**YOUR COMPANY NAME & INSIGNIA**

**FIRE HOSE TESTING**

**STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**

**DATE APPROVED: ???**

**DATE REVISED: ???**

I. Scope

This standard regulates the acceptance of new sections of fire hose and

establishes procedures for conducting the annual service tests.

II. Test-Procedure

A. Prior to testing, each section of hose shall be subjected to a physical

inspection to determine whether it is free of debris, and damage from

chemicals, burns, cuts, and abrasion. Any section of hose that fails the

physical inspection shall immediately be placed out of service.

B. Hose shall be tested by using the pump of an engine or hose tester. The test

area shall be relatively flat and free of any objects that might damage the

hose.

C. The service test for hose of less than five inches in diameter shall be

conducted as follows:

1. Connect the hose to a discharge. Hose shall not be attached to any

discharge at or adjacent to the pump operator's position.

2. The total length of any hose-line in the test layout shall not exceed 300

feet, except for LDH. Hose-lines shall be straight and without kinks. Hose

that has been repaired or re-coupled shall be tested one section at a time.

3. Connect the engine to a hydrant or hose tester to a water supply.

4. Connect a nozzle or shutoff device to the end of the hose. The appliance

should be secured to prevent an uncontrolled reaction in the event of a

hose rupture.

5. Fill the hose-line to be tested with water and bleed off all air.

6. Close the nozzle and increase the pressure to 50 psi. Check for leakage.

Tighten couplings as necessary. Mark the location of the couplings with

a suitable marker.

7. Clear the area and increase the pressure slowly until the pressure

reaches 300 psi for a service test or 400 psi for an acceptance test if

manufactured prior to July 1987. Hose manufactured after July 1987

shall be tested to the pressure marked on the hose jacket. Hold for five

minutes. Inspect for leaks or damage. Remember: Never straddle a

hose-line! Consult NFPA 1962, Standard for the Care, Use, and

Service Testing of Fire Hose Including Couplings and Nozzles, if you

have any questions about this.

8. Bleed off pressure.

9. Record the test date, etc., on the permanent hose record.

10. Hose that fails the test by bursting or leaking or because of coupling

failure due to slippage or leakage shall be tagged and placed out of

service.

11. After the test, if needed, all hose shall be cleaned, drained, and dried

before being placed in service or storage.

D. Tests for five-inch supply line and sections of soft suction hose shall follow

the same procedure outlined in Item C above; except that the service test

pressure shall be 200 psi and the acceptance test pressure shall be 300

psi. Ensure that the hose is service tested while lying flat.

E. Booster hose shall be tested to check for leakage at normal working

pressure.

F. Nozzles and other appliances shall also be inspected during the annual fire

hose service test to ensure that the nozzles and appliances are

undamaged, clear of obstructions, and fully operational. Any nozzle or

appliance found to be in disrepair shall be red-tagged, removed from

service, and sent for repair.

III. Responsibilities

A. The Fire Chief shall be responsible for:

1. Ensuring that all new sections of fire hose purchased by the department

are designed and constructed in accordance with the provisions of NFPA 1961, Standard on Fire Hose.

2. Conduct an acceptance test on each section of fire hose before it is

placed in the hose inventory. The test shall comply with the provisions of

NFPA 1962, Standard for the Care, Use, and Service Testing of Fire

Hose Including Couplings and Nozzles.

3. Schedule and supervise the annual service test. Every section of fire

hose in the department’s inventory shall be tested in accordance with

NFPA 1962.

4. Conduct a service test after a section of hose has been repaired.

Quick Reference Chart

Hose Service test pressure Time to hold

1” forestry hose 250 psi 5 min

1.75”, 2.5”, & 3” 300 psi 5 min

5” 200 psi 5 min