

Big Water Operations

Hooking Up to a Dry Hydrant:
Tanker Fill Site Operations
Nikiski, Alaska



Facts & Figures...

- We don't know much about this operation. The photos are from the archives of Larry Davis.
- We do know that the photos were taken at what looks like to be a water supply drill in Nikiski, Alaska – however, we don't know the time frame other than they are photographs scanned into digital format. However, we think they are from the late 1980's.
- The pumper is a 1984, 2,000 gpm E-One pumper with a 1,200 gallon tank.
- It looks like the highlight of the presentation is the set-up of a tanker fill site operation using a minimum number of personnel.
- This presentation reinforces the importance of designing and equipping your apparatus to function the way your department functions - and to keep it simple!

One-man Set-up

Pumper arrives at the dry hydrant

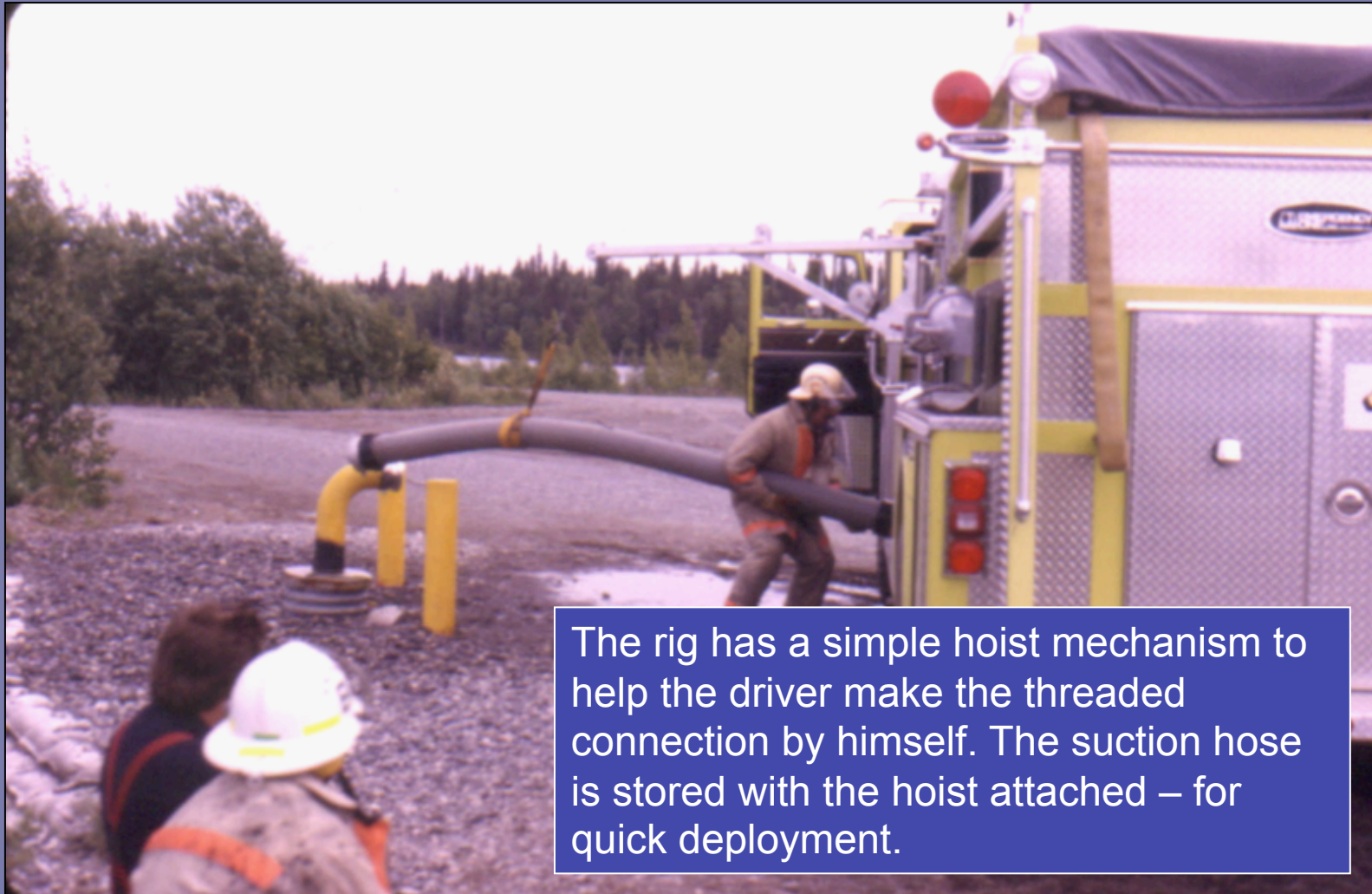


One-man Set-up

Driver removes suction inlet cap.



