



FIRE WATCH

ONTARIO INDUSTRIAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

February 2007

TOWN OF OAKVILLE RECEIVES GIFT FROM PETRO CANADA



Bruce Hall, Al MacLeod, Rich Rattray and Bill Irving of Petro-Canada delivers fire truck to the Town of Oakville

It is never too late to receive a Christmas gift ... and that is what Petro Canada, Oakville Refinery did...

Dec 15, 2006 - Fire trucks are always popular Christmas gifts, but they usually come in the hand-held, drive-under-the-Christmas-tree size. Courtesy of Petro-Canada, the town received its own gift of a fire truck this year. But unlike the toy versions, this truck is full-size, and would cost nearly \$1 million to buy brand-new. The two-year-old aerial pumper truck, which was previously part of Petro-Canada's in-plant fire brigade equipment, is to be transferred to the town this month.

When the Bronte-area plant was operating as a refinery, it maintained its own fire service to respond to small plant fires, and called on the Oakville Fire Department only for support services, says a report from the town's Fire Chief Richard Boyes.

With the transition of the plant to a storage facility, the fire brigade has been downsized, and Oakville will become the primary responder to the site. The Petro-Canada truck has the ability to produce fire-suppressing foam, which Boyes noted would be necessary for effectively fighting fires at the plant. Without the transfer from Petro-Canada, the town would have needed to purchase a similar vehicle.

At the town's Community Services Committee meeting on Tuesday night, councillor Ralph Robinson publicly praised Petro-Canada, noting that the company could have sold the truck when it disposed of the remainder of its refining equipment.

"I think this is absolutely gracious of them," he said. "They are a real asset to the entire community."



Petro Canada boys - Al MacLeod, Bruce Hall, Bill Irving, Rich Rattray, Ken Dymock, Oakville mayor, Chief Richard Boyes and other dignitaries from Oakville / Burlington area.

A new Twist on an Old Initiative.

I am certain all readers have either heard of, or been directly involved in the CAER programs in their respective municipalities. The initial intent of CAER was to involve the local government agencies, emergency services, industry and the general public to establish guidelines and a response strategy in order to better handle with an emergency situation inside their jurisdiction. One of the first items required was an inventory of potentially hazardous industrial incidents, followed closely by an equipment availability list. It was hoped that if a major event occurred, this pre-planning would reduce time and help the Incident Commander and their ICS/IMS staff implement a response, by using equipment and resources available within the community.

A prime example of this program can be found in the Sarnia Ont. Area, referred to as CVECO – Chemical Valley Emergency Co Operative. CVECO is more dependant upon a Large Industry and Emergency Services pre-planned response, but certainly relies on smaller local industry and government involvement to

make it a success. Due to the specialized materials and process that take place in industry, CAER generally depends on the specific Industry to "lead the way" and have the required specific response equipment and materials on-site in case an incident happens. Generally, local responders take a back up or support role, when responding to an Industrial incident. Although industry has the required response materials, they are sometimes, not always well stocked in the manpower (off shifts, holidays etc) and ancillary devices (usually equipped for 1 event at a time). The local emergency services are usually very well equipped in these 2 areas, thus the need for mutual aid agreements and co-operative awareness training. Hopefully this can all happen prior to an event!

Note, this is not always the case, not is it intended to infer any sort of deficiency with the local response network. For this article it is required to be understood, that the local emergency services were in a support role.

At the Petro Canada Refinery in Oakville Ontario all of the above was in place. Petro Canada participated in the local CAER group meetings, provided internal refinery tours and hazardous area training, sponsored members of the OFD to attend petroleum hydrocarbon fire training at Lambton College, and had a mutual aid agreement with their Mississauga Lubricants facility. The Oakville Refinery also had on site, fire fighting equipment: 3 foam pumpers, 1 foam storage tender, 1 rapid assault or Twin Agent vehicle, a large inventory of fire fighting foam, dedicated hydrant system and 24 hour staff trained to facilitate a response. Oakville Fire Dept was called immediately upon an internal Refinery emergency alarm being sounded, the fire dept would then report to the refinery with a pre-planned response, and standby for further instructions. In all responses the Chief responding officer, as a minimum, would be escorted to the scene and briefed on the incident, including cause (where possible) cost and damage estimates. As required by the Fire Marshal's act the Oakville Fire Dept would then complete the required documentation for tracking purposes. Since the refinery was in operation this was the response protocol.

