

FIRE MARSHALS QUARTERLY



INTERNATIONAL FIRE MARSHALS ASSOCIATION • SUMMER 2008

2008 NFPA World Safety Conference and Exposition IFMA Agenda

Sunday, June 1

7:00 am to 12:00 pm Executive Board Meeting – Lagoon F
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Chapter Presidents Meeting – Lagoon F

Monday, June 2

8:00 am to 12:00 pm Chapter Presidents Meeting – Lagoon K
8:00 am to 11:00 am Standards Council Fireworks Hearing
9:30 am to 10:30 am Analyzing Residential Fire Safety in Today's World – Breakers CD
11:00 am to 12:00 pm Muddling Through to Prevention Success – Breakers CD
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Opening General Session
3:30 am to 7:30 pm Exhibit Hours

Tuesday, June 3

8:00 am to 9:00 am Applying the New Code Requirements for Nightclubs – Mandalay Bay Ballroom B
8:00 am to 9:00 am Fire Test: Full-Scale Test Results of Flammable Liquids in Stacked Drums – Lagoon A
9:30 am to 10:30 am UL Research Efforts on E-85 Fuel Dispensing Equipment – Breakers CD
9:30 am to 10:30 am Plan Review Submissions: Get it Right the First Time – Lagoon I
11:00 am to 4:00 pm Exhibit Hours
11:00 am to 12:30 pm New Inspection Requirements for Fire Doors – Breakers CD
11:00 am to 12:30 pm Panel Discussion on High-Rise Fire Protection Systems and First Responders – Breakers EF
4:15 pm to 5:15 pm The Fire Marshal Town Meeting – Mandalay Bay Ballroom B
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm Hospitality Room – Surf C

Wednesday, June 4

10:00 am to 2:00 pm Exhibit Hours
10:00 am to 11:00 am IFMA Business Meeting – Lagoon C
11:00 am to 12:00 pm IFMA Codes and Standards Forum – Lagoon C
2:00 pm Technical Session

Thursday, June 5

8:00 am Technical Session

All events take place in the Mandalay Bay Convention Center. Please check the conference program for any changes.

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Fire Marshals Quarterly

The mission of the International Fire Marshals Association is to aid in the preservation of life and property by advocating, promoting and providing leadership in the prevention or mitigation of fire, explosions and other related hazardous conditions.

IFMA was incorporated in 1906.

In 1927, IFMA became a membership section of NFPA.

Published quarterly as a service to the membership of the International Fire Marshals Association (IFMA).

The articles published in the Quarterly are the opinion of the authors and not necessarily the opinion of IFMA or NFPA.

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President's Corner



Jon Nisja

This is the busy time of year for the International Fire Marshals Association (IFMA). We recently completed several meetings in late March and early April and are now preparing for the IFMA Annual Meeting at NFPA's World Safety Conference & Exposition in Las Vegas the first week in June. At the IFMA Annual Meeting we will also meet with representatives from IFMA's 28 chapters. The purpose of this meeting is to share mutually beneficial activities and information; to make chapters aware of IFMA's activities; for IFMA to assist chapters through training, legislation, or technical support; and to support the codes and standards-making process.

Vision 20/20 Forum

On March 31 and April 1, IFMA First Vice President Jimmy Hill, Executive Secretary Steven Sawyer, and I represented IFMA at the Vision 20/20 forum in Washington, DC. This forum was hosted by former IFMA President Jim Crawford of the Vancouver, Washington, Fire Department. The focus of the forum was to renew previous efforts to make fire prevention the higher priority in most communities and fire departments. Fire prevention was an identified priority in the President Truman Report on Fire Prevention in 1947, in the America Burning report in 1973, and in subsequent reports on the fire problem in the United States. More information is available on the Vision 20/20 website at <http://www.strategicfire.org/index.cfm>.

Approximately 170 fire service leaders from the United States attended the Vision 20/20 forum (plus some visitors from other countries). Five key strategies for enhancing fire prevention were identified, which are being refined by the forum's steering committee. The specific strategies include:

- **ADVOCACY.** Improve advocacy to policy and decision makers to support fire prevention needs.
- **COMMUNICATION.** Establish a campaign to reduce fire losses by getting people to change their behavior toward fire safety.
- **FIRE SERVICE PHILOSOPHY.** Shift the fire service's organizational culture so that prevention is accepted and supported as a primary public safety service.
- **ENGINEERING and TECHNOLOGY.** Promote and leverage new and existing technology to enhance fire and life safety.

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Executive Secretary's Report



Steven F. Sawyer

As you can see from the front page, IFMA has a busy schedule at the NFPA World Safety Conference & Exposition the week of June 1–June 6. We hope you join us for at least the business meeting and the hospitality room. Also, stop by the booth during exhibit hours to say hello or to share any comments or suggestions.

On Monday, June 2, the NFPA Standards Council is holding a public hearing on NFPA 1124 concerning the provisions on the retail sales of consumer fireworks in Chapter 7 (see page 4 and 38). IFMA objects to the removal of Chapter 7 and will propose some solutions to keep these provisions within NFPA 1124. Please join IFMA at the hearing and support this important issue.

The Vision 20/20 forum held on March 31–April 1 in Washington, DC, was well represented by IFMA board and chapter members. More information on this national fire prevention effort is available on the Vision 20/20 website at www.strategicfire.org.

On May 22 fire service representatives will meet in Chicago to review progress on the Measuring Code Compliance Effectiveness study. If you are interested in learning more about this study, an educational session will be held at the NFPA World Safety Conference & Exposition.

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Preserve Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124 To Help Keep Our Communities Safe

By John Robison, Alabama State Fire Marshal (Retired)

With over 44 years of experience within the fire protection industry and as a former Fire Marshal for the state of Alabama, my personal passion and experience lies in the safety and protection of our public and our community from the danger and damage that can be caused by fires. The issue of fireworks and their legal status across the United States, and especially in the Southeast, is a topic that has raised disagreement and much discussion among the firefighting community and the community at large in years past. But, it is an issue that we are beyond. Fireworks have been legalized in 44 states and in thousands of districts. It is time that we come to accept that fireworks and sparklers have been made legal for consumers, and turn our attention to the safety guidelines and proper use of fireworks and sparklers to protect those who choose to purchase them.

This topic has been reignited with new vigor due to the recent proposed actions by the Standards Council of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). In a recent Council meeting on Oct. 1, 2007, the Council announced the following proposed actions:

- Revising the scope of the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics (TC), which is responsible for NFPA 1124, so that it no longer covers the retail sale of consumer fireworks, and
- Taking steps to revise the scope of NFPA 1124 to exclude the retail sales of consumer fireworks, and to delete Chapter 7 from NFPA 1124.

These actions are a result of a study that was commissioned by the Fire Protection Research Foundation, and the actions will be decided upon on June 2, 2008. If it is decided to approve these actions, the NFPA would eliminate any safety guidelines and standards for the retail sale of legal sparklers and fireworks.

The NFPA's mission is to "reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education," which includes assisting local jurisdictions with helpful and recommended safety standards and guidelines. With the removal of Chapter 7, the NFPA would no longer provide assistance for safety guidelines or national standards for cities and states who allow the retail sales of fireworks, therefore it would be up to the individual state, county or city to come up with their own standards. State and local jurisdictions across the nation currently adopt NFPA standards and implement them within their own jurisdictions. Removing Chapter 7 would propagate conflicting environments from jurisdiction to jurisdiction based on home-spun recommendations and guidelines.

