginning next month.

The popular Table Top Exercise Resource will not be featured this month but will return in November.

Until next month, stay safe.

ROTW

→ [ROTW 090210](#): The room went boom. (10-1034)

→ [ROTW 090910](#): The tools get heavier with each passing minute. (10-1070)

→ [ROTW 091610](#): Opposing hoselines are harmful to health and welfare. (10-1046)

→ [ROTW 092310](#): Every green isn't a guaranteed 'go'. (10-1033)

→ [ROTW 093010](#): Do you know your risk factors?". (10-945)

Resources

→ [Overview of Near-Miss Reporting Official Video](#)

→ October 2010 Calendar Training: [Aerial Ladders](#)

Upcoming Events

→ [Georgia Fire Academy Training](#)
October 19-20, 2010 & November 2, 2010
Forsyth, GA

→ [VCOS Symposium in the Sun](#)
November 11-14, 2010
Clearwater, FL

→ [Labor Management Symposium](#)
November 16, 2010
Yakima, WA

Near-Miss Fundamentals:

A near miss is defined as an unintentional unsafe occurrence that could have resulted in an injury, fatality or property damage if not for an interruption in the chain of events leading up to near miss. Sometimes the interruption in the chain of events is due to not following SOPs. But other times, a near miss can occur even when proper procedures are followed. These types of near misses offer powerful learning opportunities. If you have an example of this type of near-miss event, be sure to submit it to firefighternearmiss.com as an illustration of the value of best practices.

Testimonial

The near-miss reporting system is an excellent tool that can and should be used with each after incident critique done on a company or even a multiple company level. This system has an excellent index system for finding incidents similar to those you may have witnessed, and wish to correct within your department.

-Jon Marsh, State Advocate for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and retired from Horry County Fire/Rescue (SC)

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Firefighternearmiss.com is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland

Security's [Assistance to Firefighters Grant program](#). Founding dollars were also provided by [Fireman's Fund Insurance Company](#). The project is managed by the [International Association of Fire Chiefs](#) and supported by [FireFighterCloseCalls.com](#) in mutual dedication to firefighter safety and survival.