

PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

404.01E Serpentine Maneuver

Discipline: D/O
Effective: 6/5/2002
Revised: 10/5/2009
Replaces: Driver Benchmark 204

Anne Huff, Fire Chief

I. Objective

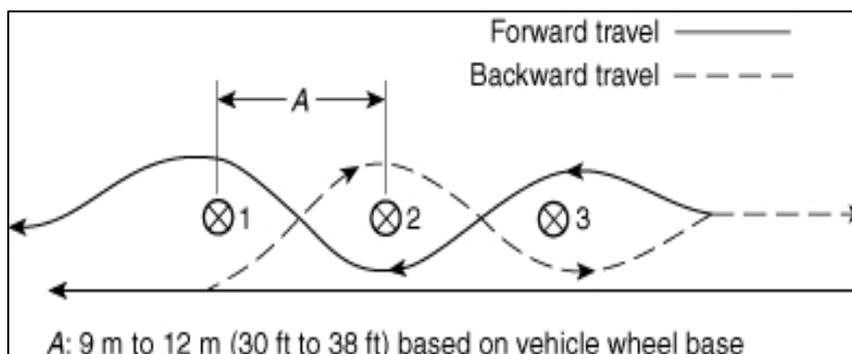
The Driver/Operator, given a fire department pumper and spotter, shall demonstrate a serpentine maneuver.

II. Instructions – Procedures for Achieving the Objective

Given a pumping apparatus and a spotter for backing, the Driver/Operator shall maneuver a vehicle around obstructions on a roadway while moving forward, and then in reverse, so that the vehicle is maneuvered through the obstructions without stopping to change the direction of travel and without striking the obstructions.

III. Examiner's Note

This exercise measures a driver's ability to steer the apparatus in close limits without stopping. The exercise should be conducted with the apparatus moving first backward, then forward. The course or path of travel for this exercise can be established by placing a minimum of three markers, each spaced between 36 ft. (9 m.) and 38 ft. (12 m.) apart, in a line. The spacing of the markers should be based on the wheel base of the vehicle used. Adequate space must be provided on each side of the markers for the apparatus to move freely. The driver should drive the apparatus along the left side of the markers in a straight line and stop just beyond the last marker. The driver should then begin the exercise by backing the apparatus between the markers by passing to the left of marker No. 1, to the right of marker No. 2, and to the left of marker No. 3. At this point, the driver should stop the vehicle and then drive it forward between the markers by passing to the right of marker No. 3, to the left of marker No. 2, and to the right of marker No. 1.



IV. Preparation & Equipment

- A. Fire department pumping apparatus
- B. Spotter
- C. Cones

V. Reference Sources

- A. IFSTA, Pumping Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook, 2nd Edition
- B. TCFP, Performance Standard, Section 700-4.3.3
- C. NFPA 1002, 4.3.3

404.01E – Serpentine Maneuver
Discipline: D/O

Name:	Officer #:
Evaluator:	Officer #:
Date:	Location:

The Driver/Operator: **(No partial points given)**

- a) Makes a 360-degree visual inspection around the apparatus 3.0 _____
- b) Uses handrails to enter and exit the apparatus 1.0 _____
- c) Wears seatbelt..... **P/F** _____
- d) Ensures no firefighters were in a standing position anywhere on the apparatus **P/F** _____
- e) Checks mirror positions before moving 2.0 _____

The Driver/Operator: **(No partial points given)**

- a) Maneuvers the vehicle around obstructions on the roadway while moving forward 5.0 _____
- b) Maneuvers the vehicle around obstructions on the roadway while moving backwards 5.0 _____
- c) Does not stop during the process of traveling backward or while traveling forward (**Deduct 1 point per occurrence**) 1.0 _____
- d) Does not strike an obstruction **P/F** _____
- e) Correctly uses mirrors 1.0 _____
- f) Accurately judges vehicle clearance 1.0 _____
- g) Completes skill without dry steering (dry steering is turning the steering wheel while not in motion) (**Deduct 1 point per occurrence**) 1.0 _____
- h) Performs entire operation safely **P/F** _____

Points Possible	Passing Score	Attempt	Performance Rating (Points)	PASS	FAIL
20	14	First			
		Second			
		Third			