From The Fire Academy Superintendent

Welcome to the first South Carolina Fire Academy Industry Training News Brief. Our intent is to publish this newsletter quarterly. It will include information on upcoming training programs, preview exciting events, provide updates on changes to our campus, and communicate ways we can assist your organization.

As you will see on page 3, we are hosting the South Carolina Industrial Firefighting Conference in late February. This event will include site tours, case studies of industrial events with lessons learned, a presentation by OSHA, as well as hands on training in programs not regularly offered. Please save the dates on your calendar and plan to join us!

Our employees welcome the opportunity to train your responders in the protection of life and property. As a first-class training institution, we are dedicated to delivering the most cost-effective, comprehensive, and modern training experience, meeting and exceeding national training standards. The fully-customized training topics and evolutions are built upon your specific needs and current demands, and are taught either at our Columbia campus using realistic training props or delivered at your site.

The South Carolina Fire Academy wants to remain the preferred choice to meet the training needs of your organization and to continue to be the most recognized flagship for industrial fire, rescue, and EMS training.

Please contact our industrial training staff to discuss your current and future training needs at 1-800-896-1070.

Stay safe!

Dennis K. Ray
SCFA Superintendent

DID YOU KNOW?

We have a new industry course catalog.

Schedule a site visit to get a printed copy, or click here to download from our website.
Our team strives to provide the best quality and most true-to-life training possible for our industry customers. To accomplish this, we contact brigade leaders to discuss the current level of training of members, what the training needs are, and what type of training is desired.

We also schedule site visits to get a better understanding of the type of work each industry does, as well as the fire potential and/or hazards of the facility. We ask for a general layout of the facility, how the brigade responds to emergencies, and the typical number of members who respond. Based on our discussions and site visits, we are able to customize training scenarios to make them more realistic and site specific. This customization includes interior, exterior and combination fire attack as well as search and rescue, forcible entry and flammable liquids and gases firefighting.

We have been on several site visits so far this summer. If we have not made it to your facility yet, please reach out and schedule a site visit to help us better understand your training needs and how we can assist.

Columbia Campus Update

Our multi-million dollar dormitory renovation will be complete in late October. The top-to-bottom renovation includes new paved parking areas, a hotel-like reception area, new furnishings, and an expanded weight room/gym area. Rooms will be ready for occupancy in late November. If you will be on campus prior to dormitory availability, special rates are available at nearby hotels (see list). When calling, mention the group code: South Carolina Fire Academy.

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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>$129 two queen</td>
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The campus store, located just beyond the entrance to the cafeteria, is restocked and has a full-line of inventory, including polo shirts, T-shirts, and other assorted items. Please visit our store during breakfast and lunch hours.

Special thanks to Chief Don Walters and Archroma for the site tour and luncheon in July! Pictured (L to R): Don Walters, Mark George, Lenny Busby, and Kristie Watson.
Customer Profile: Cooper River Partners

Cooper River Partners is an industrial park, consisting of multiple facilities in Goose Creek. The Emergency Services department has several apparatus and four teams: Fire, EMT (first responder to paramedic), Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue. Approximately 30 employees from throughout the complex are assigned to these teams. Their mutual aid departments include Goose Creek Rural Fire Department, Pimlico Fire Department and Whitesville Fire Department.

If there is an event on campus, the Emergency Services department is activated and will respond. If the event requires additional aid, mutual aid departments are dispatched and will work hand-in-hand with the Emergency Services team members to mitigate the situation.

For many years, Cooper River Partners has entrusted South Carolina Fire Academy to provide refresher and initial training for their team members. Areas of training at our Columbia campus include: Firefighting, Confined Space and Hazardous Materials classes. Prior to arriving on campus for scheduled training, a conversation with Robert Priest and other team leaders provides our instructors with a clear picture as to site hazards and the Emergency Services departments goals for training.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Cooper River Partners for training at the Academy. We look forward to providing customized training to your team members in the future.

Brigade Leader Course Update

The 9602-Fire Brigade Team Leader course is currently being updated. We anticipate being able to offer a pilot of the updated program this fall. This pilot will be held on campus, as a free open enrollment program to attendees, and will be eight hours in length. See page four for the date and registration details.

Once the pilot has been conducted and any changes made to curriculum, the final updated course will be available for delivery on our campus or at your facility.

