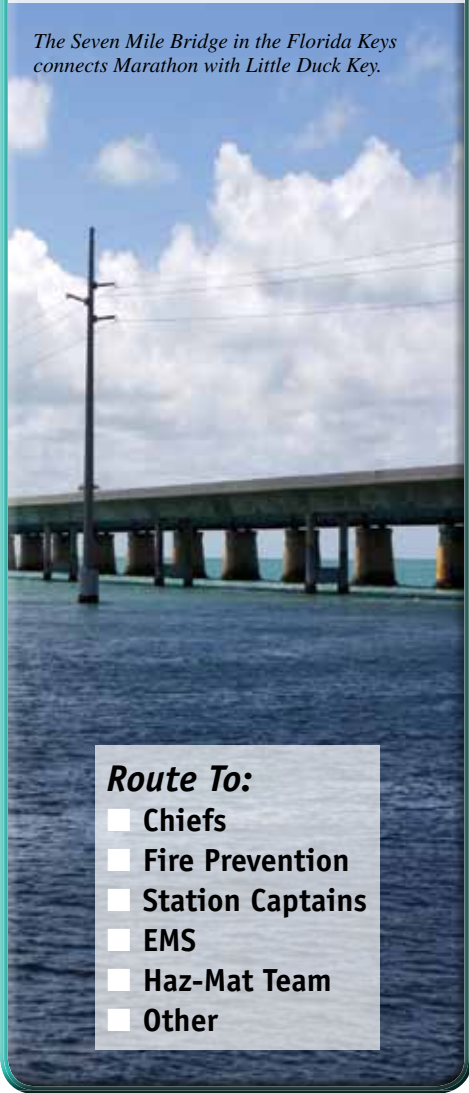


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The Seven Mile Bridge in the Florida Keys connects Marathon with Little Duck Key.

- Route To:**
- Chiefs
 - Fire Prevention
 - Station Captains
 - EMS
 - Haz-Mat Team
 - Other



Protecting Paradise

FLORIDA KEYS, FL

The Marathon Fire Department is located on an island in the middle of the Florida Keys. This full career department handles all fire and EMS calls in their area. Best known as a sport fishing destination, this resort community's population fluctuates based on the season. It is comprised of residential properties and rental condominiums; with many of the properties, particularly the rental units, vacant for about half the year. Most of the businesses within the community are small businesses that cater to the seasonal visitors.

Implementing the Knox System made perfect sense to the Marathon Fire Department. Many of the residences and businesses tend to be seasonal. When alarms do sound, there's a good chance the building's property manager won't be able to meet the fire department since they aren't on the island, so waiting for a key holder isn't an option. The fire department needs to gain access to the business, determine the cause of the alarm and re-secure the building in a timely manner. Marathon is a small community and has a fire department that matches their community's size. They can't afford to keep responders out of action while waiting for key holders.

Since Marathon is an island in the Caribbean, they do experience a few storms each year which requires the residents and business owners to evacuate the island. High winds and blowing debris causes many buildings to have false alarms. During these evacuations, the fire department stays behind.

When responding to these false alarms, having a key box allows the firefighters to enter the evacuated building, investigate the alarm and re-secure the building when finished.



Assistant Fire Marshal Adam Geaneas with the department's new Search and Rescue K-9, Spanner. Spanner is a Border Collie currently in training.

The fire department even has an agreement with several businesses that if they need supplies during hurricane season and the island has been evacuated; they can take what they need. The department keeps an inventory of all supplies taken and pays for them once the business has reopened.

A Knox-Box is required for all commercial structures that have an alarm system. The recessed model is required on all new construction. Marathon businesses have been supportive of the program. "It's cheaper than replacing their front door," explained Assistant Fire Marshal Adam Geaneas. Marathon looked at several different options before settling on the Knox System. "The (Knox) product is far superior to others," stated Geaneas.

EDITORIAL

At Knox, we are very proud to say our products are made in the USA. As many companies move part or all of their operations overseas, Knox is committed to producing its products in the USA. Whenever possible, we select suppliers who also manufacture in the USA.

