

## **2009 Virginia Fire Service Needs Assessment Survey**

### **"What's New"**

- Fire department's contact information will be auto-filled into the survey based on the respondent's unique password.
- Survey questions have built in quality control checks to make sure that respondents enter the correct information.
- Branch logic with survey questions was added this year to the survey so that respondents will only see questions that apply to them. (See Questions #6, #9, and #10.)
- Questions were added to obtain additional information on fire department's personnel programs. Fire departments are asked questions on how they promote recruitment and also on what type of incentives or rewards are offered to members. (See Question #23 and #24.)
- List of equipment was updated to include 4-Gas Monitors. (See Question #28 and #60.)
- Operating Budget questions from Section IV were revised to capture how much funding departments anticipate receiving in FY2010. Also, questions were added to ask do they anticipate a reduction in funding, do they plan to apply for additional grant funding, and what are the sources for their budget funding. (See Questions #31-34.)
- Training areas were updated to include fire service training based on NFPA standards and also to include all levels of training to more accurately determine training needs with fire departments. (See Questions #44, #46, #50, and #51.)
- Training questions were updated to identify how many active firefighters are trained and to address the department's goal for training. The difference between how many are trained (ex. 50%) and the department's goal (ex. 80%) will identify how many firefighters need training in that specific area. Based on the survey questions, training can be presented in the final report to present how many firefighters are trained and how many firefighters need training.
- Questions concerning technical rescue equipment and training were revised to obtain better information on department needs. (See Question #46 and #47.)
- Question added to capture feedback from fire departments on the Virginia Emergency Vehicle Driver Improvement Initiative. (See Question #48)
- The amount of funding needed was updated to ask fire departments how much additional funding is needed in FY2010 to account for funding already in their budgets. Apparatus, Equipment, Facilities, and Personnel questions were updated to ask for additional needs, not already budgeted. (See Questions #58-62.)