



**State of Connecticut
Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control**

- 1. Seymour Ambulance Hosting EMT-Basic Class**
- 2. Tyco SimplexGrinnell's Day of Training**
- 3. Naugatuck Valley Community College – Introduction to Fire Technology**
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1. Seymour Ambulance Hosting EMT-Basic Class

Seymour Ambulance Association will be holding an EMT-Basic class beginning Tuesday, September 20, 2016 running through Thursday, January 12, 2017. The class will meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00pm – 10:00pm, with 3 Saturday classes meeting 8:00am to 4:00pm. All class sessions will be held at Seymour Ambulance Association, 4 Wakeley Street Seymour. The cost of the course includes text, access to online course navigate, uniforms and online test prep. For more information or to register visit our web site at www.seymouremms.org/training or contact Lea Zwally at lzwally@seymouremms.org or (203) 888-8843 Ext4.

2. Tyco SimplexGrinnell's Day of Training

Tyco SimplexGrinnell's Hartford District Office will host a day of presentations and demonstrations on Friday, September 9, 2016 at their facility in Cranston, R.I. located at 1467 Elmwood Avenue. This event is free of charge and will include lunch. Please RSVP by September 1, 2016 to David M. Pontbriand @ DPontbriand@simplexgrinnell.com. See the attached invitation and program agenda for additional information.

3. Naugatuck Valley Community College – Introduction to Fire Technology

Naugatuck Valley Community College is offering an opportunity for Fairfield County residents to start a path toward a Fire Administration Associates Degree with a class offering this Fall. The Introduction to Fire Technology course will begin on Wednesday, August 31st and be held at Norwalk Fire Department Headquarters. Other course offerings in the Fire Administration program will follow also to be held at Norwalk Fire Headquarters. This is an exciting opportunity for anyone interested in a fire service career. Please see the attached flyer for more information. Contact Division Director Mitchell Holmes at 203-575-8117 or MHolmes@nvcc.commnet.edu for registration information.

4. Firefighter II at Burrville Fire School

Burrville's Fall Firefighter II certification course will be running on Monday and Wednesday evenings and some weekends this fall. The class begins on September 7th and the first of 5-weekends begins on September 10th.

It will be held at the Burrville Fire Department in Torrington due to rebuilding of the actual fire school. The practical and written exams will be on November 12 & 23 respectively.

The cost is \$650 which includes all exam fees. Firefighter II students that do not have the textbook and workbook can purchase a set from the school. The application deadline for Firefighter II is August 24, 2016. The course fee will increase to \$715 after the deadline of August 24, 2016.

For further information e-mail richardmarcus@earthlink.net

5. Naugatuck Valley Community College Fall 2016 Classes in Fire Administration

Naugatuck Valley Community College in Waterbury has openings for their Fall 2016 classes in the Fire Administration Program. The program offers an Associates of Science Degree in Fire Technology and Administration when successfully completing all degree requirements. The fire administrator knows the need for fire prevention activities, the necessity to educate both children and adults in fire safety and the importance of enforcing fire prevention codes. Because of the broad spectrum of problems encountered and the need for extensive familiarity with many subjects, the work of the fire administrator is seldom routine or boring. There is always something new to learn; however, the greatest satisfaction may come from knowing that the effective fire administrator continually improves the world in which we live by making it a safer place. At Naugatuck Valley Community College graduates of the Fire Administration program have gone on to lead municipal fire departments within Connecticut. The education and degree received helped those individuals achieve further professional development. **The college offers the program not only in Waterbury, but at our campus in Danbury and new for the Fall of 2016 in Norwalk.** The college also offers both traditional and online classes providing multiple opportunities to complete the program. Below is a listing of the Fall 2016 available courses. Please contact Division Director Mitchell Holmes at 203-575-8117 or MHolmes@nvcc.commnet.edu

FTA H11	01	3.0	Wtby:INTRO TO FIRE TECHNOLOGY TRAD	M	11:10 am-	08/29-12/16
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FTA H11	D0	3.0	Danbury: INTRO TO FIRE TECH		TRAD W 05:00 pm-	08/29-12/16

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FTA H11 N0	3.0	Norwalk: INTRO TO FIRE TECH	TRAD	R	06:00 pm-		08/29-12/16
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FTA H11	3.0	Wtby:BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	TRAD	T	11:10 am-		08/29-12/16
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FTA H12	3.0	Wtby:SAFETY AND SURVIVAL	TRAD	W	11:10 am-		08/29-12/16
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FTA H21	3.0	Wtby:SPKLR & FIXED EXTIN SYST	TRAD	T	05:30 pm-		08/29-12/16
* 8 01 0					08:25 pm		
FTA H27	3.0	TERRORISM-FIRST RESPONDERS	ONLN	-			
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6. New London County Fire Chiefs' Hosting Special Educational Training Seminars in Conjunction with the 2016 CSFA Convention

The New London County Fire Chief's will be hosting special educational training seminars, on Sunday September 18th in conjunction with the 2016 CSFA Convention. Go to: NLCFCA.com and click on Convention, or download the attached Flyers.

7. CSFA Convention September 16, 17, 18, 2016

The New London County Fire Chiefs Association is hosting this year's convention.

