FM GLOBAL VISITS TO LA COUNTY FACILITIES

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FM Global is a property insurance provider for Los Angeles County and supports overall risk management objectives through services including site evaluations. The purpose of these visits is to assess the hazards, exposures, and risks associated with your department from a variety of property related perils. The results and findings of the visit are presented in a formal report that will be directed to your department’s risk manager.

During the visit, FM Global may like to observe testing of the sprinkler systems by flowing main drains and test connections, starting the fire pump by creating a pressure drop, and possibly flow-testing of the fire pump and hydrants that may be on the property. They have all the needed tools except for fire hoses that might be needed for testing a fire pump. Because FM Global is not allowed to handle your equipment, they ask that you provide onsite personnel familiar with the equipment to assist the process.

Below is a brief outline of common aspects of the visit.

- Discuss any significant changes such as new construction, fire protection, or occupancy changes. FM Global also likes to discuss any proposed changes.
- Visually inspect all sprinkler control valves and observe the physical testing of all post indicator valves and waterflow alarms.
- Flow fire hydrants to ensure the water path to your sprinkler systems is not obstructed and water supply remains adequate.
- If applicable, start the fire pump via pressure drop and observe a flow test if one has not been done recently, provided that one is present on site.
- Tour all areas occupied by your department and inspect the roof.
- Review records of the human element programs FM Global encourages departments to follow, including sprinkler system inspection and testing, emergency plans for fire, flood, and earthquake, hot work permits, and impairment procedures. Upon completion of these tasks, a closing conference with facility management is requested to review FM Global’s activities and present the findings.

In FM Global’s first visit to your facility, please make available any facility blueprints or other plans. On any return visits, provide opportunity to review plans of any changes.

For more info, please visit FM Global online at: http://www.fmglobal.com/about/.