Now, this recommendation is not to be confused with the legality of approving or disapproving the sale of fireworks in the retail market. The NFPA does not have the authority to demand a state to ban its sales of fireworks, so this does not alter the legalization of fireworks. The question is not whether the retail sale of consumer fireworks should or should not be legal because it is up to state governments to decide – the question we should be asking ourselves is should fire officials, who are trained with the proper expertise of advising and implementing guidelines for the public's safety, provide the safety guidelines and recommendations to jurisdictions who are in need? This does not call for giving up our own convictions of whether or not we agree with the use of consumer fireworks. On the other hand, if we choose to abandon our responsibilities for providing public safety information and education regarding this matter, we are ignoring the fact that the public is going to be exposed to fireworks any way. What will we say if something bad happens, and we knew we had the knowledge to prevent it but stood by and did nothing?

We need to be doing everything we can to create national standards of care for our public safety. The protection of our public is what the NFPA codes and standards are here for, and we need to continue and keep Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124 in existence. There should be tremendous support from the NFPA to study and test how fireworks can be safely packaged, stored and used by consumers. We have the resources, knowledge and the mechanisms to create recommendations for

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our local jurisdictions that are vitally important in protecting the public, and that is our purpose. By removing Chapter 7, we are creating a situation in which local enforcers would have a difficult time creating educated and responsible safety guidelines as different jurisdictions are led by individuals with conflicting levels of experience.

We must encourage and create safety guidelines to be adhered to, created by the most informed and educated individuals in our profession – those with different but knowledgeable interests and backgrounds that can help by recommending guidelines published by the NFPA to be adopted by states, counties, and cities for their citizens.

We as fire officials, fire fighters and members of the public need to let the NFPA know that Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124 should not be abolished but instead nurtured and expanded in a regular manner as other NFPA code sections are. Without your voice, NFPA will likely abolish Chapter 7 based on the recommendation they have received from the Technical Committee. The Council will be holding a public hearing regarding this matter on Monday, June 2, 2008 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. in conjunction with the NFPA's World Safety Conference and Exposition in Las Vegas. The Council will also be accepting and considering written submissions received by the NFPA by Friday, May 9, 2008. I encourage you to please join me in supporting the preservation of Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124 to help keep our communities safe and informed through a national standard of safety for all.

John Robison is a former State Fire Marshal for Alabama and can be reached at (334) 657-0740.

USFA Releases New Emergency Incident Rehabilitation Manual for Firefighters and Other Emergency Responders

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), working with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), has issued an updated version of the manual *Emergency Incident Rehabilitation*. The revised manual examines critical topics related to emergency incident rehabilitation, including operational issues, human physiology, weather issues, and technology and addresses ways to better protect firefighters and other emergency responders through the use of proper protective clothing and improved tactical procedures. The manual released today updates the original USFA document published in 1992.

"Effective emergency incident rehabilitation is an important facet of firefighter health and safety," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "It is needed on the incident scene to prevent potentially serious and life-threatening conditions from occurring."

Emergency responder rehabilitation is designed to ensure that the physical and mental well-being of members operating at the scene of an emergency do not deteriorate to the point where it affects their safety. It can prevent serious and life-threatening conditions – such as heat stroke and heart attacks – from occurring. *Fireground rehab* is the term often used for the care given to the firefighters and other responders while performing their duties at an emergency scene. *Fireground rehab* includes monitoring vital signs, rehydration, nourishment, and rest for responders between assignments.

"This rehabilitation of firefighters during emergency operations or training exercises can significantly reduce their risk for illness or injury," said IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "The IAFF was pleased to work with USFA to enhance firefighter health and safety through this important project."

To download *Emergency Incident Rehabilitation* and for further information about the USFA/IAFF incident rehabilitation partnership effort, please visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/research/safety/incident.shtm.

What are Fire Department Responsibilities? “Combination Residential Security & Fire Alarm Systems”

By Paul L. Dove, Fire Marshal

I read a very interesting article in the Las Vegas Sun recently, written by Mike Trask of the Las Vegas Sun. The article reports on a new policy the Henderson FD has initiated, where they will no longer respond to residential fire alarms unless a secondary means of verification is reported, witnessed or a water-flow device has been activated.

The original article can be located at this website link:

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2008/feb/18/fire-alarm-doesnt-mean-fire-department-coming/>

This type of policy should not be a total surprise or earth-shaking news to many fire departments around the country. The Henderson Fire Department seems to be following a growing trend where many departments around the country are exploring data, developing modified concepts or have initiated similar policies. The Henderson FD is not alone in this practice in the Metro Las Vegas area. The article states that the Las Vegas Fire and Rescue Department adopted a similar policy back in 2003.

As a fire prevention and investigation specialist, I can fully understand the position that fire departments are taking as they study data and document false alarm responses, they contemplate their own evaluations of risk and use of personnel and equipment hours devoted to responding to these types of calls for service. It is true that many departments around the country face a similar degree of difficulty while trying to balance or weigh decisions to establish similar policies.

This commentary is not intended to defend any one position since I believe the public has a right to expect the best level of service in a time of need. I also believe fire departments have a right to minimize their risk to responding personnel and the public they serve, in addition to lowering tax payer monies spent responding to situations where services are not needed. This is especially true in these times of economic short falls, station closings and layoffs.

The difficult question the fire service should ask is, How can we give the public the service they expect and deserve while minimizing the department's exposure risks and financial loss?

I will elaborate on this question further in this commentary but first, I would like to elaborate on fire alarm and detection and its historic relationship with residential security systems. Historically, fire alarm and detection devices have been viewed as supplemental attachments to residential security systems. Presently, security systems are un-regulated but separate national standards are currently being developed on security systems and those systems with combination fire alarm warning device attachments.

The standard residential security system will typically house security devices such as, motion detectors, glass and door breaks, thermal sensors and laser beam detection. On combination security and fire alarm type systems, there may be a couple of supervised smoke detectors. Should we in the fire service interpret the addition of a few smoke detectors as meeting the legal regulations or definitions of a household fire alarm system? I believe the answer is, "no". Unfortunately, an existing majority of combination system installations do not meet specific fire alarm code requirements for household fire alarm systems. The National Fire Alarm Code referenced by all building and fire codes has specific requirements for the installation of household fire warning equipment which does not eliminate the installed equipment from the requirements for installation, operation, testing, service and maintenance. On occasion, jurisdictions may modify specific code requirements through ordinance development but the code is still the code:

*NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm Code® 2007 Edition
Chapter 11 Single- and Multiple-Station Alarms and Household Fire Alarm Systems*

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11.3 Basic Requirements.

11.3.1 All devices, combinations of devices, and equipment to be installed in conformity with this chapter shall be approved or listed for the purposes for which they are intended.

11.3.3 The installation of smoke alarms or fire alarm systems or combinations of these shall comply with the requirements of this chapter and shall satisfy the minimum requirements for number and location of smoke alarms or smoke detectors by one of the following arrangements:*

(1) The required minimum number and location of smoke detection devices shall be satisfied (independently) through the installation of smoke alarms. The installation of additional smoke alarms shall be permitted. The installation of additional system-based smoke detectors including partial or complete duplication of the smoke alarms satisfying the required minimum shall be permitted.

(2) The required minimum number and location of smoke detection devices shall be satisfied (independently) through the installation of system smoke detectors. The installation of additional smoke detectors shall be permitted. The installation of additional smoke alarms including partial or complete duplication of the smoke detectors satisfying the required minimum shall be permitted.

11.4.3 Equipment. The performance of fire-warning equipment discussed in this chapter shall depend on such equipment being properly selected, installed, operated, tested, and maintained in accordance with the provisions of this Code and with the manufacturer's published instructions provided with the equipment.*

A.11.3.3 This Code establishes minimum standards for the use of fire-warning equipment. The use of additional alarms or detectors over and above the minimum standard is encouraged. The use of additional devices can result in a combination of equipment (e.g., a combination of single- and multiple-station alarms or a combination of smoke alarms or smoke detectors that are part of a security/fire system and existing multiple-station alarms). Though a combination is allowed, one type of equipment must independently meet the requirements of the Code. Compliance with the requirements of the Code cannot rely on the combination of the following fire-warning equipment:

(1) Single-station alarms

(2) Multiple-station alarms

(3) Household fire alarm system (includes a security/fire system with smoke alarms or smoke detectors)

It is encouraged that the highest level of protection be used where possible. For example, if multiple-station alarms are added to an occupancy with compliant single-station alarms, the multiple-station alarms should be installed to replace all of the single-station alarms. Similarly, if a monitored household fire alarm system is added to a house that has compliant multiple-station alarms, monitored smoke alarms or smoke detectors should be installed to replace the multiple-station alarms or be installed to provide the same required coverage.

