25. The Efficient Engine

Instructor: Keith Niemann

The job of an engine officer is not as simple as running inside and spraying water. The origins of a successful engine company operation often start way before the engine was rung out for the alarm. The purpose of the "Efficient Engine" class is to start from scratch and look at the systems, from machine to personnel, which contribute to the effective deployment of the Engine Company. We will start with specifications that can help the students navigate through all the different options available, concentrating on the items that will increase the usefulness of the engine itself. Then we move on to layout of equipment and hose that can maximize the efficiency of the crew. The next item covered is the efficient use of the equipment, including intricacies and quirks of the new electronic aids often in use on newer engines. The class will wrap up with personnel deployment and training techniques to maximize the different staffing levels found throughout the country, both volunteer and career.

About the Instructor:

Keith Niemann is a 27-year member of the Wichita Fire Department and is currently assigned as an Acting Battalion Chief over the Special Operations Companies. ACH Niemann spent his career assigned to Kansas' busiest engine companies before overseeing WFD's recruit academy for five years. ACH Niemann is President of the Wichita FOOLS of Oz and Chairman of the Wichita HOT fire conference.