

Technical Services Talk

Newsletter Overview

April 2017

Thank you for taking the time to read our Newsletter. It is hard to believe that it is 2017 and that Spring is already upon us.

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The Technical Services Division is busy working to support the mission of our Department. This mission is one which requires attention to the Department's needs, each and every day, 24/7; as well as planning and preparing for our future growth. Our success is dependent upon having the ability to balance our day-to-day work requirements while giving attention to the need for planning for the future.

The Technical Services Division is working hard at both. This publication will provide some insight into the Division and its current workload as well as give our readers a glimpse at the ongoing projects which will take our Department into the future.

Thank you for reading.

Steve Ellis

The Technical Services Division is busy working to support the mission of our Department.

Fire Dispatch Communications

Staffing Changes at the Fire Dispatch Unit

The following members of the Fire Dispatch Unit will be returning to the Operations Division on April 16th, 2017:

- Tech. / FF. Anthony Dellorco, leaving Fire dispatch and going to Engine Co. 9
- Tech. / FF. Kristyn Gothard, leaving Fire Dispatch and going to Hamer Co. 1
- Tech. / FF. Joe Huth, leaving Fire Dispatch and going to Tower Co. 9

Congratulations and thank you to these three members for their hard work, dedication, and professionalism during their respective tours of duty at Fire Dispatch. They will be missed.

The following DFD members have recently joined the Fire Dispatch Unit:

- FF. Chris Bernal
- FF. Garrett Majors
- FF. Doug Mangels
- FF. Jeffrey Swanson

I would like to welcome these four new members, and thank them in advance for helping us out.



Fire Dispatch Communications cont....

Dispatch needs your HELP!

1. Please let us know when you are done. We can move on to the next incident and provide assistance to the next group of DFD Brothers and Sisters.
2. Please communicate with us during the incident. An update or progress report is very helpful. This helps us plan potential additional resources or preplan Resource Change of Locations.

“Attention! All Units on the air, please stand by, and hold the air for a Structure Fire in District 3.”

Please remember to maintain radio silence until we get the run out, on the air, and assign the Co.'s and Units. If you believe you are closer than another Co. or Unit, or if you have just become available, contact us after the run has been put out, and we will make the appropriate adjustments.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the members of our DFD Fire Dispatch Team. This is NOT an easy job, but rather a very stressful and complicated job with many layers.

I would also like to request that everyone continue to show professionalism and common courtesy over the air. We are doing our very best to serve you and will continue to work to improve our service delivery.

Sincerely,

Dave McGrail and the entire DFD Fire Dispatch Team

Fleet Management

Three new engines have been ordered from Pierce that will allow us to phase out the final three HME units. We have also ordered a new tower ladder which will eventually become Tower 9. All four of these units will arrive near the end of 2017 or early in 2018. While it's nice to have an improved economy, it's creating a backlog of work at the factory and build times for new units are steadily increasing. A 105' aerial ladder is currently being completed at Pierce. The final inspection will be in mid-April with delivery to our shop planned for early May 2016. This unit will likely be the replacement for Truck 12.

Two Wildland Team transport vehicles are moving forward in the purchase process with an anticipated delivery to us sometime in June. The two Type 6 wildland units that were acquired late last year have been out on their first official deployments and are currently getting a few modifications at the shop to better serve the needs of the crews.

Fleet Management cont....

The new Shift Commander vehicle was deployed several weeks ago, with the requested up-fitting and modifications completed.



Doyle Brewer will be retiring this October after 29 years of service.

As many of you may already know, Doyle Brewer will be retiring this October after 29 years of service with the Department. He has been an integral part of Fleet Management and we are so proud of his accomplishments. Doyle has taken on many special projects and his creativity and craftsmanship will be with us for many years to come. Fleet has been working closely with Civil Service for a replacement mechanic and applicants will be scheduled for testing and interviews in the near future.

Finally, something that we get asked regularly is, "What do you guys do with the old fire trucks?" The answer is that the vast majority of all used city equipment and vehicles now gets auctioned at www.govdeals.com. This holds true for us as well as items from DPD, PW, and DIA. City employees can bid on all items. Give it a look sometime.

