



Coffee Break Training - Fire Protection Series

Standpipe Systems: Stair Landing Hose Outlets

No. FP-2009-41 October 13, 2009

Learning Objective: The student shall be able to identify two locations where standpipe hose outlets for firefighter use may be placed.

Standpipe systems in tall or large buildings provide a ready and convenient water supply for fire suppression personnel.

In the stair enclosure pictured, the Class I standpipe hose station outlets are located behind the stainless steel cabinet doors at the intermediate landings. (See Coffee Break Training 2006-41 and 2006-42 for an explanation of standpipe “classes.”)

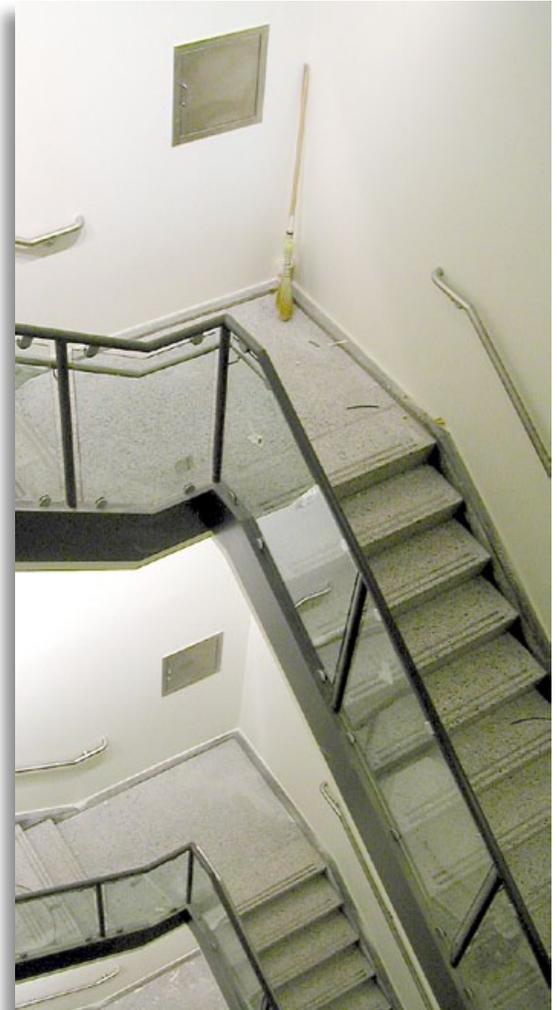
While every jurisdiction may have its own firefighting protocols for standpipe operations, a common historical practice was for the fire attack team to connect to the standpipe outlet on the same floor level as the fire, and stretch hose in the stair enclosure to the floor below before leaving the stair enclosure to the fire.

Many organizations, including tactical courses at the National Fire Academy, now recommend connecting at the floor **below** the fire, then stretching hose in the stair enclosure above the fire floor before entering for an attack, therefore assisting line advancement.

To aid in the number of options and placement for hose station outlets, the model building and fire codes now require Class I and III standpipe hose station outlets at the highest intermediate landing between floor levels in every required exit stairway as the picture illustrates. In this configuration, firefighters can connect to the standpipe and plan their attack without being exposed to the fire or products of combustion that might leak into the stair enclosure.

The International Building Code® and International Fire Code® give the code official the choice of having the outlets at the floor level, if they prefer the more traditional design.

For additional information, see International Building Code®, and International Fire Code®, Chapter 9, and NFPA 14, Standard for Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems, Chapter 7.



These stainless steel doors conceal Class I standpipe hose outlets for fire department use.



Eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
at www.nfaonline.dhs.gov

For archived downloads, go to:
www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/