

Globe Factory Visit

Chiefs and Members of the Fire Board,

I would respectfully like to request the opportunity to attend a visit to the Globe PPE manufacturing facility in Maine alongside our Globe representative from LN Curtis. My goal in attending would be to gain a thorough understanding of how our structure fire personal protective equipment is researched, designed, developed, tested, and continually improved to better protect firefighters in the field.

As firefighters, our PPE is the single most important piece of equipment we rely on every day. It is our last line of defense against heat, carcinogens, toxic contaminants, and the hazards we face on the fireground. I believe there is tremendous value in gaining firsthand knowledge of every component of the gear we wear — from thermal protection and moisture barriers to breathability, mobility, durability, and contamination reduction.

Understanding how Globe continues to evolve PPE technology to reduce cancer exposure, improve firefighter safety, increase comfort, and enhance long-term durability would allow me to bring valuable knowledge back to our department and our region. I believe this experience would help strengthen our department's understanding of current PPE capabilities, future developments in firefighter protection, and best practices surrounding the care, maintenance, and operational use of our gear.

In addition, this opportunity would allow us to better evaluate the different PPE attributes and options available to firefighters today and how those advancements may impact firefighter safety, health, performance, and longevity in the future.

I am passionate about firefighter safety, health, and operational readiness, and I believe attending this visit would directly benefit both myself and our department as a whole. I would greatly appreciate your consideration of this request and the opportunity to further my knowledge in an area that is critically important to every member who steps onto the fireground.

This opportunity is being offered to me by LN Curtis, the largest supplier of our PPE, hose, nozzles, and firefighting tools. This is an all expenses paid training offered by Nicolai Caviglia our LN Curtis rep. LN Curtis will be paying for all travel, lodging, and meals. They will also be sending a couple firefighters from Las Vegas and Reno. The only potential cost to the district would be to back fill my spot as I would be gone for 2 days of my shift. I do believe that the minimal potential cost to the district far outweighs the value and knowledge I will bring back from this training.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Mike Cook
Firefighter/AEMT