From the Director’s Desk

It has been a year since 9/11. None of us will forget that day...where we were...what we were doing...our thoughts and fears, anger, pain and sense of pride for fellow firefighters and first responders in all types of uniforms. Since that time we have all worked "double- and triple-shifts" to do what had to be done. Our instructors and staff have truly stepped up to the plate and I want to thank each of them for their contributions.

Recently, Governor Ridge stated that Illinois was one of the 3 best prepared for homeland security states in the nation. Training has played a critical role and will continue to do so in the future.

Recently I heard Chief Plaugher of the Arlington County Fire Department describe his department’s response to the Pentagon on 9/11. Afterward he made an observation that I believe is profound times in which we live. He observed that in the 1970’s we had a fire problem so critical that Congress commissioned the America’s Burning report. In response, the fire service, legislatures, educators, private sector and citizens took concrete steps to put fire safety technology in every building and to provide fire safety education to all citizens. As a result, fire deaths have been reduced by half. He then observed that we face a similar challenge and concentration of national interest for homeland security. We have a new opportunity to make America a safer place to live and raise our families.

I believe that the fire service can take the lead in every community to bring 9 critical groups together (elected officials, fire, police, health, emergency management, public works, educators, private sector, and non-government organizations) who must cooperate to create and implement plans and programs that will improve our ability to prevent and respond to acts of terrorism. At the same time we need to engage our citizens with specific actions they can take for themselves and to assist the 9 groups to prevent and respond.

We need an action plan for homeland security in the same way that we created and implemented one in response to America’s Burning.

I look forward to see each of you attend one or more Institute courses during the next year. Many grant-sponsored programs will continue at little or no cost, certification programs will be enhanced with new courses in collapse and technical rescue. We are continuing to field on-line courses so look for new offerings on our web site at www.fsi.uiuc.edu. We are creating a new partnership with Southeast Illinois College in Harrisburg to provide a regional training site and we hope to create additional partnerships as needed. We look forward to having the opportunity to provide training to you.

It is in our hands to shape the future now by working together to create more effective ways to work together. Each of us at the Institute is committed to this end. May God bless each of you and keep you in his hands as you serve the citizens of Illinois and shape the future for our children.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Jaehne

Southern Illinois College
Harrisburg, Illinois
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The Illinois Fire Service Institute Newsletter is the official publication of the Illinois Fire Service Institute, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. The Newsletter is published three times per year and is solely an educational and advisory aid to the fire service and individuals working to establish and maintain a fire safe environment in Illinois.

Opinions expressed in the Illinois Fire Service Institute Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official opinions of the Illinois Fire Service Institute unless otherwise noted in the article. The Illinois Fire Service Institute will consider for publication articles or items of interest to the fire service of Illinois and encourages materials from all fire-related professions for consideration.

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Deputy Director David F. Clark, Associate Director for Academic Affairs

The Illinois Fire Service Institute, your state fire academy, has been busier than ever before. The final tabulations are not yet complete, but FY-02 was another record breaker. IFSI had over 40,000 students. Thanks to Homeland Security supplemental funding we were able to provide many classes between January and June 2002 at no cost to the students. That one-time funding also allowed us to add six new trailers and four tow vehicles to our fleet. This will enable us to conduct more, and in some cases, simultaneous, specialized classes around the state in the future.

We have upgraded our training site to include unique props for structural collapse of both frame and masonry buildings. Various tool manufacturers have expanded the types and numbers of rescue tools they provide to IFSI, so students can see and practice with the most current items available. These partnerships and support are appreciated.

IFSI again conducted demos, such as auto extrication, rope rescue, and Haz Mat decon, at the State Fair. This year we added two evening demos of LP gas live fire fighting. These demos enabled thousands of Illinois citizens to better understand and appreciate the capabilities, needs, and training of their firefighters. Thanks to the Sherman and Williamsville fire departments for assisting with the LP demos, and to the Illinois Propane Education and Research Council for supplying the LP.

The Homeland Security Summit, which we sponsored in Springfield, was a great success. Information from the Summit was requested by and sent to the White House within two days of the Summit. The ideas, concerns, and suggestions naturally are available to state officials, also. Thanks to those who participated in or provided input to the Summit and the preceding workshops. We anticipate continuing increased training activity related to Homeland Security for the next few years, but that does not mean that we will slack off on our other training areas. They are all important to the safety of our citizens and firefighters. We not only remember those who have died and will die in the war on terrorism, but we should dedicate ourselves to honor them by being as capable as possible to carry on and win their fight, so they do not die in vain.

We are working on our 2003 calendar, and on an updated IFSI catalog for distribution this fall. Work on our web site is also ongoing. Check it out regularly for new information and features.

Matt Weber recently became Chief of the Danville fire department, so Dan Hite took over coordinating the downstate fire officer program.

We have less money available for free Cornerstone training this year than last, so I suggest you submit your requests ASAP, and please invite multiple departments to the classes. We want to reach as many firefighters as possible with the limited amount of funding available.

Consider sponsoring some of the 2-day National Fire Academy (NFA) classes, which IFSI can deliver. These are available at no cost to you.

The new “Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Skills Training Package” will be provided to you this fall. Rich Valenta, who developed our Firefighter-II Online program, and several other instructors, have been working for a year to develop a set of three basic training CDs. This project is funded by the Illinois Firefighters’ Association to assist all Illinois firefighters. We will distribute these CDs free to every fire department in the state, starting in November. This training package is a spin-off from our CFF-II Online, but it is NOT a complete certification program, though it IS compatible with certification. It will contain a teaching outline for about 30 skill/subject areas, plus photos and short videos to illustrate teaching points and procedures. The intent is that this package can be used in various ways: by a training officer to present a lesson in class, by an instructor as personal review before a training session, or by an individual firefighter to study a subject. It can be used to supplement certification training, or as part of a stand-alone training program. IFSI and IFA hope you will make good use of this unique training package.

