DIV 135 IN ACTION - FIRE IN DAIRY PACKAGING PLANT

BY CLAYTON SIMONSON, JR, CHIEF, PORTAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

At 6:50pm on Friday December 12, 2014, a report of a stack of cardboard on fire came into the Portage Fire Department. This was at the Associated Milk Producers, 301 Brooks Street, about 2 miles from the I-90/I-94, I-39 Split (approximately 40 miles north of Madison). This is a cheese processing plant that is just under 300,000 square feet. The room involved was 12,500 square feet, two stories high.

First arriving personnel encountered heavy smoke and high heat. Access into the room and the location of the fire was a challenge. The need for additional manpower and length of time trying to get to the seat of the fire caused the escalation to the MABAS level, eventually reaching 4 alarms.

At one point, the Regional Coordinator was used to order a MABAS-IL Mobile Ventilation Unit (MVU).

The incident was not terminated until 6:47pm the next day. MABAS gave us the ability to exchange more crews and giving them good rest periods as to not wear them out or exhaust them.

MABAS also enabled us to get the manpower to better keep the attack going and not having any issues with firefighters getting fatigued.

Getting the MVU was critical in giving the Firefighters better visibility along with cooling down the room as temperatures were very high inside.

We have since changed the MABAS card, adding more units before going to a strike team.

Otherwise, we had no issues with MABAS and used IFERN successfully.

My advice to others based on this experience - do not hesitate to get the Box alarms going. Safety is number one in this business.
This issue of “MABAS-Wisconsin in Action” reports on a number of large scale incidents that have occurred over the last few months. We also review the MABAS Incident Reporting System in terms of value to the MABAS community and ease of use.

The 5th Annual MABAS Conference was held July 30th, 2015. The Conference was well attended and, in fact, achieved the greatest participation yet with over 210 attendees and nearly 30 vendors. As in previous years, the Conference provided insight for participants across a span of disciplines, including dispatchers, firefighters, fireground commanders, emergency management, and law enforcement. The themes remained consistent throughout the presentations; improving safety, improving efficiency and improving performance.

New this year for the conference was free training offered by our corporate sponsors. Both Darley and Solberg Foam offered operational level training classes which included maintenance and selection of PPE, pump operations from draft as well as history, selection, and the use of firefighting foam products.

Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator Brian Satula attended the conference and provided insight into current WEM initiatives. Administrator Satula was also recognized as the second recipient of the MABAS Wisconsin Honorary Life Member for his contributions and leadership to MABAS WI as the second President of the organization. He continues to support MABAS as the Administrator of Wisconsin Emergency Management.

The 2016 & 2017 MABAS Wisconsin Command & Dispatch Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn located in Stevens Point, WI. The 2016 dates are July 28-31, 2016. This is a great central location for our conference and, in addition, all vendors will be under roof with more room for apparatus displays.

The MABAS Executive Board will be busy in the upcoming months as we address necessary changes to the Wisconsin Fire Service Emergency Response Plan and continue to update the MABAS Wisconsin Strategic Plan.

We have made great headway in the past two years and it is our intent to maintain the initiative.

MABAS List Serve - Visit: http://mailman.wsfca.com/mailman/listinfo/mabas and enter your email address and name and click “subscribe.”

BADGER R.E.D. CENTER

The MABAS Wisconsin Badger Regional Emergency Dispatch (R.E.D.) Center provides notification services for MABAS Wisconsin Coordinators, Executive Staff and the WEM Duty Officer. Notifications as described by the Wisconsin Fire Service Emergency Response plan begin with a call to the WEM line and pushing 3 which will connect the caller to Badger R.E.D.

Currently R.E.D. Center duties are managed by the Rock County Dispatch Center. R.E.D. Center provides a high level of service to MABAS Wisconsin by providing immediate mutual aid assistance to stricken divisions in need of strike team and task force assets.

