



Today's Forcible Entry Facing New Challenges at Every Door and Window

Presented by
Ed Hadfield



TRAINING SPECIALIST

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What is Forcible Entry?

- **OLD:** The techniques used to gain access into a building or other are of confinement where normal means of entry are locked or blocked.
- **NEW:** The techniques and methods of creating rapid access and egress points on a structure, while controlling the opening in a manner which does not change the dynamics of the fire behavior. Additionally, it allows for rapid fire attack and firefighter safety considerations related to establish egress points and search portals.



“As the first line goes, so goes the fire!”

old fire service adage

- Effective forcible entry operations is the cornerstone to effective fire ground success.
- Each minute of delay in our ability to place a line in-service on the fire decreases the chance of survival for our victims and increases the odds of a hostile event occurrence.
- Unplanned, non-coordinated and ineffective forcible entry operations has a negative impact on the fire behavior and fireground operations.



Fireground Factors

1st: Identify if the door is a primary exiting door or not.

2nd: Determine what may be behind the door and if additional or secondary doors or devices are in place. I.E. The Back of Strip Malls, Check the name on the business it will give you strong clues.

3rd: Don't solely focus in on the fact you must FORCE the door or objective. Often alternatives are quicker and require less work.

4th: Recognize people are creatures of habit and will most often attempt to exit out the primary door in which they enter everyday. These doors should be forces, first to check for victims within the immediate area.

5th: Maintain door integrity, control and always consider what companies will be doing once you force the opening. I.E. If companies are going to extend hoselines in the opening, complete door removal will be the ultimate



Fireground Factors cont.

- Accurate size-up by all members.
- Apply the right tools and right methods.
- Have a plan for your attack and attack your plan.
- Always attack the weakest point on the objective.
- Communicate delays, changes or change in fire behavior.
- Your job does not end with initial entry on the occupancy.





Forcible Entry Size-Up

- Based upon positional riding and tool assignments.
- Based upon the occupancy and the presenting factors.
- Size-up should encompass
 - First line entry points
 - Areas of opportunity
 - Fireground setbacks and hazards.
 - Anticipated avenues of extension or egress



Forcible Entry Objectives

- Identify
- Size-Up
- Action Plan
- Immediate Actions
- Density Issues





Structure Identification

Type:

➤ Residential

➤ Commercial

➤ Industrial

➤ High-Rise

➤ Care Facility

Group:

➤ High-Density

➤ Multi-Family

➤ Commercial Retail

➤ “BIG BOX” Type

➤ Causality Threat





Size-Up

- **Enroute Size-Up**
 - First due area
 - Pre-planned
 - Prior incidents
 - Time of day
 - Response units
 - Initial size-up
 - Dispatch intel
- **On-Scene Size-Up**
 - Rescue
 - Access to the occupancy
 - Primary entry points
 - Egress points
 - 2nd line consideration
 - 360* assessment



Action Plan

- 1st: Access to the occupancy
- 2nd: 360 to determine primary points of entry
- 3rd: Don't forget the rear and floors above
- 4th: Side gates and lateral access must be considered
- 5th: Complete door removal on any point which has hoselines working through them.

