


Food Truck Fire & Life Safety

- What Regulations Codes and Standards Apply?
 - Local Ordinances, State Codes and Laws, Federal Regulations and National Standards

- Required Permits and Inspections?
 - Fuel Storage
 - Public Safety
 - Fire Suppression systems
 - Emergency Access



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Activity	Time
Recording Start	00:00:00
Technical Difficulties?	00:01:14
Audio	00:01:28
Interactive Participation	00:01:40
Webinar Survey	00:01:55
Get Involved	00:02:11
Food Truck Fire & Life Safety	00:02:42
Food Truck Fire & Life Safety	00:03:06
App/Desktop Share (1) Start	00:05:08
App/Desktop Share (1) End	00:50:56
What could possibly happen?	00:51:06

Philadelphia PA. July 1, 2014

- Food Truck parked curbside on Wyoming Ave. in the Feltonville neighborhood PA.
- Food Truck Explosion Kills 2, Injures 13
- Propane vapor cloud ignites while Mom and daughter work inside the vehicle
- Aug. 4, 2014 Fire Marshal's and DOT investigation report released, propane gas leak built up in vehicle, ignition source unknown due to multiple appliances in use at the time of the explosion.
- Investigation concludes that at least one of the propane cylinders on the vehicle was not hydrostatically tested and was in use beyond the date it was due
- The cylinder should not have been refilled without a valid Hydro-test date



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FDNY Training Directive on Food Trucks

- Prepared by FDNY Lieutenant Timothy Carroll
 - Since 2008 there has been a rise in food trucks in the city
 - In 2012 the City Health issued 3100 permits to vendors
 - There exists a “Black Market” for fraudulent permits
 - Hazards to firefighters include:
 - Explosion from Propane Gas
 - Electrical shock, Gasoline fuel from Generators
 - Burns from hot grills, grease, deep fat fryers
 - Potential Haz-Mat incident due to leaking compressed gas
 - Potential health issues from bacteria and spoiled food



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IFMA Task Group Formed July 17, 2014

- *International Fire Marshals Association conference call to discuss the incident in Philadelphia and other problems with Food Trucks*
- *Lack of specific code language dealing with Mobile Cooking in NFPA 96*
- *Propose amendments to NFPA 58, LP Gas in vehicles, carts, trailers, etc...*
- *Add a definition of 'mobile and temporary cooking'*
- *Require permits from AHJ*
- *No cooking inside tents occupied by the public*
- *Separation distances of no less than 10 feet between vendors*



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00:12:07 / 01:09:31

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2:55 PM
3/6/2017

The bottom of the screenshot shows a Windows taskbar with several application icons including Internet Explorer, Outlook, File Explorer, Google Chrome, and Microsoft Word. The system tray on the right shows the date and time as 2:55 PM on 3/6/2017.

D.O.T Webinar August 24, 2014

- *"Food Truck Propane Cylinder Safety"*
- Webinar can be viewed online on 'You-Tube'
- Topics included tank testing and safety
- Markings to identify tank compliance, hydro-testing, age...
- Cylinder volume, capacity, safety



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Massachusetts State Fire Marshal

- OSFM Advisory released on September 1, 2014
- FOOD TRUCKS
- Stephen D. Coan stated that the popularity of food trucks has increased in the past few years
- Identified several regulations and statutes to apply to food truck use
- MGL Ch.101, sec.3 requires transient vendors to be licensed by the Division of Standards, and subject to 'local rules' which are enacted by the mayor or boards of selectmen.
- Suggested a fire department inspection to be considered



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Indianapolis, IN


- Gasoline vapors ignite while re-fueling the generator at 3:45 pm
- Workers and customers burned
- 4 injured, 3 critically
- Vehicle was not licensed by the county since 2013



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Issues to Consider

- Licensing & Inspections
- Permits for Propane?
- Zoning Regulations?
- Proper Operating Procedures
- SAFE re-fueling
- Testing for Leaks



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Codes, Permits, Inspections

- What codes are applicable to these types of events and food trucks?
- Who has Jurisdiction?
- Where is the event taking place?
- Where is the vehicle parked and operating?
- Who owns the property?
 - Private or Public land
 - State or Local



Who is the Responsible Party?

