

Cincinnati Fire Department Fire Training Supplement DRILL BOOK

SECTION #5
Tools and
Equipment

Date: January 2006
Section #: 5

TOPIC TITLE:
Salvage Master Water Vac

Total Pages: 2
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TOPIC #6:

THE SALVAGE MASTER WATER VACUUM





Use and Description:

- The Watervac is carried on all ladder companies.
- It is a water vacuum designed to be worn in backpack fashion. The unit is donned in much the same way as the SCBA. Place your arms in the shoulder straps and place the unit on your back. Tighten the shoulder straps. Attach the intake hose to the wand and make sure that the disposal hose is capped. Turn the unit on by operating the on/off switch located on the right shoulder strap.
- This tool draws 8 amps, while in use. It has a 3 prong plug for 110-120 volt A.C. or D.C. power. It can be plugged directly into standard household outlets.
- It has a water capacity of six (6) gallons.
- During operation, the watervac may be tilted up to 30 from vertical, in any direction. Normal body motions during operation will present no difficulty. Attempt to keep your back as straight as possible during operation.



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- If the unit is tilted too far, or too quickly, some water may be sucked into the vacuum pump. This will not affect the function of the unit, however the pump will throw water through the vent holes and you will get et. Also, if the unit is tilted too far, or too quickly, the float may close off the pump intake hole. If this happens, stand erect and turn the motor off to relieve the suction, let the float return to the operating position, and then turn the unit back on.
- The squeegee provided with the unit will work on most floors. The squeegee is attached to the wand by loosening the threaded retainer on the end of the wand and inserting the squeegee. Then tighten the retainer just enough to squeeze the snap ring, but not so much as to restrict the swivel action of the squeegee.
- To prevent the squeegee from sticking to the floor, tilt the wand slightly with each stroke. On the "push stroke", lower the wand slightly to raise the front of the blade. On the "pull" stroke, raise the wand slightly to raise the rear blades from the floor.
- When the tank is full, the float inside shuts off the intake opening. You will notice a change in the sound of the motor. A high pitched "whine" will indicate that the unit is full and should be emptied. Use the disposal hose for emptying in an area away from where you are trying to clean up water.