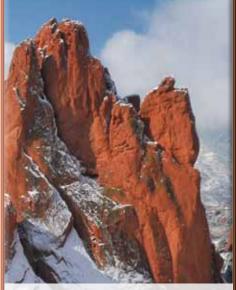


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### **Updating Codes**

Falcon Fire Department is a special district that serves 133 square miles in Colorado. This department serves what essentially could be called a suburban community with its own commercial hub. While the majority of their jurisdiction lies in unincorporated El Paso County, they also currently serve as dual response to a portion of the city of Colorado Springs. Over the past decade, their jurisdiction was considered one of the fastest growing areas of the state of Colorado.

A few years back, Falcon Fire collaborated with several neighboring departments to bring each jurisdiction's code into agreement with one another and to align their codes with their largest neighbor, Colorado Springs.

"What was great about this was when we adopted the code requiring the FDC caps and boxes it coincided with the construction boom. Essentially every commercial building has been a part of this program. We started requiring (boxes and plugs) right at the beginning of the boom. We really caught it on the front end," explained Fire Chief Trent Harwig.

Falcon Fire met no resistance when updating their code. Most of the contractors who work in the Falcon Fire jurisdiction also work in Colorado Springs where the boxes were already a familiar requirement. By Falcon updating their code, "it made a seamless connection" for the contractors.

At the same time they updated their code to require locking key boxes, they also

#### EL PASO COUNTY, CO

implemented the requirement for locking FDCs. "We also implemented the FDC plugs at the same time. The reason being we recognized the debris and theft potential for non locked caps," elaborated Battalion Chief Vernon Champlin.



Firefighter/EMT E. Frey installing a Knox FDC Plug.

"Our neighbor has 20 staffed stations in a 200 square mile area. We have two staffed stations covering a 133 square mile area," explained Chief Harwig. As a result, Falcon Fire has been very progressive in recognizing the value of fire sprinklers. Falcon requires sprinklers in more commercial buildings than their neighbor due to limited resources and slightly longer response times. "Just on staffing, resources and response times, we

## EDITORIAL

The New Year has brought much excitement coupled with a bit of uncertainty. As budgets continue to shrink, departments are looking for ways to continue to provide quality service to their customers with ever decreasing funds. We hope that by hearing what other departments have done, you'll gather some new ideas for your jurisdiction.

Since many of you may not be able to travel to national shows due to the current economic climate, we have made a company decision to continue exhibiting at many of the state and regional shows. So even if you can't travel to one of the national shows, you should still be able to see Knox at a local show. You'll find a list of upcoming shows on page 7.

If your department has solved issues by instituting the Knox Program, or if you have some valuable pointers for departments just implementing the system, we'd love to hear your story. Give me a call at 800.552.5669 ext 505 or email me at cjones@knoxbox.com.

Thank you for your continued support of the Knox System. We look forward to serving your department for years to come.





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### **Updating Codes**

Continued from front page

recognize that to really provide a service, the buildings need to be sprinklered. It helps keep a fire in check until we can arrive," explained Chief Harwig.

Brass fitting thefts were an issue that Falcon Fire was able to address with the locking FDC plugs with swivel-guard. "There's been an issue with vandalism of the brass swivels and we were really excited when Knox came out with the new design to help prevent the theft," shared Battalion Chief Champlin.

Falcon fire has a training prop of an FDC located at their training center to educate firefighters on how the locking caps work.

"We were a signature department for the first few years, one that required a department signature to approve a Knox order. In the last year however, we changed to the on-line ordering," Chief Harwig shared. On-line ordering allows contractors to log on and order their product over a secure internet connection. The department is sent an email confirmation following each order. This email tells them who ordered and what they ordered. To help maintain control of their program, all product ordered is sent to the department rather than the individual ordering. "We kept control of the system by having all product shipped to the fire headquarters. The contractor comes to our office and signs for the box. If the product is a lift-off, we keep the lid and bring the lid with us to the inspection and lock it up," explained Harwig.

"It's a better service to contractors, they no longer have to come into the office when someone is on staff," elaborated Chief Harwig.

To help educate contractors and business owners on their Knox Program, Falcon Fire wrote a customer guide to the Knox-Box explaining the products and how to order them. This document is located on

#### EL PASO COUNTY, CO

the department's website (www.falconfirepd. org). Additionally they have hard copies of the document available in their office.



