



NEWS RELEASE

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County Fire Assists FAA with Firefighting Research

March 22 - The San Bernardino County Fire Department was approached by the FAA to support their research in tactics and strategies for fighting cargo fires on freighter aircraft. FedEx has donated a retired Airbus A-310 freighter aircraft to the FAA to conduct full-scale live fire testing. The FAA has made multiple advance visits to the Southern California Logistics Airport (SCLA) in Victorville preparing their test aircraft for the fire tests. Station 319 located on SCLA has been the host for their visits and a temporary home for the FAA ARFF Research vehicle (Crash 5).

During the week of March 19th, the FAA Research Team was on location with San Bernardino County Fire Department personnel conducting a number of research fires. At the conclusion of every fire evolution, County firefighters made entry into the aircraft, extinguished the cargo fire, performed ventilation and monitored air quality until deemed safe for entry by researchers.

There are multiple fire research testing events scheduled through September of 2012. This research will provide validation of the effectiveness or lack thereof of a number of theories, tactics and strategies. The testing will also evaluate the latest technologies used on cargo fires on freighter aircraft.

Courtesy photos can be located at www.sbcfire.org, under latest news.

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