

NZFBI EXAM 2009

Unit 4 – Fire Protection Systems & Communication

Question 1:

This question was attempted by the majority of Candidates but poor marks were given. Those that read and understood the question – “Detection Systems” - attained a pass. Candidates are reminded to read the question carefully in order to provide what is actually being asked for.

Question 2

A popular question with only one candidate choosing not to attempt to answer. Some further work in this area is required on this subject however, for it is clear to see the majority of candidates do not have a good understanding of CO² Automatic Extinguishing Systems.

Question 3

Only three candidates attempted to answer this question, with one receiving maximum marks & one receiving minimum marks. It is unclear why it would be an unpopular question and even doubly confusing how there can be extremes in results also. NCI 40 – Explosives, is a subject that most candidates would probably not be conversant with or have first hand experience in, but has to be researched just the same.

Question 4

This question on the NZFS LMRN for Communication was answered by all candidates. It is “bread & butter” information that all should be familiar with. Those that had done some preparation attained a pass.

Question 5

Another popular question with all candidates attempting, maximum marks were awarded to one while all but one attained a pass. Fire hydrant inspections are basic tasks and have clear criteria to be met. Those that know their trade did well in this question.

Question 6

Attaining full marks in this question was definitely achievable, yet no one did. NCI 5 – Radio Telephone Communications is standard operating procedures and practices. Candidates should have an in depth knowledge of this subject regardless of their position within the Brigade.

SUMMARY

Remember to read the instructions carefully. These do not change from year to year. You are asked to answer five of the six questions and an attempt should be made to answer five questions.

In summary, candidates for this year’s Fire Protection Systems & Communication paper have done a good job preparing themselves for a pass mark. Those that did considerably more preparation have been rewarded with an above average mark. Average mark was 57% - not even a pass.

The turnout by candidates is still low, but those that did attempt to and achieve a pass will undoubtedly learn from the experience. We can only hope that more recent work done by the NZFBI Council will entice more people to sit exams in the coming year. With seven (7), candidates sitting this Unit in 2009, it is disappointing to note we only had 43% of candidates pass, as opposed to 2008 when we had 100% of candidates pass Unit 4 that year.