



# Risk Management Solutions



Fall 2018

A Quarterly Newsletter of the AMIC/MWCF Loss Control Division

## Firearms Training System (FATS) Available!

**Schedule FATS for your area!**

The Firearms Training System (FATS) is yet another resource that your AMIC/MWCF Loss Control Division offers to assist in your efforts to provide your employees with a safer work environment and better equip them to handle diverse situations. FATS is an excellent training tool designed to develop and sharpen a police officer's discretionary skills as well as re-enforce conflict resolution abilities.

The FATS Virtual Training Systems allow you to receive valuable training opportunities that would be difficult or impossible to replicate in the real world, such as repetitive training in a controlled environment with instant feedback, after action review, force on force training and geographically diverse environments. FATS Virtual Training Systems are the result of over 20 years of industry leading research and development and are currently in use in more than 50 countries around the world.

The FATS Basic Law Enforcement Trainer (LET) supports Marksmanship and Judgmental training for the full spectrum of tools available to the officer today. Marksmanship training encompasses the basic fundamentals of individual marksmanship and sustainment training. Judgmental training includes force escalation/de-escalation, use of force and shoot/no shoot.

In the law enforcement field, continued training is a must! FATS is designed to do just that. The Loss Control Division is prepared to assist you in your training in any possible way. However, we are not certified firearms instructors (CFI). Therefore our services will be limited to delivery of the system and instruction of how to use the equipment. We will not, in any manner, attempt to teach the force continuum, which is the responsibility of the CFI. We highly recommend that this type of training originate in a classroom and progress towards the use of the system. **To schedule FATS for your area, visit our website at [www.losscontrol.org](http://www.losscontrol.org) or contact Donna Wagner at 334-262-2566; [donnaw@alalm.org](mailto:donnaw@alalm.org).**



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### Why Train with the FATS System?

Provides a comprehensive training solution for Marksmanship and Judgmental Training

A single system supports 4 individual firing lanes for Marksmanship Training

Video can support 8 system controlled weapons and 4 wireless patterned inserts for Judgmental Training

Comes loaded with a Generic set of Courseware to support training without any authoring required

Supports the full range of handguns and most rifles Muzzle trace with trigger pull (includes Tazer and OC Cap)

Weapon sensors feedback (magazine, bolt, safety, hammer, etc)

# Get Ready to Turn on the Heat

Reprinted with permission from the NC League of Municipalities Risk Management Services *Risk Management Bulletin*, September 2014

The summer season is over, vacations are a faint memory and school is back in session. Soon, we will be cranking up the thermostat again. Now is the time to prepare your boiler for the heating season. Boilers require a certain amount of TLC to ensure safe and reliable operation. Be sure to be aware of, and to satisfy, all requirements of the jurisdiction having authority.

A boiler is a closed vessel that operates at a positive pressure when water is heated by burning a fuel. It appears to be a passive object and looks like nothing more than a large metal box. To the contrary, a boiler is a complex piece of equipment made up of sophisticated mechanical, electrical and electronic devices. Each component of the system was designed or chosen to work in conjunction with all other parts to make this automatic heater safe and efficient. Boilers must be serviced by highly skilled technicians who comply with manufacturer's guidelines. Malfunction of the boiler or fuel burning equipment can result in catastrophic failure causing an explosion or fire.

At least once a year, every boiler should:

## **Have waterside cleaned.**

Heat from the fuel is transferred through the boiler metal to the water inside. Scale and sludge from chemicals and impurities in the water can accumulate on the inside surface of the boiler and act as an insulator resulting in more fuel being burned for the same heat output. The furnace runs hotter than normal, metal temperatures are higher, stress and fatigue affect the structural integrity and more money is spent on fuel.