Changes you can look forward to:

- New, more realistic student activities
- New focus on site-specific Incident Action Planning and Pre-fire Planning
- Close alignment with what is taught in the IFSAC Fire Officer I program
Upcoming Open Enrollment Classes

The following open enrollment classes are scheduled to be held on the South Carolina Fire Academy campus during the remainder of 2019. Space is limited, so please register your students as soon as possible.

Course: 9124-Initial Fire Brigade

Description: This course trains students to perform the necessary skills associated with interior firefighting. It consists of classroom presentations with emphasis on hands-on drills to reinforce skills. Topics include protective equipment, in depth use of SCBA, fire extinguishers, search and rescue, fire streams, interior fire attack principles and live fire exercises that utilize the computerized propane-fueled burn building or class A burn building. Provides the fundamental skills needed to deal with fires involving flammable liquids and gases. The program content includes physical and chemical properties of fuels, storage and uses, and fire attack techniques for these fuels including foam application.

Dates: August 26–30, 2019 and December 9–13, 2019

Course: 9181–Flammable Liquids Gas Firefighting Refresher

Description: Provides skill refresher needed to deal with fires involving flammable liquids and gases. The program content includes physical and chemical properties of fuels, storage and uses, and fire attack techniques for these fuels including foam application.

Date: September 19, 2019

Course: Hybrid Program

Description: This hybrid program is a combination of several classes, and includes the following: Haz Mat Refresher, Confined Space Refresher and Firefighting Refresher.

Dates: September 30-October 4, 2019

Course: 9123–Interior Firefighting Refresher

Description: This course refines student skills in interior structural firefighting. Topics include personal protective equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus, attack lines and fire streams, search and rescue, interior fire attack principles and live fire drills.

Date: October 11, 2019

Course: 9602–Industrial Fire Brigade/Emergency Team Leader

Description: This course provides training for personnel who may be in charge of an emergency team during a plant emergency such as the fire brigade or rescue team. This course will review the emergency team organization and responsibilities, safety and accountability of team members, emergency scene command and control, operations, communications, fire emergencies and rescue situations, pre-incident planning and emergency team training. Tentative based on course update release date.

Date: November 18, 2019

Registration Details: Email a completed SCFA registration form, including the course code, course name and date of the class, to: SCFA-Industry@llr.sc.gov

This is the cover of the new industry training catalog. Pictured is a student from Ingevity learning skills in a recent class on campus.
EMS Training Update

Did you know the South Carolina Fire Academy offers our industrial partners training in emergency medical services?

Despite injury prevention initiatives in the workplace, injuries do happen. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics reports approximately 2.8 million non-fatal workplace injuries and illnesses reported by private industry partners in 2017. The SCFA recognizes the importance of equipping your personnel in basic medical training so they can make a difference in the treatment and recovery of your members.

The SCFA offers various levels of CPR/AED training through the American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI) to meet the needs of your workplace from a 2.5 hour adult only CPR/AED to a 4.5 hour healthcare provider Basic Life Support (BLS) course. The SCFA also offers a one-hour Stop the Bleed® training on wound packing and tourniquet use. Additional courses include Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) initial training, ASHI Emergency Medical Responder, Reducing Opioid Loss of Life (ROLL) practitioner training, ASHI Basic First Aid, and more.

We’ll also be glad to discuss the development of additional courses of interest with our industrial partners. First responders often make the difference in patient outcomes. Let us know if you’d like to learn more about our programs by calling 1-800-896-1070.

New Air Packs Available

The South Carolina Fire Academy is pleased to announce the arrival of 82 new Scott X3 PRO air packs for customers to use during training. This purchase was made possible through the AFG (Assistance to Firefighters) Grant.

Meet Chief Watson

Battalion Chief Kristie Watson is the Industrial Training Coordinator for the South Carolina Fire Academy. Kristie has worked at State Fire for five years, starting out as a part-time curriculum developer for her first two years, and then promoting to her current full-time role. In addition to coordinating the industrial classes, she also teaches during programs on campus, handles municipal fire recruit school registration, and works on the props.

From the time Kristie became a firefighter, her goal was to work at State Fire, and she is proud of achieving her goal. Co-workers and customers alike describe her as a ray of sunshine, all smiles, and super helpful.

When she’s not working, you can find Kristie napping, hanging out with her dogs, and spending time with her children.

Thank you for your service, Kristie!