

# KERN COUNTY Fire Department Increases Flammable Liquid Fire Fighting Capability

In the heart of the southern San Joaquin Valley lies Kern County, one of the fastest growing counties in California and home to 5 oil refineries as well as numerous oil and gas operations. To insure that the Kern County Fire Department has the needed equipment to manage most flammable liquid emergencies, the Kern Fire & Safety Group — an industrial sponsored cooperative — chose Williams Fire & Hazard Control to fulfill elements of their response preparations. Williams was tasked not only with equipment, but also foam concentrate and training fulfillment for Kern County.

In 3 separate training sessions, Williams Fire & Hazard Control trained over 75 members in the operations and placement of their new Foam Tender — a 40 foot flat bed trailer equipped with six totes (1,590 gallons) of

Williams' ThunderStorm® ATC 1x3 Foam, two Williams' WAPT Around-the-Pump Foam Proportioners, and two Ranger 1.5 Nozzles. In addition to the field training, Williams provided training in the Strategy and Tactics of flammable liquid fire fighting for petroleum storage tanks, oil & gas operations and refinery fire fighting.

With the increased capability and knowledge, the Kern County Fire Department developed a Two-Tier Response to petroleum emergencies. The first in Engine Companies will size up the incident and if it exceeds their foam capability, the on Scene Incident Commander can call for the new Foam Task Force made up of the Foam Tender, Engine 45, and Two Truck



Companies. The Kern County Fire Department Foam Task Force can safely deploy apparatus to provide in excess of 3,000 gpm of foam fire-fighting capability from both elevated platforms and fire engines.

The new foam task force replaces old equipment which consisted of a foam trailer with 700 gallons of protein based foam concentrate, and a foam nozzle equipped with an unreliable gasoline balanced pressure foam system.