One-man Set-up



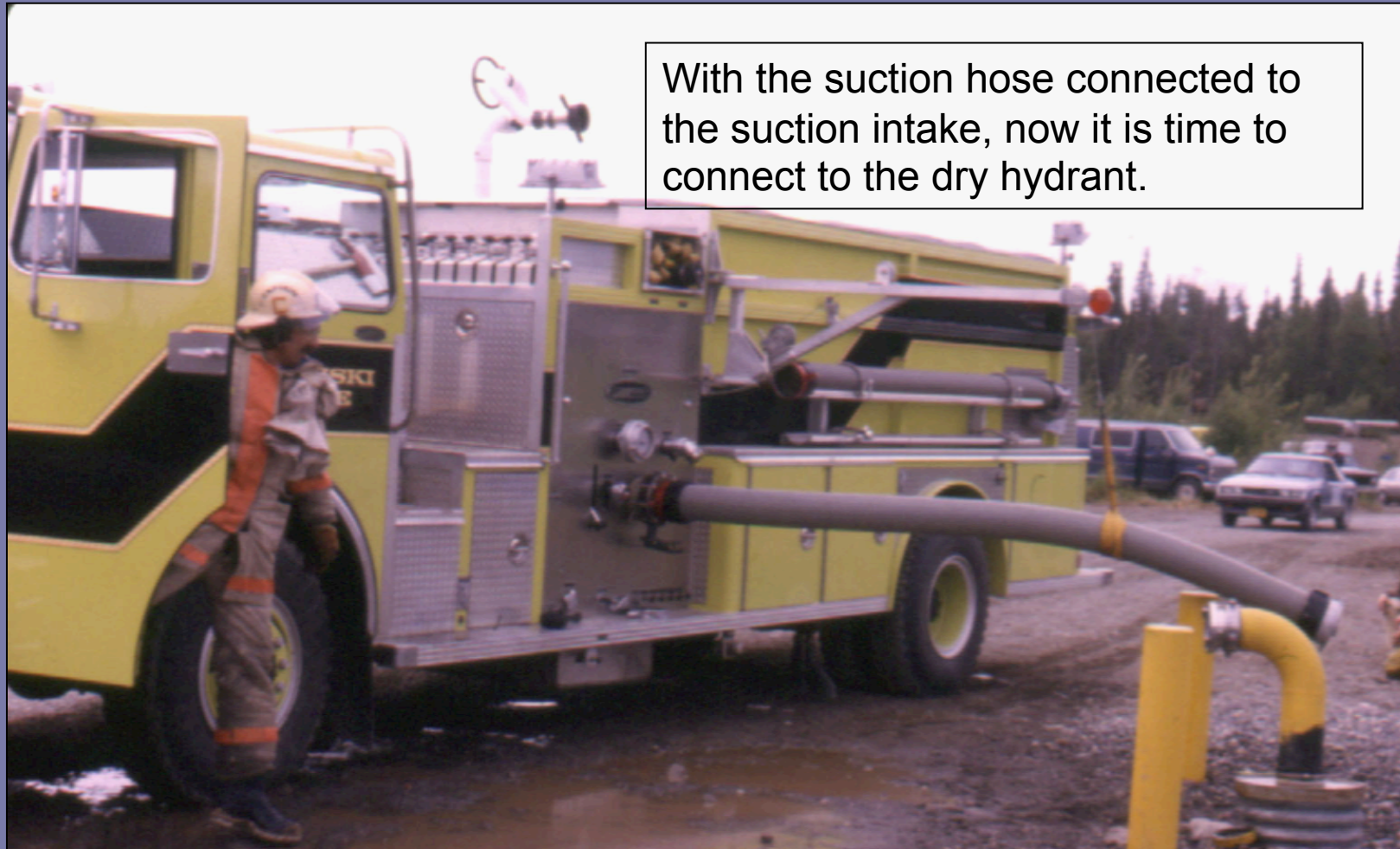
The rig has a simple hoist mechanism to help the driver make the threaded connection by himself. The suction hose is stored with the hoist attached – for quick deployment.

