

	UNION CENTER FIRE COMPANY INC. Best Operating Guidelines	
	Subject: Vertical Ventilation	BOG Series Operations
		Initiated 01/01/04
Approved: Fire Chief Chris Hoyt	Revised 03/02/13	

Vertical Ventilation should be integrated into the incident priorities as soon as practical, although Horizontal ventilation is the preferred choice of venting a structure.

If vertical ventilation is needed a 4'x4' hole should be cut above the fire area as close to the peak of the roof as possible. A 1-3/4 hose line will be deployed and charged for the protection of the firefighters working on the roof. Roof ladders should be placed on each side of the area that will be cut (pitched roof), and the firefighter should be tethered via their harness for fall protection.

The Ventilation saw shall be started and warmed up on the ground, then taken up to the roof, the saw shall not be started on the roof. Roof rafters should not be cut only the roof deck and the shingles should be removed. All cuts with the power tools should be made towards the operator with the equipment at full throttle. The roof must be continuously monitored in the area the crew is working for weak spots. Ventilation should be established between the fire and unburned areas as close to the fire as safety permits. All movement on flat roofs shall be along the strongest points of the roof. Constant situation assessment must be done to determine if it is safe to continue roof operations.