The current economic situation has resulted in many departments cutting their travel budget, so Knox has made a company decision to continue to exhibit at many of the state and regional shows, so even if you can't travel to one of the national shows, you should still be able to see Knox at a local show. On page 7, you will find a short listing of some of the upcoming shows where we will be exhibiting this fall.

The Knox newsletter is the fire department's voice as well as ours. If you have a story where Knox played a role in a recent response, we'd love to hear about it. Please email me at cjones@knoxbox.com. Thank you for your support of the Knox System. We look forward to serving your department for years to come.

Cynthia Jones



Publisher
Knox Company

Editor Cynthia Jones **Art Director** Cynthia Weiss

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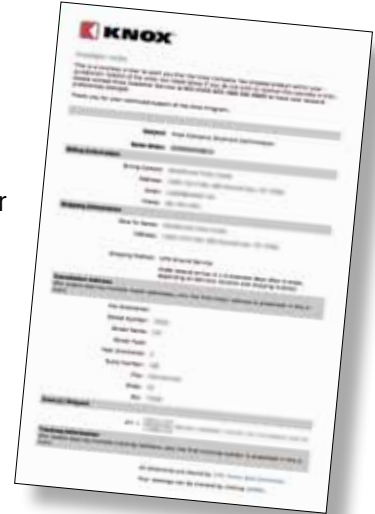
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Knox E-Mail Notifications

The Knox Company is dedicated to providing Fire Departments with the most accurate and current information available. With this in mind, Knox can now send e-mail notifications to departments for certain events: shipment confirmations for products purchased for use within their jurisdiction and electronic updates for both KeySecure® and Sentralok® units as soon as they become available.

Shipment Confirmations

- Include: Package Tracking Information
Installation Address
Item(s) Shipped
Name and address of Purchaser
- Sent to the Knox Coordinator only
- Purchaser of product will receive a shipment confirmation if an e-mail address is provided on the Knox Authorization Order Form
- Generated daily



Electronic Updates

- Provides information on software updates or product enhancements and implementation instructions
- Sent to the Knox Coordinator
- Additional individuals can be designated to receive electronic updates
- Generated as updates become available



To sign your department up to receive these e-mail notifications, please contact Knox Fire Support at 800-566-9269. Since these e-mail notifications are auto-generated, they can not be re-generated once sent. Once your department is set-up for e-mail notification, please add the 'knoxbox.com' domain to your 'trusted senders' list, to ensure e-mails are not sent to your junk folder or blocked by spam filters.





Community events are central to Mundelein, Illinois Fire Department's promotion of fire safety and the different safety programs available in their community. Mundelein uses a demonstration trailer for many of their community events. This trailer contains both commercial and residential products. Working with their account manager, Mundelein added some Knox products to their demonstration trailer. "We mounted a residential box, a commercial box and a locking FDC plug to a board that fits on our pop-up demonstration trailer," shared Lieutenant Mark Gaunky. Community members are able to test the security of each product themselves. While the board fits in their demonstration trailer it is also portable so that they can take just the board to meetings and events where the trailer isn't going.

All new commercial buildings with a fire alarm or sprinkler system in Mundelein are required to install a Knox-Box. Additionally Mundelein requires all new buildings to install Knox locking FDC caps. Mundelein has made the decision to move away from Siamese 2-1/2" connections to 5" Storz connections. "The Storz fitting is an easier connection. There are fewer problems with Storz connections than the Siamese connections," Gaunky explained.

Mundelein has chosen not to require an authorized signature for each order. They like the convenience of having business owners and residents purchase products on-line. "It's great for customers and so much easier than the paper order form. At plan review, we give the website for ordering products. We're notified when an order is placed and when the product ships." (For on-line orders, the

department's Knox Coordinator receives an email for each order placed within their jurisdiction with the order details – who and what was purchased.) One benefit of using on-line ordering that Mundelein liked was the ability to customize the product offering to meet their jurisdiction's requirements. Since Mundelein only allows hinged product on commercial applications, the lift-off models are not available for purchase on-line for those within their jurisdiction. (If your department is interested in adopting online ordering for property owners in your jurisdiction, please contact your regional account manager or simply e-mail us at support@knoxbox.com and request an "Order Options Packet".)

