

JOB DEMANDS ANALYSIS

DEMOGRAPHICS

Job Title / Position	Fire Fighter	Department	City of Edmonton ERD
Date of Analysis	November 25, 2004	Location	Fire Stations 7 & 1
Workshift Schedule	10 Hour Day Shift – 0800 – 1800 14 Hour Night Shift – 1800 – 0800	Meals and Breaks	No scheduled breaks but when not out on calls every station is equipped with full kitchen facilities where meals and beverages can be prepared. When on nightshift employees are allowed to perform reduced activities after 2300.
Job Overview	The job of a fire fighter is well known to be one of the most physically demanding and hazardous of all civilian occupations. Some examples of situations where fire fighters are called upon include responding to structural and wild land fires, medical emergencies, motor vehicle collisions and dangerous goods incidents. When responding to emergency situations the effort level required can vary from moderate effort (i.e., driver of pump, rescue unit, dangerous goods vehicles) up to very heavy effort for situations such as fighting a fire or rescuing/extricating victims from burning structures or vehicles.		
Job Rotation	2 days, 2 nights, 1 off, 2 days, 2 nights, 5 off		

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Environmental conditions at an emergency scene can add to the difficulty of the job. When conditions are not ideal (i.e., extremely cold or extremely hot environments) the physical demands placed on the fire fighter increase dramatically. Due to the extreme temperatures and personal protective equipment that impairs body cooling mechanisms there is a high risk for a fire fighter to suffer from heat exhaustion or in extreme cases heat stroke.

Shift exposures will vary greatly depending on the number of calls received in a shift.

Environmental Conditions At Station	Comments	Shift Exposure*
Indoor Conditions		Cont
Noise Level	Moderate, Loud - alarm for a call (Infreq)	Cont
Slippery Conditions Beyond Climate	Washing equipment or draining hoses in main garage	Occ
Outdoor Conditions		Infreq
Moving Equipment Nearby	Vehicles in main garage	Infreq

* INFREQ = <10% OF WORKSHIFT

OCC = 11-33% OF WORKSHIFT

FREQ = 34-66% OF WORKSHIFT

CONT = 67% OF WORKSHIFT