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Table Talk
John “Mac” McCastland
Assistant Director,
Chicago Metro Area

Well we are getting ready to crank things up for the new fiscal year at IFSI. Last year was a record by the way the numbers are falling into place, pretty much double what they were five years ago. That time frame has seen this place come to life in a big way. The events of last September put a spin on IFSI that, because of Director (I was a Corporal, so I’ll still call him Col.) Jaehne’s background placed the Institute at the center of much of what was taking place with respect to Homeland Defense in this State. Seminars were held throughout the State in an attempt to get communities and Officials to either review or develop a plan to deal with a situation should it become necessary.

As you can imagine the Structural Collapse programs that were being developed in September 2001 grew up real fast. Today the Operations level is in the box, and the Technician Class is ready to run as the State pilot.

IFSI received supplemental funding to be applied to the training of Firefighters & First Responders. These dollars allowed us to make improvements to the campus at Champaign, as well as secure a fleet of vehicles that, will allow us to travel the State offering classes, that would have remained unscheduled because of no way to move our “stuff” down the highway.

A major component to all of this activity is the Field Staff. This group of professionals have stepped up to the plate and taken ownership of the Program Areas that they work in. So, some may say “that’s what they get paid for.” Others may have a view of becoming a member of the field staff because “they are always busy— what a great side job.” Many folks apply, few are chosen!!.

Who are the Field Staff?? They are the professionals in the area of training that they represent this Institute in. Folks, who, unlike baseball players, have yet to attain a six-figure minimum, are willing to give back to a calling that has offered them so much. They come in all sizes, shapes, colors, genders, ages, young and not so young. The youth are sharp; they do things on the “magic machine” that are really tricky. The old guys are smart — they already know stuff about the job that the kids of the 00’s will discover in about two more years. They are a hard working group who’s dedication to training and the safety of Firefighters has provided IFSI with the ability to follow the direction of the boss when he said “we are about the business of training firefighters — real deal, down and dirty.” So until Fire becomes warm and fuzzy — we’ll just keep on doing what we were doing, the only way we know how.

Another thing you may have noticed over the past year is that many of IFSI programs offer a co-certificate with the National Fire Academy, or can be applied to your required hours for con-ed. We are putting the calendar together for 2003. It’s busy, real busy. They may even hit the street with this edition, not really sure of the timing on that one, but check out the IFSI web site. All the programs and dates are listed there.

To all who keep the wagon rolling, Office staff, Field staff, co-workers, I can only say “thanks” for the great year.

Give me a call, put the coffee on — we’ll talk.  
MAC

Extrication Update
Duane Bales, Metro East & Extrication Program Coordinator

In order to follow the guideline of NFPA 1670, the Office of the State Fire Marshal is establishing a new program called Vehicle/Machinery-Operations next year. This program will replace the existing Roadway Extrication certification program, which has been in effect since 1992. Under the new program, a Vehicle/Machinery-Technician certification will also be developed within the next couple of years and offered to the fire service.

Due to the above new programs, the existing Roadway Extrication classes will no longer be offered beginning January 1, 2003. In order for those who are currently Roadway Extrication certified, a 16 hour transition is also being developed so that once you take that class and the 9 hour Technical Rescue Awareness class a Vehicle/Machinery-Operations certificate will be issued by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The reason for the 16-hour transition class is several new techniques, new car construction and some EMS has been added to the new curriculum. With the transition class, the goal of the Vehicle/Machinery committee is to get everyone up to the same speed. The 16-hour transition class will be offered until December 31, 2005. At that time, everyone will have to go through the 40-hour course.

We at the Illinois Fire Service Institute are planning several transition classes the next three years but not all dates have yet been established. Classes will be given on weekends and during the week so that everyone wanting to update will have a chance. Please check the web site, www.fsi.uiuc.edu, periodically to see when the classes will be offered.
IFSI has established Regional Training Center relationships with numerous departments to host specialized training classes. For additional training sites, visit the IFSI website.

Procedures for use of RTC by individual department
1. Complete proper request form and arrange use of facility with RTC host department.
2. Provide an instructor trained in use of the facility.
3. Review and follow the procedures for facility use.
4. Submit student & department roster, subject(s) taught, number of training hours, and instructor(s) names to IFSI through the RTC host department after the training session.

Listed here are the sites designated as fire training RTCs. Included is a list of facilities and props available at each site.
Updates & Highlights
Lian Ruan, Head Librarian

1. Advanced Graduate Course at the University Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS)

Since last year, I prepared a "Special Library Administration" course by working with Dean and Professor Linda Smith and others. She offered the course from June 12 to August 2, 2002 to twelve graduate students enrolled in the class and sixteen guest speakers, including IFSI Director Jaehne. Caterpillar Inc. sponsored the field trip on July 26, 2002 to visit three special libraries in Chicago and LexisNexis sponsored the field trip lunch. We also helped initiate and establish a GSLIS Special Librarian Endowment Fund to promote special librarianship.


In addition, I served as an advisor to an independent study student (1/2 unit) in the spring and supervised a practicum student (1/2 unit) in the summer from GSLIS.

2. Grant Programs

I wrote and submitted the GMR Fellow grant application, offered by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) in April 2002. The Health Science Library at the University of Chicago would be a host institution to train Web-based instruction and outreach initiatives in health science libraries if the grant is awarded; with plans to develop a new outreach program for paramedics in Illinois fire departments.

Recently the 2002 LSTA grant project, entitled "grow with pro" was complete. The grant allowed IFSI to hire a local architect to do conceptual drawings for the new IFSI Library.

