



**Perimeter**SOLUTIONS  
Quality Products. Exceptional Response.

# Advancements in Fire Chemical Technology

March 5, 2020

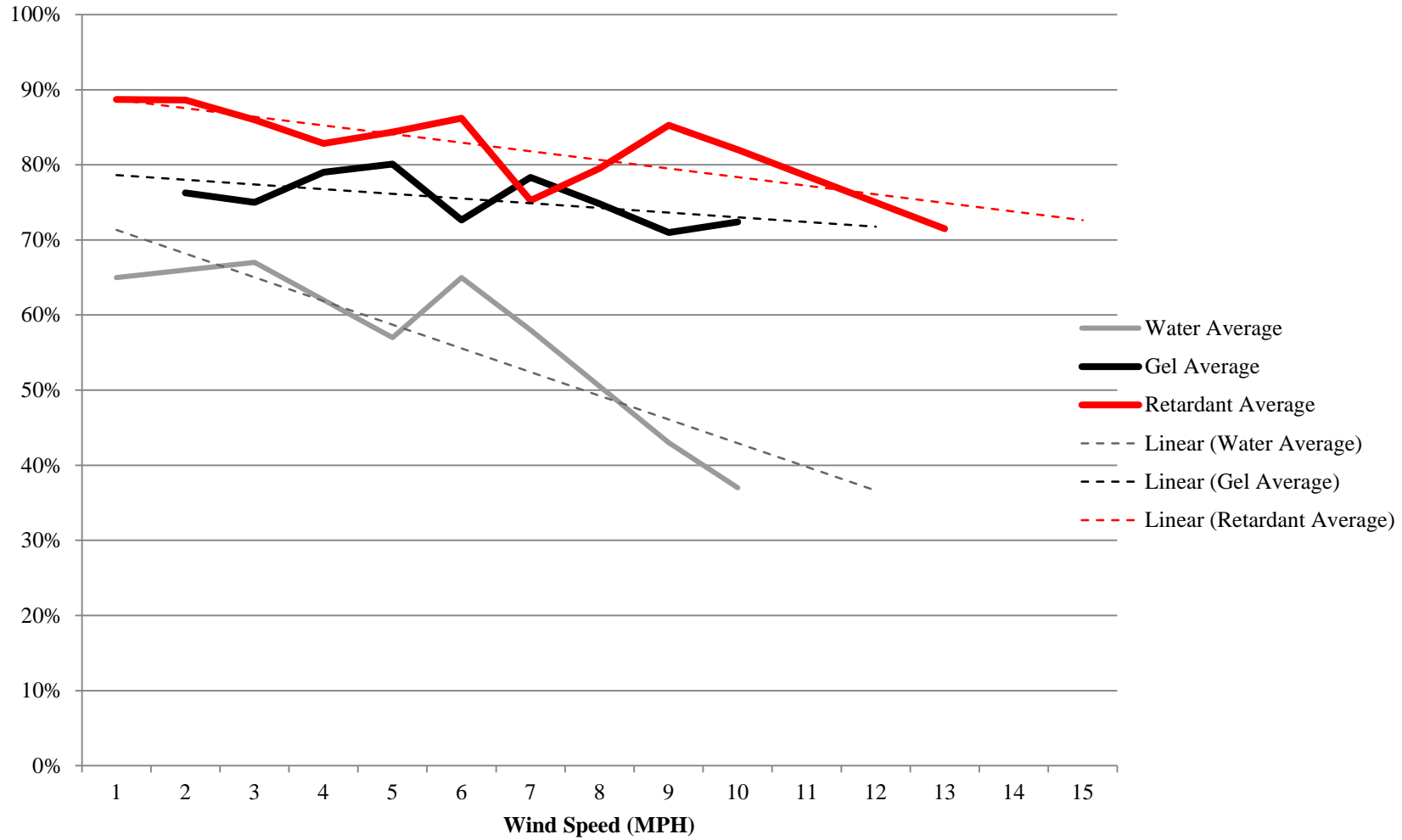




- Why Aerial Attack?
  - Speed
  - Time
  - Coverage
  - Flexibility
- Water is inherently inefficient
- Class A Foam provides penetration and time
- Retardant enhances Time, Coverage and Flexibility



## Recovery Rates of Fire Chemicals





From Safe, Effective and Environmentally Friendly

To

*Safer, More Effective and  
Environmentally Friendlier*

Today's products are the safest, most effective and environmentally friendly ever...But still room for improvement



- ❑ 1930's to 1950's - Water and "Wet Water"
- ❑ 1955 to early 1960s - borate then bentonite
- ❑ Early 1960s – gum thickened phosphates and clay thickened sulfates and then unthickened polyphosphate
- ❑ 1975 – Fugitive colored retardants
- ❑ Early 1980's
  - Gum thickened sulfate
  - Gum thickened phosphate/sulfate blends
  - Aerial use of Class A foam (helicopters and scoopers)
- ❑ 2003 – First gum thickened LC



- Safety and environment
- Newer, faster, larger airtankers
- Effectiveness
  - More stable
  - Better drop characteristics; higher recoveries
  - More visible





- 2003 First Gum-Thickened LC
- Safety and Environment Improvements
  - All phosphate
  - Lower use rates
- Effectiveness
  - Better gums
  - High Visibility Fluorescent Pigments
- Airtanker Support
  - Mixing/Loading Technology
  - Mobile Aerial and Ground Operations