Mundelein offers its residents a residential program that includes a **File for Life** and Knox 1650 residential box. This program is ideal for the active adult community with about 800 homes within their jurisdiction. "The **File for Life** goes hand-in-hand with the residential box program," stated Gaunky. During presentations to this community, the department presents the **File for Life** program along with the Knox 1650 Residential Box. Many homes within this community have installed a Knox Residential Box allowing the fire department access to their home during an emergency. "Some homeowners have a security/fire system on their home and like the residential box. They want it to be

as easy as possible for us to get in during an emergency," Gaunky said.

Mundelein recently passed an ordinance requiring all landlords to register their rental properties with the city and attend a seminar hosted by the Mundelein Police Department. During these meetings, the fire department is given time to explain the Knox Program



Mundelein Fire Department's demonstration trailer.

and how it might benefit the landlord to have a residential box installed on their rental property.

All box locations, commercial and residential, are located on the department's mapping program. When an apparatus pulls up to an address, they already know if the building has a box and where on the building it is located.

The department previously allowed a different type of lock box to be installed but has found that this box didn't hold up to Mundelein's weather. "It's just not as durable as Knox," explained Gaunky. These boxes are being updated to Knox through attrition.

"The Knox-Box is a very secure box. If it's installed per the instructions, it's not going to be knocked off the wall. We had a box that wasn't installed per the

Why Storz?

“In the transmission of the heavenly waters, every hose fits every hydrant.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson.



If only that could be said in reference to the fire service in America. The non-compatibility of thread patterns on fire hydrants and hose goes back to the formation of the country's first fire departments and their perceived need to restrict access to 'their' water supply. Today there are hundreds of different hydrant and fire hose thread pitch patterns being used across the country. Most are not compatible with each other. One solution is to use Storz connections on all large diameter hose. While Storz connections are relatively new to the US fire service, their roots go back over a 100 years. How did Storz connections come into existence? What are the practical uses?

Historical Background

The concept of a fast action coupling was the brainchild of German inventor Carl Storz in the late 1800s. A Storz coupling is essentially a variation of a hose connection. It is quick, takes only a quarter-turn to connect, it is reliable, unidirectional, and is the most common way to connect sections of large diameter fire hose. Storz connections are also used as Fire Department Connections to supplement sprinkler systems. In America, Storz connections are generally 4 and 5 inch in diameter. In Europe they come in a variety of sizes, many used for applications other than firefighting. Compared to a conventional connection that has a threaded male and female connection at either end that can be attached in only one direction (without the use of an adaptor), a Storz connection is a two-way universal coupling that can be joined to another Storz coupling end. Carl Storz patented his design in Switzerland in 1890 and submitted it to the U.S. Patent Office in 1893. It soon became a standard for fire hydrants throughout much of Europe. While it saw wide spread usage in Europe in the early 20th century, it took almost one hundred years before the concept was

embraced and implemented in the United States. In 2010, all major U.S. hydrant manufacturers offer Storz as an original equipment option.

Benefits

Storz connections typically connect more easily and more positively than do threaded connections. Prior to large diameter supply hose and Storz connections, fire departments used multiple sections of 2½" hose. Once a supply line was laid between the fire hydrant and the engine, many times a distance of over a thousand feet, a firefighter, after flushing the hydrant, connecting the hose, and turning on the hydrant, would have to walk the entire lay with a couple of spanner wrenches and hand-tighten each connection every 50 feet. Depending on the length of the lay and the number of connections that needed to be tightened, this could take a significant amount of time. With Storz connections, the firefighter still has to make that walk, but less time is needed to walk/inspect the hose, getting the firefighter back to the engine and available to fight the fire. Another tactical benefit is that there is not as much need to have engines with different hose lays for either supply or attack evolutions. This has made it easier for individual engines to be more self-sufficient, allowing fire departments to spread out more with single engine stations, lowering initial response times. Then there is the issue of compatibility and interoperability. If a neighboring fire department crosses jurisdictional lines in an emergency and can not connect to the fire hydrants and sprinkler connections once they arrive, the results could be devastating. That is exactly what happened in the Oakland Hills, California fire in 1991.





