LEICESTERSHIRE
FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

DESIGN ACCESS STATEMENT

FOR THE CONTINUED USE OF A COMPARTMENT FIREFIGHTING TRAINING UNIT



AT

CATERPILLAR (UK) Ltd.
Peckleton Lane, Desford
Leicestershire LE9 9JT.



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Schedule 1 - USE

The Compartment Firefighting Training Unit has been installed within the site boundary of Caterpillar UK Ltd with is located off Peckleton Lane outside the village of Desford.

The site is currently used by Caterpillar for the manufacture and distribution of various Caterpillar machinery components.

It has been agreed between Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority (CFA) and Caterpillar that a small piece of ground on the Northern part of the Caterpillar site be used by the CFA as a training venue for firefighters to increase their knowledge and understanding of fire behaviour. In order to do this a Compartment Firefighting Training Unit has been installed on the site which can demonstrate the behavior of fire in a “Flash Over” and “Backdraft” situation.

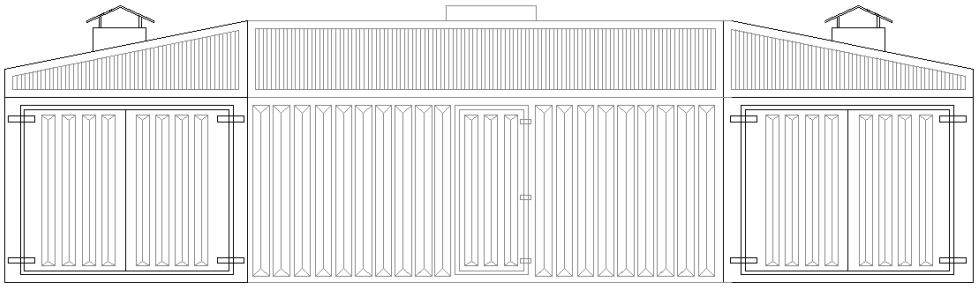
The training unit comprises of 3 shipping container style units joined together in a H shape arrangement.

Along with the training unit there is a further 3 shipping containers one of which will be used for the storage of materials used within the main training facility, another is used for training officers in fire investigation and the third is used to house a Breathing Apparatus compressor to recharge breathing apparatus sets.

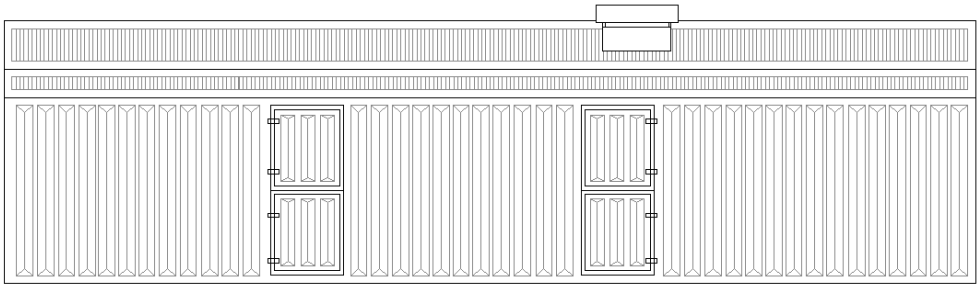
The only unit connected to mains services is a power supply to the compressor.

Schedule 2 – THE AMOUNT

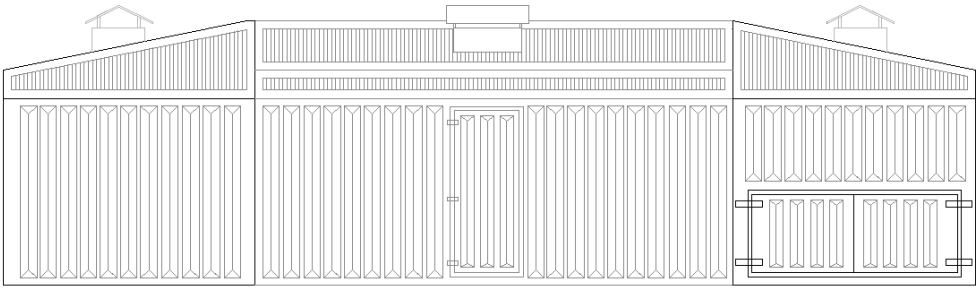
The training facility comprises of 6No. shipping style containers 3 of which form the training building. Below is the elevations of the training unit. When connected the Unit measures 12m x 12m and will stand approximately 3.5m high.