However beginning late in 2005 through 2006, the refinery operations were stopped, with all the associated refining equipment dismantled and removed. What was or is will remain in operation as a storage and Trans shipment terminal. The change in operation also resulted in response capabilities from within the terminal being reduced to that of an "Incipient Brigade", and more emphasis i.e. that of Prime Response, being placed on the Oakville Fire Dept. Discussions and additional training took place over this transition period regarding what response capabilities would the terminal maintain. In the end it was decided that the only option would be the incipient response, with the key equipment being the rapid assault vehicle and the required (from calculations) foam inventory and foam tender. 2 of the foam pumpers were either scrapped or sold with the refinery equipment and relocated.

The newest foam pumper, a 2004 custom built Smeal rated at 2000gpm with a 75" aerial ladder and Servo Command foam proportioning system with 1000 gallon foam tank, remained on the Terminal grounds awaiting it's fate. Recently, due to a number of factors the decision was made that the truck would not be able to remain at the terminal. Now the problem of what to do with the pumper? As can be seen from the article below (Oakville Beaver Dec. 15/06) decision's were made that would:

- Transfer ownership of the pumper to the Oakville Fire Department
- Instill the Oakville Fire Department as the Primary responder to Terminal emergencies.
- Amend the response protocol to and from the terminal
- Require a revision to the Mutual Aid Agreement between Petro Canada's Oakville Terminal and Mississauga Lubricants Facility

The official hand over ceremony will be scheduled for January 2007, however the vehicle is already in the hands of the fire dept, and available for them to use a part of their fleet. However as part of the agreement it must be maintained in a ready condition and available if and when the Terminal has a need

In order for the response capabilities (CAER) to the terminal to remain in a safe a ready position, it was critical that the foam application equipment remained in the area. By including the Oakville Fire Dept. and Oakville region's needs and safety in the forefront during the decision making process the transference of the pumper was easily justified. Additionally the Refinery/Terminal has worked hard to establish and maintain a

terrific working relationship with the Oakville Fire Department over the years. This is another indication of how relationships built over time can sustain themselves moving forward.

As Industry continues to search for ways to reduce costs, it is plausible that manpower reductions will be one option. The result may be a reduction in the emergency response capabilities of a particular site or location, and an increased reliance on local emergency services. Any changes to the reliance on local services should be reviewed with the service provider well in advance of the implementation date. Included in the reduction schedule should be time for site orientation, training, and personal introductions, to name but a few, attempting to establish any or all of these during a crisis could be too late.

R. Bruce Hall
TLM Advisor – NANG / Facilities Engineering
Petro Canada, Calgary

O AFC / OIFPA CONFERENCE 2007

Once again the Ontario Industrial Fire Protection Association is partnering with Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs for the upcoming Conference May 5 - 9, 2007 at the Toronto Congress Centre / Doubletree International Plaza Hotel, Toronto.

OIFPA members may register for the conference indicating that they are members of OIFPA, which is duly noted on the form as *Industrial Fire Protection* therefore our Association gets credit for.

This is the biggest trade show of its kind and there is absolutely everything that you will need or want to see and hear from the suppliers. It is absolutely amazing the size of this show. For those who missed it last year, you must make the effort to visit all or part of the conference. **A MUST SEE FOR 2007.**

You all received an outline of the conference and registration form for National Fire and Emergency Expo indicating some of the speakers that have been arranged. The Ontario Industrial Fire Protection Association will also have speakers from our association, ie. Cyril Hare (Cyril Hare & Associates), Jim Belrose, Fire Marshall (Imperial Oil, Sarnia), Paul Phillips (Lambton College) speaking on behalf of NFPA 472 ie.

Paul Phillips is a professor at Lambton College Fire & Emergency Response Training Centre, co-coordinating the Hazardous Materials Programs. He and his 5 part time instructors teach students from across Canada enrolled in the Fire Science, Industrial Haz-Mat and municipal Fire Service courses. Paul is a retired O.P.P. officer with 30 years service, 13 of which were as the Dangerous Goods Officer for all of southwestern Ontario. As both a Federal and Provincial Dangerous Goods Inspector he responded to over 150 road, rail and facility incidents.