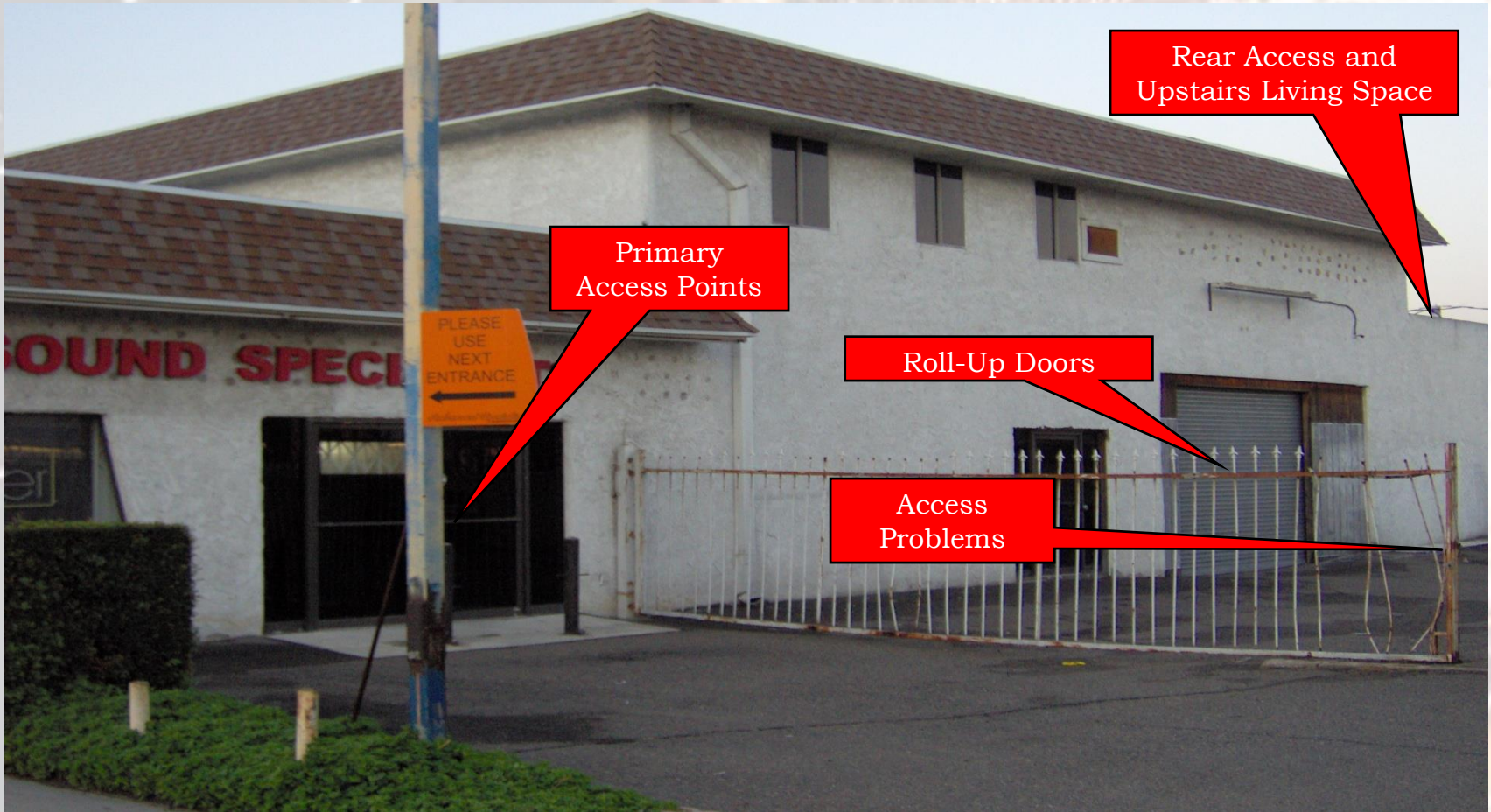


Immediate Actions

- Forcible Entry for direct access to occupancy and exposure units.
- Forcible Entry for rescue operations. This includes forcing the rear of the occupancy and checking for victims.
- Forcible Entry for fire attack, and primary firefighter egress.



Forcible Entry Operations





Density Issues

- Density Issues are found on a number of residential and commercial occupancies. Actions which must be taken include.
- Create “BIG EXITING” requirements
- Complete window bar or security devise removal on an involved occupancy.
- Clear all portions of the opening in VES operations.



Securing Roll-up Doors

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Always Secure the door you are entering through.



Selected Methods of Entry

- **Conventional** forcible Entry is:
 - One of the best methods of overall forcible entry. However, greater skill, training and overall forcible entry knowledge is required to be completely proficient at this craft.
- **High-Density** forcible entry is:
 - A method of forcible entry which typically involves the use of rotary saws and other power tools, it typically requires less knowledge of the objective and is the primary forcible entry method for many commercial structures..
- **Through the lock** forcible entry is:
 - A method of forcible entry which involves removing the locking device and then operating or tripping the lock, this type of forcible entry requires a high degree of knowledge and skill and well as sound training in this method.



Conventional Forcible Entry

- Key Points
 - High degree of training required
 - Works on most doors, including commercial man-doors
 - Great for low visibility and interior operations.
 - Fast and efficient
- Disadvantages
 - Often times this requires two people, yet, a single firefighter with good skills in the craft is just as effective.
 - Physically demanding at times.



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High-Density Forcible Entry

When dealing with a High-Density Structure, the operational goal is to, “Soften the Structure” for firefighting operations.





Security Doors & Windows

How does this change things



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VES Operations:
Key Point: Complete removal
will be require an should be
considered immediately on
the fireground.