One-man Set-up



The pumper has an external butterfly valve.

One-man Set-up



With the suction hose connected to the suction intake, now it is time to connect to the dry hydrant.

One-man Set-up



A simple webbing sling is used to hold the suction hose.

One-man Set-up



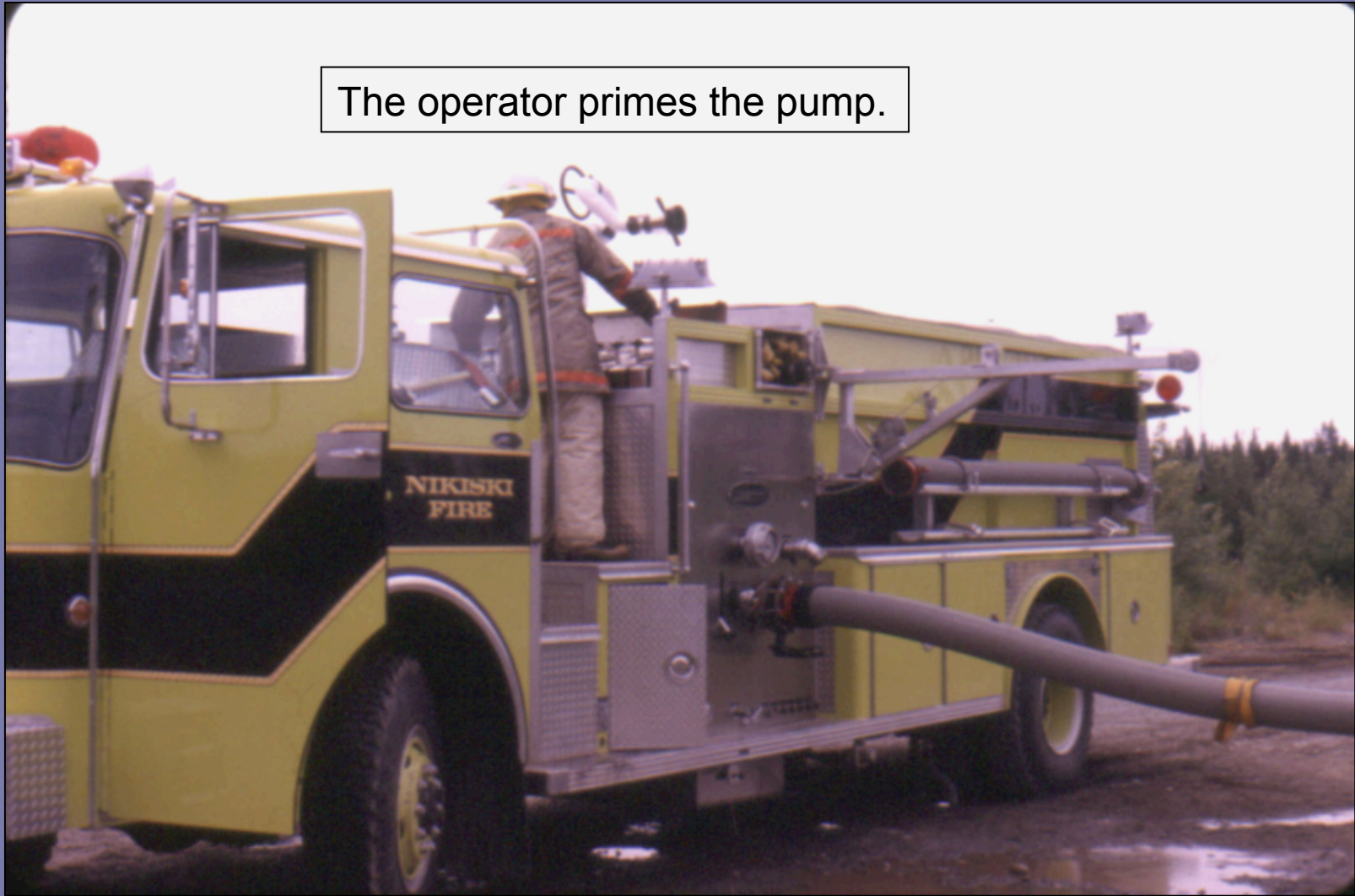
With the hoist holding the hose, the driver makes the connection.