As well as our own Director, Jim Belrose, Fire Marshall, Imperial Oil Limited, Sarnia speaking on the recent Hydrocracker fire at Imperial Oil.

See updated "hot off the press" information further in the Newsletter regarding this conference.

HOW TO SURVIVE THE BIG ONE!

Early one morning the alarm rings and you realize this is the event you've been training for. When you're backing out of your driveway 5 km from the plant and you can see that unmistakable glow on the horizon you know "This Is It" - "The Big One"

Dec. 14 2006 2:58 am was just that sort of morning. A major explosion rocked the Chemical Valley in Sarnia. A Hydrocracker process unit with high-pressure hydrogen has had an explosion.

The good thing is, that it is already on fire. The last thing that you ever want to witness is a hydrogen release that is not ignited. Or any vapor cloud for that matter.

Well the training for this event began many years ago. Industrial fire brigades like all fire crews train all the time. As the recently christened Fire Marshall (2004), I looked at our response readiness in the New Year of 2005 and realized that we were lacking in some areas. "Back to the Basics" I told the Imperial Oil response crews. The immediate response teams, that are on site 24 X 7 were directed that their role is strictly defensive fire fighting tactics. The onsite Fire Chiefs were taught to set up the fire trucks at a safe distance, deploy master streams only, Telesquirt, Deck Gun, hi-volume master streams. Once these are in place move the response team to a safe location.

The next piece of the puzzle is Mutual Aid. Sarnia's Chemical Valley has one of the most integrated mutual aid systems in North America. C.V.E.C.O. (Chemical Valley Emergency Co-ordinating Organization) was established in 1951. This is a fantastic asset to any Fire Chief. A closer look at this organization indicated that it was getting a bit stale. A training committee was established in 2005 to get to work on refreshing this group. In 2006 two sessions were set up on Fire Brigade Leadership. The thought behind this course was that Municipal & Industrial members needed to understand their individual roles in a major emergency. Three committee members took this project on, Sunoco Fire Chief George Hatfield, Sarnia Fire Training Officer John Kingyens, along with Imperial Oil Fire Marshall Jim Belrose.

Several meetings later a course was developed beginning with the Qualities of a Leader and progressing through to two major tabletop simulations. This program had to be dynamic, ensuring that all participants were included. An invitation went out to both Municipal and Industrial members from Sarnia, St. Clair Township, & Point Edward. This included all the CVECO fire mutual aid members.

The first session held in April had 40 participants, while the second in November had 36 participants. What a success having almost 80 leaders from the Fire Industry training together. The sessions forced participants to work together developing plans to deal with major fire situations. Each work group presented their plans at the end of each tabletop to the main group. A lot of great ideas were shared, but more importantly a sense of value was established. Relationships were built while participants had the opportunity to learn about each others skills, and equipment they have.

These training sessions were the building blocks that established a Unified Command system at Imperial Oil's Dec. 14 2006 fire, which overcame all obstacles, and challenges faced that morning. When the fire crews arrived at staging, they had an understanding of what to expect from their Industrial counterparts.

The resources needed to safely fight this blaze included :

- Industrial / Municipal Mutual Aid System C.V.E.C.O. proved how worthwhile a pre-plan can be.
- Over the two days participants at this incident included:
- Sarnia Fire Rescue Service - 5 fire apparatus
- Sarnia Police Service
- CVECO Command Bus
- Municipal Emergency Operation Center
- Lambton County Emergency Service - Paramedics
- Imperial Oil Process Operations
- Imperial Oil Emergency Responders - 3 fire apparatus

- Sunoco Emergency Responders - 1 fire apparatus
- Imperial Oil Emergency Operations Center
- Imperial Oil - Lyndon Security
- Imperial Oil Medical Center
- Imperial Oil Industrial Hygiene

While this fire was a major incident the professionalism, & expertise from all the responders allowed a successful extinguishment some 26 hours later without a single injury.