3. Research

I was honored to be a presenter at the 2002 inFIRE (International Fire Library Consortium) "Creating Integrated Distance Learning Library Services for Illinois Firefighters: An Integrated Information Service with Online Firefighter II Certification Program" on May 31, London, England.

With Dave Clark, Bill Farnum, Brian Brauer, I also presented "Outreach through Partnership," to eleven librarians from the South African Library Leadership Project (SALLP), an international program organized by the University Mortenson Center for International Library Programs on July 11, 2002. A tour of the IFSI Library and IFSI followed.

A joint article with Jeff Cunningham, John Paul, Sarah Windau, and myself on "Virtual User Instruction at the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute Library: Producing a Web-based Training Video for Illinois Firefighters" is being published by Illinois Libraries.

4. 2002 Annual IFSI Library Committee Meeting

The meeting was held at IFSI on March 28. Chairman and Chief Bill Riddle (Sycamore Fire Department) chaired the meeting. Fourteen attendees, including library staff, did group discussions on the Library strategic planning for the future. To view the meeting pictures, go to http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu, click Library, click Committee.

5. Partnership

Branch Library at the Chicago Fire Academy

In April 2002, Ruan worked with the Chicago Public Library and Chicago Fire Department to reach a partnership agreement, which the Chicago Public Library would deliver library materials directly to Chicago Fire Academy to meet information needs on time.

IFSI is also working with Tom Dempsey, liaison at the Chicago Fire Academy to establish a branch library to provide timely library services.

Aurora Public Library's IFSI Library Training for Aurora Fire Department

Linda Chesser, Reference Librarian, Aurora Public Library, did a training workshop in May for the Aurora Fire Department and received positive feedback.

6. Digital Archives Project

The library digital archives team finished phase I of the project by cataloging IFSI archives collection. Please visit http://www.fsi.uiuc.edu, click library, and click archives under Specialized Database to find more information.

We will be working local fire departments' archives in phase II. If you are interested in having your archives on the library Web site, please contact the Library.

7. Donation

We have recently received over 60 boxes of donations from Springfield Fire Department. Our heartfelt thanks go to the department, in particular, to Tim Krell, Deputy Chief, Division of Training.
John Nemeth, Summit Volunteer Fire Department, donated a check of $25 to the Library. Thank you, John!

8. Leadership

- Special Libraries Association Illinois Chapter Downstate Meeting

The Special Libraries Association Illinois Chapter Downstate Meeting was held on April 8, 2002 at IFSI. There were 50 attendees. Jean Wilkins, Executive Director, Illinois State Library, and Jan Ison, Executive Director, Lincoln Trail Libraries System, were invited guest speakers.

- Special Libraries Association Illinois Chapter Downstate Board of Director

Ruan started to serve as Downstate Board Director in July 2002 (2-year term).

- inFIRE Treasurer and Serial Union List Coordinator

Ruan continued to serve as inFIRE Treasurer and Serial Union List Coordinator.

- 2002 Special Libraries Association Conference

Ruan attended the 2002 Special Libraries Association Conference, Los Angeles, in June, paid by GSLIS.

IPERC and IFSI Partnership
Matt Weber, Downstate LP Program Coordinator

The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) and the Illinois Propane Education Research Council (IPERC) have enjoyed an exceptional training season. Since January 1, 2002 through August 25, 2002, through this wonderful partnership, we have been able to provide 10,468 student hours of training to firefighters on how to handle a propane emergency. It is incredible that we have had students from 68 Illinois Counties attend this training. We have conducted 60 classes at 45 different locations. There have been firefighters from 292 departments attend these classes. This course offering has been in high demand. IFSI is starting to schedule classes for next training season. If your fire department or fire association is interested in hosting a live LPG firefighting class at its location, please contact Matt Weber to arrange the scheduling of that class.

The requirements are rather simple and straightforward. There is a minimum attendance requirement of 35 firefighters needed at each of the training sessions. We strongly encourage fire departments that wish to host one of these classes to invite their mutual-aid departments to participate in a joint venture with regards to this class. We need a reliable water supply. We need the capability of flowing at least 250-300 gallons of water per minute. If you have fire hydrants in your community that will supply this capacity, then we can use one pumper. If we will be working off of a porta-tank to supply our water, then we require two pumpers and two water supplies. One of the pumpers will be used for the attack lines, and the other the emergency back-up line. No one with a beard will be allowed to participate in this live fire training.

We will supply three instructors to deliver the class. There will be a short one and a half hour lecture prior to the actual live burn. We will need a classroom with a projection screen to conduct the lecture portion of the class. IPERC will cover the costs associated with providing the propane for the class. You will be given instructions at the time you set up the class how to make those arrangements. It is important that we in the fire service thank the IPERC Association and the propane dealers in your community for providing the funds associated with providing this wonderful partnership. Without their help and support we would be unable to offer the number of classes we do. Through this partnership, we are able to provide approximately 110 classes each year.

To arrange a live propane firefighting class next calendar year, contact Matt Weber at 217-244-7134 or email him at: mweber2@uiuc.edu.
Fireground Errors
Brian Brauer, Fire Fighting Program Director

So you’ve been on your department for a few years, seen some fire, and gotten comfortable in your role on the fire ground. You’re able to do whatever is asked of you correctly most of the time. Are you flawless on the fireground? Of course not.

Everyone on a fire scene is faced with decisions to make. What tools to take with you, when to vent, and how much hose to take lead out are three examples of simple tasks that are considered at every fire. Often, these decisions are made from the firefighter’s training or experience without a lot of debate or conscious thought. Sometimes Standard Operating Guidelines tell you how to approach a situation. But in the heat of battle, a small mistake or error in judgment, either an act of commission or omission, can have a negative effect on the outcome of a fire.

