

## Books recommended for the fire services

by Vyto Babrauskas, Ph.D.

Fire Science and Technology Inc., Issaquah WA

Stefan Särdaqvist, **Water and Other Extinguishing Agents**, Swedish Rescue Services Agency (2002).

This is the only book in the English language which endeavors to explain how water puts out fire. It will not replace traditional fire service training books, which discuss hydraulics, hoseline management, etc., but never get around to discussing the technical principles behind extinguishment. The book is written for firefighters and has copious color illustrations.

Stefan Svensson, **Fire Ventilation**, Swedish Rescue Services Agency (2005).

This is a small book but again explains the principles and not the issues associated with fireground management (which are well done by other texts).

Lars-Göran Bengtsson, **Enclosure Fires**, Swedish Rescue Services Agency (2001).

Everything a firefighter should need to know about the principles of enclosure fires. Again, the book is written for firefighters and has copious color illustrations.

*(All three of the above books have to be bought from Sweden and this is difficult, since they do not take credit cards. But there are no local US books which cover this material anywhere nearly as well, so it is worth making the effort. I would suggest group buying would be useful to reduce the difficulties of ordering from Sweden. The agency has changed its name and is now known as **Myndigheten för samhällsskydd och beredskap** (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency), <http://www.msb.se>).*

Paul T. Grimwood, **Fog Attack**, FMJ International Publications Ltd., Redhill, UK (1992).

Mr. Grimwood is the best known author of fog nozzle usage. The book focuses heavily on examining the firefighting tactics of various fire departments around the world. It is not clear to me if the book is still available from the publishers. Grimwood has two newer books which focus more on tactical details of pulsed fog attack: **3D Firefighting** and **Euro Firefighter**. The former is sold by IFSTA (phone orders only) in the US, while the latter is available directly from the publishers, <http://www.jeremymillspublishing.co.uk>.