This fire was televised across Canada nationwide, the United States on CBS, NBC, and CNN around the world. A group of 4 news choppers hovered over the incident until they had nothing left to film.

While events like this tend to intimidate the local community, everyone appreciated that the emergency response crews performed their roles exceptionally to protect the Health & Safety of everyone.

Jim Belrose, Fire Marshall, Imperial Oil, Sarnia Site










This article was provided by Mr. Matteo Gilfillan, C.E.T., CFPS, Assistant Project Manager at Randal Brown & Associates Ltd.

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS 101

Fire Extinguisher Classifications and Ratings

Fire extinguishers are classified according to the type of fuel that is being consumed by the anticipated fire.

		<p>CLASS A</p> <p>Fires involving the combustion of ordinary materials such as wood, cloth, paper, plastics etc.</p>
		<p>CLASS B</p> <p>Fires involving combustible or flammable liquids such as gasoline, kerosene and many chemical agents including gases.</p>
		<p>CLASS C</p> <p>Fires involving energized electrical equipment such as electrical appliances, motors, computers etc.</p>
		<p>CLASS D</p> <p>Fires involving combustible metals such as sodium, lithium, titanium, and magnesium.</p>
		<p>CLASS K</p> <p>Fires involving cooking fats & oil in commercial cooking.</p>

The ratings for fire extinguishers are identified via numbers that precede the Class letter (e.g., 3-A:10-B:C). The number placed before the A when multiplied by 1.25 provides the equivalent extinguishing capability in US gallons of water. The number placed before the B indicates the size of fire in square feet that an extinguisher should be able to extinguish. There is no numerical rating for class C, as it only indicates that the extinguishing agent will not conduct electricity.

Types of Fire Extinguishers

Dry Chemical: usually rated for multiple purpose use, dry chemical extinguishers contain a chemical extinguishing agent and use a compressed, non-flammable gas as a propellant. They are almost always red in color and have either a long narrow hose or no hose (just a short nozzle).

Halon: containing a gas that interrupts the chemical reaction that takes place when fuels burn, halon extinguishers types were often used to protect valuable electrical equipment since the gas does not leave a residue. When the Montreal Protocol was signed in 1987, many manufacturers opted to withdraw Halon 1211 (which is an ozone-depleting substance) extinguishers from their product lines. Today, many alternative “clean agents” to Halon are available, such as the 3M Novec 1230 and the FM-200 products.

Water: extinguishers which contain water under pressure and should only be used on Class A (ordinary combustibles) fires. Water extinguishers are usually silver (chrome-metal) in color, have a flat bottom, have a long narrow hose, and are quite large (2-1/2 gallons).

Carbon Dioxide: most effective on Class B and C (liquids and electrical) fires, CO₂ extinguishers contain compressed carbon dioxide that, upon operation of the extinguisher, expands and cools the surrounding air. CO₂ extinguishers are generally red (often yellow around aircraft or on military sites), have a large "tapered" nozzle (horn).

Operating a Fire Extinguisher

Fires have the ability to quickly get out of control and as such, portable extinguishers should only be used to fight a fire when the following conditions are met:

- you (the operator) are familiar with the use of a fire extinguisher,
- the extinguisher is readily available for immediate use and is in operating condition,
- the extinguisher is suitable for the fire hazard being protected,
- the fire is small enough to be controlled by the type of extinguisher present, and
- the fire is not between you and the exit.

If any of the above conditions cannot be achieved, evacuate the area immediately.

The easiest way to remember how to properly operate a portable fire extinguisher is to use the acronym **PASS**

- P pull the safety pin.
- A aim the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the flames.
- S squeeze the trigger while holding the extinguisher upright.
- S sweep the extinguisher from side to side, covering the area of the fire with the extinguishing agent.



Courtesy of the Brampton Fire & Emergency Services Website

Make sure that there are extinguishers available in your work area and know their locations. When confirming that the extinguishers are suitable for the hazard, make sure that the safety pin is in place and attached by a plastic seal and that the extinguisher is full by checking that the pressure gauge is in the acceptable zone (typically indicated in green) indicated on the gauge. Note that CO₂ extinguishers do not have gauges and must be weighed to determine the exact amount of extinguishing agent inside.

From the President...

