

Main Street Memo

Flanking the Main Street Building



In military strategy, flanking is attacking the opponent from the side rather than head on. This is done because you are more likely to find a “soft spot” or “flaws” hitting the “enemy” at the sides. On Main Street, the building is the “enemy.” The key is apparatus placement upon your arrival prior to any fire advancement; it's not WHERE the fire is AT on arrival, but “WHERE” it will be in FIVE minutes, TEN minutes, etc.

Once you set the air brakes, apparatus tend to be difficult to move in a hurry when they are already operating or committed.

Master stream range and effectiveness may be reduced, but the life safety of the firefighters will be insured even if the unstable wall falls outward.

Photo Credit: TMC NEWS, Tim Olk