

Class 'A' Foam Operation Policy

Purpose:

To provide a procedure for the correct storage, handling and use of Class 'A' Foam.

Policy:

- A. Class 'A' Foam is superior to and shall be used whenever water is indicated for use in firefighting activities.
- B. This Department currently specifies **Phos-Chek** WD 881 for use in all Class 'A' foam systems. No other brand of Class 'A' foam is to be used unless an emergency situation dictates otherwise (ie; Strike-Team assignment where supply is different)
- C. All foam tanks shall be kept full, and proportioning systems in good working repair.
- D. Class 'A' Foam concentrate and Class 'B' Foam concentrate shall never be mixed. (Due to potential coagulation)
- E. Class 'A' foam shall not be added to fixed water systems such as tanks, standpipes, or sprinkler systems. In addition, Class 'A' Foam shall not be used in relay pumping operations. Caution shall be used to prevent domestic potable (drinking) water contamination.
- F. Class 'A' Foam shall be stored, handled and dispensed within the guidelines set forth in this policy.

Objective:

To provide policy and guidelines relative to the use of Class 'A' Foam.

Responsibility:

- A. All uniformed Personnel: Shall familiarize themselves with this policy and all foam proportioning systems.
- B. Battalion Chiefs: Shall insure adequate training in these procedures.

C. Captains: Shall be responsible for maintaining the adequate level of proficiency in these procedures for their assigned personnel.

Procedures:

Storage and Emergency Re-supply:

1. There shall be a foam concentrate cache located at _____. This cache shall contain a minimum quantity of ____ gallons. In the event that this cache drops below the ____ gallon minimum, the Operations Chief will be notified in writing. (Include amount of concentrate left in cache).
2. Each Station shall maintain a minimum of 4 full; five-gallon Phos-Chek WD-881 concentrate pails as a supply for each foam equipped apparatus. Phos-Chek concentrate can be identified easily by its Blue-Squarish 5-gallon plastic container.
3. In the event of a prolonged incident, which will require emergency re-supply of foam concentrate, the Incident Commander or designee may request additional foam by contacting the Department's foam vendor via their 24-hour hotline (909) 946-7371, and requesting emergency foam delivery to the designated site or command post.

Deployment:

1. This Department uses FoamPro Direct Injection type Foam Proportioning systems. All personnel shall familiarize themselves with the operation, maintenance and calibration of these systems:
2. General application rates for Class 'A' Foam shall be:

a) <u>Normal default setting (Direct Attack)</u>	<u>0.3%</u>
b) Overhaul	0.1%
c) Exposure Protection	1.0%
d) Brush (pre-treatment)	1.0%
3. DO NOT EXCEED 1.0%
4. Nozzles
 - a) Interior structural attack, Use standard combination fog nozzles.

- b) Smooth bore stream will benefit from decrease in waters' surface tension but will not bubble like combination nozzles.
- c) Class 'A' Foam equipped apparatus shall carry a minimum of one air aspirating nozzle, for use in:
 - 1) Exposure protection
 - 2) Pretreatment
 - 3) Overhaul

Safety:

1. All personnel shall review the Material Safety Data Sheets for **Phos-Chek** WD 881 and follow its guidelines for storage, handling and use.
2. Foam usage shall be kept a minimum of 100 ft away from all watercourses. As with plain water used as an extinguishing agent, care shall be taken to minimize runoff that could adversely effect the environment during firefighting activities.

Special Considerations:

1. If an emergency situation dictates the use of a substitute brand of Class 'A' foam concentrate, (because of extended out of area assignment, etc.) personnel shall follow these guidelines:
 - a) Run foam tank level down to minimum before filling with substitute concentrate.
 - b) Log brand and quantity of substitute concentrate.
 - c) Drain substitute foam concentrate, flush with water and refill with **Phos-Chek** WD 881 as soon as possible after incident.