



Tactical Consideration 5: Pre-Suppression Proximity of Entry Point From Fire Compartment

Continuing the Conversation:
*Search and Rescue Tactics in Single-Family,
Single-Story Residential Structures*

Explore the main findings from this study and view the associated videos to review this tactical consideration. Then, use the reflection questions on the reverse side to continue the conversation with your crew.

SUMMARY OF MAIN FINDINGS

Imagine a scenario where you are searching ahead of suppression and during size-up, you were unable to identify an already isolated space. Consider entering the structure at the furthest point from the fire.

When you make a vent and enter a non-isolated space, you will be establishing a new flow path from the fire room to your location. This will cause combustion gases and flames to spread, and lead to deteriorating conditions.

By entering the structure as far away from the fire as possible, it will take more time for the fire to respond to the new ventilation opening. This will buy you and your crew more time to search and isolate if possible.

Recall the previous tactical considerations about isolation. If you can isolate the space you entered, then consider doing so, especially if suppression has not started yet.

VIEW THE EVIDENCE

Watch how quickly conditions deteriorated when firefighters vented and entered a non-isolated closest to the fire compartment.





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Scan the QR codes to hear commentary from this project's fire service technical panel members. Then, use the reflection questions to continue the conversation with your crew.

HEAR FROM THE TECHNICAL PANEL

Scan the QR code to watch commentary from Captain Richard Ray of the Creedmoor Volunteer Fire Department on this tactical consideration.



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How does your agency currently decide where to make a vent and enter for search? Do you focus on areas where you think occupants may be trapped or do you attempt entry closest to the fire? Do you consider how your entry location may affect the fire conditions in the structure?
2. What are important size-up factors that may dictate your point of entry into the structure for search? How does the fire location compared to the type of structure and time of day impact your decision making for entry?