Secondary Access Point:
Key Point...Force, Control,
Sweep, TIC, Light and
Communicate.

Primary Entry Point:
Key Point...Force outer security
gate and inward swinging front
door. Complete gate and door
removal will be required after
hoseline is in service.

Initial Access Point:
Key Point...Remove this gate
and section next to gate.





Softening Solutions

Structure Softening techniques and methods are the function of creating access and egress points on a structure. This will allow for rapid fire attack, civilian rescue considerations and firefighter safety in the event of unforeseen fireground emergency or change in fireground behavior.



Softening the Structure

- 360* Assessment
- Structure Identification
- RIC Assessment
- Access and Egress
“Portal Softening”
- Portal Identification





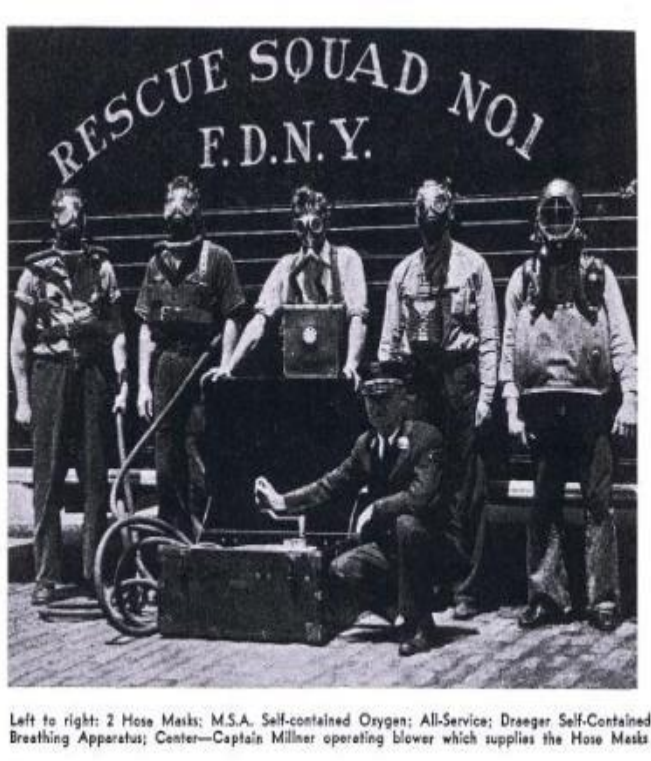
360* Assessment

Upon arrival of the incident, the **Incident Commander** or **First Due Officer** must assess the risk to civilians and firefighters based upon the presenting hazards of the occupancy.

- **Hostile Event Recognition**
- **Building Features (Bars/Shutters)**
- **Construction Hazards (Fascia/URM's)**



RIC Assessment



Left to right: 2 Hose Masks; M.S.A. Self-contained Oxygen; All-Service; Draeger Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus; Center—Captain Millner operating blower which supplies the Hose Masks

Once RIC has conducted the primary structure Identification, **“Softening the Structure”** should begin

- Rescue or Rescue Potential
- Hostile Event Recognition
- Additional Access Points
- Egress Points



Portal Identification

- Portal ID for RIC
- Communicated to Interior
- Part of Pro-Active Operations
- Large Opening First
- Complete Removal
- Expanded





Force-Sweep-TIC-Light-Identify

- Portals Forced, based upon **360* Assessment**
- Once Forced, **Sweep-Search-TIC-Assess** area
- **Remove** or **Expand** as needed
- **Light Opening** with Box Lighting or Truck Lights
- **Identify** and **Communicate**



Primary Entry Points

Note to Self: If you arrive on scene and see a hoseline through a front door, or firefighter accessing through a door, ask yourself;

“ Do they have a means of egress”?



Initial Entry Points

- Initial Entry Points are components of security that protect the property area.



- Electric Access Gates
- Chainlink Fences
- Razor Wire
- Dogs
- Security Barriers



Sliding Gate

(Motor Driven, Hydraulic or Electric)