## Comparison of Water, Unthickened Fire Retardant, LV-X, and HV-G

### Dial Setting 2

Product	Altitude	Viscosity	Wind	
	(ft)	(centipoise)	(mph)	(direction)
Water	260	1	9	45
Unthickened	291	8	9	45
LV-X	263	193	7	45
HV-G	260	1405	5	50



New “Fx” High Visibility Fugitive



Older Generation Fugitive





As dropped



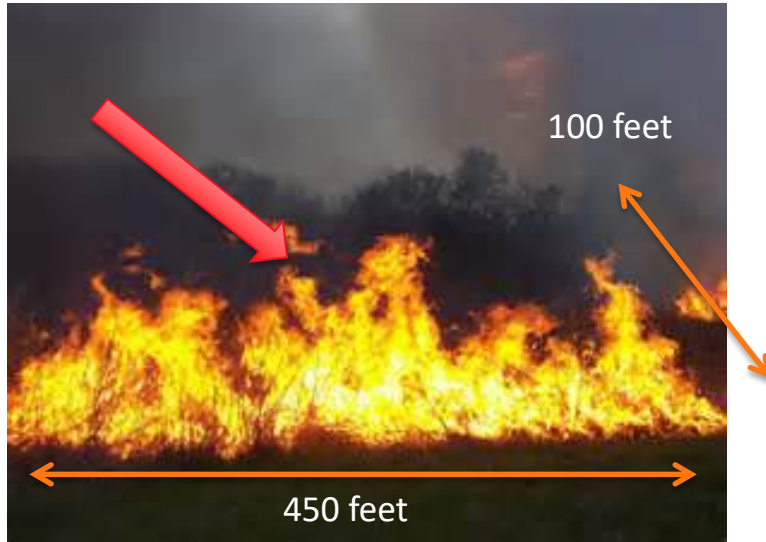
4 Weeks



- Based on recovery, retardant will deliver more water to the fire than water or foam
- Once dry, the retardant prevents re-ignition by rendering the fuel non-flammable
- In the presence of retardant, the hot fuel decomposes into Carbon and Water, releasing additional water for cooling



- For each ton of fuel burned, ~~135~~ gallons of water is released



## One Acre fire:

- Fully involved can generate over 100M BTUs
- 550 feet (170 meters) of flame front can generate 10M BTU per minute
- 1100 gallons of water per minute is required to fully absorb the heat along the flame front
- 11,000 gallons of water required to extinguish a one acre fire

## Hurdles

- Low recovery rates reduce the amount of water that reaches the fire
- Hot spots could remain causing rekindling
- Incomplete extinguishment allows fire to escape via untreated fuel
- Due to evaporation water may not reach the fuel itself, where it is most effective



Long-term retardant will make more water available for cooling and dilution than other tools, and will require fewer tanker drops, reducing aircraft cost.

<b>For Each Gallon Dropped</b>	<b>Retardant</b>	<b>Gel</b>	<b>Foam</b>	<b>Water</b>
Water Contained	0.90	0.98 to 0.99	.990-999	1.0
Recovery at Target	70% - 90%	70% - 80%	35% - 65%	35% - 65%
Water on the Fire	0.65-0.80	0.70 – 0.80	0.35 – 0.65	0.35 – 0.65
<b>Effective gallons from AT802</b>	<b>520-640</b>	<b>560-640</b>	<b>280-520</b>	<b>280-520</b>
<b>AT 802 drops req'd per minute</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>2-4</b>
<b>Additional water provided from fuel</b>	<b>135 gallons per ton of fuel burned</b>			

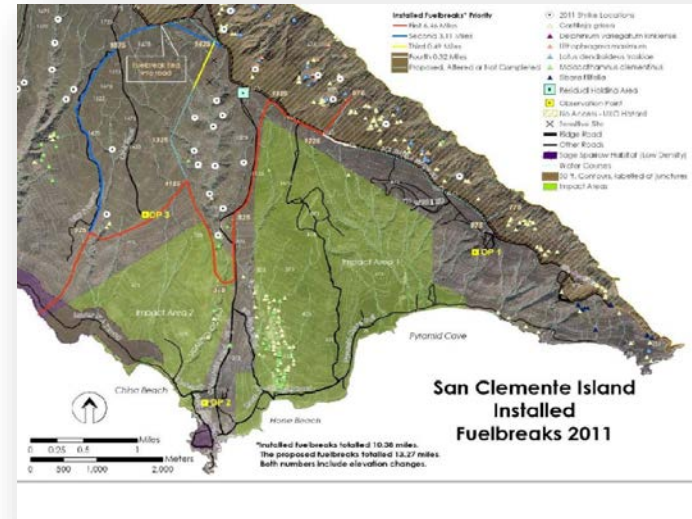
What's next?





## Prevention and Protection

- Ignition mitigation
- Critical infrastructure protection
- Egress and Ingress
- Home protection
- Prescribed burns







- New Liquid Concentrate
  - Improved safety and environmental profile
  - Increased stability
- Durable Retardant (for ground application)
  - Improved weathering
- Future development in improved drop characteristics
- Mobile retardant systems for international deployment