FIRE STATIONS

Fire stations which serve districts, and are in contact with accident and emergency medical departments, can often usefully be linked to a motorway. They can also serve as education and training centres, and should be equipped with all the necessary maintenance, support and repair facilities for constant readiness. Hose storage and maintenance equipment should be provided as well as a drying tower which also serves as a practice tower with ladder access points.

Clear functional areas are necessary for preparing the fire engines for operation: all preparation rooms should be ranged along one axis leading towards the fire-engine hall.

Vehicles returning from incidents drive around the complex to the equipment, hose and tool return department, and retake their place in the fire-engine hall after being cleaned and prepared for operation.

A fire station can act as emergency medical communication centre as well as district or regional control centre in the event of a large-scale emergency.  

Architect: R. Bauer
A typical local fire station can be set out based on the following units (U):

- four bays for the fire tenders (4U)
- an appliance room and storeroom for special equipment (1U)
- a training room and a multipurpose room for
  - administration and control room staff (5U)
  - rest and recreation rooms (3U)
  - and a plant room (1U)

A fire station for both local and area support operations, providing, for example, fire prevention and technical services, central workshops, catering, training and practice facilities, can contain:

- up to 16 fire engine bays (16U) with ambulance service, an additional 4U
- an appliance room and storeroom for special equipment (4U)
- a training room (7U)
- rest and recreation rooms, including washroom, shower, WC, changing room and drying room (4U)
- rooms such as a duty room, rest room and small kitchen (3U)
- administration room and room for the station commander (1U)
- vehicle and equipment workshop and plant room (2U)
- an operations control room (4U)
- and a central workshop (as required).

Where no central hose servicing workshop is available, a hose servicing workshop (9U) should be included and, likewise, a workshop for servicing breathing apparatus (4U) will be needed if there is no centralised service. Where central workshops are available, additional suitable storage rooms are to be included.

**Areas of the rooms** → ③

The size of a fire station can be estimated using units (U) based on the largest parking bay (55m² or above). This gives an indication of the minimum sizes of the component rooms.

- Appliance room 1U
- Storage room for special equipment 1U
- Training room 4U
- Ancillary space requirement 1U
- Rest and recreation rooms: washroom, shower, WC, changing and drying rooms 3U
- Watch room, restroom and mess room 3U
- Administration 1U
- Station commander’s room 1U
- Control room 1U

**Workshops:**
- Hose service workshop, hose wash and test room (at least 26m long and 3m wide) 8U
- Hose store 1U
- Hose drying tower with practice wall (clear height inside tower, minimum 23m) 1U

If a horizontal hose drying installation is provided in place of a hose drying tower, it must be housed in the hose wash and test room. The minimum area of this room must then be 9U and its clear height at least 3m.

**Breathing apparatus workshop** 4U

**Service, repair, storage including that for radio-protective gear and diving gear**

**Room for breathing apparatus servicing** 4U

**Vehicle and appliance workshop, including battery charging point, linked to an existing parking bay** 2U

**Vehicle wash bay** 4U

**Services:**
- Heating and fuel storage rooms 1U

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*b according to local fire regulations

*not for breathing apparatus training