One-man Set-up



One-man Set-up

The operator primes the pump.



One-man Set-up

The pump is primed and water flow is verified.



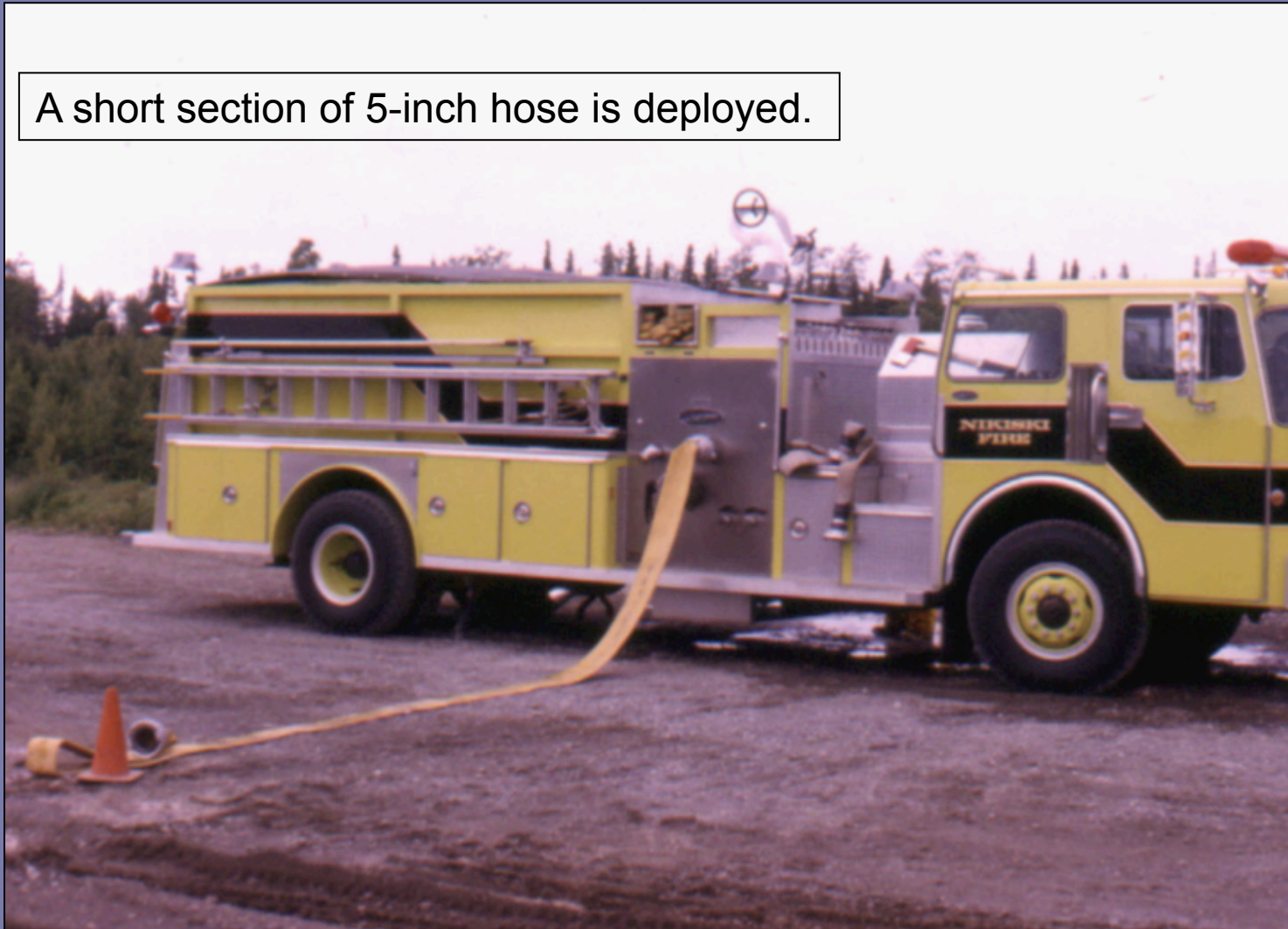
One-man Set-up

It is now time to set-up for filling tankers.



