

PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

404.01G
Diminished Clearance

Discipline: D/O
Effective: 6/5/2002
Revised: 10/5/2009
Replaces: Driver Benchmark 206

Anne Huff, Fire Chief

I. Objective

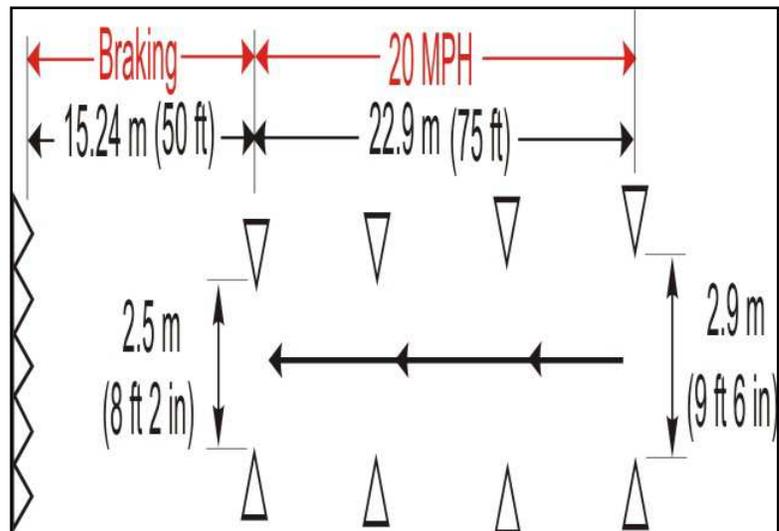
The Driver/Operator, given a fire department pumper and a spotter, shall demonstrate a diminishing clearance exercise.

II. Instructions – Procedures for Achieving the Objective

Given a pumping apparatus and a specified course, the Driver/Operator shall maneuver a pumping apparatus so that the Driver/Operator accurately perceive the ability of the vehicle to pass through the openings and so that no obstructions are struck.

III. Examiner's Note

This exercise measures a driver's ability to steer the apparatus in a straight line, to judge distances from wheel to object, and to stop at a finish line. The pumping apparatus should enter the course at a minimum speed of 20 mph and must maintain that speed until the front bumper exits the 8 ft. 2 in. portion of the diminishing clearance lane. This exercise is to be performed both forward and in reverse with a spotter. There is no minimum speed for performing the backing portion of this exercise. The course for this exercise is created by arranging two rows of markers to form a lane 75 ft. (22.9 m.) long. The lane varies in width from 9 ft. 6 in. (2.9 m.) to a diminishing clearance of 8 ft. 2 in. (2.5 m.). The driver should maneuver the apparatus through this lane without touching the markers. The vehicle should be stopped at a finish line 50 ft. (15.24 m.) beyond the last marker. No portion of the vehicle should protrude beyond this line. Vertical clearance judgment should



be evaluated using a prop with a crossbar that is adjustable, based on the vehicle height. During the evaluation, the driver should drive forward and back through the prop with the crossbar at several differing heights, including one that is lower than the top of the vehicle. The prop should not be struck. The intent of the vertical clearance judgment is for proper identification of the furthestmost point in the form of the apparatus. In situations where the apparatus is gaining entry to roadways or limited-height areas, the Driver/Operator must allow appropriate space ahead of the apparatus in order to avoid striking objects or to avoid extending apparatus into traffic lanes.

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 700-4-3-5
- C. NFPA 1002, 4.3.5

404.01G – Diminishing Clearance

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:

- a) Drives vehicle through required course while maintaining minimum speed (20 mph)..... 5.0 _____
- b) Does not strike an obstruction P/F _____
- c) Correctly uses mirrors..... 2.0 _____
- d) Correctly judges vehicle clearance 2.0 _____
- e) Performs entire operation safely P/F _____

Points Possible	Passing Score	Attempt	Performance Rating (Points)	PASS	FAIL
14	11	First			
		Second			
		Third			