- Is it the event sponsor or promoter?
- Is it the Vendor/Operator?
- Is there an Organization or Beneficiary receiving the proceeds?
- Is this a charitable event or fundraiser?
- Is it strictly a 'for-profit' event?
- Is it town sponsored?

- Does any of this matter in terms of code enforcement?



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Network Recording Player - Fire/Life Safety Considerations For Street Vendors, Fairs and Festivals

File View Info Help

Meeting Number: 666 788 705 | Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 | Time: 1:00 PM, Local Time (GMT -06:00)

Where do we start?

- # 1 Priority is always Life and Public Safety
 - Remember that Life Safety includes Police, Fire and EMS
- Analyze the Event
- Identify and Assess Risks and Hazards
 - Where is it taking place?
 - How many in attendance?
 - Activities occurring?



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00:19:57 / 01:09:31

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3:03 PM
3/6/2017

Minimize the risks, Abate the Hazards, Plan for the Possibilities

- Does your Department have the resources it needs to cope with any contingencies?
 - Accidents, Illness, Fires, Intentional Acts of Violence
 - EMS
 - Police
 - Fire
 - County and State or Federal Agencies
 - Have all the Stakeholders met to discuss the Incident Management Plan?
 - Make sure to involve all the promoters, applicants, vendors to make comments and offer suggestions and provide technical expertise where applicable



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Network Recording Player - Fire/Life Safety Considerations For Street Vendors, Fairs and Festivals

File View Info Help

Meeting Number: 666 788 705 | Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 | Time: 1:00 PM, Local Time (GMT -06:00)

Once the Hazards and Risks have been identified, consult the Codes

- What will be allowed to be on site?
- What permits if any, are required?
- Are there limits and restrictions
 - Quantity of fuel, distance and clearance
 - Proximity to other activities, buildings, structures
 - Maintaining separation distances and public access
 - Safety zones
 - Barriers



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00:21:30 / 01:09:31

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3:05 PM
3/6/2017

Safety Inspections

- On board Fire Suppression Systems
 - Hood Suppression
 - Charged and within inspection date
 - Portable Fire Extinguishers
 - Confirm the right type of agent for the fuel type being used
 - Valid inspection tag and hydrostatic test date
- Hood, Duct and Exhaust Fan
 - Recent cleaning and inspection label?
 - No accumulation of grease



Vendors must be aware of how to respond in the event of a fire or propane leak

- Ask the operator to show you how they check for a gas leak
- How often are cylinders changed out and disconnected from fuel supply lines
 - Have all employees been trained how to do it safely and correctly?
 - Do they check for any gas leakage following cylinder swap?
- Do they know how to properly operate a fire extinguisher?
- Do they have any other ways to control a fire? Cover or lid?



Codes to consider

State or Local Codes

- MGL Ch.148
 - AHJ granted authority to abate conditions likely to cause fire
- 527 CMR 1.00 The Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code
 - (NFPA 1 with MA. Amendments)
 - Ch. 12.00 The Massachusetts Electrical Code
 - Ch. 10.00 General Fire Safety
 - Ch. 50.00 Commercial Cooking
 - Ch. 69.00 LP Gas; Propane
- Massachusetts State Building Code 780CMR, Gas Code, Health Code



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Codes to consider

- National Codes and Standards
 - NFPA 30 Flammable-Combustible Liquids,
 - NFPA 58 Propane,
 - NFPA 96 Commercial Cooking,
 - NFPA 101 Life Safety Code,
 - NFPA 1 Fire Code