11.10 Maintenance and Tests.

Fire-warning equipment shall be maintained and tested in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions and per the requirements of Chapter 10.

Typically, security alarm monitoring facilities monitor combination security and fire alarm systems for alarm device initiation signals. Once received, their standard operational practices are to contact the homeowner first and then contact emergency services. In the event the facility does not make contact with the homeowner or secondary contact person, they initiate the dispatching of the appropriate agency; either police departments for security device activations, or fire departments for fire detection devices.

Situations found in most false fire alarm calls with these types of combination systems are either non-fire human cooking errors or device errors caused by poor installation, improper device selection, incorrect location and/or lack of maintenance on the fire alarm components.

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We in the fire service should re-think and view these combination systems as fire alarm and detection systems with supplemental security device attachments. We should then use the National Fire Alarm Code to confirm that the household fire alarm and warning equipment meet the intent of the code for installation, testing and maintenance. In new construction, this can be done together with the local building departments to achieve compliance prior to occupancy. In existing construction the fire service should promote or expand public education efforts to address problematic occupancies in their jurisdictions.

Where does this leave us in the fire service? Should we give up on residential fire detection technology by developing policies for non-response to dwelling fire alarms? Again, I believe the answer should be, “no”. Developing policies that leave the public with a feeling that we believe residential alarms are not valid unless there are other cues like smoke or flame showing is counter productive and further exposes us to risk. Thankfully, not all fire service professionals believe residential false alarms are at the point where response should be compromised.

This brings me back to dealing with false alarms. The fire service should take a pro-active role when encountering numerous false alarms at any location regardless of occupancy type. We should thoroughly investigate events to figure out why an alarm is false, what or who is responsible and how can it be rectified. This promotes greater customer service. We can create public educational programs to educate the public on fire alarm and detection technology. We can teach why it’s important for a homeowner to use the fire service expertise to make sure the proper devices are installed, inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with the National Fire Alarm Code.

The fire service and homeowners should not accept security company’s sales pitches selling combination systems with limited fire coverage. This allows the homeowner to have a false sense of security related to fire. We should further utilize the National Fire Alarm Code as referenced by our building and fire codes for household fire alarm systems in residential dwellings. In areas where limited fire service availability exists, we can promote residential self-inspection programs to empower and allow homeowners to partner with the fire service to minimize their exposure and risk to fire. We should hold installing contractors accountable for non-compliant installations of fire alarm and detection components, wiring and power supplies. We could explore the possibility in creating partnerships with other code enforcement agencies or law enforcement to initially investigate residential fire alarm calls before rolling the trucks. If we want to create policies regarding residential alarm response, maybe we should consider initially responding non-emergency to a call with a staff vehicle and step it up if a secondary cue is observed. And only as a last resort when these and other possibilities are exhausted should we consider fines to homeowners and non-response policies.

Public education, customer service and using the National Fire Alarm Code may prove to be the successful counter measure in lowering household false fire alarm calls and assuring equipment is installed properly in all residences.

About the Author

Fire Marshal Dove is employed by the City of Coldwater, Michigan Fire Department and has served twenty-two years in the professional fire service. He is a past president of the Michigan Fire Inspector’s Society and served as Code Committee Chairmen for ten years. He is a former principle member of the NFPA Life Safety Code and Building Code Technical Committee on Fire Protection Features and former member of the NFPA North Central Fire Code Development Committee. He holds and maintains thirteen national and multi-state professional certifications as Fire Officer, Inspector, Plan Reviewer and Investigator.

AFSA Unveils New Report of Inspection Forms

Thirteen Report of Inspection Forms Updated for NFPA 25 2008 Edition

The American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA) recently unveiled 13 newly updated report of inspection forms designed to cover the mandatory inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements for fire sprinkler systems detailed in the 2008 edition of NFPA 25: *Standard for Testing, Inspection, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*.

Up-to-date with the 2007 edition of NFPA 13: *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, the 2008 NFPA 25 forms offer easy-to-use inspection documents that outline the rules for the care of fire sprinkler systems, standpipe and hose systems, fire pumps, fire service piping and appurtenances, water storage tanks, fixed water spray, foam-water, and valves. These updated forms include:

- 103A - Report of Inspection (General Information Section) – 1 page
- 104A - Report of Inspection (Inspector's Section) – 1 page
- 105A - Weekly Report of Inspection – 2 pages
- 106A - Wet Pipe Fire Sprinkler Systems - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 4 pages
- 107A - Dry Pipe Fire Sprinkler Systems - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 3 pages
- 108A - Standpipe Systems - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 4 pages
- 109A - Foam Water Systems - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 3 pages
- 110A - Fire Pump Assemblies - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 6 pages
- 111A - Private Fire Service Mains - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 3 pages
- 112A - Water Storage Tanks - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 3 pages
- 113A - Preaction & Deluge Fire Sprinkler Systems - Inspection/Testing/Maintenance – 4 pages
- 114A - Report of Obstruction Investigation & Internal Condition of Fire Protection Piping – 2 pages
- 115A - Report of Testing of Pressure Regulating Valves – 1 page

The 2008 forms for inspection, testing, and maintenance of fire sprinkler systems can be downloaded - by AFSA members for free - at www.firesprinkler.org. However, the 2008 forms are not yet available for sale in printed pads.

Because so many jurisdictions around the country are still operating under the 2002 NFPA 25, the 2002 revision of the forms are still available for member download online as well as printed in pads of 25 three-part NCR paper. The AFSA member price is \$10 per pad, nonmember \$25 per pad. To order the 2002 pads, you may fax your order form - found online at the AFSA Web site - to (214) 343-8898, or you may order directly online through AFSA's Store, <http://www.firesprinkler.org/store.html>. For more information, call (214) 349-5965.

Live Fire Video Released

Underwriters Laboratories' Regulatory Services Department has released a DVD based on the 2006 live-fire tests UL participated in with the Redmond Fire Department and the Woodinville Fire & Life Safety District, located in Washington State. The tests compared the fire development and temperature rise in typical unprotected living and bedrooms in contrast to fire test results in identical living and bedrooms that contained one UL Listed residential sprinkler, installed in accordance with NFPA 13 D, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes. The video demonstrates the effectiveness of properly installed and maintained residential sprinklers. This DVD is available at no charge to Authorities Having Jurisdiction. To request a copy please contact Regulatory Services at +1.800.595.9844 or by email at ulregulatory-services@us.ul.com. Additionally, the video and an executive summary of the live-fire exercise will be posted on Regulatory Services' Fire and Building web page at http://www.ul.com/regulators/index_main.cfm.



IFMA/NFPA Summer 2008 Regional Fire Code Development Committee Meetings

To encourage greater fire service participation in the NFPA Codes and Standards Making System, NFPA and IFMA has established four Regional Fire Code Development Committees. The members of these committees are from the fire service in your area, go to www.nfpa.org for a complete list of committee members. These committees have responsibility for developing proposals for changes to NFPA Codes and Standards, reviewing the Report on Proposals (ROP) and developing comments on proposed changes, and act as a liaison to their region's fire service for inputting changes to NFPA Codes and Standards.

Go to www.nfpa.org for a partial list of the Codes and Standards the committee will be acting on at their next meeting. We would encourage you or a representative to attend, if you are not able to attend and have comments please contact a committee member from your area.

Northcentral

July 8-9, 2008, Antlers Hilton, Colorado Springs, CO, starts at 8:30 am on July 8th and ends by 2:00 pm on July 9th.

Northeastern

July 29, 2008, Hilton Garden Inn, Manchester, NH, starts at 8:30 am and ends by 3:00 pm.

Southern

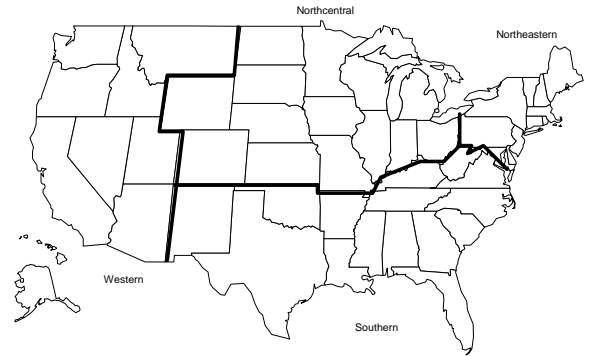
August 26-27, 2008, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque, NM, starts at 8:30 am on August 26th and ends by 2:00 pm on August 27th.

Western

August 5-6, 2008, Red Lion Hotel, Boise, ID, starts at 8:30 am on August 5th and ends by 2:00 pm on August 6th.

There is no cost to attend the meeting. You are responsible for all costs associated with your travel. These meetings are held twice yearly, the next meetings will take place in the Winter 2009.

If you are interested in attending, please complete the attached form and return by June 13, 2008. If you have any questions please contact Steven Sawyer at 617-984-7423 or ssawyer@nfpa.org.



IFMA/NFPA Regional Fire Code Development Committee Meeting Summer 2008 Attendance Form

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

E-mail: _____

I plan on attending the Summer 2008 Northcentral Northeastern Southern Western
Regional Fire Code Development Committee Meeting.

Please return by June 13, 2008 to:

Steven F. Sawyer
NFPA
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02269-9101
or Fax 617-984-7056



What's New at the Research Foundation?

Reports

Explosion Venting Data and Modeling Literature Review

This report documents a review of the international literature on dust explosion venting correlations and models including an indication of the scientific basis used for validation. Results of a review of the literature on the venting of enclosures with internal obstructions to provide a basis for committee consideration of a function to correlate the internal obstacle density to the venting requirements specified in NFPA 68 are also presented. Visit www.nfpa.org/foundation for a copy of the report.

Old Reports Now Available on Line

In celebration of our 25th birthday, all historical reports published by the Foundation are available for download.

New Projects

Through a grant from the National Fire Protection, the Foundation has initiated three new projects designed to provide data to support the needs of NFPA Technical Committees. They are:

Quantifying Smoke Barrier (Fire Stop) Performance

This project will entail a literature review on air leakage rates of smoke barriers and penetrations to smoke barriers to provide data to support the performance requirements in NFPA 101, Life Safety Code®.

Hazardous Materials Classification Literature Review

This project will review the technical literature to determine the basis for current hazardous material classifications and to identify what might appear to be inconsistencies or anomalies. Recommendations to refine the classification system or to suggest enhancements/changes will be presented.

Marina and Boatyard Indoor Rack Storage Sprinkler Protection Study

This project will review the technical literature, document loss history, and carry out hazard analyses of fires involving indoor rack storage of marine vessels in boatyards and marinas, with the intent of facilitating additional research to determine water demand, automatic sprinkler placement and other design requirements for the control and extinguishment of unwanted fires.

Symposium

Fire Protection and Safety: Preparing for the Next 25 Years

The Foundation celebrates its 25th birthday with a look to the

issues that will impact fire safety in the next generation.

Nationally recognized keynote speakers will challenge industry participants on the emerging demographic, technological and environmental issues that face us and industry panels will discuss our response. Mark your calendars for November 17, 18 at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC and contact the Foundation for more information.

Research Planning

Upholstered Furniture Fire Hazards

On January 30, 31 the Foundation and Underwriters Laboratories held a planning session to develop a technical approach to this issue. A report of the workshop is available from the Foundation; Underwriter's Laboratories is forming working groups to continue the dialogue.

High Volume/Low Speed Fans and Sprinkler Discharge

The Foundation facilitated a research planning meeting on January 15 on this topic, the product of which is a research plan which includes modeling, small and large scale testing to explore the impact of fans on sprinkler actuation times and discharge patterns. Funding for the program is being sought; if you are interested in participating please contact kalmand@nfpa.org.

Clean Agent Suppression of Class C Fires

The Foundation is developing a project to provide data to improve the technical basis of NFPA 2001 for extinguishing energized electrical equipment using clean agent extinguishing systems. A planning meeting for the project was held in January and resulted in a final research prospectus for which the Foundation is now seeking funding. If you are interested in participating, please contact cgrant@nfpa.org.

Fire Safety on Stages and Accessory Spaces in Places of Assembly

The goal of this research project is to produce a report that represents an accurate model and understanding of the hazards from fire that exist on stages today. Historical and empirical data will be assessed, as will the results of a computer modeling exercise on typical fire scenarios. The Foundation is seeking additional funding support to undertake this project; please contact kalmand@nfpa.org

Contact the Foundation at epeterson@nfpa.org for more information or to participate in Foundation programs.

**IFMA Merchandise
Order Form**

IFMA has a line of merchandise to promote IFMA. They include a 100% cotton white golf shirt and a blue nylon windshirt with hand pockets, both come with the IFMA logo on the left breast.



Golf Shirt - \$30.00 each, includes postage and handling

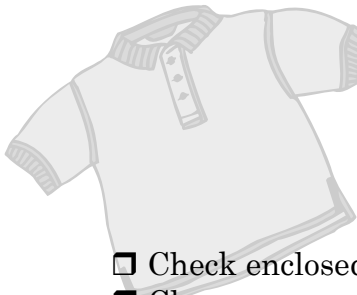
Size	Number	Cost	Total Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Small	_____	\$30.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	_____	\$30.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Large	_____	\$30.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> X-Large	_____	\$30.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> XX-Large	_____	\$30.00	_____

Lapel Pin - \$3.00 each, includes postage and handling

Number	Cost	Total Cost
_____	\$3.00	_____

Wind Shirt - \$40.00 each, includes postage and handling

Size	Number	Cost	Total Cost
<input type="checkbox"/> Small	_____	\$40.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	_____	\$40.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Large	_____	\$40.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> X-Large	_____	\$40.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> XX-Large	_____	\$40.00	_____



Grand Total: \$ _____

- Check enclosed; *please make payable to IFMA*
- Charge my credit card. MasterCard Visa American Express

Card #: _____ Card Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please mail or fax to:

IFMA
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02269
Fax 617-984-7056

CLSE Introduces New Seminar Series for AHJs

Convenient, Affordable Fire Sprinkler Seminars Now Available Online

The Center For Life Safety Education (CLSE), announces the expansion of its online courses to include a new training series for Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs). To aid in the contractor/AHJ relationship and the long-term reliability of future fire sprinkler installations, CLSE has developed a series of affordable, easy-to-access online audio seminars designed to assist inspectors and plan reviewers in gaining a more thorough understanding of fire sprinkler system installations – how they are designed, how they follow NFPA standards, and what to look for to ensure that they meet the goal of good fire protection.

The first three of this seminar series — Fire Sprinklers 101 – Introduction, Building Codes, Water Supplies; Fire Sprinklers 102 – Occupancy Classifications, Building Features, and Types of Systems and Sprinklers; and Fire Sprinklers 103 – Design Options — are now available online. Subsequent segments of this series are currently in development and will be available by late summer 2008.

Fire Sprinklers 101 begins the discussion of underlying principles and the assumed understanding of requisite issues by users of the sprinkler standards prior to applying them. It touches upon NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes*, and 13R, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height*, but the main focus is on requirements of NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*. Roughly 90 minutes in length, FS 101 focuses on three critical considerations — choosing the correct sprinkler standard, water supply and arrangement appropriate to the selected standard, and occupancy. The course addresses what the AHJ should look for from the building owner, the sprinkler layout technician/designer, and the fire sprinkler contractor; discusses the scope of NFPA 13; and discusses the use of formal and informal interpretations of NFPA standards.

Among the critical topics covered in Fire Sprinklers 102, Occupancy Classifications, Building Features, and Types of Systems & Sprinklers, is Acceptable Water Supplies. The requirements for water main supplies are found in NFPA 24, *Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*; however, the installation rules are reproduced in NFPA 13. Also discussed are required water supply duration (time) specified for Occupancy Hazard, Commodity Classification and Special Designs, respectively, and what types of water supplies are acceptable to meet the requirement. FS 102 also explains Occupancy Classifications and how they impact fire sprinkler spacing and the amount of water (density) required. The course discusses the evaluation of commodity classes, type of structure and ceiling type and how they impact design issues, as well as types of systems and where they are used and their limitations, and finally, types of sprinklers.

Fire Sprinklers 103 - Design Options covers what the AHJ should expect the owner to provide; discusses control versus suppression, design approach choices, density/area curves; and addresses restrictions, modifiers, area adjustments, as well as room design method applications and storage occupancies.

Fire Sprinklers 101, 102, and 103 were developed by industry veteran Robert “Bob” Caputo, NFPA 13 Installation Committee representative and well-known industry instructor, and Roland Huggins, P.E., Vice President of Engineering and Technical Services for The American Fire Sprinkler Association, with input from members of the International Fire Marshal’s Association.

The development of this latest seminar series is part of CLSE’s commitment to provide convenient, economical training materials to assist AHJs in better understanding fire sprinkler technology. Students download the audio presentation and accompanying slides to their computer for easy access. The first of this seminar series — Fire Sprinklers 101, 102, and 103 — are now available online at www.clse.org for \$15 without credit and \$20 with CEU/CPD credits.

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In addition to the Fire Sprinklers 101,102, 103 series, the following seminars are available at the CLSE Web site, and other seminars will be added throughout the year.

- Understanding Current Protection Methods for Storage Facilities
- Seismic Design for Fire Sprinkler Systems (NFPA 13 - 2002 Edition)
- Introduction to IBC and IFC Building Codes
- UL Listings and FM Approvals
- NFPA 13 Changes for the 2007 Edition
- 10 Common Design Mistakes & How to Avoid Them
- Residential Sprinkler Application
- Seismic Design for Fire Sprinkler Systems (NFPA 13 – 2007 Edition)

About CLSE

The Center for Life Safety Education is a nonprofit educational organization recognized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. CLSE provides continuing education and training for Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs) and offers college scholarships for degrees in fire protection. A Board of Directors oversees policy and program development, and funding for CLSE programs comes almost entirely from contributions and training fees. Because CLSE is a nonprofit educational organization, contributions are tax deductible.

New England Association of Fire Marshals to Bolster Fire Prevention Efforts with FM Global Grant

Local officials at the New England Association of Fire Marshals received a \$1,000 fire prevention grant recently from FM Global, a leading property insurer of the world's largest businesses based in Johnston, R.I.

FM Global representative Michael Spaziani presented the award to President Sue Hawksley and Vice President Patrick Tourville at the Auburn Elks Lodge located on 754 Southbridge Street. The award was used to purchase audio/visual equipment to help enhance the association's fire prevention education training efforts and related programs.

Because fire continues to be the leading cause of commercial and industrial property damage worldwide, FM Global has contributed millions of dollars to fire services and related agencies around the globe working to prevent fire for more than three decades. Locally, the company has awarded grants to a number of New England-based organizations.



“At FM Global, we believe the majority Vice President Pat Tourville (left) and President Sue Hawksley (right) receive a grant check from FM Global Manager Fire Service Programs Michael Spaziani (center) for the purchase of a projection screen.

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Florida Fireworks Update

By Bart Wright

The fireworks issue has been ignited now for many, many months following the conclusion of the 2007 legislative session. That session ended with a moderate, although potentially dangerous success for the fireworks industry. No doubt readers of this newsletter are poignantly aware of and have been following developments related to the issue. For those who may not quite be up to speed or that might like a brief recap, let's start there.

Dating back more years than most of us want to admit, misunderstanding about the use of fireworks in this state has been prolific. So much so that the properly titled "agricultural exemption" has been prostituted and now is called the "loop-hole". So widespread is the misrepresentation about the exemption, one Central Florida television station's reporter noted in his piece back in December and the previous July ('07) that signing the exemption form is a legal way around the consumer prohibition. Yikes, now I am really scared!

Exacerbating matters is the difficult and multi-tear structure of governance. We have influences in this state that include, state law, Florida Administrative Code (FAC), and in some cases, initiatives of local authorities (s.633; 791; FAC 5A-3; 69A-50). For a clear and undeniable account of the correct way to regulate fireworks, one need only look to the State Fire Marshals' web site at: http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/pdf/Fireworks_Enforcement_Guide_2004_text.pdf, for a downloadable brochure that can be reprinted and distributed.

Read some of NFPA's data to further underscore why as fire officials we simply have no latitude as we represent the public's interest, but to oppose the legalization of consumer fireworks.

At NFPA.org we read the following quotation: "*The Alliance to Stop Consumer Fireworks is a group of 22 health and safety organizations, coordinated by NFPA, that urges the public to avoid the use of any form of consumer fireworks and instead, to enjoy displays of fireworks conducted by trained professionals. Each July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks --devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death.*" This is not some unfounded partisan petition based upon one's sole dislike of consumer fireworks. No indeed, but it is a partisan appeal nonetheless – how so? In that it's made up of people, both professional and private that recognize the inherent dangers of fireworks. Those partisans put aside personal preferences and feelings and keep focused on what is clearly in the best interest of public health, safety and welfare. Why is that so important?

NFPA's report tells us the following:

- In 2004, fireworks started an estimated 1,600 structure fires and 600 vehicle fires which were reported to local fire departments.
- These fires resulted in 20 civilian injuries and \$21 million in direct property damage. There were no reported civilian deaths.
- In 2005, 10,800 people were treated at hospital emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries.
- More than half (54%) of 2005 fireworks injuries were burns. Contusions and lacerations were second (29%), and were twice as common as burns when the injury was to any part of the head or face, including the eye. Hands or fingers were the part of the body injured in 30% of the incidents. In 24% of the cases, the eye was involved; other parts of the face or head accounted for 20% of the injuries.

The untoward affects of consumer fireworks are endless as well as indiscriminant. People, homes, land areas both developed and undeveloped and yes, even live stock are subject to these affects. A horse named "Lucky" wasn't so lucky against the demon fireworks and this after surviving a hurricane from which no private industry benefited as is the case with the fireworks industry. For them it's all about benefit.

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Focusing back on the Florida specific nature of this issue, fire officials and subsequently law enforcement officials, simply must see this as the monster it is. How did this get to be such an issue? Well succinctly stated; it's the fault of our failure as an industry to properly understand and govern that which we are charged to govern. Now don't take that as a statement of fault-finding, the laws of this country are far too many and far too complex to get the simple grasp of things. Illustrating the truthfulness of that assertion, it might be argued that the most perfect law known to man only included some 600 or so laws and that was summoned up with only ten. Another way to get the impact of that is through the use of perspectives. Example:

PERSPECTIVE:

Pythagorean theorem: 24 words

The Lord's prayer: 66 words

Archimedes' Principle: 67 words

The Ten Commandments: 179 words

The Gettysburg Address: 286 words

The Declaration of Independence: 1,300 words

The US Government regulations on the sale of cabbage: 26,911 words

Yes indeed, perspectives. A recession is when you're out of work, a depression is when I'm out of work!

Therefore, understanding that perspectives affect the complexities of managing certain matters of public health, safety and welfare, it becomes clearer through the use of perspectives, notwithstanding the hyperbolic nature of the above illustration, that we have a formidable responsibility in front of us all. Capturing the ill-advisability of the Fireworks Task Force's recommendations then, I read the following quote into the public record at the final hearing in Apopka on January 9, 2008:

It has been said that the committee commissioned to design the horse brought the camel. This initiative has woefully ignored the obvious – consumer fireworks are currently illegal on a retail basis in Florida now & should remain so. Supporting evidence is undeniable & failure to acknowledge this by legislators, public officials & life safety managers is tantamount to facilitating harm to public safety health & welfare.

Economic impact to the fireworks industry, who not unlike the tobacco industry exists solely to profit from bringing devastating consequences to the public at large. We can't import toys from China with unappreciable levels of lead in its paint, but those same consumers can buy China's fireworks & indiscriminately blow off body parts, burn homes & land areas, & yes even forfeit life.

No amount of regulation of an industry that will absolutely maim & kill people, can justify what the fireworks industry has coerced this state's legislature to allow.

I implore all fire officials, fire chiefs and chief officers, any and all fire operations personnel, any and all public officials of any position to oppose the façade being orchestrated by the fireworks industry as the public's right to unbridled entertainment that harms no one. 10,800 visits to hospital emergency departments is not entertainment that harms no one!

Please visit NFPA and our own SFMO's website for the facts and let all public service personnel and especially all elected officials know that we are opposed as an industry to consumer fireworks in this state. Yes indeed, we do recognize that consumer fireworks are actually masquerading as fun, but are a danger to all.



U.S. Fire Administration Announces 2007 Outstanding Research Award Winners

The Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Fire Administration announced the four fire service executives who will receive the National Fire Academy's (NFA) 2007 Annual *Outstanding Research Awards*. This award recognizes Executive Fire Officer Program students for their research projects. The award winning projects will be presented at the 20th Executive Fire Officer Symposium on March 28-30, 2008, at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

"Our Executive Fire Officer Program is designed to result in action learning and result in tangible, real outcomes for the communities that our EFOP participants represent" said Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "The Applied Research Projects not only will assist the communities represented by their EFOP officers, but respond to the complex problems that confront all fire and emergency services organizations across the United States."

The Executive Fire Officers Program is designed to provide senior fire officers with a broad perspective on various and challenging facets of fire administration. Over a four-year period, the officers continue their professional development in four courses at the Academy, which are recommended for either graduate-level or upper division baccalaureate credit equivalency by the American Council on Education. Participants in the program are required to complete an applied research project in their organization six months after the completion of each of the four course areas.

"As a graduate of the program I know how challenging these projects are, but yet how important they can be. The diversity of topics chosen this year for the Outstanding Research Awards affirms the range of issues that our senior executives must deal with. I sincerely congratulate them for their excellence."

The 2007 Outstanding Research Award recipients are:

Executive Development Course: Awardee: Carl Blanksvard, Fire Inspector, Rock Springs Fire Department, Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Paper: *Identifying Requirements for Reporting Hazardous Materials Storage to Local Fire Departments*

Leading Community Risk Reduction Course Awardee: Steven Knight, Fire Lieutenant, St. Petersburg Fire Rescue Department, St. Petersburg, Florida.

ARP Paper: *Sink or Swim: Is St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue Doing All They Can to Prevent Drowning?*

Executive Analysis of Fire Service Operations in Emergency Management Course Awardee: David Kilbury, Battalion Commander, Cape Coral Fire & Rescue/EMS Department, Cape Coral, Florida.

Paper: *The Damage Assessment Process in Cape Coral, Florida following Hurricane Charley*

Executive Leadership Course Awardee: Steven A. Zwirn, Battalion Chief, Park City Fire Service District, Park City, Utah.

Paper: *Examining the 72 Consecutive Hour Work Limit*

To obtain a copy of the five projects Executive Fire Officer Outstanding Applied Research Awards 2007, contact the U.S. Fire Administration, Executive Fire Officer Program, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Maryland, 21727; or call (800) 238-3358, extension 1639, and leave your request on voice mail. You can also obtain a copy of the individual outstanding research projects from the U.S. Fire Administration's web site at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov>.

IFMA 2008 Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee consisting of Scott Adams, Chair; John Robison; and Ron Farr, have submitted the 2008 Nominating Committee Report.

President - Jimmy Hill—Los Angeles City, CA

First Vice President – Ed Altizer—State of VA

Second Vice President – R.T. Leicht—State of DE

Secretary – Steve Peavey—Altamonte Springs, FL

Board Term Expires 2010

Gary Santoro – Wethersfield, CT

Ken Tyree – Charleston, WV

Board Term Expires 2009

Jeff Donahue – Polk County Fire District Number 1, OR

Candidates other than those named by the Nominating Committee may be nominated by petition of 10 members of the Association provided such petitions are received by the Executive Secretary no less than five and no more than 45 days after publication of the Nominating Committee's nominations. All nominees for office must be members of the Association.

The business meeting will take place on June 4th in Las Vegas, NV.

One Year After Deadly Explosion at WV Convenience Store CSB Completes Testing of Key Valve Agency Continues Its Examination of Safety Practices and Emergency Response

On the first anniversary of a fatal propane explosion at a West Virginia convenience store, the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) today announced that testing has been completed on a key propane valve and outlined other issues that will be examined in the final investigation report.

The accident on January 30, 2007, at the Little General Store in Ghent killed four people and injured six others when propane gas was suddenly released through a liquid withdrawal valve during a changeover between two propane tanks. A volunteer firefighter and an EMT who responded to reports of the leak were among those killed when the propane cloud ignited, destroying the store.

The CSB has examined and tested the valve and found that on the day of the accident the valve was stuck in an open position.

Investigators are continuing their examination of regulatory and code compliance as well as West Virginia's gas safety practices.

'This investigation is about more than figuring out what went wrong with the valve, it is about getting to the root cause of this accident and preventing a similar incident from occurring,' said CSB Lead Investigator Jeffrey Wanko, P.E., C.S.P.

On the day of the accident, a technician working for Appalachian Heating (a company that had a business arrangement with Thompson Gas) was preparing to switch propane service to Thompson Gas from a previous propane vendor, Ferrellgas. As part of the process, the technician was to transfer propane from the Ferrellgas tank to the newly installed one.

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The Ferrellgas tank was located against the store's outside rear wall. The Thompson Gas tank was located about ten feet away. While preparing for the transfer, propane began flowing out of the liquid withdrawal valve on the Ferrellgas tank located next to the store.

Lead Investigator Jeffrey Wanko said, 'The placement of the tank facilitated gas entering the building and the ignition of the flammable gas and contributed to the high number of injuries and fatalities.' The tank did not comply with National Fire Protection Association or Occupation Safety and Health Administration siting specifications which require that a propane tank be placed 10 feet from the building.

Investigators believe personnel involved in the installation of a new propane tank at the store removed a metal screw cap on the liquid withdrawal valve, in preparation for removing propane from the old tank. The malfunctioning withdrawal valve leaked, resulting in an uncontrollable release. The technician was unable to stop the flow and placed a 9-1-1 emergency call at 10:40 a.m.

CSB investigators found that in common with many states, West Virginia does not require technicians who install propane tanks to receive any formal training. The CSB is also examining the practices of 9-1-1 emergency call centers to provide basic emergency instructions for flammable gas incidents such as proper evacuation procedures. In this instance, Little General employees stayed in the building during the gas release.

The CSB's final report and safety recommendations are expected to be complete in mid-2008.

The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial chemical accidents. The agency's board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry standards, and safety management systems.

The Board does not issue citations or fines but does make safety recommendations to plants, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. Visit our website, www.csb.gov.

For more information, contact Director of Public Affairs Dr. Daniel Horowitz, (202) 261-7613, or Public Affairs Specialists Hillary Cohen at (202) 261-3601, or Jennifer Jones at (202) 261-3603.