Put yourself in the boots of the firefighter on an engine that is responding to a large residence on the outskirts of town. The setback from the street to the front door of the 3-story house is almost one hundred feet. The fire is somewhere in the rear of the second floor. You get off the rig, pull the preconnected line on the curbside, and lead out. You and the officer encounter smoke on the first floor, and pack up as the line is charged and the air is bled off. You work to advance the line up the stairs at the rear of the house, get to the top, and can see the fire room down the hall around the corner. You knock doors, stay low, and watch conditions over your head. You reach behind you to get a hold of the line as you prepare to advance, only to find that you have all the hose available with you at the top of the stairs. What happened?

Instead of sizing up the fire as an individual fire, you lumped it with your previous experiences and pulled the preconnected line. Why? Maybe it’s because the past ten fires you’ve been to you’ve pulled that line. The law of recency applied: you did what you did on the last few runs. Or perhaps it was just habit. You usually lead out with the precon line, and it hasn’t failed you in the past. Until now.

The example above may seem like something you would never do. You make sure that every fire building you enter is sized up not only by your officer, but also by each member of the crew. The nozzleman makes sure there is enough hose to get to the seat of the fire and work that entire room. The officer considers the risks present and evaluates how aggressive your attack can be, and then makes sure the additional resources responding match what the company needs to control and extinguish the fire. Other members on the first line in perform their assigned tasks. The engineer is calculating needed fire flows, watching the lead out, and preparing to charge the line. He is looking for where the water supply will come from, and putting him/herself into a position to monitor the interior crew’s progress as they advance into the building, before an outside IC arrives. With all of the decisions that have to be made, skipping one step in the decision tree can cause a breakdown of the entire evolution.

You may be at the point where you’re thinking “But I’m on the truck. I’m used to watching the engine geeks screw up!” Consider the following fire problem:

You’re assigned to the rear sector of an apartment fire to make a rescue of a victim in the window on the second floor. The building is 3-story combustible, has unprotected stairwells, with fire on the first floor. The entire building is charged with smoke. The victim on the second floor is in little distress, and patiently awaiting rescue.

Since the sill height of a second story window is about 14 feet off the ground, you and your officer select a 24-foot extension ladder to make the rescue. You return to the rear of the building, and flawlessly assist the grateful victim down the ladder. As you get the victim down to the ground, you hear a cry from above you. Three units to your right, on the third floor, a victim appears in the window with heavy black smoke venting over her head.

This second case is a true story that one of our field staff shared with me. The crew had to return to the truck, select a longer ladder, return to the rear of the building, and get the victim down. A year later the firefighter met the victim in the mall during fire prevention week. The victim introduced herself, and asked if the firefighter was indeed the person who rescued her from that third story window. The firefighter puffed out his chest, and revealed that he was indeed her valiant rescuer. The woman looked at the firefighter, and told him “next time, bring a longer ladder the FIRST time!”

The point here is that we are not a profession that can afford to offer only the minimum. While extending the hoseline in the first example would have taken time and energy from the initial attack, if the hose were able to get to the fire room on the first try, in the long run the loss could have been stopped sooner. In the second example, bringing a ladder that could reach every window on the rear would require a 35 from the start, which is a bear to move with only two firefighters. But look at the additional options you have once you are in the rear of the building: you can access every apartment for rescue or ventilation, instead of just half. What if that was a brother firefighter that ran out of air while searching on the third floor, and he collapsed back into the building while you went back for the longer ladder? We don’t want to contribute to a negative outcome.

These are two examples of how one portion of completing a task, if omitted or minimized, can impact the outcome of the entire operation. What are yours? Firefighting is a trade. From an educational model, we have a minimum standard to start operating on a fire department,
and then offer a combination of controlled and uncontrolled training as one progresses from an apprentice to a journeyman to a master of the trade. Along this continuum, we make mistakes. Hopefully we only make them each once, and learn from the blood and sweat of our brothers and sisters that have gone before us.

Several airlines now have a mechanism in place where pilots can report their "near misses" - mistakes that they made but didn't get caught making - so that other pilots can learn how to avoid the same errors. And the airlines found that the numbers of serious incidents of pilot error were reduced through this mechanism. A pilot sharing a small mistake helped a different pilot avoid the same mistake down the road. Currently, there is discussion to offer a similar program that would record physician and nurse errors without penalty, so that patient safety could be increased in the same manner as airline passenger safety. Can we apply this model to the fire service? I think we can, with your help.

So what "little things" have you done that made an operation go better (or worse)? What are the trade secrets that you offer to your rookies to help them on the fireground? What are the stupid maneuvers you've seen done that gave the fire a chance to eat another apartment or floor?

Please take the time to drop me a note, anonymously if you prefer, to brbrauer@staff.uiuc.edu or by regular mail to IFSI to my attention. I will share these in an upcoming newsletter, so that firefighters outside your department can benefit from the lessons that you have learned.

The bottom line is that by sharing what we have each learned we could make the fireground a little safer for everyone in our profession. Who knows - maybe the mistake that you share will prevent someone on the job from being injured or killed. That's an awesome return on the few minutes it takes to share what you have learned.

Stay safe. -B

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### Fall Medication Review

**Cathey Eide, EMS Program Coordinator**

**ALBUTEROL**

(Proventil Ventolin)

**Class:**

Sympathomimetic, Bronchodilator

**Description:**

Albuterol is a sympathomimetic that is selective for beta2 adrenergic receptors. It relaxes smooth muscles of the bronchial tree and peripheral vasculature by stimulating adrenergic receptors of the sympathetic nervous system.

