

Friday June 6 2008

Fake Fire cops a Spray

Emergency fire response times were put to the test recently when two trucks “caught fire” at Terminals West’s Kwinana depot.

The exercise – organised by Kwinana Industries Mutual Aid (KIMA), a Kwinana Industries Council initiative –gave workers and crews experience of an emergency situation.

“All companies can learn from these types of exercise to ensure that they are aware of their systems and control mechanisms, said KIC director Chris Oughton.

“KIMA is part of KIC’s commitment to ensuring that industry is as safe as possible. It is no good hoping emergencies can be responded to in theory – the plans need to be regularly tested.”

The day-long event simulated a major fire incident and tested response times, equipment deployment and on site emergency procedures.

Event co-ordinator and Terminals West Terminals and Logistics Manager Darren Salomon said the goal was to highlight the possibility of such an incident, determine any shortfalls and provide personnel with active experience.

“The exercise worked well,” he said.

“Given we were not dealing with a real fire situation it was a valuable lesson for all parties to see how events would unfold over a period of time.

“Each person who participated gained exposure and confidence in being able to deal with an incident of this type.”

PHOTOS: Alan Gale