
	STAFFORD COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT	
	<i>SAFETY BULLETIN</i>	
	SUBJECT: REAR INTAKE OPERATION	FRD ADM-SB001
	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 20px;"></div>	INITIATED 08/15/07
APPROVED:  J. Robert Brown, Jr., CFO, Fire and Rescue Chief	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 20px;"></div>	REVISED

On Sunday, August 12, 2007, a Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department firefighter sustained serious injury while opening a Storz Blind Cap on the Rear Large Diameter Intake on 2006 Pierce Dash with a 1250 Waterous Pump.

After this incident, we have learned that other personnel in Stafford County and surrounding jurisdictions have witnessed similar results involving this type of Rear Intake. In these incidents, personnel reported that while opening Storz Blind Caps on Large Diameter Rear Intakes (LDRI), pressure has built up in the plumbing leading to the cap making it difficult to remove. When the cap releases, it propels off with tremendous force.

In preliminary testing, this condition occurs when the LDRI valve has been opened and closed from the pump panel (electronic button) during pumping operations, supplied by a hydrant from the Large Diameter Side Intake (LDSI), with the Storz Blind Cap still in place and the corresponding bleeder valves in the closed position. The accidental opening and closing of the LDRI Valve can easily occur due to electronic switch placement on the pump panel. All Fire Apparatus Operators are asked to re-familiarize yourself with valve switch placement.

Chief Brown has notified Pierce Manufacturing of the problem and Fire and Rescue Department staff will be issuing a final investigative report and providing oversight of the process to fix this problem.

Accordingly, the Rear Intake Bleeder Valve shall remain open when not in use until further notice. This is not to include the master pump drain. This will alleviate any pressure build-up in the system until a permanent fix can be engineered.

See attached Cap Specifications and resulting injury.

STORZ BLIND CAP SPECIFICATIONS

Material: Forged T6160
Aluminum Alloy

Finish: Hard Anodized

Seal: Nitrile

Approvals:

Meets NFPA 1963 edition 1998 Standard for fire hose
connections

TYPE:

4" Blind cap w/ tether

