



FIRE DEPARTMENT:

EFI Global Inc., a nationally recognized, full-service forensic engineering and fire investigation group that completes more than 21,000 projects annually.

APPLICATION:

TetraKO firefighting gel used in side-by-side comparisons with plain water and traditional Class A foam at test burns on a farmhouse, two garages, a barn and three 10-foot by 10-foot pods.

DATE:

Fall 2010

SUMMARY:

TetraKO is sprayed on the ceiling of the lower rooms in the farmhouse and even though the test fires reach an intense temperature, the flames never make a mark on the ceiling. When the three identical pods are set on fire, the one extinguished with plain water requires 450 gallons of water. The one with TetraKO used only 40 gallons of mixed solution. Moreover, TetraKO did not affect forensic samples taken for investigation.



FIRE INCIDENT REPORT #2:

Structures on a farm in Franklin, Minnesota were given to EFI Global to conduct fire testing. The buildings consisted of a farmhouse, two garages, and a barn. And, for comparison evaluations, EFI also constructed three 10-foot by 10-foot pods for test burns.

"We wanted to conduct test burns in the house without burning that structure to the ground. We didn't want the fire to get into the attic space, so we sprayed TetraKO on the ceiling of the lower rooms we planned to burn. Our test fires reached an intense temperature, but the flames never made a mark on the ceiling that we had coated with this impressive new technology.

"Next, we set fires in each of the pods, using fuel loads that were as identical as possible to facilitate comparison burns. We allowed each pod to get to flashover, and then instructed the fire department to extinguish the fires. In all instances, we used identical equipment—a 1¾-inch line and fog nozzle set at a semi-straight stream, but the results, depending on materials used, were far from identical.

"Pod 1: Used water only—and 450 gallons were required to extinguish the fire

"Pod 2: Used Triple-A foam—and 280 gallons were required to extinguish the fire

"Pod 3: Used TetraKO solution—and used only 40 gallons and extinguishment took only 8 seconds

"What the TetraKO people didn't know is that later the same day, we decided to burn all three pods to the ground for easier clean up. We couldn't get Pod 3 to ignite because the TetraKO coating was still on the wood and furnishings.

"Gasoline was poured into one of the farm structures and ignited. TetraKO was used to extinguish that fire. We took samples in the area of origin and obtained a positive reading for gasoline. The TetraKO did not affect our samples.

—Terry Parks,
Fire Investigator, EFI Global, Inc.



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