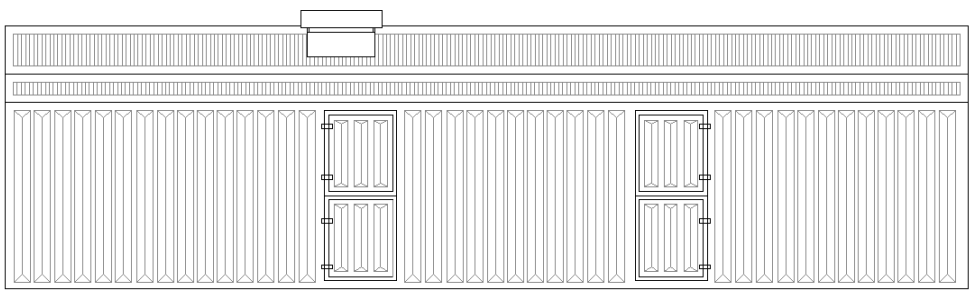
Front of the Training Unit.



Side of the Training Unit.

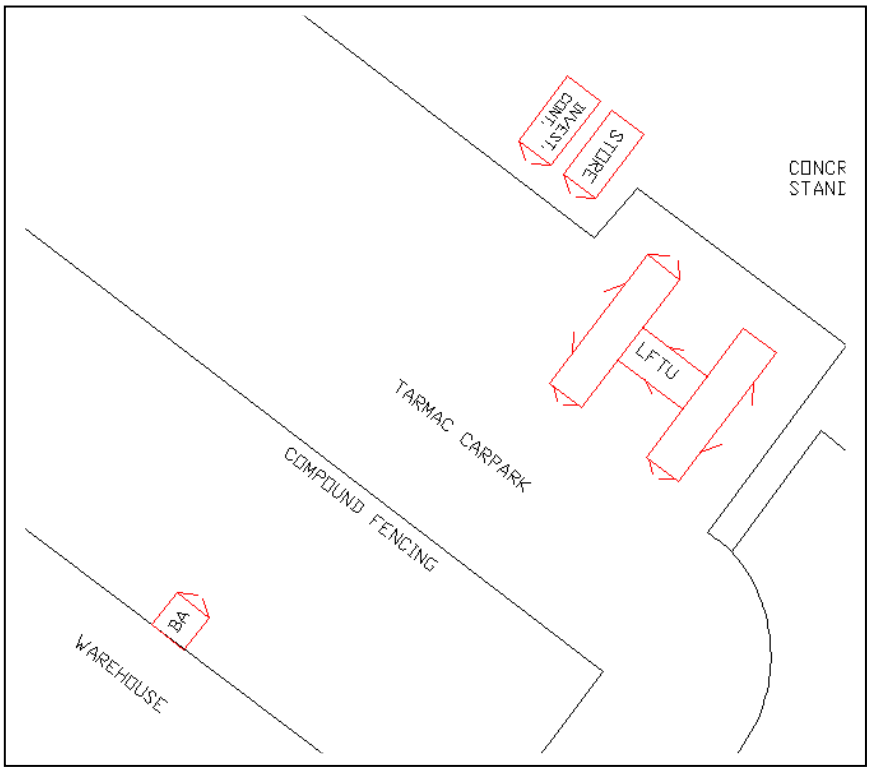


Rear of the Training Unit.



Side of the Training Unit.

