



24. Influence of Building Construction, Occupancy Risks and Fire Dynamics: Decision-Making on Today's Evolving Fireground

Today more than ever, understanding and comprehending the complexities of the built-environment and construction and the effects of fire dynamics on fire suppression operations is a must. With an evolving dynamic fireground, simple to complex buildings and varied occupancies they present increasing challenges that are redefined strategic and tactical fireground management and impact operations on escalating and varied levels. Building construction, occupancy risks and the predictability of building performance under fire conditions have a profound influence on the management of operations, identification of tactical protocols and deployment of resources. Understanding key inherent building performance characteristics, insights from emerging fire research and their relationships and variables in command decision-making methodologies and practices, fundamental to firefighting and incident management on today's evolving and demanding fireground. A broad look at trends, risk and emerging construction issues challenging today's emerging and practicing company officers and commanders on a demanding and unforgiving fireground.

Instructor

Christopher Naum is a 49-year fire service veteran and a highly regarded national and international instructor, author, lecturer and fire officer. He is a distinguished authority on building sciences and architectural construction issues affecting fireground operations, command, and tactics. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States and internationally delivering training programs on building performance, construction, firefighting, fireground leadership, command management, and operational safety. He has been lecturing and instructing throughout the United States and internationally for over thirty-eight years. His previous service included Fire Command, Fire Protection & Safety at a US nuclear power plant, over twenty years in field operations & suppression as a commanding company officer in New York, Fire Academy and College academic curricula administration and management.