**Onset and Duration:**

Onset: 5-15 min after inhalation
Duration: 3-4 hr after inhalation

**Indications:**

Relief of bronchospasm in patients with reversible obstructive airway disease
Prevention of exercise-induced bronchospasm

**Contraindications:**

Prior hypersensitivity reaction to albuterol
Cardiac dysrhythmias associated with tachycardia

**Adverse Reactions:**

Usually dose related
Restlessness, apprehension
Dizziness
Palpitations
Increase in blood pressure
Dysrhythmias
Increased hypoxemia

**Drug Interactions:**

Sympathomimetics may exacerbate adverse cardiovascular effects
Antidepressants may potentiate the effects on the vasculature
Beta blockers may antagonize albuterol
Albuterol may potentiate diuretic-induced hypokalemia

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## 2003 IFSI Classes

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Class Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 11, 03</td>
<td>EMS Officer</td>
<td>Nat'l Standard Curriculum Update</td>
<td>Champaign</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20-24, 03</td>
<td>HAZMAT Officer</td>
<td>Management III</td>
<td>Champaign</td>
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<td>FIRE FIGHTING</td>
<td>Chemistry for HazMat</td>
<td>Champaign</td>
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<td>OFFICER</td>
<td>Firefighter II Online Mod A, B, or C</td>
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<td>February 1-2, 03</td>
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<td>$200</td>
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<td>February 8, 03</td>
<td>EMS</td>
<td>Nat'l Standard Curriculum Update</td>
<td>Champaign</td>
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<td>Instructor I</td>
<td>SKCTA, Aurora</td>
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<td>OFFICER</td>
<td>Tactics &amp; Strategy II</td>
<td>Champaign</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<td>EMS</td>
<td>Lead EMS Instructor</td>
<td>Champaign</td>
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<td>OFFICER</td>
<td>Fire Prevention Principles</td>
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<td>Saving Our Own</td>
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<td>ARSON</td>
<td>Fire/Arson-Module III</td>
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<td>November 1-2, 8-9, 15, 03</td>
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<td>Tactics &amp; Strategy</td>
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<td>December 6-7, 13-14, 20, 03</td>
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2003 Winter Fire School

Dave Ferber
Winter Fire School and Cornerstone Program Coordinator

It looks like we finally made it through summer. We are starting the fall season and I am talking about winter. Kind of depressing, isn’t it? There is good news about winter. We are having Winter Fire School again. It was an overwhelming success last year. A record number of students registered and showed up for class.

Next year’s Winter Fire School will be on February 1st and 2nd, 2003. It will again be held at the Chancellor Hotel and Convention Center and the Fire Service Institute in Champaign. The format will be the same with classes being held 8 hours on Saturday and 4 hours Sunday. We are working on class subject selection and instructors and hope to have everything finalized by the time this newsletter comes out. In 2003 we will be offering four National Fire Academy classes.

The 2003 Winter Fire School was paid for by a Homeland Security grant. As of now, no new money has been made available so we will have to charge for Winter Fire School, 2003. If this changes we will let you know. A brochure with all dates, times, classes, and cost will be coming out soon as well as being posted on the IFSI website.

So mark your calendars to attend! We are looking forward to seeing you there.

www.fsi.uiuc.edu
Do Firefighters Need Certification To Perform Rescues?
Terry Sutphen, Rescue Program Director

I often receive questions about what it takes for person to be qualified in rescue. Some say that certification is required. The answer in Illinois is NO.

There is no legal or regulatory authority that requires Illinois fire service personnel to be certified before they can participate in rescue operations. Neither the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OFSM), the Illinois Department Of Labor (IDOL), nor the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) requires certification. However, IDOL does require Illinois fire departments to have Qualified and properly equipped personnel to perform the rescues. Plus, the fire department must maintain records of training and personnel qualifications. Certification only means that some other party has verified that, at some point in time, that a person has met a set of requirements.

What does "Qualified" mean?
The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) defines "Qualified Person" as "A person who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, professional standing, or skill, and who, by knowledge, training, and experience, has demonstrated the ability to deal with problems relating to a particular subject matter, work, or project."

So, to prove you are "qualified," you must have documentation that illustrates your knowledge, skills, training, and experience in specific rescue operations.

There are several ways credentials can be obtained. In Illinois, a fire department can have its personnel:
1. Successfully complete an OSFM approved rescue-training course.
2. Use a private rescue training/consulting company.
3. Develop and deliver an in-house training activity.

The key point to developing "Qualified" personnel is to have a training program that meets some acceptable criteria taught by "Qualified" instructors.

How do I identify a quality rescue-training program?
Most quality training programs will reference performance requirements found NFPA rescue standards 1006. Standard for Rescue Technician Professional Qualification and 1670. Standard for Operations and Training For Technical Rescue Incidents. Additionally, a quality-training program will define how the knowledge and skills will be verified, usually via practical and written examinations.

There are three advantages of using OSFM Certification for identifying potential qualified personnel.
1. OSFM bases its criteria on recognized NFPA standards
2. OSFM uses peer review committees to identify what will be the training course contents, required practical skills, instructor qualifications, class hours, and testing requirements.
3. OSFM system provides a third party testing activity that helps to independently verify basic knowledge and skills.

Does this mean that my fire department has to send its personnel to an OSFM approved school to become qualified?
NO. As stated above, IDOL requires documentation of training activities to verify people are qualified. So department training records must show who was trained, when they were trained, what was taught, how they were tested, who were the instructors, and what makes these instructors qualified to provide the training. Additionally, the department must annually document that refresher training was held for to those initially trained. It is up to the department and then IDOL to determine if the initial and refresher training is adequate.

The bottom line is that certification is one means of identifying those who may have the knowledge and skill to perform rescue operations. What's really important in rescue is how well you perform, not what credentials you have obtained.

