



9/11 Drill Down for Safety

Drill Scenario #1

Scenario Focus: Facility Evacuation, Safety of Employees

Scenario Event: Power Outage- Facility Fire

All week long temperatures have hovered near 95 degrees, with the humidity nearing 85%. Air conditioning systems have been working to their maximum, trying to keep buildings and their employees comfortable. The electric utility company has requested large employers to reduce the demand on the electrical grid by turning off unnecessary lighting and reducing the air conditioning load.

At 11:30 in the morning, with the sun almost directly overhead, and temperatures nearing 100 degrees the building fire alarm activates. While some employees are hesitant to leave, the majority begin to evacuate the building into the extreme heat. Within five minutes all employees have evacuated to the building. Shortly thereafter the fire department arrives and begins an investigation into the reason for the activation of the alarm.

Epilogue

Investigation by the fire department has determined that the alarm was caused by an overheated air conditioning unit on the roof. Excessive strain on the unit caused a motor to burn up, activating the alarm. Some smoke entered the facility, and after venting the building employees were allowed to re-enter the facility in approximately 45 minutes.