

# Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service Information Bulletin From the Logistics Section

Information Bulletin: 19-03

June 24, 2019

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**TO:** All MCFRS Personnel  
**FROM:** Assistant Chief Pete Friedman  
**SUBJECT:** Transition to Mercedes Fire Hose and Elkhart Fire Nozzles

In planning for the next generation of engines, MCFRS conducted testing of various hose and nozzle combinations. This testing led to the selection of Mercedes "KrakenExo" hose and Elkhart XD nozzles for attack lines on the new Pierce engines and Rosenbauer brush engines. This process also led to a change from 1 ¾" attack lines to 1 ½" attack lines. This specific hose/nozzle combination demonstrated the same flow as our existing 1 ¾" hose (150 GPM), but with increased mobility and speed of deployment.

**For 1 ½" attack lines, only Mercedes hose with XD nozzles should be used.** If Mercedes hose is not available to replace broken/missing sections of 1 ½" line, the entire preconnected attack line should be switched to 1 ¾" hose as a short-term solution. **1 ½" and 1 ¾" should never be mixed in the same preconnected attack line.**

If a preconnected 1 ½" hose needs to be extended, 1 ¾" or 2" hose can be added at the nozzle-end but the quality of the stream may be degraded.

In sizes larger than 1 ½" hose, testing showed that the Mercedes hose performed as well or better than better than our current hose. Therefore, Mercedes hose can be used for partial or complete replacement of hoselines on existing engines and can be mixed with existing hose of the same size on those units.

There are no plans to update existing engines with Mercedes hose or Elkhart nozzles and those units can continue to operate with their current equipment.

New engines will be equipped with Elkhart R.A.M. portable monitors which are similar to Blitz Lite monitors. R.A.M monitors do not have an auto shut-off feature. Each engine will be provided with a fog nozzle and a smooth bore stack tip nozzle for the portable monitor.

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More information for the Mercedes hose can be found at  
<https://mercedestextiles.com/fire-fighting-equipment/krakenexo-9513.aspx>

More information for the XD nozzles can be found at  
<https://www.elkhartbrass.com/products/nozzles/xd-series/multimedia>

More information for the R.A.M. monitors can be found at  
<https://www.elkhartbrass.com/products/monitors/r-a-m/multimedia>

For further questions or clarification, contact the Logistics Chief.