## **Have firesides cleaned.**

Carbon and hydrogen are the major components of fuels burned in boilers. Hydrogen reacts with oxygen and produces water when burned. When the boiler is operating at low loads or intermittently, this water vapor can condense and cause corrosion and rust buildup. Carbon reacts with oxygen and process carbon dioxide when burned completely. Carbon also causes soot when it is not completely burned. Soot acts as an insulator on the furnace side of the boiler metal and causes the same results as scale, in addition to flashback or a furnace explosion.

## **Be visually inspected.**

The watersides and firesides should be visually inspected after being cleaned. The watersides should be examined for signs of corrosion and pitting, remnants of scale and sludge, erosion, cracking, and any other abnormal condition. The fireside should be examined for flame impingement, pockets of soot, damaged refractory damaged seals and gaskets in the gas passage, and indications of leaking.

## **Have all controls and safety devices tested.**

Open the ends of all headers that controls are connected to verify there is no blockage. Remove plugs from all four-way T's and clean. Open all electrical connection boxes, retighten all connections and clean before reinstalling cover. Dismantle and clean the low water fuel cutoffs. Test and reset all controls during startup before placing into operation.

## **Have the fuel burning device cleaned and serviced.**

Remove the burner assembly, inspect, clean and replace any worn parts. Inspect the fuel system including pipes, tubes, valves, storage tanks and meters. Adjust the burner for optimum combustion throughout and serviced the range of the burner and test all controls and safety shutoffs during startup before placing into operation.

## **Have the electrical supply cleaned and tested.**

Panels should be cleaned, fuses removed and tested, and circuit breakers exercised.



## Thank you for your service, Stan! Enjoy retirement!

**Stan Fant** joined AMIC/MWCF's Loss Control Division in December 2000 as the SkidCar Coordinator after 30 years of law enforcement experience as an Alabama State Trooper, including more than 20 years as a highway patrol officer and supervisor. For nearly two decades, Stan has held SkidCar training throughout the state, exposing hundreds of police officers and municipal employees to safe driving practices. From vehicle maintenance to classroom instruction to actual drive time training, Stan has maintained and facilitated the SkidCar program. AMIC/MWCF is especially grateful for his professionalism, dedication and persistence.

"Stan has been a huge asset to our Loss Control team," said Steve Wells, AMIC President. "Over the past 18 years, he's developed the SkidCar training into a premiere risk management service. In addition, he's been a great friend and mentor and he will certainly be missed – not only by our employees, but by all the people he's touched over his time with AMIC and MWCF."

Former Sylacauga Police Chief Louis Zook will follow Stan as AMIC/MWCF's next SkidCar Coordinator and will transition into the position beginning in October. He will join the Loss Control Division in January.



## Defining Moment

### Common Sense Safety Rules

Common sense may prevent most accidents. Here are some common-sense safety rules:

- Treat safety as an important part of your job.
- Keep your full attention on what you are doing.
- Know and *follow* the company safety policy.
- Use the required PPE.
- Remind your co-workers about safety procedures and equipment.
- Pay attention during safety training programs and meetings.
- Know what to do in case of an emergency.
- Ask questions when you don't understand.
- Don't fool around or show off on the job.
- Don't let anger, frustration or personal problems interfere with your work.
- Don't ignore a safety hazard, tell a supervisor.
- Don't become overconfident with jobs you've done many times.
- Don't use equipment in ways they were not intended.
- Don't get pressured by others into ignoring safety procedures.
- Don't take shortcuts on the job.
- Don't assume safety is someone else's job; **safety is YOUR job!**

## SAFETY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR 2019 WORKERS COMP PREMIUMS!

The Municipal Workers Comp Fund (MWCF) works to keep the premiums for our members as low as possible. In addition to the many available discounts MWCF members may qualify for, a full 10% Safety Discount can be earned by appointing a Safety Coordinator, signing the *Safe Workplace Guidelines, Post Accident Drug Testing Agreement* and having an approved *Medical Protocol* in place. Last year, 55 percent of MWCF members earned this full discount. These programs not only help to reduce claims but also put thousands of dollars back into the budget of those municipalities and municipal entities to be used elsewhere.