The New Year finds us working hard to get ready for a number of upcoming events and remind you to mark the dates in your calendars.

We once again are partnering with the **Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs** in the organization of the upcoming 2007 conference, starting May 7, and ending with the conference banquet on May 9. There are additional training programs that are offered for the 3 days prior to the conference that is available to all of our members.

The **Trade Show** will be held on Sunday May 6th, noon til 5:00 and Monday May 7th from noon to 7:00 p.m.. This is one of largest fire protection trade shows in Canada. A number of our Members will be speaking on Municipal / Industrial Cooperation, Industrial Warehouses Fire Fighting and Protection, High Angle and Confined Space Rescue.

The program is almost complete and Greer will be sending it to you along with the registration form in the next few weeks. Please return you registration form marked as an OIFPA Member as soon as possible. You will be able to register for one day or the entire conference, your choice. Meals are included in the registration. This is an excellent opportunity to update your knowledge, see the latest in equipment and meet with government officials in an informal setting. Plan to attend and support your OIFPA Members.

The **OIFPA's Annual General Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2007 (time to be determined) at the Double Tree Hotel, 655 Dixon Rd., Toronto

CIE – September 19, and 20th, 2007 – London Congress Centre, London. The OIFPA have been asked to work with the CIE to attract the industrial sector to attend this two-day trade show with speakers from the OIFPA. This is an exciting time for our membership and all your board members are working hard.

Annual Golf Tournament – Tuesday, September 18th, 2007 will be held at Fire Rock Golf club in London check it out on our web site www.oifpa.org.

The seminar scheduled for the year is in the works. We are tentatively scheduling a seminar on **Emergency planning for Peterborough**. We are hoping to have, **Commissioner of Emergency Management For Ontario** as the speaker. This will be another must see presentation. Mark your calendar now for this date.

As part of the AGM we will be holding elections for the Board of Directors. I encourage anyone who is interested to let Greer know. A quick phone call or e-mail is all she needs. **The organization needs more representation from industry on the board**. The OIFPA is an effective lobby group with the province. Industrial member participation is key to a healthy association. ***The organization needs board members from industry, who can speak for industry.***

I look forward to meeting you at an upcoming seminar and especially the Annual General Meeting in May.

Roy Graham
Advisor – Emergency Response
Petro Canada, Mississauga

Fire Fighters: A Piece of the Muscular Dystrophy Puzzle!

Since 1954, Fire Fighters have held a strong partnership with Muscular Dystrophy Canada (MDC). On March 30 & 31, 2006, the Emergency Response Team at CAMI Automotive Inc. joined the fight by holding their first annual MDC boot drive. It was held at the plant and employees were asked to make a donation to MDC. In only two days they raised a total of \$3,621!

In the last fiscal year (April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006), Fire Fighters raised \$2.3 million across Canada. As a result of this strong support, MDC is able to assist thousands of Canadians through research, education, and support programs. By providing these services, MDC gives Canadians affected by neuromuscular disorders and their families a chance at continued independence and hope for the future!

MDC would like to thank everyone at CAMI Automotive Inc. and across Canada who donated their time and resources to help in the fight against neuromuscular disorders.

For more information on Muscular Dystrophy Canada please contact Deanna Totten at 1-877-850-8720 or at deanna.totten@muscle.ca

Let's Make Muscle's Move!



Congratulations to the boys at CAMI for their tremendous support of MD...

******* Upcoming Seminars *******

New Changes to Sprinkler Requirements in the 2007 Edition of NFPA 13 to be presented by Larry Keeping of Vipond. The location is the Conference Centre at Petro Canada, Oakville and the date is to be confirmed.

April – Peterborough – we will be presenting **Natural or Manmade Disasters, Anywhere Anytime – Industrial / Municipal and Government Working Together**.... Speakers from all sectors will be participating are being confirmed at this time and location will be in the Peterborough area.

All other information will be forthcoming shortly.

How many times do you have to tell people about winter driving ????



