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Resolve Academy for Land-based Firefighters

Supporting Excellence & Safety in the Fire Service

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1.Featured Alert: NTSB Issues SA-101:

The National Transportation
Safety Board (NTSB) issued
Safety Alert SA-101: "LandBasedFirefighters: Know the
Risks and Challenges Posed by
In-Port Vessel Fires." The alert
underscores the urgent need for
fire departments to strengthen
their marine firefighting
readiness. Many land-based
agencies lack the specialized
knowledge and tactics required
to operate safely andeffectively
during vessel fire incidents in
port environments.



2. Why Vessel Fires Are Different - and More Hazardous

- **Different objectives & tactics** containment vs full suppression.
- Built-in fire protection systems improper handling may cause reflash.
- **Communications challenges** steel construction interferes with radios.
- **Explosion risk** introducing oxygen may trigger flashover.
- Navigation & egress limited visibility, complex layouts.

3.Learning from Tragic Incidents

 DCA23FM039 — Grande Costa D'Avorio (Port Newark, 2023): Two LODD due to disorientation by poor visibility in the smoke-filled cargo hold, one became trapped between cars and ran out of breathing air. • DCA22FM022 — Spirit of Norfolk (2022): Communication breakdown worsened fire spread. The NTSB found that the communications between the firefighting teams and the unified command were ineffective: Firefighting teams were unable to locate the engine room emergency hatch and opened the engine room door allowing the fire to spread.

4.Recommended Action Steps for Fire Departments:

Priority	Action Item	Notes
1	Obtain vessel fire training	Seek & enroll personnel in shipboard firefighting programs
2	Develop SOPs/SOGs	Create procedures for vessel fires.
3	Coordinate with Ports	Conduct drills with port and vessel operators.
4	Incorporate NFPA & Best Practice standards	Follow NFPA 1405 & 1010 as guidance for custom courses designed for your AOR.
5	Review past cases	Apply lessons learned from firsthand experience & investigations.

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protocols early.







5. What Resolve Academy Can do for Your Department:

- 1. Provide Marine Firefighting for Landbased Firefighters Training
- 2. Custom marine fire training programs tailored to your port or vessels.
- 3. Vessel familiarization tours and virtual simulations.
- 4. SOP development & review aligned with NFPA and NTSB guidance.
- 5. Joint drills & tabletop exercises with ports and USCG.
- 6. Continuous updates & knowledge sharing from real world response experience

Department Course Offerings







Backed by Resolve Marine's realworld emergency response action, not theory.



We take our training seriously—because lives depend on it. Resolve Academy provides responders with proven, hands-on instruction built on decades of real-world emergency response experience. Partner with Resolve Academy to strengthen your department's training foundation and ensure your team is prepared to respond to marine and port emergencies.

View Our Marine Firefighting for Landbased Firefighters Course Here!











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