### 2019 Safe Workplace Guidelines

The *Safe Workplace Guidelines* is comprised of safety guidelines each member is encouraged to follow. It is updated annually and mailed to every MWCF member during November. **If it is signed and returned by December 1, 2018, a 3% discount will be reflected on the initial 2019-2020 billing. This must be renewed each year. Credit cannot be issued for any *Safe Workplace Guidelines* received after February 1, 2019.**

### Post Accident Drug and Alcohol Testing Program

The MWCF provides an additional 3% discount for those members that commit to a *Post Accident Drug and Alcohol Testing* program. In order to qualify, a member must sign a "Participating Commitment" (which will be enclosed with the above mentioned document) and have such program certified by their attorney that the member's drug and alcohol policy is Fourth Amendment compliant. Unlike the *Safe Workplace Guidelines*, this document does not have to be renewed each year.

### Medical Protocol

Another 3% discount is available to those members who establish and implement a *Medical Protocol*. This program is a great benefit to both the member and the claims management team. A medical protocol form will be included in the November mailout for those members that do not yet have one on file. **For further information, call MWCF at 1-888-736-0210.**

MWCF members who participate in all three programs will receive a bonus 1% discount – earning those members a full 10% discount on their annual premium for 2019! **All members are encouraged to watch for the *Safe Workplace Guidelines* information packet coming in November and return it promptly to take advantage of these benefits.** It will also be available for downloading on our website by going to the MWCF page [www.almwcf.org](http://www.almwcf.org). ■

## Need Help Filing Work Comp Claims?

For step-by-step instructions, visit:

[www.almwcf.org](http://www.almwcf.org)

# 2018 SkidCar Schedule

Through an advanced, computer-controlled driver training vehicle known as the SkidCar System, trainees learn how to react quickly and safely to a range of hazardous driving conditions. Training is conducted throughout the state at a minimal cost. Visit [www.losscontrol.org](http://www.losscontrol.org) for more information.

**Fort Payne                      October 16-19**

The AMIC/MWCF Loss Control Division welcomes Louis Zook as our new SkidCar coordinator. He will follow Stan Fant's lead, who led our SkidCar training for the past 18 years. Thank you, Stan, for your outstanding service! The 2019 calendar is TBD.



**Register and pay online at [www.losscontrol.org](http://www.losscontrol.org)!**



## Loss Control Division

P.O. Box 1270 • 535 Adams Avenue • Montgomery, AL • 36102

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Presorted Std.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Montgomery, AL  
**PERMIT NO. 340**

## Fall Safety DVDs

- 5.080 – Tractor Safety
- 7.057 – A Lift to Safety
- 7.105 – Groundskeeping Safety – Dealing with Bugs & Critters
- 7.121 - Video Guide to Chainsaw Safety
- 7.131 – Social Media: Reduce the Risk
- 7.133 – The Top Five Things You Need to Know About the Flu
- 7.152 – Ladder Safety
- 7.154 – Chainsaw Safety
- 16.007 – Special Events...Special Liabilities
- 18.003 – Seasons in the Sun: Driving Challenges in Spring & Fall

### New Police DVDs

- 9.119 – Verbal Judo I – Body Language
- 9.120 – Verbal Judo II
- 9.121 – De-escalation: Common Sense Tips for All Cops

Video/DVD requests to: **Sonya McCarley at: 334-262-2566**  
[sonyam@alalm.org](mailto:sonyam@alalm.org) or FAX at 334-262-2809

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## Employment Practices Law Hotline

# 1-800-864-5324

Through a toll-free Employment Practices Law Hotline, members can be in direct contact with an attorney specializing in employment-related issues. When faced with a potential employment situation, the hotline provides a no-cost, 30-minute consultation.

[www.losscontrol.org](http://www.losscontrol.org)