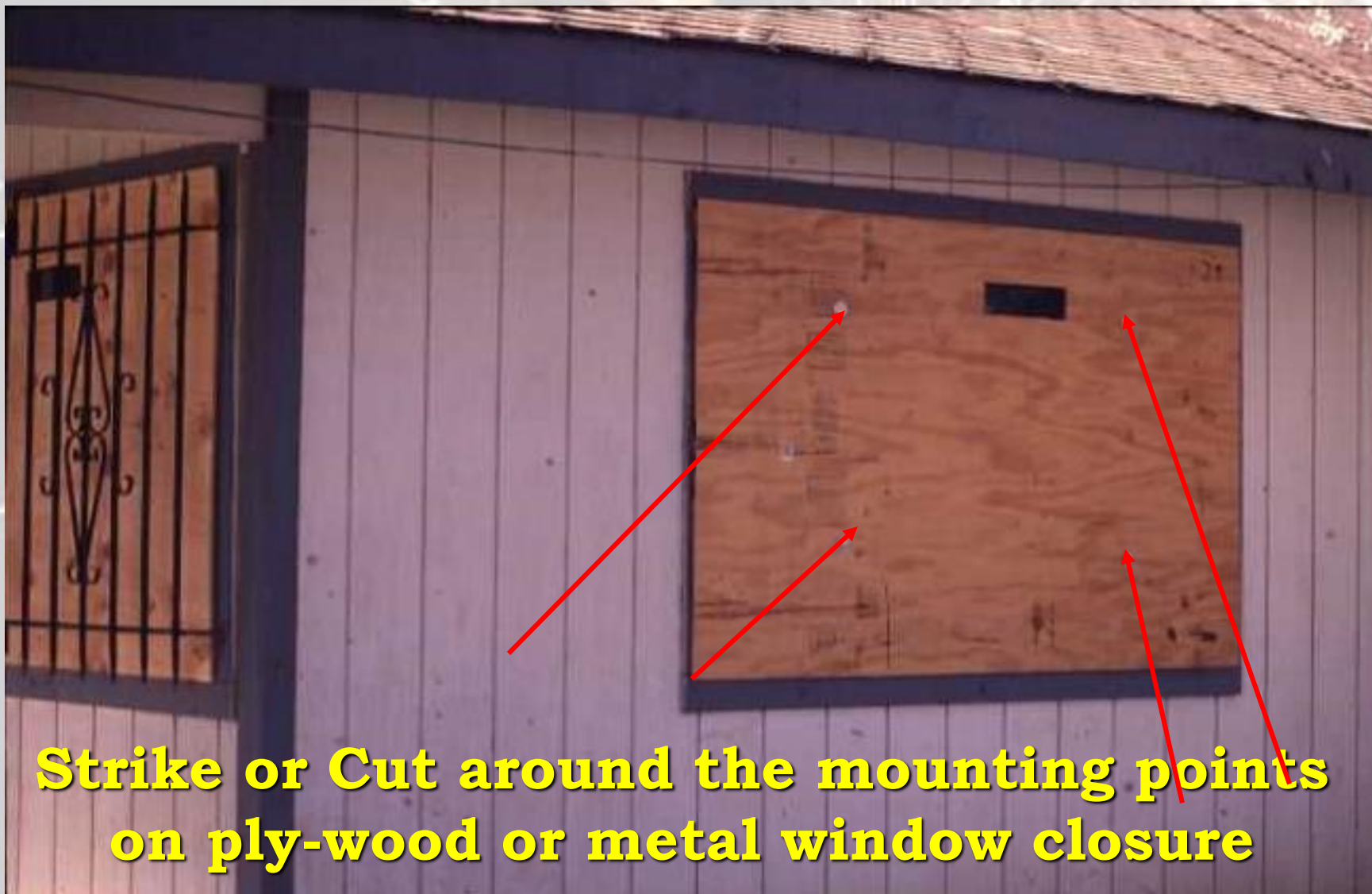
Primary Entry Points

- **Residential:** The primary forcible entry point is determined by the fire attack teams and the need for rescue of our customers.
- **Multi-Family:** In most cases, rescue, fire attack and interior extension/exposure control will be the primary assignment.



H.U.D. Window Closure.

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**Strike or Cut around the mounting points
on ply-wood or metal window closure**



Primary Entry Points

- **Strip Malls:** The primary access point is the involved unit, and units immediately lateral the involved unit.
- A immediate concern is the rear of the structure if **forcible exiting** has not been started or accomplished.
- Remember to **work through the structure.**



Interior Bars Locking Device





Primary Entry Points

- **Commercial Buildings:** Commercial buildings will require numerous forcible entry teams. Multiple openings should be the goal for overall fireground effectiveness, and potential R.I.C Team operations. Utilize BIG EXITING FIRST and as a goal on all commercial and industrial occupancies.