September 16, Executive Board Meeting at Flanders Fish Market Restaurant 22 Chesterfield Road East Lyme

September 16, CFA Irregulars Meeting at Chesterfield Fire Dept. 1606 Rt.85 Oakdale at 7:00PM

September 17, CSFA Convention Meeting 11:00AM at East Lyme High School 30 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme

September 17, Presidents Party 2:00PM at Cohanzie Fire Dept. 53 Dayton Road, Waterford

September 18, No Parade A variety of Training Classes are planned to be held at East Lyme High School, more information to follow

Host Hotel: Days Inn 239 Flanders Road, East Lyme

Any questions please contact Ron Stolz 860-884-1805 Convention Chairman

8. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

Extrication Tool has Critical Separation

SUMMARY

When a report is submitted that mentions a specific make and manufacturer of equipment, the Firefighter Near Miss Team conducts an extensive investigation with both the submitter and manufacturer to bring the most accurate information to our readers. This week's report is a special edition equipment report where a Hurst Tool had a critical separation during a vehicle extrication. We want to thank Hurst Manufacturing for partnering with us to share information that could prevent a similar event in your department.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

Because the heavy rescue was delayed, coming from another district, our engine company was dispatched as second due to a single vehicle rollover with entrapment. Upon arrival, the crew was given the task of rescue division/extrication of the entrapped patient in the vehicle which was on its side. The first arriving engine was already working on stabilization and had their extrication tools set up in staging.

After stabilization of the vehicle, a roof removal/flap began. The heavy rescue, which just arrived, started to stage their tools. The A-Post was cut using the engine company's hydraulic cutters. A second cut was started on the B-post, but numerous layers of the post's metal began to twist and bind. An order was given to back the tool out and re-approach the cut.

As the order was given, a loud pop was heard and hot hydraulic fluid erupted out of the back of the tool. The extrication team, which was covered in hydraulic fluid, quickly backed off and gave the heavy rescue company a situation report. A mass decontamination of the engine company was conducted via the engines booster reel. The heavy rescue took over the extrication from this point.

Due to the hydraulic fluid exposure, both members were sent to the local emergency room for evaluation and were released to return to work the same day with no complications. Looking at the hydraulic tool, it was determined the reservoir on the tool exploded off the back side of the tool, projecting it to the rear of the crew with 5,000 psi pressure behind it.

View the report: [Hydraulic Extrication Tool Failure - Equipment Report with Pictures and Documents.](#)

TAKE-AWAYS

Two major points were noted in this report. Due to the proper use of personal protective equipment, none of the extrication crew members were injured. The submitter noted that some exposure did occur to the faces of two members, but due to the use of full PPE, specifically eye and face protection, the exposures were minimal and the firefighters were able to return to work with no serious injuries.

The other important lesson came from the after action report. After a thorough investigation from the manufacturer and department, it was discovered that the extrication tools on the engine did not receive appropriate preventive maintenance. The hydraulic pump that supplied the tool had been readjusted to unsafe pressure levels well above manufacturer recommendations. Very few records were found that could pinpoint when this occurred and by whom. The manufacturer and department strongly recommend that only trained and qualified technicians conduct regular service on the equipment per manufacturer specifications.

DISCUSSION

- Review the required PPE in your vehicle extrication operating guidelines. Discuss if the PPE you typically don for a vehicle extrication meets your guideline. Would the PPE you wear have protected you from this incident?
- Review your extrication tool's owner's manual. What preventive maintenance should be conducted by a qualified technician and what preventive maintenance should be conducted by the firefighter? What changes can you make to ensure your department meets these specifications?
- In the case of a hydraulic fluid exposure, what measures do you take to ensure a rapid decontamination? Is it common practice for your department to have a hose line on the ground during extrications, or just a fire extinguisher?

LEADING PRACTICES

Proper PPE can't be emphasized enough. Complacency so often can kick in when wearing proper eye and face protection. All too often, due to fogging or other vision issues, a firefighter might remove his or her eye protection. This cannot be condoned. If the firefighters in this report would have not been properly protected, the exposure would have been much worse.

There are regular inspections and maintenance of hydraulic tools that can be conducted by front line fire personnel. When equipment is purchased, it is common for a representative to share this type of information. Rarely, though, does continued training occur on proper care of these tools. A regular review of what you should be doing to care for your equipment is a must.

Hydraulic tool manufacturers also recommend inspection and maintenance done by a qualified technician at least annually. Having a representative come from the manufacturer is best, but may not be fiscally feasible. If this is the case, at a minimum, one member of your department should attend regular trainings from your extrication tool manufacturer to be qualified to conduct the required annual servicing.

RELATED NEAR MISS REPORTS

- [Air Bag Failure During a Training Event.](#)
- [Hydraulic hose fails on extrication tool.](#)
- [Extrication cutter blade fails during training.](#)
- [Cutter tips break during extrication.](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Equipment Report Letter from Hurst to FirefighterNearMiss.com](#)
- [FirefighterNation.com Article: Tips for Extrication Tool Maintenance](#)
- [FireEngineering.com Article: Hydraulic Rescue Tools: Operation and Maintenance](#)
- [Hurst – Jaws of Life – Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [IAFF's Best Practices for Emergency Vehicle and Roadway Operations Safety in the Emergency Services](#)
- [Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry: Public Health Statement on Hydraulic Fluid \(pdf\)](#)

9. Joint Statement from the IAFC, NFFF, NFPA and NVFC

In the spirit of “See something; say something,” we feel it is time to ask for your attention. Over the past few months, there have been an alarming number of firefighter fatalities. In light of that, we do want to remind every operational firefighter, company officer, crew boss, superintendent, and command officer about the importance of situational awareness, evaluation of risk, value of risk as compared to the likelihood of success and the all-important desire of your family, loved one’s and friends that they want every firefighter to go home at the end of their tour of duty.

August, and even September, can bring brutal heat, oppressive humidity and poor air quality throughout the country. On their own, these conditions can cause anyone to become dehydrated and feel ill. Also, the extra weight we carry with our gear and the extreme heat we endure while battling a fire or engaging in other rescue operations, it’s not surprising that our core body temperatures increase rapidly, which can lead to devastating consequences.

[Read More at www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org)

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL