



# TRADITIONS TRAINING, LLC.

**"COMBAT READY" FIREFIGHTING**  
**FIREGROUND PROVEN TIPS, TECHNIQUES, & DRILLS**

**Fire Engineering™**

**"When Thru-the-Lock Fails" Part 1 of 2**

by Samuel Hittle

Thru-the-lock provides a timely approach for gaining admission into store front doors while producing minimal damage. Like most fireground tactics, success is not always guaranteed. This drill focuses on situations where conventional forcible entry techniques may still have merit.



Interior visibility, tools carried by crews for functional mitigation, and unpracticed skill sets may inhibit the ability to perform thru-the-lock.

Reduced access to the cylinder can be problematic depending on the lock pullers available. The K-Tool would have trouble getting a bite on this cylinder.

High quality lock sets or the addition of high density accessories can make removal of the cylinder difficult or impossible with lock pullers alone.

Some cylinders are deficient the necessary integrity required to pull the lock. Older locks exposed to harsh elements are likely to become brittle over time.

Pulling cylinders on doors retrofitted with mag locks tend to have no benefit. These locks have likely been reduced to a secondary means of security.

Like any forcible entry, we must weigh damage incurred against the need to attain access. When abnormal problems are encountered, time matters! If we are willing to sacrifice the potential of losing ventilation control should the glass fail, employing conventional methods may be preferred to thru-the-lock. These doors are constructed of aluminum, not titanium. Watch our video at [www.youtube.com/user/TraditionsTraining](http://www.youtube.com/user/TraditionsTraining). You might be surprised how quick and easy it is.



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