Northumberland OPP say it's the silly season for some drivers on the road. Just days after a massive collision on Highway 401 that left two dead in near white out conditions, two drivers are facing charges of careless driving for not slowing down in bad weather. The two separate incidents occurred on Highway 401 around the Cobourg area. At approximately 4:30 p.m. an OPP officer was investigating a vehicle that had rolled over just one kilometre east of Cobourg in the eastbound lanes. The driver told the officer he was traveling 100 k.p.h. along the highway when he lost control and his vehicle flipped on it's roof in the ditch. Northumberland OPP Constable Dave Powers said at the time, there were whiteout conditions and visibility was down to 20 meters for drivers on the highway. Most traffic on the highway at the time was going approximately 20 k.p.h.

As a result, a Scarborough man is facing a charge of careless driving. At the same time, another OPP officer traveling along Highway 401 east of Cobourg was passed by a transport traveling at an "excessive speed" for the road conditions. The officer pulled the transport over and a man from Wisconsin is facing a charge of careless driving. Constable Powers said some drivers aren't getting the message to slow down when driving conditions deteriorate because of the weather. "The disregard for their safety as well as other members of the public that are safely traveling along the highway is amazing." Heavy snow started at around 3 p.m. and continued till past 6 p.m., causing whiteout conditions along the highway.

Northumberland Emergency Services
Nesphotos.ca

Canadian Industrial Exposition – London, Ontario – September 19, and 20, 2007

Join OIFPA as we work with CIE for this Industrial Trade Show at the Conference Centre in London this coming September. OIFPA will be well represented there as well as having speakers for a variety of seminars.

The 12th Annual Wm. Beatty Golf Tournament will be held prior to the Exposition on Tuesday, September 18th at the prestigious **FireRock Golf Club** (www.firerockgolf.com) Take a look at this course!!! You will not be disappointed but you should start practicing early to get in shape.

The price remains at \$150.00 plus GST. Mark your calendars now in order to plan for a day of golf, and then attend the trade show the following day.

Information is forthcoming of this trade show

Hotels available are 4 Points Sheraton and the Hilton in London have been made available for this show.

Membership for 2007 is now due ... for those of you who have forgotten ... this is a reminder that your membership invoices were sent out in December and are now due. \$132.09 plus \$7.92 GST - \$140.00

General Website Information - Fire Services Journal – www.fsj.on.ca
Northumberland Emergency Services www.nesphotos.ca

Your **Board of Directors** is working very hard on getting together an interesting program for 2007. If you have a topic of interest that you would like more information please let us know and we will do our best to arrange a seminar.

We want to hear from our members... call the office (905-527-0700) or email (oifpa@interlynx.net) ... tell us what is going on in your neck of the woods as others would like to know and can learn from your experiences !

Tools of the Trade Tee Shirts

Large, X-Large, XX-Large - \$30.00 (includes shipping)



Back of T-shirt

Order early and order now as they sell out quickly.

BULLETIN..... Update as of the latest meeting of OAFCA / OIFPA

There are a number of courses that are being offered on Saturday and Sunday that will be of interest to many of our members. They can get into them at the member's price.

The OIFPA meeting will be Wednesday at 1300.

Keynote speakersIn the morning there are a number of speakers including
...Francois Langlois (Everest and Scaling Your Mountain of Success),
... Dr. Gordon Giesbrecht (Working in Extreme Temperatures) and
... Olli-Pekka Ojanen (Winter Fire Fighting in Finland).

The **exhibits** will be open **Sunday and Monday**, a change from last year, which the trade show was on Monday and Tuesday. There will be product demonstrations in the exhibit area.

Additional speakers from the OIFPA side ...

Paul Philips (Lambton College) is scheduled for Monday, May 7 at 0730.

George Fawcett and Cyril Hare are scheduled for Monday, May 7 at 0730.

Jim Belrose and Cyril Hare are scheduled for Tuesday, May 8 at 1515.

Roy Graham has confirmed Derrick Tessier of Grip Safety, Tuesday, May 8 at 1300.

Barry is updating their web site and you should be able to get all the updates on the Link from the OIFPA website www.oifpa.org then go the LINKS as of February 19.

*All registrations should go directly to the OAFCA. Our members can sign up for the Industrial Fire Protection registration or they can sign up for the entire conference. If they sign up for the entire conference, they should **indicate that you are members of OIFPA** in order to get the member's rate. **Circle the OIFPA logo or write on the application that they are members.***