Falcon Fire stores their master key in a KeySecure master key retention unit on the department's apparatus. KeySecure allows every member of the department access to the master key with their own unique PIN code and provides an audit trail showing who gained access to the key and when.

Falcon Fire serves more than 26,000 residents. This combination department responds to approximately 1800 calls each year out of four stations – two of which are staffed 24/7.



### Winning a Grant

Like many communities across America, Belleville, Illinois has an older downtown area that is being revitalized.

Many of the buildings in this area are older and connected to one another and lack most of the recent fire code requirements. When there are buildings that are built very close together or even adjoining, the area is prone to a fast moving fire, particularly if the buildings were not constructed using the latest in fire safety materials. If one building were to catch fire, it would easily spread to the connected neighboring buildings.

wanted to update their department's response and improve their access to these older buildings in case of a fire. After doing some research, they decided to apply for a



BELLEVILLE, IL

BFD Fire Chief Scott Lanxon

a Knox-

downtown

Box to each of

district as well as KeySecure's in

each (responding) vehicle. We targeted

the 180 businesses

buildings in

The grant submitted was for a three part program. "We wanted to modernize our preplan process for our old downtown area and outfit each responding vehicle with an updated computer system as well as update our fire extinguisher training tools. Part of our preplan update included

adding

the

the

fire protection safety grant.



Keys located in building's Knox-Box recently helped firefighters to quickly gain entry and search the business and three upstairs apartments during a fire.

As Belleville's downtown area experience revitalization with retail establishments on the first floor and residential occupancies on the upper floors, fire safety is taking on new importance. It's no longer to just protect a building; it's protecting occupants who live above the store. The issue of life safety has become a bigger issue.

Getting older buildings to retrofit their fire protection systems to newer models generally meet resistance with cost often cited as a contributing factor. Belleville *fighters to quickly artments during a fire. fine a 22 block area downtown," explained Battalion Chief Tom Pour. Additionally the department included the cost of hiring a licensed contractor to install the Knox-Box units* 

at the downtown businesses. In writing the department's grant, Battalion Chief Tom Pour spent time going back through the previous three years' fire reports to write their needs

years' fire reports to write their needs assessment. "The key to getting a grant is in the details. They really want a need assessment with data. We looked at the fire loss and life safety hazard risks for the downtown area," explained Battalion Chief Tom Pour.

### New literature piece available to departments



New from Knox, a rack brochure that highlights the 1650 Residential Box. Designed for the senior population, this non-technical brochure explains the benefits of the Knox 1650 Residential Box. There's even room on the backside for your department's contact information. If you would like to receive a sample or supply of the brochure, contact customer service to request the residential rack brochure. As always, Knox literature is available free to our registered departments. 🔳



In addition to the rack brochure, there is a Residential Authorization Order form, an orientation DVD and poster available for the Knox Residential Program.

### **Managing Hazmat Records**



December 3, 1984. In the calm of night, in an unheard of corner of the world, the city

of Bhopal, in central India, was visited by a silent, devastating killer. While people slept, a leak, caused by a series of human and mechanical failures, released a cloud of lethal methyl isocyanate, a chemical used in the production of pesticides and adhesives. Over thirty eight hundred people died immediately, between eight and fifteen thousand died in the days immediately following the spill and estimates of over 200,000

people are living with long term debilitating injuries. Local health officials, not informed about chemicals at the factory, were completely unprepared for the tragedy.

Congressional hearings that followed the Bhopal incident revealed that U.S. companies routinely discharged hazardous chemicals into the air, while emergency planners knew little about the potential for disaster at local industrial facilities. Less than a year later, another Union Carbide plant that produced methyl isocyanate in Institute, West Virginia, leaked a toxic cloud in the Kanawha Valley. While the West Virginia incident was not another devastating tragedy, it was a shocking reminder that an accident such as the one that occurred at Bhopal could happen in the United States.

These incidents along with the events at Love Canal, NY resulted in the enactment of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA), requiring companies to provide information about their potentially toxic chemicals. At the same time, states were required to establish emergency planning districts and local committees to prepare for any emergency—a fire, an explosion, a flood that might result in the release of chemicals into the environment. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has made public the Toxic Release Inventory where tens of thousands of facilities register and catalog more than 650 individually listed toxic chemicals and chemical categories.

