

SCOTTS VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT		
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES	ARTICLE: II	SOP: 2201
	SECTION: 2200	APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT
	SUBJECT: HOSE TESTING PROCEDURES	

Purpose: To provide the basis for the consistent testing of fire hose and for ensuring for maximum safety to the personnel conducting the test.


Scope: These procedures are to be strictly followed to assure the safety of those doing the testing. Testing shall be conducted annually on all 1 1/2", 1 3/4", 2 1/2", 3", and 4" hoses.

Procedure:

Equipment Needed

- Pumper
- Hose testing manifold
- 2 1/2" test gate valve with 1/4" hole in gate
- Stop watch
- Clipboard with test sheets
- Various nozzles or gates to bleed air out of hose lines
- Personnel with helmets

1. Hook-up and Layout Procedures
 - A. Connect 2 1/2" test gate valve to 2 1/2" discharge.
 - B. Attach 50 feet of 2 1/2" (or larger) to test valve and connect to manifold. Inspect each coupling for gaskets. May be necessary to use more than 50 feet of hose depending upon placement of engine/manifold.
 - C. Connect hose to be tested to test manifold. Inspect each coupling for gaskets. **Do not exceed 300 feet on any line.**
 - D. Attach appropriate nozzles, gates, etc., to the end of each line to allow for bleeding of air.

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2. Fill Hose Lines and Remove All Air
 - A. Place pump in gear.
 - B. Open test gate valve and 2 1/2" discharge gate. Slowly fill all hose lines.
 - C. Bleed all air out of each line. Increase engine pressure to 50 psi.
 - D. Close each nozzle once all air is bled.

3. Marking the Couplings for Slippage
 - A. Each coupling shall be marked with a pen at the hose coupling connection.
 - B. All couplings shall be checked for leakage and tightened with spanner wrench if needed.

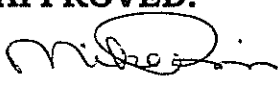
4. Increased Engine Pressure to Test Pressure
 - A. All personnel in the hose area during pressure test will wear safety helmets.
 - B. Prior to raising engine pressure above 50 psi, close the test gate valve that is connected to the 2 1/2" discharge.
 - C. *Slowly* raise pump discharge pressure to 250 psi. Maintain for five (5) minutes.
 - D. Shutting down.
 - 1) Reduce engine pressure slowly.
 - 2) Close 2 1/2" discharge gate.
 - 3) Open each nozzle to drain water.

5. Inspection
 - A. Observe marks placed on hose at each coupling. If coupling has moved during test, hose length shall be removed from service.

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- B. Any hose section that has burst or leaked during test shall be removed from service. If a section bursts during the five (5) minute test, the test must be stopped and the section replaced. The test shall start over.
6. Tagging Damages/Out of Service Hoses
- A. Any section of hose that bursts, leaks, or has the coupling slip shall be "tagged".
- 1) Tag shall indicate
 - "Out of service"
 - Reason for failure
 - Location of problem
 - Hose length number
 - Date of test
 - Signature of person conducting test
 - 2) Tag shall be attached to male coupling.
 - 3) Hose shall be hung for drying (if applicable).
 - 4) Once dried, hose shall be rolled in an "out of service" roll.
- B. Any hose receiving damage during a fire or other use (torn jackets, mechanical damage, etc.) shall be rolled using an "out of service" roll and tagged "out of service until next test". Tag shall include all information as stated above.
7. Picking up and Record Keeping
- A. Recording the test results.
- 1) The recording of test results shall be done on the *Hose Testing Field Sheet*. Indicate "pass" or "fail" and record date.
 - 2) Hose testing results will be entered into the computer using the "Field Sheets".
Note: We will no longer use the individual cards.
- B. Breakdown all hose.
- 1) Hang all hose in tower for proper drying (if applicable).
 - 2) Secure all other equipment and apparatus.

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