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Permits and Inspections

- Propane Permits for quantity above 42 lbs.
- DOT applies to Propane permanently installed on vehicles for fuel
 - If tanks are on the exterior of vehicle, off the ground
 - If tanks are set upon the pavement or ground FD permits are required
- All Cylinders should be secured and fastened to prevent tipping over
 - Strapped to a cart, fastened to substantial posts or stakes in the ground
- Have a portable Dry Chemical fire extinguisher available at least 2A-20BC
- License required for quantities above 2000 lbs. aggregate



Permits and Inspections

- Portable generators and trailered units
 - Quantity of flammable/combustible fuel in tank and for refueling
 - Portable fire extinguishers available
 - Barrier fencing to keep the public away from unit and hot exhaust
 - Consider wind direction and enclosed areas and tents for CO
 - Require a CO detector inside tents near internal combustion engines, grills, ovens, charcoal fires, etc...
 - Portable Air Heating units may be propane fired and also generate CO



Permits and Inspections

- Inspect all tents in proximity to sources of ignition, open flames, cooking appliances, heaters, etc... for manufacturer's label attesting to the material being flame retardant and specifying what test standards were used.
- What is the minimum separation distance between vendors?
 - 10 feet minimum between tents and other vehicles, buildings and structures is strongly recommended
 - Since space is at a premium during festivals and street fairs this restriction will likely cause the most controversy with event organizers that rent out spaces to vendors and will want to maximize their income packing in as many tents and vehicles as possible, placing them abutting each other if allowed.



What other things do we have to consider?

- Additional Risks:
 - Electrical Safety
 - Portable Generators
 - Fuel, exhaust, wiring?





Grounding Wire
clamped to the
hydrant flange
running back to a
portable generator
unit

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Toronto Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau

- Fire Prevention Officer, Captain Rome,
 - informed me that City Hall 'does not allow' them to inspect the Yonge Street Festival,
- They issue permits for the fire entertainers
- No inspections by the FD of the food trucks, propane, tents, electrical or access to hydrants.
- They do not have a fire watch detail on-site.



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Toronto Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau

- Toronto, Ontario and Canada utilize NFPA Standards and Codes
 - Toronto City Hall does not want the FD to be overly aggressive in enforcement or interfere with the festival, which brings in tourism and significant economic benefits to the area and merchants
 - Entertainers are all volunteers and work for tips, so they could not afford to pay permit fees or buy expensive code compliant equipment....
- This was not a written policy...
 - it was the justification I inferred from the conversation



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Now We're Cooking!

- Is the method of cooking being performed in a safe manner?
- What fuel is being used?
 - Propane Gas, Solid Fuel such as Wood or Charcoal
- What cooking method is being employed?
 - Grill, Deep Fryer, Boiling water, BBQ Slow Wood fired cooker, Brick oven?
- Is there a fire extinguisher present?
 - If so, what type? Is it suitable for the cooking method and fuel present?
- Is there a Hood and Fire Suppression System installed in the vehicle?
- Are Alternatives to a hood suppression system permissible?
 - Have a lid with a fusible link?
 - Large lid to cover pot



Propane Use

- Extensive use of Propane in various sizes of tanks and cylinders
- All Hydro-Test dates current?
 - (Caution: ASTM cylinders have no Hydro-test requirement)
- Proper Storage
 - Quantity
 - In use and storage of spares
 - Cylinders Securely fastened, upright, on trucks or staked to fixed pole
 - Connections and hoses tight without leakage? How do they test?
- Use near combustibles
 - Beneath tents
 - Close to boxes, crowds,



Plymouth Waterfront Festival

- Held on the Plymouth Waterfront on land owned and operated by DCR at Pilgrim Memorial State Park
- Town of Plymouth issues a 'special event permit' to the organization sponsoring the event
- The 'special event permit application' is reviewed by the Police, Fire, Building Inspector, DPW and Environmental Management Departments to determine if any restrictions, concerns, traffic issues, building code and fire code regulations need to be implemented and proper permits issued
- A site inspection by the Fire Prevention Division takes place before the event begins



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"Park & Pork BBQ" Wichita Kansas October 27, 2014



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