



Table Top Training Drills



Table Top Training Exercise- June 2010

Stuck occupied elevator- Near Miss Report # [10-677](#)

Sometimes the most routine operations can become the most dangerous. Webster's dictionary defines complacency as: self-satisfied and unaware of possible dangers. Is it possible that sometimes firefighters, fire officers can be lulled into a routine, mundane operation where some of the basic safety rules are forgotten or even discarded? Here is an opportunity to respond, discuss and learn an excellent lesson on the importance of remaining vigilant and well trained. The following is the full report of the incident.

Event Description

We were extricating a civilian from an elevator that was stuck between floors. The power to the elevator was not shut off and the elevator moved. This could have caused serious injury to everyone involved.

Lessons Learned

Confirm all power to the elevator is shut off prior to entry.

Discussion Checklists

- A. Dispatch information
 1. Is it always accurate?
 2. Location of elevator car?
 3. Occupied/Unoccupied is there an operational difference?

- B. Tools
 1. Forcible entry vs. key entry?
 2. Elevator mechanical power room, forcible entry/key entry?
 3. What types of elevator keys are required?
 4. How many different types of entryway doors are there?

- C. Communications
 1. What communication needs to be confirmed before extrication can begin?
 2. Should the building owner or superintendant be notified? Police?
 3. Once power is confirmed off is it ever restored by the Fire Department?
 4. How do we locate and communicate with the occupants inside?
 5. Why would EMS sometimes be required at a stuck occupied elevator?

- D. Operations
 1. Do different entry doors require different methods of forcible entry?
 2. What is the preferred method of occupant removal?
 3. What precautions should be taken after the occupant is removed?