That single incident claimed the lives of 25 people, including a police officer and a firefighter. Close to 2500 homes and over 400 apartments were destroyed at a cost of over \$1.5 Billion. Case study reports on the fire listed incompatibility of fire hose and fire hydrant connections as contributing factors.

Regulating Standards

While several NFPA standards authorize the use of Storz connections and NFPA 1963 gives detailed specifications, DIN (Deutsches Institut für Normung, or the German Institute for Standardization) has long been the benchmark for Storz construction standards around the world. The DIN standards are very specific and detailed. An example are the DIN 14303 and 1725 standards that both specifically state that aluminum used in Storz construction must be 'forged' (hammered, machined, and formed like a Blacksmith might do) and not 'cast' (heated until it is liquefied, then poured or 'cast' into a mold). The DIN standard goes on to state that in the interest of firefighter safety, any cast aluminum connection components must be reserved for non-firefighting applications and suggest these products be used for agricultural purposes. The top U.S. Storz component suppliers including Knox Company use only DIN-compliant machined forged materials.

Elevated light railway protected by dry standpipe system with Storz connections. Knox® StorzGuard® protects coupling FDC from tampering



Storz Fittings

There are three types of Storz fittings: **Pressure** gaskets, **Suction** gaskets and a "non-gasket" **Metal-faced** fitting. While the end result is the same, they go about achieving a water tight seal in different ways. The difference is in the type and location of the gasket. Pressure gaskets (which are black) have a flap that is open on the inside facing the flow of the water that seat as they swell making a waterproof seal. The Suction type gasket (grey or white) has a ridge flap on the outside rim that forms an air-tight seal when pressed against another suction gasket. Metal-faced connections are the fitting of choice on fire hydrants and are seeing use as fire sprinkler FDCs. Instead of a rubber gasket the inside face of the connection is raised a few thousandths of an inch, reducing the space between the two opposing coupling sections. Since it is essentially a discharge connection, the outward flow of the water offers a more natural seal. Additionally since there is no gasket, there is less need for periodic inspection to ensure

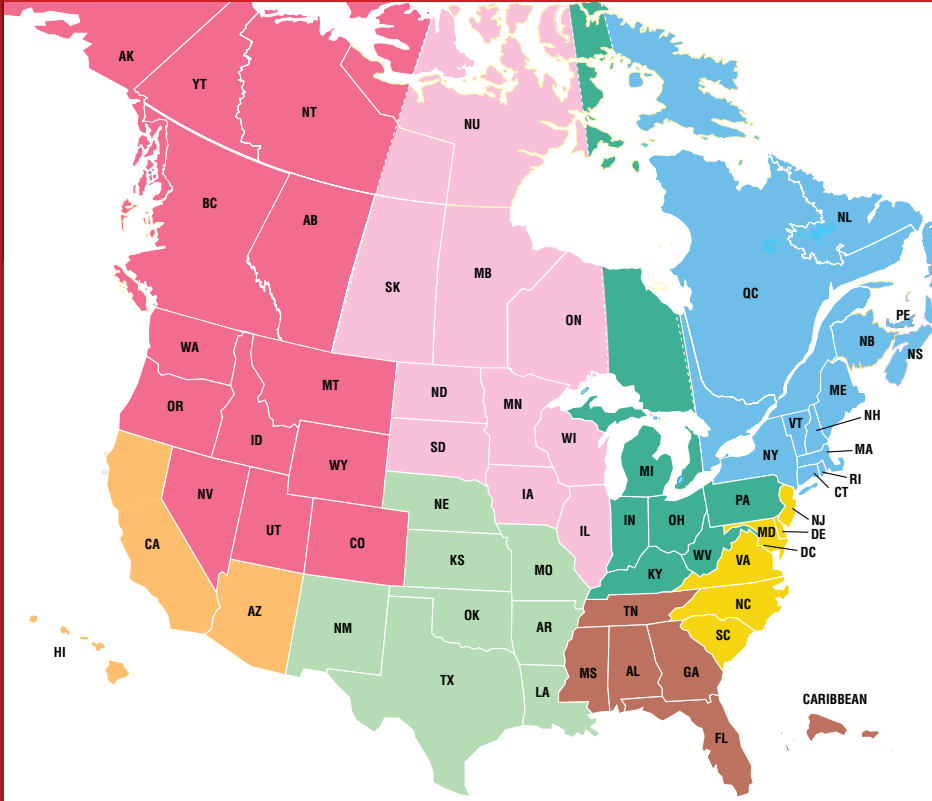
that it is in place and functional. The thing to keep in mind regarding the various type gaskets is that while they are generally compatible and work as advertised, according to some manufacturers, they are not interchangeable and malfunctions should be expected if mated to the wrong type opposing fitting.

