

	Cincinnati Fire Department Fire Training Supplement DRILL BOOK	SECTION #3 Engine Co. Operations
Date: January 2006 Section #: 3	TOPIC TITLE: Drafting Water	Total Pages: 1 Topic #: 24

TOPIC #24 DRAFTING WATER

It may be necessary to draw water from another source other than a hydrant. In this case the pumper must be set to “draft” water. When preparing to draft water, the apparatus is positioned so that the water source can be reached by the available hard suction sections.

Some companies carry hard suction in two 8’ - 10’ sections. After the source is determined, it will take two fire fighters to connect the sections of hard suction together. The connection is made with both members using both hands to tighten down the coupling. The strainer for the hard suction is connected to the male end in the same way. The hard suction set is then connected to the intake of the apparatus. Two fire fighters then lower the strainer end of the hard suction into the source of water.

Air leaks can make drafting water very difficult, if not impossible. In order for drafting water to be accomplished, gaskets must be kept in good condition. Care must be taken to prevent severe bends in the hard suction near the couplings. The hard suction should be supported during the operation using a rope or some other type of support. The strainer must remain fully submerged, deep enough to prevent a whirl pool from forming during the operation. The strainer must be kept from resting on the bottom, as there may be debris near the bottom that could be drawn into the pump housing.