One-man Set-up

A short section of 5-inch hose is deployed.



One-man Set-up

Waiting on a tanker to arrive.



Filling Tankers

A tanker arrives and its driver connects the 5-inch line to his rig's direct fill.

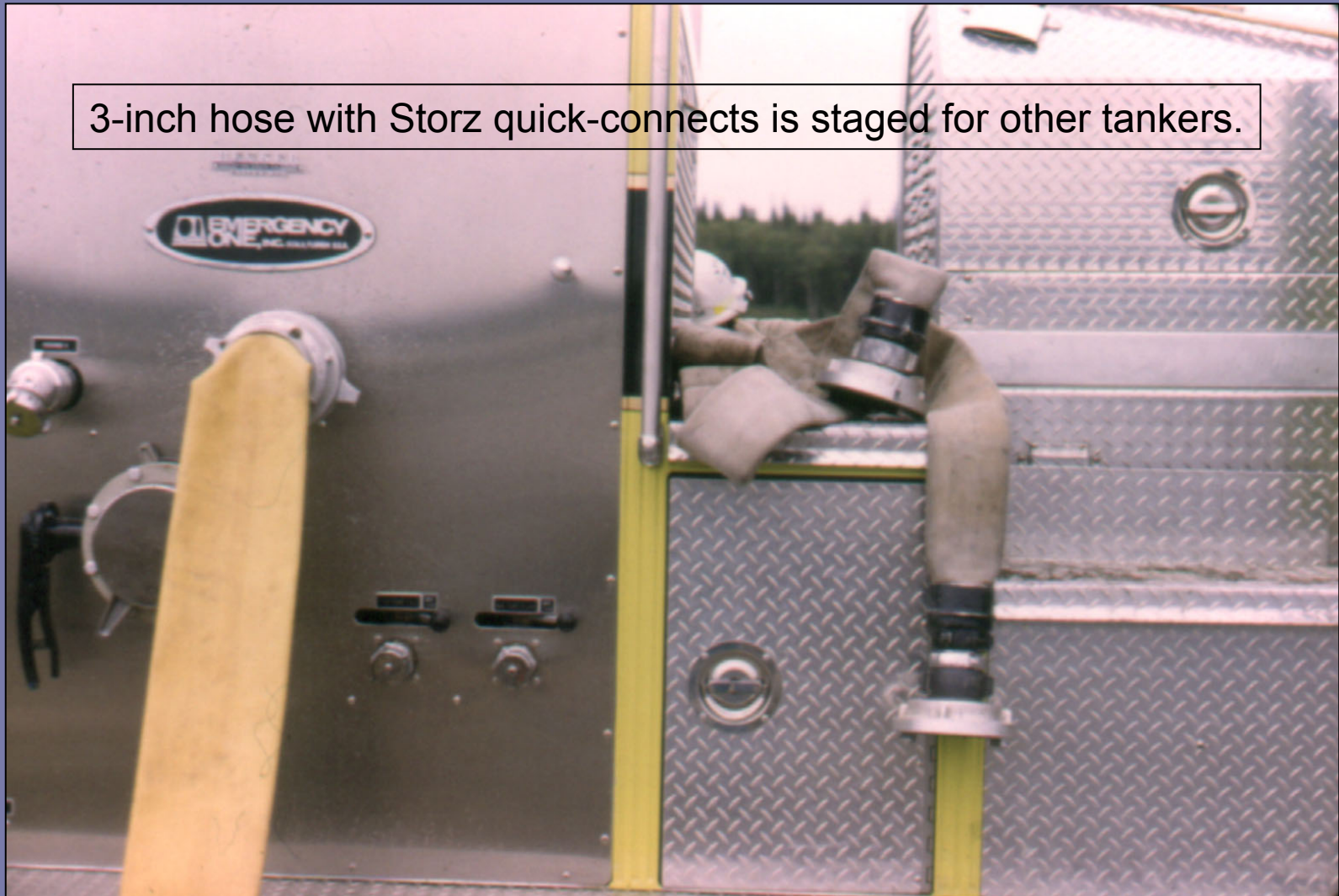


Filling Tankers



Filling Tankers

3-inch hose with Storz quick-connects is staged for other tankers.

