



#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Ashby, Minnesota  
West Central Minnesota

#### **APPLICATION:**

Test burn of an old granary building and farmhouse

#### **SUMMARY:**

In May 2011, TetraKO is evaluated at a test burn on two structures in rural Minnesota. On the first building, TetraKO is sprayed on the outside of one of the walls. As the building burns, this single wall remains standing and, after collapsing into a pile, refuses to burn. On the second building, in rooms of an abandoned farmhouse, firefighters use a fog pattern and 360-degree sweeps to knockdown the fire and prevent rekindling.

Watch the video at:  
[www.tetraKO.com](http://www.tetraKO.com)



#### **FIRE INCIDENT REPORT #9:**

I've been with the Ashby fire department for 20 years. Our protection area is Grant County in west central Minnesota, about 160 miles west of the Twin Cities. The town's population is around 450 but the number of people in our 108-square mile area is closer to 3,000. There are a lot of seasonal lake homes that are our responsibility, as well.

A friend of mine was watching the news when he saw the SBM fire department fight a fire at a church; he called and said to me "Hey, you've got to check this out." After seeing the officer in charge say how well TetraKO performed, I got interested to see the product work.

The first building we burned was an old granary. There's a lot of wood in those old buildings. It's a square wooden structure on the interior, and inside there are four heavy wooden bins. They typically burn really hot. The most impressive thing we saw is that we coated the outside of one wall with TetraKO and the rest of the building burned into a pile but that one wall wouldn't burn. I mean, the building fell in a pile, this remaining wall finally tipped over and fell on top of the fire and it just wouldn't burn. We watched it with a thermal imager and you could see the temperature difference from the wall that was protected with TetraKO compared to the areas that were burning. The temperature reading on the untreated roof maxed out at 1095-degrees, but only 200-degrees where it had been treated with TetraKO. Everybody I've talked to since then was impressed with that result.



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The second building was a big old farmhouse. When the house was fully involved, there were a couple of rooms that were accessed easily from the outside. Firefighters, using TetraKO, went up to the window, stuck the nozzle inside, did a couple of 360 sweeps with a fog pattern and essentially knocked the fire out of that room. **It took the fire down pretty quickly but it kept the fire from coming back – which we don't see with water or the foams that we use. Sometimes you can knock it down but in a minute it's burning again. TetraKO kept the fire from coming back...we were impressed with that.**

—Mark Zlotnick, Assistant Fire Chief  
Ashby Fire Department



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