



BY SAMUEL HITTLE

TRADITIONS TRAINING, LLC.

"COMBAT READY" FIREFIGHTING
FIREGROUND PROVEN TIPS, TECHNIQUES, & DRILLS

Fire Engineering



← HOW MANY SETS OF WINDOW BARS DO YOU COUNT?

DID YOU COUNT THE METAL WINDOWS? TOO OFTEN THESE FAIL TO GET THE SAME ATTENTION STEEL BARS ARE GIVEN. AND WHY? IN ALL ACTUALITY, METAL WINDOWS BUILT INTO THE BUILDING SHOULD BE MORE CONCERNING. WHEN APPROACHED AGGRESSIVELY, SECURITY BARS ARE REALLY NOT THAT DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME. PROPER USE OF HAND TOOLS CAN MANIPULATE ANCHORS FROM TIERED MORTAR WHILE ABLE SAW WORK USUALLY REQUIRES ONLY A FEW WELL-PLACED CUTS BEFORE ALLOWING THE BARS TO BE LEVERAGED AWAY FROM THE STRUCTURE. METAL WINDOWS ON THE OTHER HAND ARE FREQUENTLY MORE SUBSTANTIAL, POSING POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES. UNLESS FOUND IN AREAS UNDERGOING REVITALIZATION, MOST OF WHAT IS ENCOUNTERED IS INOPERABLE. IF THEY DO OPEN, EGRESS MAY BE LIMITED OR AWKWARD, DEPENDENT ON THE VARIOUS CONFIGURATIONS ENCOUNTERED. THIS DRILL EXAMINES A FEW CONSIDERATIONS WORTH ANALYZING CONCERNING METAL FRAME WINDOWS.

WHAT TACTICAL APPROACH CAN A SAWYER TAKE TO PREVENT EXHAUSTING SMOKE FROM CHOKING THE SAW?

Considerations: cut the hinges keeping the glass intact / work from the top down / work from leeward to windward side / other?

DO WE HAVE OTHER TOOLS THAT CAN BE USED?

Considerations: sawzall / hydraulic cutters / rebar cutters / other?

WHAT TACTICS CAN BE EMPLOYED TO MINIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CUTS NECESSARY?

Considerations: cut the locking mechanism out / cutting the hinges / cut enough components to allow the rest of the assembly to be leveraged away / other?

WHAT KEEPS US FROM USING HAND TOOLS TO SEPARATE THE WELDS?

Considerations: how substantial is the weld / do we have the necessary time / does visibility support the accuracy required / is the window elevated / do we have enough room to generate the power we need / other?

WHAT KIND OF OBSTACLES ARE COMMONLY ENCOUNTERED THAT IMPEDE OUR ABILITY TO OPEN THE WINDOW FOR INGRESS OR EGRESS?

Considerations: numerous coats of paint / application of weather sealant to prevent rattling and drafts / security measures like tac welds, padlocks, and improvised DIY solution / other?

(Picture on right shows a screw being utilized to prevent hinge rotation)



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