In the past 30 years, nothing has impacted the fire service as much as the development and proliferation of hazardous materials and the need for the fire service to be able to meet the new challenges. Chemical industry experts estimate that there are hundreds of new, dangerous compounds formulated or tested each day in America. Many of them will

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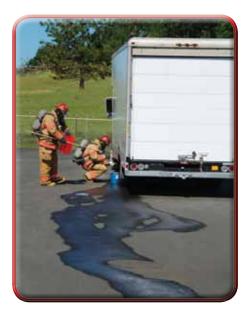
be developed for consumer usage. Most of them wind up in tanker-trucks or railcars that travel through our communities. With the growing environmental movement and the need to balance the requirements of science and industry with the longterm sustainability of the eco-structure, engineers, legislators, and public safety officials are in a constant struggle to keep the process in balance. Current federal regulations and model fire codes have implemented document storage and reporting systems.

#### **Federal Regulations**

The EPA lists four industry types that account for 90% of industrial hazardous wastes generated in the United States: chemical manufacturing, metal production, metal fabrication, and petroleum refining. These facilities number in the thousands. Most are professionally managed and all are highly regulated. Not all hazmat operations are in large well regulated facilities. EPA currently lists more than 250,000 facilities as "smallquantity generators" of hazardous waste. These diverse, less regulated, smaller producers account for about 10% of the potentially harmful substances produced each year. The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 establishes requirements for federal, state and local governments and private corporations regarding emergency planning and reporting on hazardous and toxic chemicals. The Community Right-to-Know provisions help increase the public's knowledge and access to information on both the presence of hazardous chemicals in their communities and releases of these chemicals into the environment. States and local communities, working



with hazmat facilities, are better able to improve chemical safety and protect public health and the environment. As a local official, what can you do?





The Knox 1300 Cabinet is designed for storing pre-fire plans and access keys. Dual lock models can be utilized so both the property owner and the fire department have secure access to the contents of the cabinet and can keep it current.

If the hazardous materials stored at a single facility are large enough to justify a permanent staging area for emergency response, use of a weather housing is recommended as shown to the right. The weather housing shown is from Garland, TX, circa 1986 and is still in use today.



#### What it means to Knox

Knox #1300 & #1100 Series Cabinets are the only fully compliant storage cabinets available on the market today. Not only do they meet the requirements of both federal OSHA, EPA and model fire codes, the 1300 Cabinet is UL 1037 listed and works on the department's existing master key system. Within the hazmat and chemical community they are referred to as "Repository Containers". Many states have adopted tough regulations that require the use of such containers. What the federal and state laws require is that companies that manufacture, transport or dispense hazardous materials in reportable quantities, provide regular accurate reports to the local authority. What the laws do not address is how the local authority is supposed to store and document these data sheets. In some communities these reports can take up massive amounts of warehouse space to

store and are seldom if ever used. Some communities require that each facility keep the storage records on site in a safe weatherproof container.

It has been 30 years since the incidents at Bhopal India and Love Canal. Things are getting better. Love Canal is declared to be clean. While not completely restored, Bhopal is hosting a Bhopal 2011, a symposium to study the long term ramification of such incidents. The spin off to fire departments has been generally positive too. Today, most fire departments have access to hazmat training and equipment. Before they are called to rush into a burning facility, they have the ability to understand the characteristics of the hazardous materials involved and can plan their response accordingly.

The development, storage, and transport of toxic and hazardous materials are growing at a staggering rate. With a reported quarter million small, potentially deadly facilities in the country, the chances are one is close to you and your jurisdiction. The need for fire and emergency management professionals to focus on potentially dangerous scenarios is of utmost importance. As you look for ways to minimize these threats, contact Knox to discuss ways to utilize your existing Knox system to maximize your planning and mitigation activities.



### **Knox Contacts**





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#### FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT This department provides

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Bill Brown 888-342-3530 Fax 888-342-6655 bbrown@knoxbox.com

PROPERTY OWNER SUPPORT

Property Owners & General Inquiries to Knox should be directed to our main number. 800-552-KNOX (800-552-5669)

### 2011 **Authorization Order Forms**

A small supply of the 2011 **Commercial Authorization Order** Forms were sent out during the last guarter of 2010. We ask that all orders submitted to the Knox Company in 2011 be on the new form, otherwise, orders may be delayed.

The 1650 Residential Knox-Box is **NOT** on the Commercial Authorization Order Form since Knox does not recommend this product for commercial applications. The 1650 Residential Order Form was designed to assist departments who have a residential program or wish to



If you need additional Commercial or Residential Authorization Order Forms, please call Knox at 800-552-5669.

