Objectives

- Duties of the Outside Vent Man (OVM)

- Size up considerations

- Review of horizontal ventilation

- Vent Enter Search (VES)

Duties

- 360 of fire building
- Communicate building features and hazards (fire escapes, propane tanks)
- Vent opposite the line (Horizontal Ventilation)
- Vent Enter Search (VES)
- Ladder rear of building
- Force Entry where needed
- Secure Utilities

The OVM (Team) and Equipment

- If sufficient manpower present trucks can form 2 teams.
  - Outside team
    - Outside Vent or Roof duties.
    - Manpower permitting work as team of at least 2

  - Inside team
    - Conducts interior searches

Equipment

- Minimum
  - Halligan
  - Hook > 6'
  - Ground ladder
- Additional (manpower permitting)
  - Axe or Sledge
  - Rotary saw w/ metal cutting blade
  - Rabbit tool

Size Up

- What is the occupancy?

- Where is the fire?

- What is the life hazard?

- Resources present?

- Resources on the way?

The "360"

■ Fire conditions not visible from front.

The "360"

- Unexpected building features.
  - walk outs, additions

The "360"

- Hazardous conditions

The "360"

- FDC's
- WIV's / PIV's

The "360"

- Any victims? (in building or outside)
- Check cellar for fire/smoke from outside.
- Other means of entry/exit.
- Asphault or "Gasoline" siding

The "360"

- Asphalt or "Gasoline" siding

VENTILATION

- Vent for life
  - Facilitates movement of members into an area where there is a known or suspected life hazards
  - May "pull" fire to uninvolved area
- Vent for fire
  - Allows hose line to advance and extinguish fire.
  - Normally delayed until charged line is in place and ready to "move in".

Ventilation

- On lower floor levels, ventilation will be carried out by the Interior team on direction of Officer.

- On upper levels, portable ladders must be used.

- In addition to ventilating the fire room, ventilation may be needed for the interior stairs.

Ventilation

- To save time, ladders may be used to break windows. Stay clear of falling glass.
  - However, not as effective as completely clearing window.

- Porch and garage roofs provide a stable platform and refuge.
  - On porches beware of fire venting below.

Ventilation

- When breaking windows with tool:
  - Stand to side
  - Break upper panes first.
  - Angle tool down.

- Avoid endangering ladder ops on higher floors

Ventilation

- Do not endanger exposures.

- Avoid venting below overhanging eaves.

- Coordinate with hose line if possible.

Vent Enter Search

- Theory
  - To provide multiple simultaneous routes to probable locations of *viable* victims.
  - Allows firefighters to gain quick access to rooms which are above the fire floor or adjacent to the fire room without having to rely on interior stairs and hose lines.
  - High risk but statistically high gain.

Vent Enter Search

- Works best when using stable work platform
    - Porch roof
    - Attached garage
    - Building setback

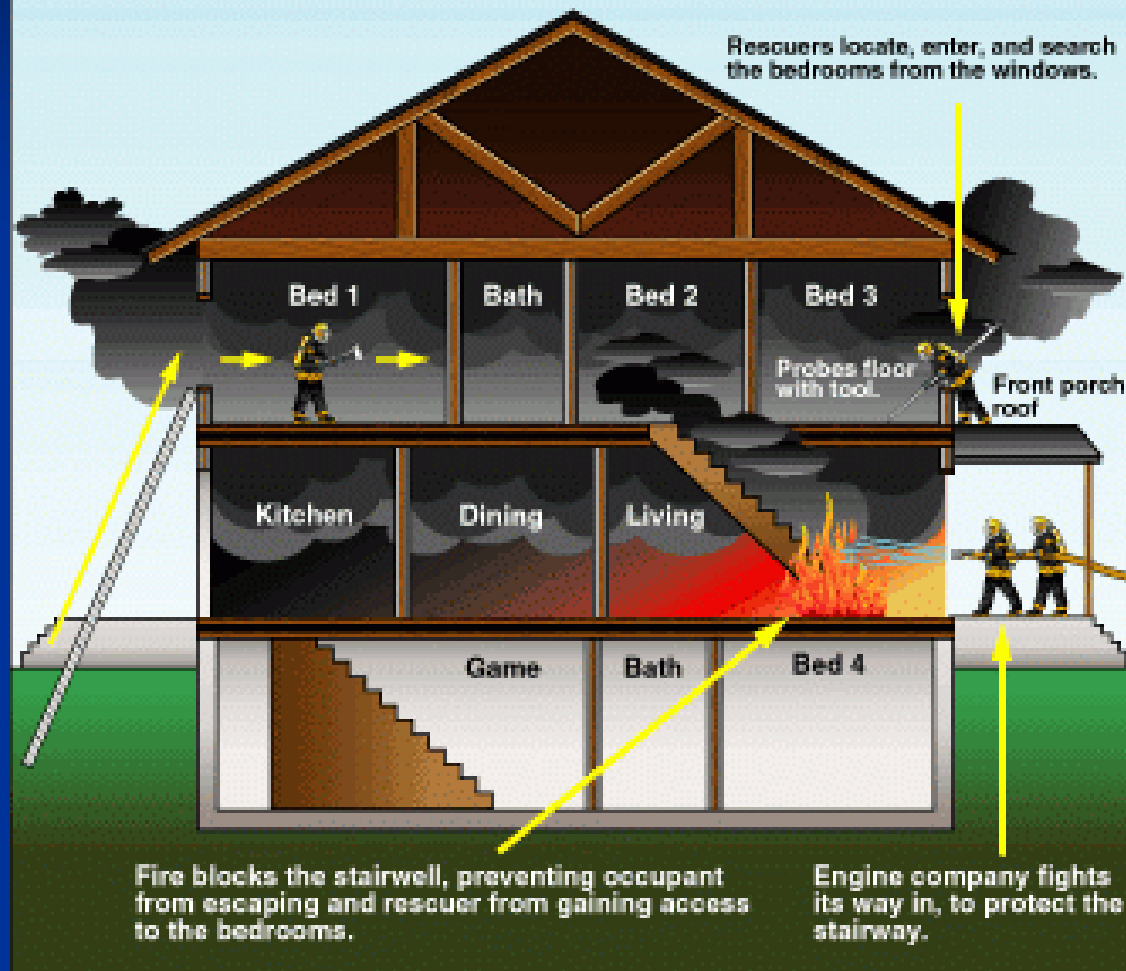Figure 7. Fire in Possession of the First Floor

Figure 8. Heavy Fire Condition in Living Room, Kitchen, and Dining Room

The fire prevents rapid access to bedrooms. Search teams bypass the fire by entering the bedrooms directly from the windows. Doors are closed immediately to isolate the bedrooms from fire.

Vent **Enter Search**

- May be used on first floor also

- Using a ground ladder to access 2nd story or greater place ladder on side of window.

- Take out the entire window making sure to remove the sash.

- Either enter window or reposition ladder under sill.

    - If direct entry made, partner will reposition ladder.

Vent Enter Search

- Using butt end of your tool, check for any occupants on the floor below window.

- If none found, sound out floor to ensure safety.

- Staying low, crawl over the sill enter the room

- Place hook at window for reference.

Vent Enter Search

- Close door to room

- Conduct thorough search

- Check conditions outside door
    - If conditions allow, open door to assist ventilation and exit window
- Exit room by same window

Questions????