By: Cathey Eide, CCP
EMS Program Coordinator

DEFINITION OF HEATSTROKE:
High core temp (105° or higher), with mental status changes. YOU MAY OR MAY NOT SEE SWEATING.

ASSESSMENT:
Mental status changes may include Any CNS ABNORMALITY: syncope, irritation, bizarre behavior, combativeness, hallucinations, and coma. Physical Exam may show upgoing toes, decerebrate/decorticate posturing, hemiplegia, status epilepticus or coma.

PEOPLE AT THE GREATEST RISK FOR HEATSTROKE:
The poor, the elderly and the chronically ill. Anticipate the possibility of EXERTIONAL HEATSTROKE in healthy people who are engaged in heavy physical activity (firefighters, athletes, construction workers, road construction crews etc.) Signs, symptoms and treatment are the same as for "classic" heatstroke.

TREATMENT:
ABC's, High flow 02, monitoring/IV as per local protocol. Active cooling measures; strip all clothing and mist patient with cool water in squirt bottle if possible. Notify Medical Communications ASAP if you suspect Heatstroke.
UPDATE ON HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND TERRORISM TRAINING

Nancy Mason - Governor's Terrorism Task Force Committee

The Illinois Fire Service Institute, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency have worked together to develop common curriculum packages, these courses have been adopted by the Governor’s Terrorism Task committee to be the prerequisites to be members of the State Weapons of Mass Destruction Team. MABAS also adopted portions of the training to qualify personnel as members on the Hazardous Materials Technician A and B Teams. The goal of these agencies is to provide a single reference source for Hazardous Materials Awareness, Operations, Technician, Incident Command and training in emergency response to terrorism for State of Illinois public sector employees. The desired outcome of achieving this goal is to provide a foundation for responders from all agencies when responding to Hazardous Materials or Weapons of Mass Destruction incidents. These responders would be able to utilize common terminology, share common response expertise and command structure.

Awareness, Operations and Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts are all out in Train-the-Trainer format and packages are available for instructors to utilize to teach the courses once they attend the necessary instructor training. These packages can be used to train any public sector responder, the number of hours of training will vary based upon the job classification of the public sector employee. In addition, two of the programs are to be offered on-line from Illinois Fire Service Institute, Awareness and Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts.

The Hazardous Materials programs meet NFPA 472, 2002 edition and the requirements of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The Hazardous Materials training programs are enhanced to include counter-terrorism information. Starting January 2004, fire fighters challenging the OSFM certification program will need to complete a 40 hour Operations course and an 8 hour Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts in order to be certified at the Hazardous Materials Operations level by OSFM.

Hazardous Materials Incident Command and Technician A and Technician B are also currently being revised to meet the NFPA 472, 2002 edition and will also be available after January of 2004.

Interagency Accreditation

Illinois Fire Service Institute participates within the Training Resources and Data Exchange program (TRADE) designed to foster the exchange of fire-related training information and resources among Federal, State and local levels of government. As part of this exchange, firefighters now are eligible to receive certification for all the forty-hour Hazardous Materials programs from the National Fire Academy. Also, as in the past, IFSI still maintains the ability to issue emergency medical educational units all the hazardous materials and terrorism programs and ACE accreditation for the forty-hour hazardous materials programs.

Student and Instructor Training Materials

Funding for the revision and the prerequisite training necessary to use the new curriculum has been co-sponsored by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the Illinois Fire Service Institute through grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The instructional and student materials are packaged into training kits, which are free for use. All the kits and instructional supplies remain the property of the State of Illinois and will also be maintained by the State. In order to utilize the instructional materials, the trainers must become certified as a State of Illinois Instructor through ILETSE, IEMA or IFSI.

State Instructors are permitted access to the lending kits located in 23 Regional Training Siles throughout the State or by reservation from the IFSI lending library. One of the latest features of our system is that when you request a kit from our library, it will be delivered by interlibrary loan to your local library free of charge, the instructor simply picks up the instructional and student material at that source and returns them to the local site when the program is complete. CD versions are also available to the instructors that have the resources to utilize this media.

Why State of Illinois Instructors?

All training held under the federal grants for Hazardous Materials Emergency Response is required to meet CFR 29, 1910.120 (q). Qualifications for instructional staff are defined in the appendix of this document and served as a model for IEMA, ILETSE and IFSI to define the selection and training criteria for candidates desiring to teach for the State of Illinois.

Attendance of prerequisite training, instructor development and the signing of a contractual agreement are the necessary terms adopted by the State Agencies charged with the responsibility of the management of this program.

Criteria to become a state certified instructor:

Approved application that reflects successful completion of instructor development course or equivalent (a copy of Instructor I or equivalent certification required for verification);

Successful completion of the Hazardous Materials Awareness course or Operations course;

Successful completion of the Hazardous Materials Awareness Orientation for Awareness level, successful completion of the Operations Train-the-Trainer if you wish to teach at Operations level, or successful completion of Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts Train-the-Trainer to teach Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts;

Sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

Illinois Fire Service Institute
going on for over one year and will con- 
tinue to be held in the fall of 2002 and 
spring of 2003. Operations Train-the- 
Trainers began in the spring of 2002 and 
will continue to be scheduled through the 
fall of 2004. A schedule of TTT dates can 
be found on our website: www.FSI.uiuc.edu.

Instructors wishing to attend any of 
the Train-the-Trainer courses will need 
to fill out an IFSI registration form; their 
application requires the approval of their 
department’s Fire Chief in order to attend.

Authority of State Instructors

Upon completion of the Orientation for 
Awareness and the Train-the-Trainer for 
both Operations level and/or "Emergency 
Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts", 
qualified instructors will be issued an 
identification number which gives them 
the authority to teach classes and ac-
quire certification from OSFM through the 
Illinois Fire Service Institute.