The remaining 3No. containers are located in close proximity to the training unit as shown below:-



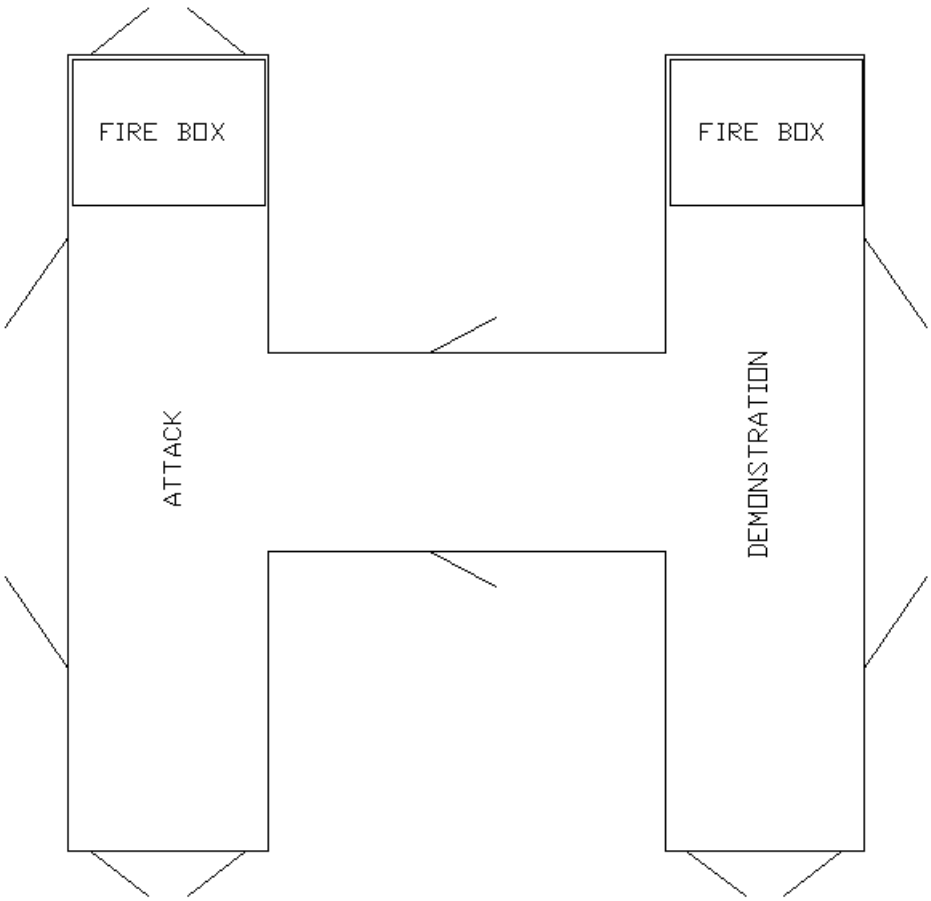
One of the remaining 3 units (indicated above as Store) is used for storage of wood materials used to burn within the training unit. This unit is 6m x 3m and is approximately 3m high.

The unit indicated as Invest. Cont. will have a room scenario set up inside in which a fire will be set and extinguished in order to allow Fire Investigation Officers the opportunity to train and develop their knowledge of fire investigation.

The remaining unit labelled as BA is to be located adjacent to the existing warehouse as it is the only unit to have a power source which is to house a breathing apparatus charging compressor which recharges the breathing apparatus after its use within the training unit, by doing this it will enable the crews to be fully operational should their presence be needed within the county. This unit is 3m x 3m and approximately 3m high.

Schedule 3 - LAYOUT

As shown on the previous site plan the training unit is formed in a H Shape configuration as shown below:-