To respond to the need of many fire departments and sprinkler designers Knox now offers complete Storz kits. It is essentially the entire appliance that will connect directly to the building thread on one side and will have a Knox locking protection StorzGuard® cap on the other. We offer both gasketed and metal-faced depending on the requirements of the local jurisdiction. These 'kits' meet the most stringent manufacturing guidelines and specifications and are true to the original design patent of Carl Storz. The tactical advantages are realized by fire departments all around the world. Hopefully you will find this information both informative and enlightening and use it as a tool when developing acceptance and application standards. ◻



Photos, Lynn C. Perry Photography

Knox Contacts



FIRE SERVICE MANAGERS

Northwest

Jeff Moser
866-361-5844
Fax 866-361-5845
jmoser@knoxbox.com



Central

Joe Shanley
866-223-2623
Fax 866-223-2640
jshanley@knoxbox.com



Northeast

Jon Kemp
866-436-0493
Fax 866-436-0494
jkemp@knoxbox.com



West

Marlene Briones
866-702-4406
Fax 866-275-4039
mbriones@knoxbox.com



North Central

Larry Lulich
866-889-4181
Fax 866-613-9412
llulich@knoxbox.com



Atlantic

Bryan McIntosh
877-707-5286
Fax 877-773-4197
bmcintosh@knoxbox.com



Southwest

Rebecca Heller
866-417-8458
Fax 800-704-0889
rheller@knoxbox.com



Southeast

Bill Brown
888-342-3530
Fax 888-342-6655
bbrown@knoxbox.com



SUPPORT CONTACTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT

This department provides customer service to fire departments.
800-KNOX-BOX
(800-566-9269)

ELECTRONIC SUPPORT

This department deals exclusively with technical questions regarding KeySecure®, Sentralok® and MedVault® units.
866-KNOX-BOX
(866-566-9269)

PROPERTY OWNER SUPPORT

Property Owners & General Inquiries to Knox should be directed to our main number.
800-552-KNOX
(800-552-5669)

FLORIDA KEYS, FL

Protecting Paradise

Continued from front page

To help maintain the integrity of their system, Marathon stores all master keys in KeySecure units. The KeySecure Master Key Retention units collect an audit trail of all key releases which the department collects once a month. They also have programmed their units to require dependent PINs to release the key. A dependent PIN requires two unique PINs to be entered, one after the other, before the key will be released.



Marathon is eagerly awaiting the new Knox Electrical Shut-Down Switch box. Marathon has many buildings that are entirely solar and not connected to the electrical grid. They can't call the electrical company to shut down the power to these buildings during an emergency. This new Knox Electrical Shut-Down box will give them the ability to shut down the solar power panels. Also, the building owner won't be able to re-connect the power without the fire department turning the power back on. This will allow the fire department to perform their inspections before re-activating the solar panels.

Marathon Fire Department has 22 career personnel along with additional support from its Benevolent Association members who cover an area of 20 miles from and including the 7-mile bridge to the 61-mile marker, the west end of Tom's Harbor Bridge. ☐

Congratulations to our Fire Rescue International Weathervane Winner!