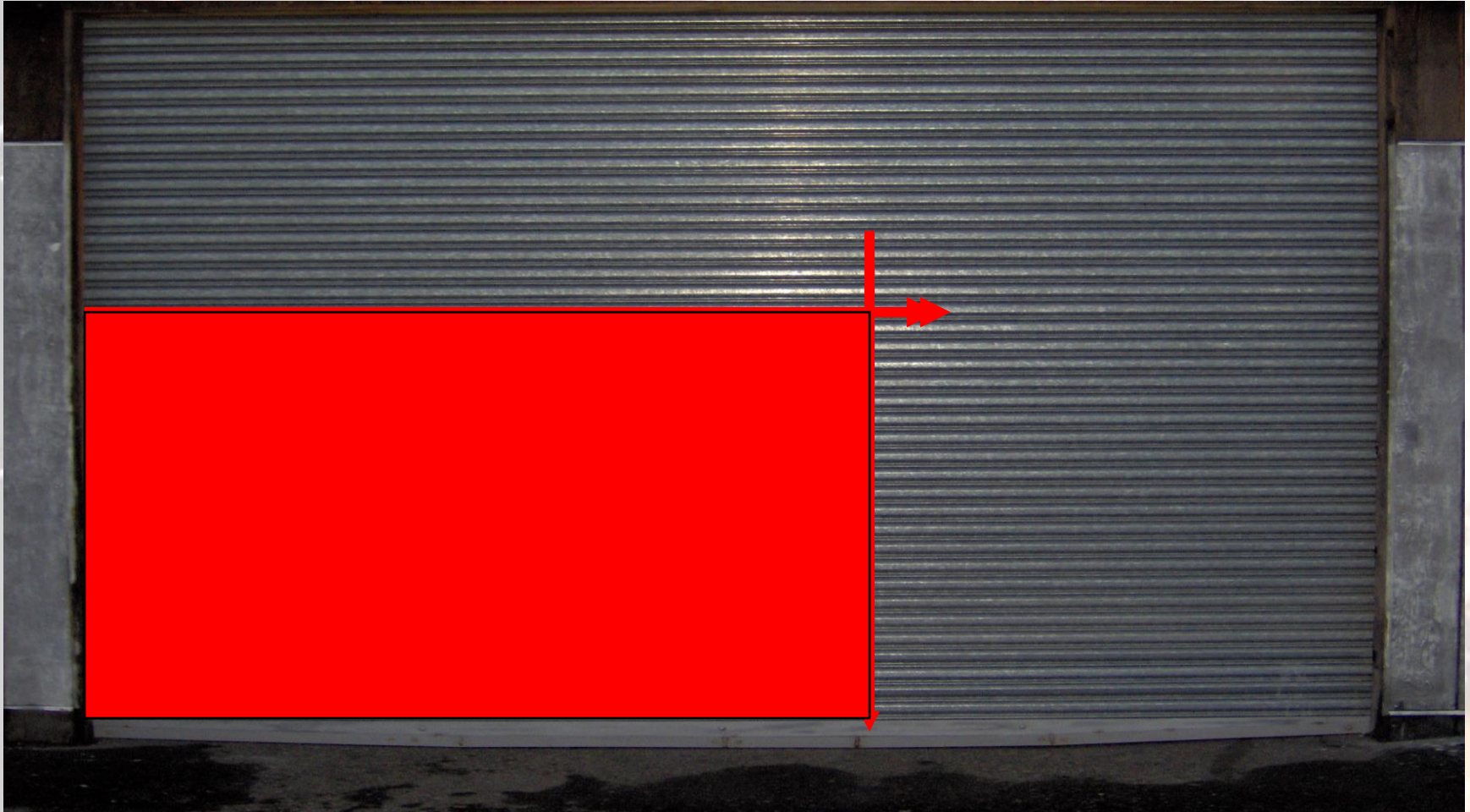
Sheet Curtain Roll-Up Doors

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Rolling Steel Roll-Up Doors





Primary Entry Points

- **High Rise Occupancies:** Initial Fire Attack teams at a high rise fire should include one forcible entry team member. Forcible Entry will usually be required as attack team progress up the structure, and once interior operations begin within the center core of the occupancy. Do not forget to force the “Area of Safe Refuge” during High-Rise operations.



Emergency Egress Points



- EP's: Emergency Egress Points are vital to firefighter survival.

Survey the fireground and identify the primary egress point, this is determined by the operations of firefighter inside the structure. Once identified and addressed, communicate to all Interior personnel.



NEVER FORGOTTEN



Thank You Captain Kemper