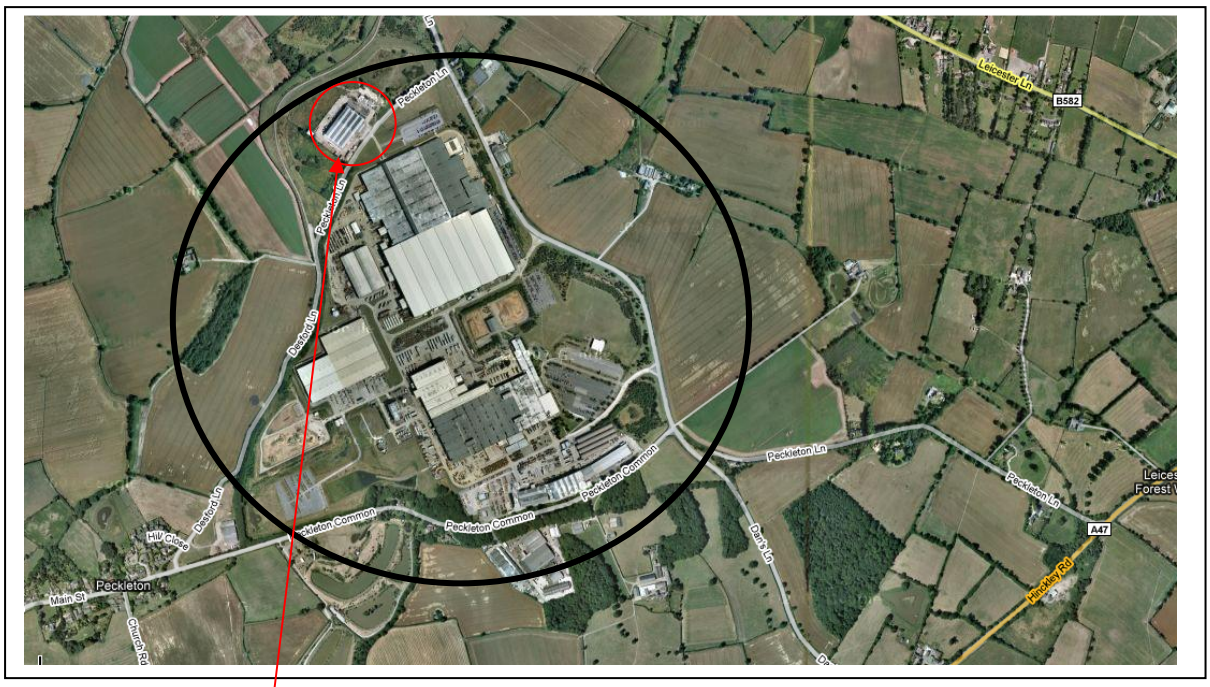
The unit is interconnecting but is also be fitted with the ability to open and close the connections between the units thus allowing the facility to be more flexible in its capabilities.

The unit is used as a full training facility as indicated on the above layout the unit labelled as demonstration is used to show the fire-fighters how the fire behaves and develops into a flashover situation and the attack unit is used by the fire-fighters to learn how to attack and extinguish the fire in the safest possible way.

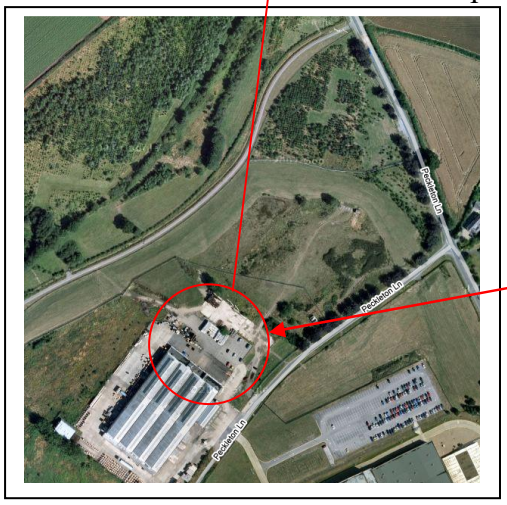
The remaining units are standard shipping containers with little or no modifications.

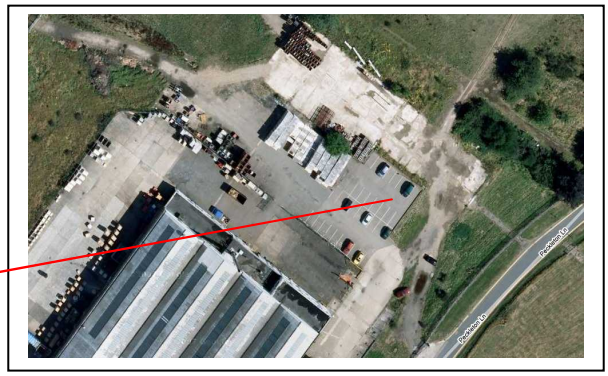
Schedule 4 – SCALE

The Caterpillar site in Leicestershire is located just outside Desford and covers an estimated 190 acres. The location of the training unit is to the North end of the site. The scale of the site and the location of the training unit is shown by the photos below.