Thank you,
Dan Freix and the Repair Shop staff

Facility Management

During the first quarter of 2017 Technical Services has been able to see several fire station improvement projects completed or significant progress made towards completion. Fire Station 14's crew bathroom sinks and associated asbestos mitigation repair were completed. Fire Station 1 had a reliable hot water issue resolved after completing repairs to the circulator system and replacement of various plumbing fixtures.

Six fire station projects designed to remove carpeting from the dorm spaces within fire stations were combined to replace the carpet with a sealed concrete flooring. Fire stations 7, 10, 13, 21, and 30 have been completed with final walk throughs to identify punch list items to be scheduled in late April or early May. Fire Station 4 is scheduled to have carpet areas replaced with sealed concrete after the mitigation of the asbestos carpet mastic is completed. The mitigation is being coordinated with Public Works, DEH, and DFD.

Purpose 5 bond funds started some much need kitchen remodel projects. Station 12's kitchen remodel saw completion of major construction during the first quarter. The crews at Station 12 did an excellent job of designing and installing a backsplash that reflects the station's personality and culture. Stations 8 and 15 began the design phase of their kitchen remodels and we look forward to seeing these projects as they move forward.

During the second quarter of 2017 Technical Services has completed duct cleaning for Stations 2, 4, 8, 22, and 26 along with resealing of the bathroom tile and floors at Stations 7 and 21. We will see the replacement of overhead bay doors at five stations during the remainder of the second quarter. Stations 1, 7, 8, 12, and 24 will begin seeing this work starting April 17th and running through May.

Thank you,
David Tade and the Facilities staff



Line Shop

The first quarter has proven to be busy for the Line Shop. We have installed and began implementing our Radwin system, which will be the biggest enhancement to the Vocalarm yet. The Radwin network will allow DFD to access each station's Vocalarm equipment for updates, maintenance, and greater control. The balance of the system will be built out during 2017.

We have also been testing a new system image for the MDT's in conjunction with TS and EEB. Once implemented, MDT's will have access to the DFD Web, the internet, and many other resources as if you were at a desktop computer in the city. A few District Chiefs will be selected for field testing.

The GoGo Gate project, which provides remote control for station doors has been ongoing as well with a little over 50% of the stations completed. Once completed, crews will be able to check the status of their apparatus doors from the MDT and, if necessary, close them if they did not close when responding.

The Line Shop has also begun a more aggressive effort to ensure compliance for Radio Enhancement Systems and their 5-year test. These systems are required in many larger buildings. Many facilities neglect these important systems until a lack of coverage is found during an emergency. The Line Shop has been seeking out those occupancies that have not complied and notified them of the requirements to maintain the system. One of the requirements for the 5-year test are actual signal level readings throughout the facility to ensure radio coverage.

A few other computer related items are the addition of a Rig Status Page (<http://10.137.41.138/rsm>), upgrading of our Firehouse database and migration of our Telestaff database to a new server platform (slated for 2nd quarter 2017).

Thank you,
Mike Stutz and the Line Shop staff



Warehouse

The warehouse has recently changed its business hours. We are now open:

Mon, Weds and Fri 0600-1400
Tues and Thurs 0600-1200

Although the warehouse will still be staffed from 1200-200p, it will only be opened for Operation Emergencies. Tuesday and Thursday afternoons will be spent getting caught up on paperwork, inventory, stocking, billing and PPE laundering.

The Denver Fire Department is working with Purchasing to put together a new uniform contract and send it out for bid within the next few weeks. We have been very busy meeting with vendors and city purchasing to all the details fine-tuned for the uniform bid.

I would like to personally thank you for sending in your PPE gear for annual cleaning and after being worn in fires. We have seen an increase in turnouts coming in for cleaning. Marken cleans and inspects PPE for DFD and has been doing a great job. The average PPE turnaround time for normal cleaning is about 10 days.

If you ever have any questions please feel free to contact us here at the warehouse; 720-865-3898 or dfdwarehouse@denvergov.org

Thank you,
Scott Reeves and the Warehouse staff