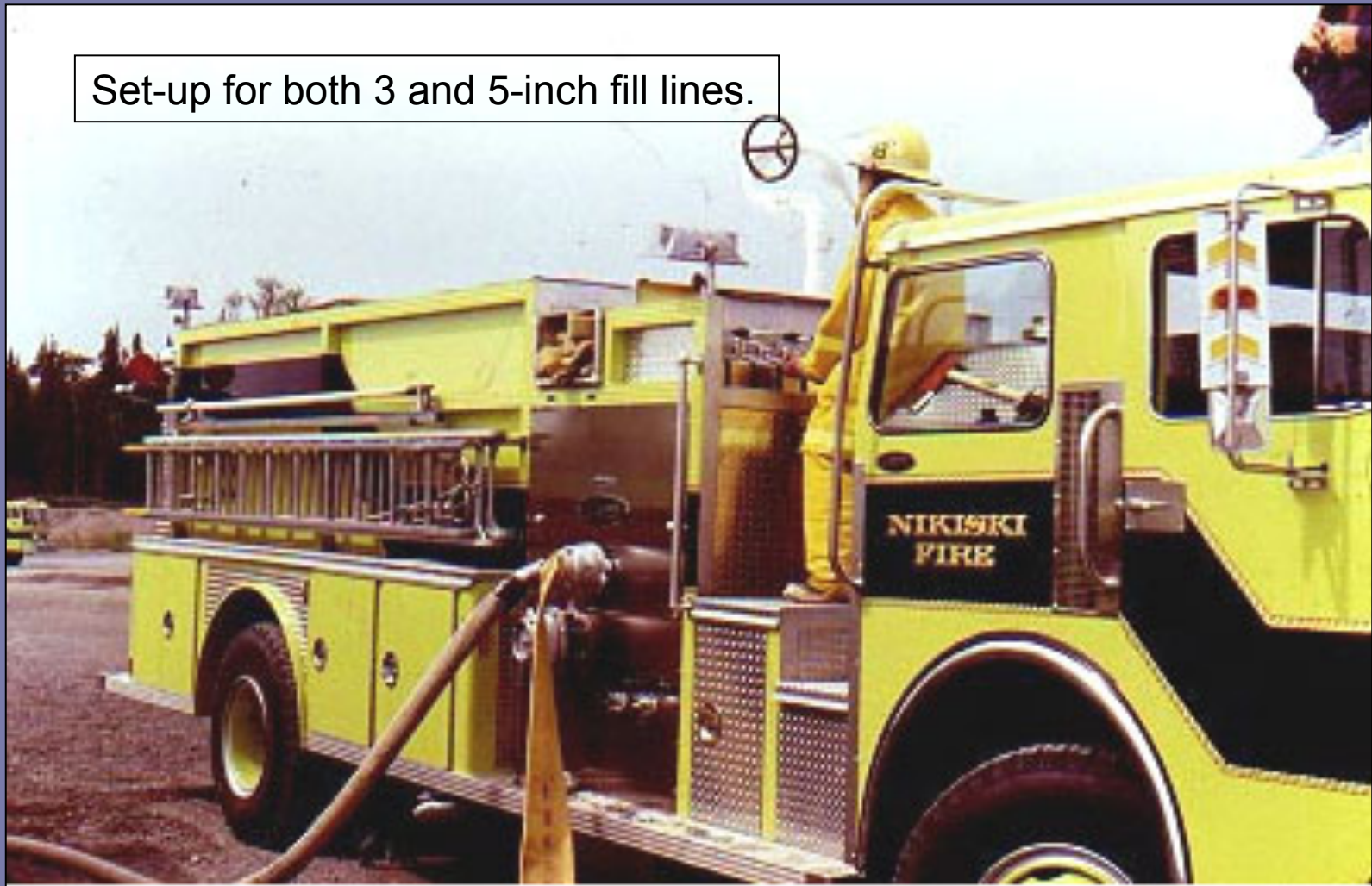


Filling Tankers



Filling Tankers

Set-up for both 3 and 5-inch fill lines.



Filling Tankers

A simple idea using a simple device.



Review

- While the photos in this presentation are more than 20 years old – they still show some ingenuity. The folks in Nikiski, Alaska were known for their water supply operations and their creativity in those operations.
- Doing more with fewer people has always been the challenge in the fire department. This presentation shows how one department was successful.



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