



Lexington County Fire Service

Standard Operating Procedures Aerial Apparatus Maintenance OPS-016

EFFECTIVE: November 11, 2009 **ISSUED BY:** Russell R. Rawl, Fire Service Coordinator

RECINDS: Previous Policy

SCOPE: All Lexington County Fire Service Personnel

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to ensure the efficient standardized maintenance of all aerial apparatus operated by the Lexington County Fire Service in effort to maximize the operational life of aerial apparatus and to ensure the operational readiness of aerial apparatus at all times.

POLICY: **Aerial Apparatus Maintenance Guidelines**

All aerial apparatus operated by the Lexington County Fire Service shall be maintained within the below listed guideline. This maintenance will be performed in a timely matter in effort to prevent damage to the apparatus.

Each aerial apparatus shall be greased following every 10 hours of ladder power use with no exceptions. The hour meter at the turntable shall be used to determine the hours for this purpose. This is to include the greasing of the ladder outriggers, turn table, etc. After the initial setup of the ladder, the following will be performed using Lithium Complex EP Grease (All Purpose).

Procedure Details: Fully extend the aerial apparatus's ladder at ground level and remove the old grease from all parts of the ladder as well as the outriggers. This should include but not limited to the following areas: Inner and outer channels of the ladder beams, waterway pipe, four sides of the front outriggers, and four sides plus the bottom of the rear outriggers. Using a rag or wash brush, clean the aerial nozzle and moving parts to remove any collected debris. This cleaning shall be done using mineral spirits to remove old grease.

Upon the removing of all old grease and before applying new grease, visually inspect the cleaned areas for damage or excessive wear.

Upon completion of inspection, apply new grease to the cleaned areas with the exception of the waterway pipe and apply grease to the grease fittings until a small amount of grease exits the side of the affected area. At no time shall grease be applied to the aerial apparatus's waterway pipe.

NOTE The greasing of the turn table shall consist of 2½ rotations clockwise while pumping grease, and 2 ½ rotation counter clockwise while pumping grease. During each rotation, grease will be applied through the two grease fittings at the rear of the truck.

Once all required components have been greased, retract and extend the ladder fully twice and then remove any excess grease that accumulates from the ladder area. Also operate the aerial nozzle from all three locations to ensure proper function.

Upon completion of the 10-hour aerial apparatus maintenance, documentation shall be logged in both the respective station's daily log as well as on the respective apparatus strip check sheet.