Above shows the extent of the Caterpillar Works in Desford.





Above left identifies the sub site for the training unit and above right shows the location of the training facility.

Schedule 5 - LANDSCAPING

The site was previously a disused tarmac carpark and the facility is located on a 100mm thick concrete pad.

The landscaping around the site is the floor slab of a previously demolished warehouse as shown below.

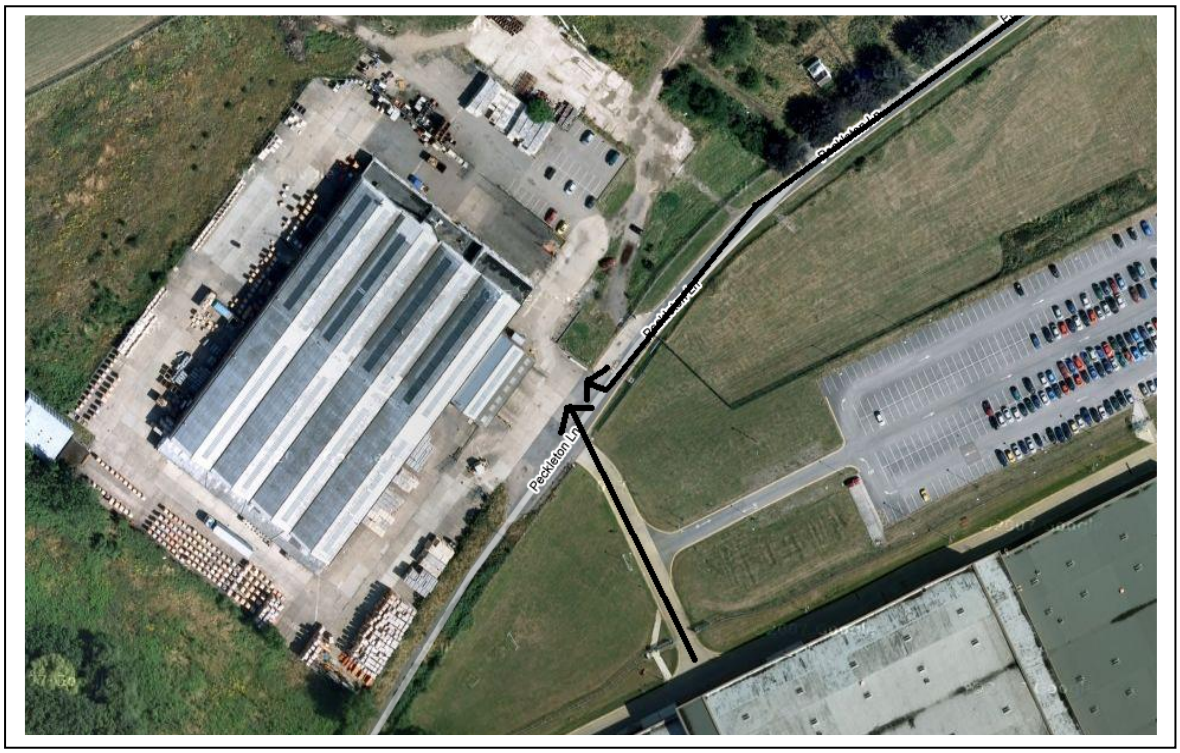


At present there are no proposals to change or alter any landscaping in the immediate area of the proposed training facility.

Schedule 6 - ACCESS

The site is currently accessed through the security barrier at the end of Peckleton Lane which serves most employee entrances into the Caterpillar site.

The site can also be accessed through the Caterpillar main site.



As the fire crews utilise a fire appliance to undertake the training access will be gained via Peckleton lane Security office which will eliminate the need to drive through the main section of the Caterpillar site.