

SAN DIEGO FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT  
TRAINING AND EDUCATION DIVISION  
TRAINING BULLETIN

NO.: 24-001  
DATE: May 31, 2024  
TO: All Personnel  
FROM: Willy Melendez, Battalion Chief, Training & Education Division  
SUBJECT: Standpipe Hose lay-shut off butts  
SUBMITTED BY: Captain James Laing, Driver Training Officer

**Introduction:** Historically San Diego Fire Rescue Department has used shut-off butts when connecting to standpipes up to 20 stories. The use of shut-off butts is not recommended by NFPA or IFSTA literature and is not standard practice nationally or locally.

**Description:**

- Shut-off butts could be inadvertently shut off by anyone on the fire scene.
- Shut-off butts are only rated to 200 psi (Akron Brass)
- There are limited amounts of shut-off butts per engine
- Ties up a firefighter to charge the standpipe.
- Takes longer to make hose connections to the Standpipe.

**Training/Implementation:** Any standpipe will be connected directly to the Fire Department Connection (FDC) utilizing the male coupling of a 2 1/2" or 3" hose. The hose can be utilized from either the 2 1/2" bunk bed, 3" bunk bed, or 2 1/2" Quick attack hose load.

Revisions have been made to the following documents.

- Vector Solutions
  - Engineer Candidate Certification (ECC) Manipulative Guide -Engine Standpipe Rev051724
    - Removed language "Ensure shut off butts (2) are in closed position CRITICAL ERROR"
    - Old order of operation:
      - Open the correct discharge valve slowly and completely
      - Safely charge hose to 2 1/2" shut-off butts
        - Ensure personnel on fire floor are ready for water"
    - Updated order of operation:
      - Ensure personnel on fire floor are ready for water

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- Open the correct discharge valves slowly and completely
  - Safely charge 2 1/2" hoses to standpipe
- Updated ECC – Engine Company Standpipe Operations Video  
<https://www.sdfdtraining.com/drivertraining/>
- SDFD Drill Manual
  - Water Supply & Fire Protection Systems Chapter 11, pg. 13-14

Please direct any questions to Captain Jim Laing, Driver Training Officer,  
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WM/jl