To Contact Badger R.E.D. 800-943-0003 Press 3
MABAS IN THE NEWS SUBMITTED BY ED JANKE, PRESIDENT, MABAS WI

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Mission

MABAS Wisconsin is the organization that promotes the development, implementation, and sustainment of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) within the state of Wisconsin.

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Contributor ……Tim Snopek (Waukesha County)
Contributor …….Asher Heimermann (Sheboygan County)

How to Contact Us
Your contributions to the various columns will make this newsletter a success. Let us know about your MABAS response activity at garyschmidt@wi.rr.com. In particular, pictures of activity are needed.
DIV 112 IN ACTION - MABAS USED FOR LARGE GRASS FIRE IN GREEN BAY

BY MATT GERBER, CAPTAIN, GREEN BAY METRO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Green Bay Metro Fire was initially dispatched for a report of a grass fire. While enroute, Battalion 411 saw the huge plume of smoke in the sky and elevated the alarm to the Working Still level, and then to a Box Alarm.

Once on scene GBMFD crews were told that people were trapped in the Ken Eueres parking lot at the end of Military Ave. GB units had to drive through flames passing over the road to get to this area. After a short time all people were accounted for, the area was now evacuated. High winds out of the South fueled this fire, spreading it rapidly.

MABAS Departments used their UTV's for off road fire suppression, which helped greatly to keep the fire from jumping roads and spreading.

Assisting Departments were: Bellevue, Hobart, Howard, Lawrence, New Franken, and Suamico. Their wild land firefighting experience proved invaluable on this call.

(Photos by Matt Gerber. These and other photos can be found at firstinphotos.smugmug.com)
DIV 112 IN ACTION - MABAS USED FOR LARGE GRASS FIRE IN GREEN BAY - CONT

(Photos by Matt Gerber)
DIV 107 IN ACTION - MABAS BOXES FOR 2 FATAL FIRES WITHIN 4 DAYS

By Gary Schmidt

On Sunday afternoon, February 22, 2015, the Wauwatosa Fire Department went to a MABAS Box Alarm for a house fire at 504 North 106 Street, at the corner of 106th & Hibbard, a short street just north of the Milwaukee County Zoo. Upon arrival, the house was engulfed in smoke, swirling in the wind. A man in his 20’s, found outside with burns, told firefighters that his niece was still inside. The 3-year-old was located, but already had died from smoke inhalation.

On Thursday February 26, 2015, the Cudahy Fire Department called for a MABAS Box Alarm for a fire at 3748 East Mallory Avenue. A 62-year-old man failed to escape the blaze and died. His brother was outside shoveling snow when he discovered smoke coming from the house.
On Monday March 30, 2015, the Milwaukee Fire Department responded to 913 South Cesar Chavez Drive around 10:30pm. A three story building caught fire. Businesses were on the first floor and apartments on the second and third floors. The structure was built in 1897 and contained multiple false ceilings in the apartments which trapped fire. Shortly before midnight, the fire escalated to a 3rd alarm and was extinguished within 3 hours.

Then, just before 8am the next morning (March 31, 2015), a full first alarm assignment was again sent as the now vacant building rekindled and fire was allowed to spread undetected. Upon arrival, Battalion Chief Jim Ley called for an additional engine and truck and soon followed with a 2nd alarm. Engine 31 suddenly became cut-off from an escape route when the fire flashed over. The resulting MAYDAY brought in a 3rd alarm at about 8:35am. The fire eventually reached a 4th alarm level, the largest fire since a 5th alarm on July 17, 2012 (there were no MFD 4th or 5th alarms for almost 3 years). Collapse of the exterior walls was a major concern at the second fire.

In total, the City of Milwaukee had 13 engines, 6 trucks, 2 squads, and 3 paramedic units at the 4th alarm fire. A battalion chief from West Allis was the only mutual aid used. Typically, the Milwaukee Fire Department does not invoke MABAS until after the 5th local alarm level unless there are other extenuating circumstances.
Incident Reporting Is Very Important

This newsletter issue is focused on the largest MABAS deployments to date, however, MABAS is used every day to prevent local incidents from becoming large, thereby saving lives and saving money by minimizing property loss. The value of MABAS cannot be understated, yet it is difficult to communicate that message across the State without an effective method to track the MABAS success story.

