

Virginia Department of Fire Programs

Glen Allen, Virginia, USA



Mobile Structural FIRETRAINER® ML-1000

- Three (3) 53-foot Mobile Fire Training Trailers
- Two Fires with 5 Interchangeable Props: Stove, Bed, Sofa, Motor Generator, & Three Gas Bottles
- Smoke Generator
- Fully-Enclosed Internal Staircase
- Central Control Room with LCD Touch Panel & 3 Viewing Windows
- Fully Integrated Sound System
- Exterior Staircase to Roof
- Exterior Lighting
- Forcible Entry Window
- Wireless Controls
- Extra Large 21' x 8.5' Collapsible 2nd Story Training Room
- Flashover Effect
- Fully-Enclosed Internal Staircase
- Multi-Position Pitched Roof Ventilation Prop
- Roof Chop-Out Area
- 7 Movable Wall Panels
- 1 Movable Interior Door
- 2 Training Doorways
- 2 Training Windows
- Forcible Entry Door
- Belly Box Storage
- Removable Belay Tri-pod
- Standpipe & Sprinkler System with Electronic Control
- Vinyl Graphics Package

Completed: August 2010

Fueled by: Propane

KFT™



In 2010, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs took delivery of three Mobile FIRETRAINER® ML-1000's with state-of-the-art fully automatic agent detection and manual operator control capabilities. VDFP's ML-1000s feature KFT's Advanced *AquaMesh™* Burner Technology. In addition, a fully integrated sound system is included to provide maximum realism.

VDFP's three 53-foot ML-1000's will provide a wide array of training capabilities, including laddering, search and rescue, fire suppression, ventilation, and rapid intervention. The training systems will be used throughout Virginia.

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs is a leader in providing critical, high quality training to Virginia's emergency responders.

KFT™

Going Mobile

By: Mark Buff, Virginia Department of Fire Programs



One of three new Mobile Burn Buildings

Firefighter I and II training. There are many things it should be: informative, challenging, up-to-date, hands-on, safe, realistic -the list could go on. But there is one thing it should not be: inconvenient for those undergoing the training.

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) and the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) have always endeavored to make training all those things it should be for Virginia's firefighters, and now, with the acquisition of three (3) new, state-of-the-art Mobile Live Fire Trainers, receiving the training will be easier than ever.

VDFP took possession of the Mobile Burn Building (MBBs) simulators, as they are being called, in October and the units are currently stationed at Glen Allen for staff familiarization and training before being deployed across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Once deployed, the simulators will bring NFPA 1001 skills training right to the doorstep of localities that currently do not have their own fixed structures and have to allot additional time and effort for travel to and from traditional burn buildings outside their local area.

KIDDE Fire Training Simulators of New Jersey was awarded a contract to manufacture the three MBBs in November 2009. Funding for the units was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the VFSB through its Burn Building Grant program and VDFP training support funds.

So, what type of training are these mobile simulators capable of providing? The Mobile FIRETRAINER® ML-1000 is Kidde's top-of-the-line mobile fire training burn trailer. The ML-1000 is a custom-built fire training trailer that allows convenient fire training of students in the basic NFPA 1001 firefighting skills as well as advanced firefighting drills.

This "turnkey" training system permits live-fire training in a safe, controlled, and environmentally sound manner. The ML-1000 is fueled by clean burning propane. Its benign smoke generation will not disturb the community. The computer operated system ensures a safe training environment with emergency shut-down capabilities.

ML-1000 features include:

- 53-ft long custom fire training trailer
- 2 propane-fueled AquaMesh™ fires, PLC computer controlled
- Programmable fires w/ automatic agent detection

- 5 interchangeable multi-prop mockups
- Flashover-rollover effect
- Retractable 2nd story room w/ electric winch system
- Fully enclosed internal staircase with door
- Interior movable walls
- Pitched roof ventilation prop
- Full internal staircase with door
- Smoke generator system
- Full stainless steel thermal lining system
- 200 gal. on-board propane storage
- On-board 12kW generator
- Stainless steel diamond plat floor and roof
- Forcible Entry Door Prop
- Exterior Staircase to Roof
- Two Burn Props
- Fully Integrated Sound System
 - True-to-life "class A" ambient sounds automatically respond to fire extinguishment
- Instructor-driven incident sounds:
 - Victim's call for help
 - Baby's cry
 - Dog's barking
 - Chainsaw ventilating overhead
- Realistic "flashover" and "flare-up" sound effects

The MBBs will afford our Firefighter I and II students the ability to practice the techniques of fire fighting under controlled conditions, allowing them to become proficient in basic skills prior to being released to their local fire department.

Just a few of the NFPA 1001 Firefighter skills that can be delivered utilizing the simulators include:

- SCBA Training
- Respond on apparatus to an emergency scene
- Force entry into a structure
- Exit a hazardous area as a team, given vision-obscured conditions
- Set up ground ladders
- Conduct a search and rescue in a structure
- Attack an interior structure fire, hose drills, nozzle training
- Perform horizontal ventilation
- Perform vertical ventilation
- Overhaul a fire scene – all hidden fires are discovered
- Extinguish incipient Class A, Class B, and Class C fires w/portable fire extinguishers

To further enhance the appeal of the simulators, VDFP Logistics staff and Operations personnel have added to the customer service objective by developing a one-stop-shop environment, making available all the hand tools and fire suppression equipment to visiting candidates so literally all the student will have to do is show up with personal protective equipment and self contained breathing apparatus to participate.

The MBBs will be available for use by those localities that do not currently have one of the 56 fixed facilities located throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, or have to travel a minimum of 40 miles or 40 minutes from the host course facility. The target audience for this program will be Virginia's rural fire service community and career departments that have limited staffing for call-back staff and meet the requirements listed above.

The MBBs will be ready for deployment as we end the fall teaching semester and begin certification testing.

For additional information on VDFP's new Mobile Burn Building simulators, contact Branch Chief of Operations Donald Hansen.