Once a State Instructor teaches a 
class and returns the required paperwork 
to IFSI, a roster is generated by IFSI and 
sent to OFSM as proof of course comple-
tion; certification is issued by OSFM upon 
receiving proof of course completion 
from IFSI. No OFSM state examinations 
are required for State Instructor pro-
grams.

Law enforcement and other public 
sector employees trained by IEMA use 
the same curriculum, but the hourly con-
tenent is reduced and certification for these 
programs is done through the Illinois Law 
Enforcement Training and Standards 
Board and/or Illinois Emergency Manage-
ment Agency. If a Fire State Instructor 
teaches non-fire courses to their law en-
forcement officers or other public works 
employees, certification can be gained 
from ILETSB or IEMA by contacting these 
agencies for their approval or infor-
ation on any additional certification require-
ments. The entire lesson plans and 
course material is provided at the Train-
the-Trainers to deliver this kind of train-
ing.

State Fire Instructors

IFSI, IEMA and ILETSB each have their 
own assigned State Instructors, thus 
each agency provides certification to the 
student who successfully completed 
training taught by their assigned State In-
structors. IFSI, IEMA and ILETSB are also 
responsible for monitoring the needs and 
confirming qualifications of the State In-
structors assigned to their agency. Fire 
Instructors report to IFSI, who then re-
view the State Instructor’s required pa-
perwork and prepare documentation for 
certification from the State and Federal 
Agencies.

Reporting Requirements of Illinois 
Fire Service Institute

IFSI reports the number of students 
trained to two state agencies: 
• Office of the State Fire Marshal - re-
ceives rosters for each certifiable class 
held by State Instructors 
• Illinois Emergency Management 
Agency - receives information regarding 
class statistics to be utilized within re-
ports required to meet the terms of fed-
eral grant funding.

Reporting of the number of State In-
structor sponsored programs provides a 
means to utilize figures that otherwise 
would have gone unnoticed. 

This increases the chance of contin-
ued funding of the grants. Information 
regarding class statistics is available to 
those agencies involved with the grant. 
Our experience with federal grants is that 
when a state shows success in using 
training dollars effectively, additional 
funds can be allocated for projects. The 
revised curriculum and development of 
the instructor kits are examples of this 
kind of allocation of funds.

In 2002, IFSI has been able to make the 
purchase of additional trailers and tow-
ing vehicles that are being utilized by State 
Instructor in the delivery of their Opera-
tions level training. With proper planning 
and use of the materials, departments 
can help to bring in more funds to our 
State for their training use.

Concerns of the Fire Service In-
structors

The last rewrite of the hazardous 
materials curriculum was done in 1992; 
at that time the State Fire Marshal’s Haz-
ardous Materials Advisory committee 
adopted a resolution that haz-mat cur-
riculum be not rewritten for three years.

It has been ten years since the re-
write; OFSM and the curriculum commit-
tee kept their promise and exceeded the 
committee’s expectations. The Fire Ser-
vie has been served well in doing so.
Anyone out on the street responding 
knows that a considerable amount has 
changed in ten years, asking instructors to 
update skills, obtain standardized cur-
riculum packages and function as State 
Instructors is a win-win for the Fire De-
partments and Illinois as a State.

Becoming part of the State Training 
network requires additional hours of 
training for instructors already certified 
by OSFM to teach within the Fire Ser-
vie. It will also require an assimilation of 
new system of paperwork to gain certifi-
cation. The benefits of working within 
this system are that it will provide no-
cost curriculum and instructional re-
sources to each department who 
chooses to participate within the State 
Instructor Program. Departments can get 
their firefighters certified without having to 
wait to have outside agencies come in, 
it can be done on the departments 
schedule, and firefighters will not be re-
quired to wait to challenge the OSFM ex-
amination, which will be cost effective 
for the departments and will reduce the 
burden of scheduling independent exami-
inations for OFSM.

State Instructors become part of 
a network of instructors that have immediate 
feedback when changes are made 
to any of the State polices, curriculum, or 
resources and an opportunity to be in-
volved in annual refresher conferences 
where advanced training and new re-
ources will be made available to them.

The sole desire and design of this pro-
gram is to maximize the use of limited 
amount of funds coming to our State for 
training. 291 fire instructors have suc-
cessfully completed their training and are 
using the curriculum, trailers and on-line 
services. The opportunity to participate 
in an educational system that is unique to 
Illinois is available to the Fire Service.

The planning, cooperative effort and 
resources to make this kind of training 
available to all public responders has 
been a tremendous undertaking from the 
agencies involved, it will now take a com-
mitment from the Fire Service to partici-
pate in the system if it is to be success-
ful. This program can begin to provide 
the opportunity to place training in the 
hands of every firefighter in Illi-
nois, it is now the challenge of the 
Fire Service of Illinois to utilize it and 
refine it through continuing use and 
feedback by the instructors who are 
entrusted with the education of our 
profession.
Down and Dirty Fire Fighting Skills CD Set
Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the minimum configuration necessary for my PC to run the CD?
   Computer/Processor- PC with a Pentium 75 MHz or higher processor
   Memory- For Windows 95 or Windows 98: – 16 MB of RAM for the operating system, plus an additional 4 MB of RAM for the Program
   For Windows NT Workstation: – 32 MB of RAM for the operating system, plus an additional 4 MB of RAM for the Program
   (The disk may run on a system with less memory, however, the result will not be satisfactory.)
   Hard Disk-700 MB for Each CD copied to the Hard Drive
   Drive- CD-ROM drive
   Display--VGA or higher resolution monitor; Super VGA recommended
   Operating System --Microsoft Windows 95 or later operating system, or Microsoft Windows NT®

2. What should I do if the Video will not play?
   If you find that the videos will not play at all you will need to install player software. The player is located on disk 3 and is named “Quicktimeinstaller”. Following is a link where the software can be downloaded, if you prefer.


