

Members are urged to review the following references:

- *Firefighting Procedures, Engines 1*, chapter 9, Standpipe Operations.
- *Standpipe Systems--The Basics*, by Battalion Chief Gerald Tracy and then-Lieutenant Thomas Meara, in the 2nd/ and 3rd/2000 issues of *WNYF*.
- *FDNY DVDs, Fighting Wind-Driven Fires in High-Rise Multiple Dwellings*, volumes I and II.
- *AUC 273, Pilot Programs--Equipment/Apparatus and Addendum 345, Lightweight Standpipe Hose*.
- *Basic Engine Operations*, chapter 7, section 7.21.

basement or cellar. To bypass the basement or cellar, FDNY members can isolate a standpipe riser using the riser control valve and supply the first-floor outlet directly.

2. When possible, the location of the first-floor outlet and riser control valve of the attack stairs should be sized up and the engine company chauffeurs should be prepared to isolate and supply it in the event of a water loss in the system.
- **Exterior stretches**--In such cases, this is an unexpected failure of the standpipe system. Units already will be in the building, typically on the floor below with their hose, when the situation is realized. Lowering a line is a quick way of getting water on the fire. (See sidebar on outside standpipe stretch on page 17.) Photo #1 shows a 2 1/2-inch hose-line from the seventh-floor window. The hose was lowered from the front of the building (apartment 702). The fire apartment was in the back of the building (apartment 810). Photo #2 shows hose strap securing hose.
  - When performing this operation, the area below the lowering point should be marked off as a *Danger Zone*. This becomes more important as the height increases. Seven lengths on the exterior of a building would weigh more than 1000 lbs. A length of charged 2 1/2-inch hose reveals a weight of 150 lbs., after the weight of the fittings is subtracted. (See Photos #3 and #4.)
  - Depending on the height of the stretch, consider periodically

bringing the hose in one window on an intermediate floor and then out another to relieve strain on it.

- An IC must be able to quickly change tactics as conditions dictate. In this case, the exterior 2 1/2-inch stretch extinguished the fire. From the time this line was ordered lowered, until the fire was extinguished, totaled approximately nine minutes.

### Conclusion

This particular evolution assumes that members are ready at the point of operation. When it is determined that the standpipe is not functioning, FDNY members will innovate--using tools and equipment they have--to address the adverse situation.



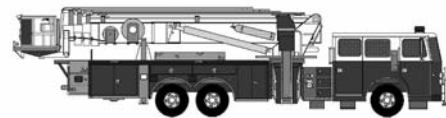
### About the Authors...

**Deputy Chief Joseph N. Carlsen** (top) is a 20-year veteran of the FDNY. He is assigned to Division 3. Previous assignments include Battalion 43 as a Battalion Chief; Division 15 as a Captain; Ladder 131 as a Lieutenant; and Engine 318 and Ladder 166 as a Firefighter. He holds a BS degree in Fire Science from Columbia Southern University. This is his second article for WNYF. **Battalion Chief Thomas J. Meara** (bottom) is a 21-year veteran of the FDNY. He is assigned to Battalion 9. Previous assignments include Engine 54 and Ladder 4 as a Firefighter; Division 6 as a Lieutenant; Division 1 and Engine 10 as a Captain; and Battalion 8 as a Battalion Chief. He holds a BS degree in Chemical Engineering and an MS degree in Management. He writes frequently for WNYF.



# Taking Up

## January-March 2011



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