NFPA report identifies cooking as leading cause of home fires

Attention to safety can prevent nearly all cooking fires

Cooking was involved in an estimated 146,400 home structure fires in the United States in 2005, according to a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) report. Cooking fires accounted for 40 percent of the home structure fires in 2005, and these cooking fires resulted in 480 deaths, 4,690 injuries, and \$876 million in direct property damage.

According to *Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment* report, cooking equipment left unattended was a factor in ignition in 38 percent of home structure fires for 2002-2005. Unattended cooking was the leading contributing factor in home cooking fires, followed by combustibles too close to a heat source, and equipment being unintentionally turned on or not turned off.

Cooking was also the leading cause of home fire injuries, accounting for 36 percent of home structure fire injuries in 2005. These injuries were especially likely to occur during attempts to fight the fire. In home structure fires involving

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California Fire Chiefs, FPO Section Northern and Southern Divisions Become IFMA Chapters



Please welcome the California Fire Chiefs, FPO Section Southern Division as IFMA Chapter 27 and California Fire Chiefs, FPO Section Northern Division as Chapter 28. IFMA First Vice President Jimmy Hill presented them their chapter charters during their Annual FPO Workshop on March 10-14, 2008 in Buellton, CA.

Pictured: IFMA First Vice President Jimmy Hill (left) present new chapter charters to President Kendal Kraus (center) South Cal FPO and President Morgana Yahnke (right) North Cal FPO.

(Continued from page 19)

cooking equipment for 2002-2005, 59 percent of injuries occurred while fighting the fire, compared to 35 percent of injuries in all other types of home structure fires.

“Cooking results in more home fires and fire injuries in the United States each year than anything else and nearly all of these fires can be prevented with a little extra care,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA’s vice president of communications. “Simply paying attention when you are cooking will keep your dinner and everything else from getting burned.”

Home cooking fires peak between 5 and 7 p.m. Extra cooking, as on major U.S. holidays, often means extra home cooking fires. Typically, more cooking fires occur on Thanksgiving than on any other day of the year.

NFPA offers the following safety tips.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you’re cooking.
- To prevent cooking fires, you have to be alert. You won’t be if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.
- Keep anything that can catch fire – potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, boxes, food packaging, towels or curtains – away from your stovetop.
- Keep the stovetop, burners and oven clean.
- Keep pets off cooking surfaces and nearby countertops to prevent them from knocking things onto the burner.
- Wear short, close fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and can catch fire if it comes in contact with a gas flame or electric burner.



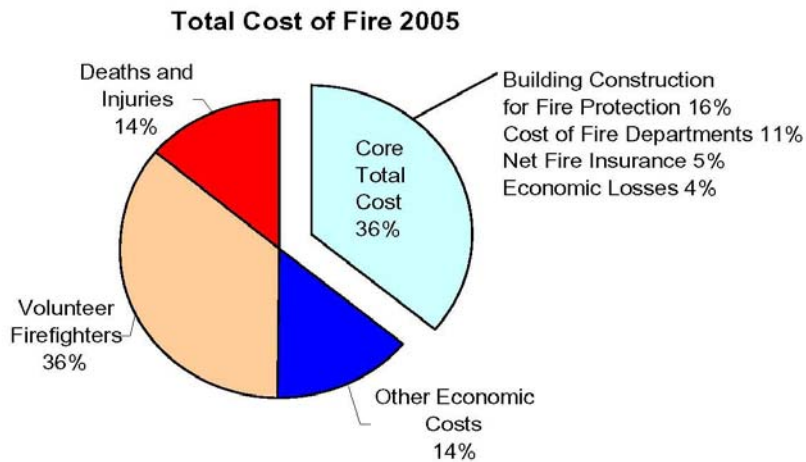


One-Stop Data Shop
 Fire Analysis and Research Division
 One Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169
 Email: osds@nfpa.org
 www.nfpa.org

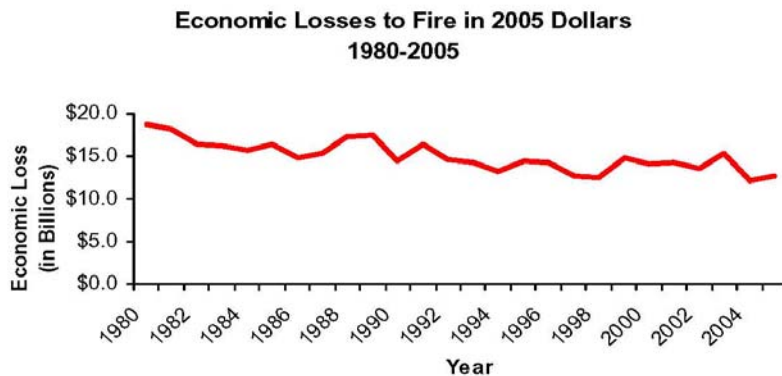


The Total Cost of Fire in 2005

In 2005, the total cost of fire was an estimated \$267-294 billion, or 2-2½ percent of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP). The total cost of fire includes the losses that fire causes, such as lives lost, medical treatments, property damage, business interruption, etc.; and the cost of provisions to prevent or mitigate the cost of fire, such as fire departments, insurance, and fire protection equipment and construction.



In 2005, property losses to fire (direct and indirect, reported and unreported) totaled an estimated **\$12.7 billion**.

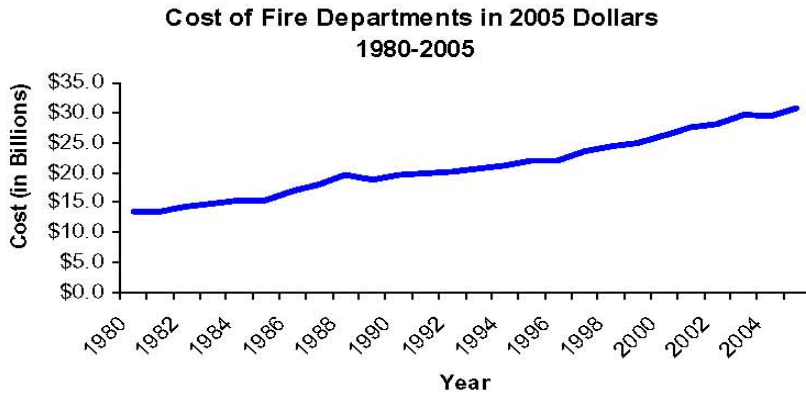


FACT: Fires in 2005 caused \$10.7 billion in direct property damage, 84% of economic loss that year.

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Career fire departments¹ cost **\$30.7 billion** in 2005.



FACT: Part of cost increase is due to shift from volunteer to career fire departments.

Building construction for fire protection cost an estimated **\$45.9 billion** in 2005.



FACT: Building construction costs include passive protection, such as compartmentation, and active protection, such as detection and sprinkler systems.

¹A fire department is a public or private organization that provides fire prevention, fire suppression, and associate emergency and non-emergency services to a jurisdiction such as a county, municipality, or organized fire district.

Source: *The Total Cost of Fire in the United States*, John R. Hall Jr., NFPA, MA 02169, February 2008.

Virginia Joins the Ranks of States who have Passed RCIP Legislation

Virginia Governor Timothy M. Kaine has signed a fire-safe cigarette bill into law. "Ensuring that the cigarettes sold in Virginia meet a minimum fire safety standard is a commonsense way to prevent fires and protect public safety," he said in a news release. The Virginia law goes into effect January 1, 2010. Governor Kaine signed both bills in the first week in March.

Passing with no negative votes in either chamber, Senate Bill 208 sponsored by Senator Walter Stosch and House Bill 228 sponsored by Delegates John Cosgrove and C. Charles Caputo require that cigarettes manufactured or sold in the Commonwealth meet a performance standard for fire safety.

