

# TRAINING ALERT

Train as if your life depends on it... BECAUSE IT DOES!

Number 04-05

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The In-Service Section will issue training alerts as the need arises.  
They are intended to be shared at line-up.

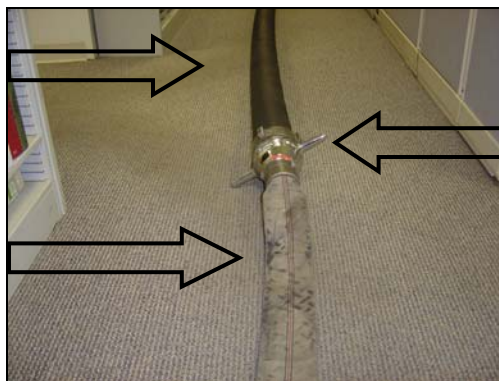
## USE OF HARD SUCTION FOR SPRINKLER CONTROL

The LAFD responds to thousands of broken / fused sprinkler incidents annually. Many times fire companies find themselves in a position that they cannot readily control the flow of water from the sprinkler head. Use of the 4-inch hard suction hose is one successful method being used to limit damage to the interior of the structure while the water system is being shut down.

The following is a list of equipment needed for the first responder (Single Engine or Light Force) to put this water diverting method into operation:

**10' section of 4 inch  
hard suction hose**

**Assorted length  
of 2 1/2" hose**



**4" to 2 1/2" Bell reducer**

This method should be utilized when the sprinkler control valve (shut-off) and drain are not readily available. Commanders must recognize the opportunity to use this tool at incidents. Members should divert the flow of water to an area that will cause no damage to the interior of the structure ie; drain, window, or exterior of bldg.

Most ceilings are from eight to nine feet in height. One member can easily place the female end of the Hard Suction over the flowing sprinkler. The diversion of water is accomplished without the use of wedges, shut off 's, red wood plugs or interior ladders.



The use of this method will significantly reduce unnecessary water damage to the structure and contents. Also, this tactic can be implemented quickly and easily with minimal practice.

NOTE: This method is meant to divert water while Department members are shutting the flow of water to the sprinkler and not meant to be an extended operation.