

Industry Training News Brief



January 2023

“LIGHTENING THE LOAD” FOR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS

As an industry or company, I want to ask you a thought-provoking question: How can your company help your local fire department?

To start with, do you have a dedicated industrial or emergency response team (ERT)? Do you have a team that focuses on the importance of fire prevention and safety?

Even though local fire departments invest in their firefighters by spending time and effort training, are you expecting your local fire department to tackle a large (or small) industrial incident?

In the May 2022 issue of *Fire Engineering*, Dan King wrote an article entitled “[The Importance of Industrial Firefighters](#).” I encourage you to take a few minutes and click on the hyperlink to read it. I also want to share a few thoughts with you.

King is correct when he states that if you invest the same time and effort into your industry fire training, you are actually helping your local fire department. He calls it, “lightening the load on local municipal or volunteer fire departments.”

I’d like to highlight a bit of his informative article.

First, he touches on the long-lasting physical and financial impact of industrial fire damage:

“Industrial fire can wreak havoc and cause a devastating degree of damage. They put everyone within the building and surrounding it at risk of death or injury from inhalation, burns, or building collapse. They also put those same people at risk of losing their jobs and livelihoods, given that industrial fires often result in the building’s temporary or even permanent closure. Moreover, when industrial fires occur, they can shut down surrounding businesses, interstates, schools and in some cases, air travel.”



*Charlie Miles
Battalion Chief Resident Training*

King also shares with readers the benefits of having an ERT:

“Organizations with a dedicated (i.e., full-time) industrial or emergency response team (ERT) have a considerable advantage over organizations that do not. Most notably, they tend to report higher industrial fire prevention rates and shorter incident response times. Maintaining a state of emergency readiness in an environment where high hazards are located takes focus and attention. Dedicated industrial firefighters provide both.”

Lastly, he encourages every company with high hazards to consider establishing a dedicated industrial fire department. When doing so, he says they “should partner with the local fire department and spread awareness throughout the community, emphasizing the extra layer of safety provided.” This includes industry-related fire safety personnel educating other staff members as well as the community.

If your company and local fire department want to arrange a meeting to discuss future training needs and ideas, especially regarding how to “lighten the load,” I am happy to meet with everyone involved.

Charlie Miles
Battalion Chief Resident Training
Industrial Program Coordinator

Our mission is to provide the highest level of emergency response and management training as safely, effectively and efficiently as possible. We cover all aspects of fire protection, ranging from basic incipient fire brigade training to comprehensive hazardous materials technician training.

<i>Industrial Fire Brigade Training Available at SC State Fire</i>	
Course Code	2023 Dates
9124-23902	Jan. 30-Feb. 3
9124-23903	March 27-31
9124-23904	April 10-14
9124-23905	May 1-5

Interested in sending personnel to any of the listed dates?

Email your contact information: [Charles Miles](#)

Battalion Chief Resident Training, Industrial Program Coordinator

803-896-9813

RECOMMENDED READING

RECENT NEWS ARTICLES OF INTEREST

South Carolina:

Chicken House Declared a Total Loss After Fire in Lexington County

[Continue...](#) 

Small Fire on Hospital Roof Quickly Extinguished, Fire Chief Says

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The hospital activated the plan for removing patients

Georgia:

Massive Fire, Explosions Destroy Business in South Fulton Warehouse

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South Fulton Fire Department learned the business had hazardous materials contained inside that contributed to the blaze.

Chemical Plant Fire Prompted Evacuation and Shelter-In-Place Orders

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North Carolina:

Two Firefighters in Hospital after Flash Fire at Warehouse

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Indiana:

Crews Still on Scene More than 36 Hours Later

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“I think we’re probably a little over 4-million gallons of water that went into this fire so far.”

Industrial Fire:

Investigations into Large Factory Fire Underway

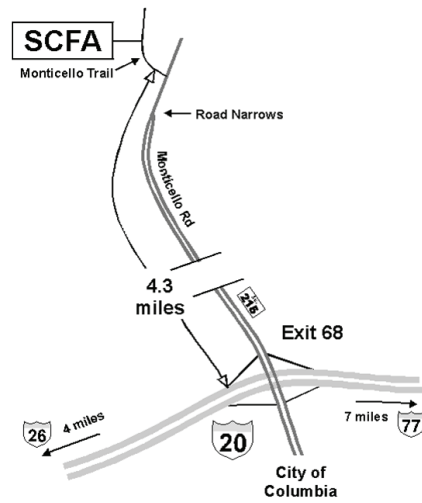
[Continue...](#) 

Taking more than nine hours to extinguish, 70 firefighters and 20 fire trucks battled the intense fire at a pharmaceutical business in Sydney, Australia.

COLUMBIA CAMPUS

From Interstate 20, take Exit 68 and turn north on Monticello Road (S.C. 215). Travel about 4.3 miles north to Monticello Trail and turn left. (The road will narrow from four to two lanes about ¼ mile before the turnoff.)

The Fire Academy complex is about ¼ mile down Monticello Trail on the left.



ACADEMY ACCOMMODATIONS

SCFA Dormitory

We recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation on our dormitory. The top-to-bottom renovation includes new paved parking areas, a hotel-like reception area, new furnishings, and an expanded weight room/gym area.

Please note: Dorm rooms are first come, first served. Single occupancy is \$50/night, double occupancy is \$30/night. Please make your dorm room selection during the registration process.

In the event the State Fire Academy's dormitory is full or unavailable, the DoubleTree by Hilton is less than 10 miles away (15 minutes) from the Academy site.

DoubleTree by Hilton Columbia

2100 Bush River Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Their 2023 rate for students attending classes and events at the Academy is \$104 per night, including breakfast, and falls below the GSA reimbursable allowed rate. For stays of five nights or more, the rate is \$94 per night, and includes breakfast each morning.

Two ways to make your reservation:

Call: 1-803-731-0300 and mention group: South Carolina State Fire #0002765133; or

Book online using the link [here](#) and enter corporate account #0002765133



South Carolina Fire Academy

141 Monticello Trail
Columbia, SC 29203

Tel: (803) 896-9800
Hours: 08:30 am - 5:00 pm
Monday - Friday except State Holidays



803-896-9813



SCFA-INDUSTRY@LLR.SC.GOV



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