Division Chief
Richard Heft
Fitchburg Fire
Department
Fitchburg, WI




MUNDELEIN, IL

Community Outreach

Continued from Page 3

instructions that a burglar was able to pull off the wall. When they pulled the box off the wall, the building's alarm sounded and sent the burglar running. When we arrived, the alarm was going off and the (unopened) box was lying next to the building where it had landed," shared Gaunky. While Knox has engineered many security features into the design of the boxes, the final layer of security is the installation. Knox strongly encourages departments to require all Knox products be installed per the installation instructions. For an added layer of security, Knox offers property owners the option of tamper switches on all its boxes that can be attached to the businesses burglar alarm.

Mundelein Fire Department is located about half way between Chicago and Milwaukee. It has 32 career/administrative members along with 18 on call members who service a 11 square mile area with 35,000 residents. 

KNOX NEWS

2010 Tradeshow Schedule

Show	Location	Dates
NYSBOC - Colonie	Colonie, NY	Oct 18-20
MN Fire Chiefs	Rochester, MN	Oct 21-23
Southern Alberta FC	Lethbridge, AB	Oct 22-23
Reno Fire Tech	Reno, NV	Oct 26-27
Association of Fire Districts NY	Ellenville, NY	Oct 28-31
FL Fire Prevention Conference	Clearwater, FL	November 1-4
Wisconsin Fire Inspectors	Wisconsin Dells, WI	November 2-5
MABFM	Somerset, NJ	Nov 3-4
CO EMS	Keystone, CO	Nov 4-7
Illinois Fire Inspectors	Addison, IL	Nov 18-19
Hawaii Fire Chiefs	Kauai HI	Nov 18-20
CO Challenge Conference	Keystone, CO	Dec 2-4
Caribbean Fire Chiefs	Jamaica	Dec 6-10

The Key to a Secure System

Knox System security is always important. Protecting the Knox® Master Key and documents listing installation addresses helps ensure that the Knox System is solely for the benefit of your department.

The four security steps listed below are the ways your department contributes to the security of the Knox program in your community. Thank you for following these simple yet important rules.

- 1. Keep all Knox keys in a secure place.**
- 2. Do not release the Knox provided keys to any non fire department or law enforcement personnel.**
- 3. Do not provide Knox installation database access to any non fire department or law enforcement personnel unless required by law.**
- 4. Notify Knox immediately of loss, theft or attempted duplication of any key.**



KNOX
Serving Fire Departments Since 1975

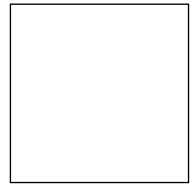
1601 W. Deer Valley Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85027

623-687-2300
800-552-5669

623-687-2299 Fax
www.knoxbox.com



1601 W. Deer Valley Road
Phoenix, AZ 85027



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NEW Knox® StorzGuard® Kits



**Knox StorzGuard Kit
with 30° Elbow Adapter
and 4" StorzGuard Locking Cap**




**Knox StorzGuard Kit
with Straight Adapter
and 5" StorzGuard Locking Cap**



*Close-up of a
Knox 30° Elbow Adapter*

The Knox Company now offers StorzGuard® kits comprised of a Storz mounting adapter to fit the building pipe and a locking Knox StorzGuard cap. The forged adapters have a hard anodized aluminum metal face and are available in both 4" and 5" configurations. The adapters are available in straight or 30 degree elbow configurations that connect to 4" and 6" National Pipe Thread (NPT). Each adapter includes 3 heavy duty stainless steel set screws. The adapters are compliant with the DIN Standard and NFPA 1963 Standard for Fire Hose Connections. Forged aluminum connections provide for

greater firefighter safety.

The water-tight locking StorzGuard prevents trash and debris from being stuffed into uncovered connections. The Knox StorzGuard protects Storz connections on fire hydrants and water-based fire protection systems such as sprinkler intakes. The easy-on, easy-off locking cap also provides protection against connection lug damage. Additionally, it protects against water theft – a growing concern for many communities. The new cap works on all gasket types and metal-faced finishes. The Knox StorzGuard is available in both 4" and 5" configuration. 

Storz Adapters and StorzGuard caps are available in turn key kits or individually.



Knox Straight Adapter