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For more information about becoming a member of MABAS Wisconsin or to view all issues of this newsletter, visit: www.mabaswisconsin.org (scroll down for newsletter links)

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<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Host Agency</th>
<th>MABAS Div</th>
<th>Box Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>12/2/2014 13:29</td>
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<td>1/8/2015 5:52</td>
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<td>4803 Mesker Street</td>
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<tr>
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<td>8200 block I94 S/B</td>
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<td>1512 Chestnut</td>
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<td>5625 Bell Brock Road</td>
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<td>2/5/2015 12:00</td>
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<td>5512 Business Highway 51</td>
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<td>3748 E MALLORY AVE</td>
<td>CUDAHY FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>Structure - Hydrant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Incident Reporting Is Easy To Do

MABAS Wisconsin has a tool in place to log the use of MABAS. The **Incident Entry Portal** can be accessed via [http://incident.mabaswisconsin.org](http://incident.mabaswisconsin.org) or through [http://www.mabaswisconsin.org](http://www.mabaswisconsin.org) using the Databases drop down box.

**To enter an incident, login with a UserID of mabas and a password of wisconsin.** After the initial entry, Departments need their specific credentials to alter the incident information or to alter the other information on the site about their department. Departments should contact their Division President for the login information.

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<td>1729 North Davies Dr</td>
<td>DOUSMAN FIRE DIST</td>
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<td>3/14/2015 20:53</td>
<td>N78W5378 BYWATER LANE</td>
<td>CEDARBURG VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
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<td>1600 Kickbusch Street</td>
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<td>FITCHBURG FIRE DEPT</td>
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<td>4/25/2015 10:06</td>
<td>1075 Kennel Court</td>
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<td>5/2/2015 10:04</td>
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<td>1620 Spruce Road</td>
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<td>5/4/2015 1:13</td>
<td>425 E. Lincoln Dr.</td>
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<td>5/15/2015 13:51</td>
<td>Valero Ethanol Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/26/2015 11:07</td>
<td>263 Hemlock Lane</td>
<td>MARSHALL VOL FIRE DEPT INC</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>Structure - Hydrant</td>
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MABAS – Wisconsin
Mutual Aid Box Alarm System
Organized 2004

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MABAS OPERATING FREQUENCIES

IFERN MABAS Alerting / intra-Divisional responses
IFERN2 Alternate intra-Divisional responses
MABAS1 (WISCOM) Inter-Divisional Responses
Contact with Wisconsin Red Center
MABAS2 (WISCOM) Regional Coordinators - WEM Coordination*
*Future use

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102 – Racine County
103 – Walworth County
104 – Rock County
105 – Green County
106 – Waukesha County
107 – Milwaukee County
108 – Grant County
109 – Portage County
110 – Washington County
112 – Brown County
113 – Sheboygan County
114 – Oneida County
115 – Dane County
116 – Wood County
117 – Dunn/Pepin County
118 – Jefferson County
119 – Ozaukee County
120 – Fond du Lac County
121 – Vilas County
122 – Calumet County
123 – Winnebago County
124 – Iowa County
125 – Lafayette County
126 – Eau Claire County
127 – Outagamie County
128 – Manitowoc County
129 – Dodge County
130 – Marathon County
131 – Sauk County
132 – Chippewa County
133 – Shawano/Menominee Cnty
134 – La Crosse County
135 – Columbia County
136 – Juneau County
137 – Oconto County
138 – Kewaunee County
139 – Jackson County
140 – Trempealeau County
141 – Green Lake County
142 – Waupaca County
143 – St. Croix County
144 – Marinette County
145 – Monroe County
146 – Florence County
147 – Langlade County
148 – Buffalo County
149 – Price County
150 – Richland County
151 – Waushara County
152 – Clark County
153 – Forest County
154 – Door County
155 – Lincoln County
156 – Pierce County
157 – Vernon County