   You might need a plug-in from www.macromedia.com named “shockwave”. The following link will allow you to download it.
   http://sdc.shockwave.com/shockwave/download/frameset.fhtml

   It is recommended that you copy all of the files located on the CDs to your hard drive. The videos will play more smoothly.

3. Can I make copies of the CDs for each of our Fire Stations?
   Absolutely! It is the intent of the copyright owners to allow all Illinois Firefighters to use this disk for training. You may copy the disks for each of your stations, or each of your firefighters, for that matter. However, you may NOT copy the disk for commercial use nor may you charge for the disk, with the exception of actual cost.

4. Will This CD run on a Macintosh computer?
   The macromedia program and videos will run on a Macintosh. The autoplay utility will not. Open the disk on your CD drive and double click the program entitled “down_dirty_#”, where # is the number of the disk. For example, disk 1 would be down_dirty_1. The program will then run on your Mac.

5. My I share this CD with Firefighter from bordering states that we respond and train with regularly?
   Yes, if they respond and train in Illinois, we will allow them to use the CD for their training as well.

This list is certainly not exhaustive and will grow as we encounter more questions. We will post the answers on our website: www.fsi.uiuc.edu. If any additional questions occur to you, please contact IFSI and we will be happy to clarify the process for you.
History of Medicine...
Hippocrates

Cathey Eide, CCP
EMS Program Coordinator

Medicine is among the most ancient of occupations. Medical science and technology advanced at a very slow but steady rate until the onset of the Industrial Revolution. With the birth of modern science the progress of medicine also began to accelerate. In spite of the rapidity of modern developments, contemporary practices are still based on principals founded similar to those in the days of Hippocrates.

Born on the Island of Cos in 460 BC a great deal is known about this physician. Most of the information we know about him comes from the books that were written by himself, his students or his followers. About 70 of these books are still in use today.

Among the more important principals he stressed were: (1) the physician should work not for personal gain but for love of humanity and should be sober, industrious, clean, discreet and modest; (2) disease should be studied by meticulous observation, making use of sight, taste, touch, hearing, and smell in order to diagnose properly, and cases should be carefully recorded and studied to establish a prognosis; (3) disease is often the result of environmental forces such as diet, climate, and occupation and (4) the physician should emphasize simple treatment supplemented with careful diet and surgical intervention when necessary.

The Hippocratic oath is used to this day to summarize a physician’s conduct. All newly graduated physicians are sworn to this oath. (ref; Grolier Inc.)

The Illinois Firefighters’ Association in Partnership with The Illinois Fire Service Institute Presents:


For years there has been a recognized need for a practical, standardized, hands-on-daily-operations-focused training curriculum for our fire departments. Now with the coming of real statewide mutual aid, it is even more important that all Illinois’ fire departments be operating in compatible ways. To help address this need, the Illinois Firefighters’ Association has provided funding to the Illinois Fire Service Institute to develop, produce, and distribute just such a training package at no cost to every Illinois fire department, this fall.

This package of 3 CDs will contain teaching outlines for about 30 skills/subjects, plus photographs and short videos to illustrate teaching points and procedures. The package contains essential elements from our Certified Firefighter-II Online, but is not a certification program. It is not intended to replace state certification, but rather it is designed to be compatible and used in conjunction with state certification training, or as part of a stand alone training program.

The intent of this package is to provide the flexibility to be used in several ways: by a training officer to present a class, by an instructor as personal review before a training session, or by an individual firefighter to study a subject.

Look for it in November, 2002.
New Downstate Developments

Tom Hatley,  Downstate Illinois Coordinator

Since the last newsletter, business has really picked up. Mount Carmel is in the process of developing a training site that will be utilized in the coming year by IFSI. We currently have scheduled some “light ‘em and fight ‘em” weekends and essentials classes for their site. Aaron Brown and the rest of the Mount Carmel Fire Department have been working hard to make this project a success. Keep up the good work guys.

We also have two other major projects under way. IFSI and Southeastern Illinois College, located outside Harrisburg, IL, have joined forces and are in the process of building a Regional Training Center. The SIC RTC will use land/sea containers to construct a three story smoke training prop. The site will also include both fire hydrants and a drafting pond for water supply. The RTC has been so well received that it appears we will also be constructing a combined 2-story Saving Our Own/Confined Space prop, a SCBA maze and a “survivor house”. When the project started, these props were on the drawing board but looked like they wouldn’t be able to be built until late 2003 or 2004, but due to the high enthusiasm and cooperation of the local fire departments, businesses and city leaders, it looks like we will be ahead of schedule.

The hope is that this site will be constructed around late 2003 or 2004, but due to the high enthusiasm and cooperation of the local fire departments, businesses and city leaders, it looks like we will be ahead of schedule.

As you can see, things are moving forward and we are going to have more training opportunities than we have ever had. Now it is up to us to use these facilities and attend the training classes that are available. Even if we have the best facility that money can buy we cannot benefit unless it is used and firefighters attend training. We now have RTCs in Carbondale, Mt. Vernon and Harrisburg along with other facilities and props spread throughout the area. IFSI is providing free or low fee classes through the Cornerstone program and now there are free classes available through the National Fire Academy that can be taught in a weekend.

For years, I have heard how "left out" Southern Illinois is in regards to training and information but that is changing. The time is now. It is time to put the past aside and look to the future. With the programs and facilities that are available, we only have ourselves to blame if our training is inadequate. I encourage everyone to "get off the sidelines and get in the game." This "game" may just save your life or the life of another.
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