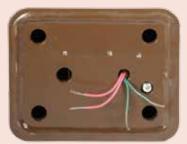
Thanks for your help and cooperation!



SUPPORT This department deals exclusively with technical questions regarding KeySecure®, Sentralok<sup>®</sup> and MedVault<sup>®</sup> units. 866-KN0X-B0X (866-566-9269)

#### 6

## **Knox Tips**



Rear-view of Knox-Box showing tamper switch wires.

#### **Tamper Switch**

As a reminder, the tamper switch should be wired to the building burglar alarm and not the fire alarm.

#### **Property Owner E-mails**

On the authorization order form, there is a place for the individual ordering the product to provide an e-mail address. If an e-mail address is provided, the property owner will receive an e-mail confirmation once their order ships.

### **Photo Requests**

Knox often receives requests from departments wanting to use an image or link to the Knox website from their department's website. In most cases, this is possible. If you find an image you'd like to place on your website in support of your Knox Program, please send an e-mail to cweiss@knoxbox.com. In the e-mail provide your department name and contact information as well as what image you'd like to use. While we're not able to design your website, we're more than happy to provide suggestions and images for your use.



# **KNOX NEWS**

### **Trade Show Schedule**

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Show	Location	Dates	
Mega Show	Nassau, NY	Feb 26-27	
Firehouse World	San Diego, CA	Feb 28-Mar 2	
CO ICC	Denver, CO	Feb 28-Mar 4	
EMS Today	Baltimore, MD	March 1-5	
IFPA	Addison , IL	March 8	
California Fire Prevention Institute (CFPI)	Buellton, CA	March 16	
FDIC	Indianapolis, IN	March 21-26	
Southeastern MI Fire Chiefs	Novi, MI	March 31	
Louisiana Fire Chiefs	Baton Rouge, LA	April 13-15	
Oregon Fire Chiefs	Bend, OR	April 13-15	
Ontario National Fire & Emergency Expo	Toronto, ON	April 30-May3	
Fire-Rescue Med	Las Vegas, NV	May 12-13	
Northwest Fire & Rescue Expo	Portland, OR	May 13-14	
Metro Chiefs	Charlotte, NC	May 14-19	
Fire Expo	Harrisburg, PA	May 20-22	
NFPA	Boston, MA	June 12-15	
Fire Rescue International	Atlanta, GA	August 25-27	
EMS Expo	Las Vegas, NV	August 31-Sept 2	

### The Key to a Secure System

Knox System security is always important. Protecting the Knox<sup>®</sup> Master Key and documents listing installation addresses helps ensure that the Knox System is solely for the benefit of your department.

The four security steps listed below are the ways your department contributes to the security of the Knox program in your community. Thank you for following these simple yet important rules.

- 1. Keep all Knox keys in a secure place.
- Do not release the Knox provided keys to any non fire department or law enforcement personnel.
- 3. Do not provide Knox installation database access to any non fire department or law enforcement personnel unless required by law.
- 4. Notify Knox immediately of loss, theft or attempted duplication of any key.

Fring First Responders Since 1975

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 623-68

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 800-55

623-687-2300 800-552-5669 623-687-2299 Fax www.knoxbox.com



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### **1400 Series Knox® Elevator/Lobby Box**

The Knox Elevator Key Box is a UL 1037 Listed high security box designed specifically for the elevator lobby. The elevator box has room for 2 elevator door drop keys and up to 30 emergency override keys. The Knox Elevator key box can be keyed to a department's existing Knox System.

- Meets Latest International Fire Code Standard
- Two Sizes Available
- Low Profile Fits Snugly to Wall
- Four Colors Available, with or without Fire Dept. Banner
- Same Knox High Security Features You've Come to Expect



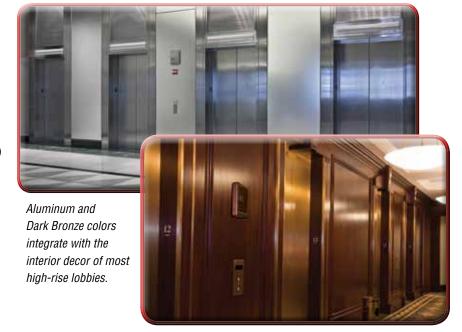
Standard Elevator I 1400 Series

*Mini Elevator Box* 1450 Series



Deep Red, Aluminum, Dark Bronze (Black not shown.)





3200 Series Depth vs. 1400 Series Elevator Box Depth