"There are no guarantees with fire," said Ed Rhodes, legislative consultant for the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association and Virginia Fire Prevention Association. "I feel very confident that it will definitely save lives and lessen the number of injuries." Ed was instrumental in working with the General Assembly and consumer groups to achieve passage of the legislation. The information on the identical bills may be accessed at <http://leg1.state.va.us/lis.htm>.

Unprecedented gathering of over 170 experts from across the country to meet in Washington, DC, to develop a national strategy for fire loss prevention

Representatives from IFMA took part in national forum

Fire safety experts from across the nation convened in Washington, DC, on March 31 and April 1, 2008, to develop a national strategic agenda to reduce the loss of life and property from fire, which claims an average of almost 4,000 lives and \$12.7 billion in property damage each year. This meeting is a key part of a year-long project

"This project is unprecedented in scope and depth," said project manager Jim Crawford, fire marshal for the city of Vancouver, Washington. "We have assembled an incredible array of experts from a diversity of fields to help craft a national plan to reduce the loss of life and property from fire. Through our collective efforts we will develop strategies that will save lives, now and for the future."

Funded through a grant from the Department of Homeland Security Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program awarded to the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) - USA Branch, attendees at the Washington forum will include experts from across the United States as well as IFE representatives from Australia and England which have innovative and cutting-edge programs that have significantly reduced fire deaths up to 50%. Presentations on international practices will be given by the head of community services for the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Services in the United Kingdom and the chief executive officer for the Country Fire Authority in Australia.

At the conclusion of the Forum, Bonnie Woodruff spoke about the vital importance of improving fire safety across the nation. In 1995, Mrs. Woodruff's only son, Ben, was killed in a fraternity fire at the University of North Carolina on graduation day and Mother's Day. Since that time she has become an outspoken advocate for fire safety, most recently joining with other mothers who have lost children in campus fires in the Common Voices coalition.

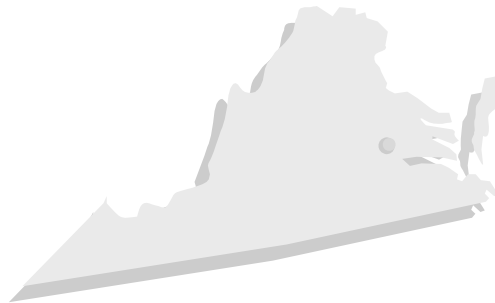
Vision 20/20 is a project funded by the Department of Homeland Security Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program. More information is available at www.strategicfire.org.

Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office to Have New Home

On July 1st, 2008 the Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office will officially move to the Secretariat of Public Safety in Virginia. The Office will become a branch of the Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) after 30 years in the Department of Housing and Community Development. For many years prior to that, the Office was located in the State Corporation Commission.

The Virginia Fire Service led the effort in working with Governor Timothy Kaine and his staff to accomplish the move. Legislation for the relocation passed the 2007 Virginia General Assembly and Governor Kaine signed into law changes in the Code of Virginia in March of 2007 with an enactment date of July 1, 2008.

In part, the move was to increase the visibility and advocacy role of the office and provide greater opportunities to partner with other fire service organizations across the Commonwealth and the nation to better address the continuing fire problem.



NIST Launches Fire.gov Website

The U.S. Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) launched "Fire.gov" to share the Institute's efforts to develop and apply technology, measurements, and standards to better understand fire behavior, control and prevention, and to improve operations, equipment, fire suppression, fire investigations, and disaster response.

In addition to investigation reports and research summaries, the site offers an overview video of all of its available training videos, including CDs and DVDs of flashovers, ignition propensities of materials, etc. Users can subscribe to the "Fire.gov" quarterly newsletter. The Winter 2008 newsletter included an article on challenges to the ESS from ethanol and other alternative fuels, and one on tactical decision aids for first responders.

Areas of the website address specific topics, e.g., turnout gear, Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) devices, thermal imaging, structural collapse, and firefighter training. For each topical area, NIST projects are explained, research report citations are listed, and links to software tools (where available) are provided. NIST also continues to develop computer-based tools to improve training opportunities while lowering the cost and risk of death and injury. The tools, NIST Fire Dynamic Simulator (FDS) and Smokeview, will be used as a basis for developing a virtual-reality-based firefighting training tool. Up-to-date information about NIST research on methods and technologies intended to save responder lives, inform physical asset procurement decisions, and improve operations is available at <http://www.fire.gov/default.htm>.

U.S. Fire Administration Adopts Official Position on Residential Fire Sprinklers

U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade's Remarks to Graduates of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program Attending the 20th Annual Symposium

As the U.S. Fire Administrator, it is my job to direct programs implemented to reduce the loss of life and property due to fire and related emergencies, through leadership, advocacy, coordination, and support. In that role, I would like to address members of the Fire Service, homeowners, home builders, and other interested parties about the powerful protection from fire provided by residential fire sprinkler systems and why all homes should be equipped with them.

Every day the U.S. Fire Administration collects news stories from our Nation's media that deal with the tragic loss of life from fire in American homes. In January and February alone, over 300 people lost their lives in home fires. Commercial buildings such as schools, office buildings, and factories have benefited from fire protection sprinkler systems for over a century. But what about our homes? Although we protect our businesses from fire, what actions do we take to protect our families, our homes, and our possessions from fire? Millions of Americans have installed smoke alarms in their homes in the past few years, but a smoke alarm can only alert the occupants to a fire in the house. It cannot contain or extinguish a fire. Residential fire sprinkler systems can.

In the year 2006, 19% of all reported fires occurred in one- and two-family structures; however, these fires caused 66% of the fire deaths in the United States – over 2,100 people died in their own homes. In addition, approximately 25 firefighter deaths occur during responses to residential fires each year. Despite the fact that these statistics represent improvement over the last 30 years, they continue to be appalling. Such losses are unacceptable.

Since the 1970's, the U.S. Fire Administration has promoted research studies, development, testing, and demonstrations of residential fire sprinkler systems and smoke alarms. These efforts, in concert with heroic efforts by many organizations and individuals, have resulted in the adoption of requirements to install smoke alarms in all new residential construction. In many jurisdictions, the retrofit of smoke alarms into existing residential occupancies has been mandated. Together, these initiatives have saved many lives.

The results have been different, however, with respect to residential fire sprinkler systems; only a few jurisdictions have mandated their installation in new construction, and none have mandated retrofit of existing one- and two-family housing stock. The Center for Fire Research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology has studied the impact of both smoke alarms and sprinklers in residential occupancies, and estimates that:

1. When fire sprinklers alone are installed in a residence, the chances of dying in a fire are reduced by 69%.
2. When smoke alarms alone are installed in a residence, a reduction in the death rate of 63% can be expected.
3. When both smoke alarms and fire sprinklers are present in a home, the risk of dying in a fire is reduced by 82%, when compared to a residence without either.

Much has been written about the reduction of residential fire deaths due to improvements in building codes and the installation of smoke alarms. Without a doubt, these have had a substantial impact on the home fire problem. The annual number of fire deaths in residential occupancies continues to decline. The trend in fire death data, however, shows that the number of residential fire deaths is declining at a slower rate over the past 10 years than it did in the period 1977 through 1995.

Full-scale fire tests in residential settings suggest one explanation for this slowing in the rate of decline in residential fire deaths. The research shows that the available time to escape a flaming fire in a home has decreased significantly from 17 minutes in 1975 to only 3 minutes in 2003. This decrease in time to escape has been attributed to the difference in fire growth rates of home furnishings. In short, a fire involving modern furnishings grows faster than a fire involving older furnishings. The practical impact of this finding is clear – smoke alarms alone may not provide a warning in time

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for occupants to escape a home fire.

We at USFA have carefully reviewed the data and the relevant research and it is our official position that all Americans should be protected against death, injury, and property loss resulting from fire in their residences. All homes should be equipped with smoke alarms and automatic fire sprinklers, and families should prepare and practice emergency escape plans. The Fire Administration fully supports all efforts to reduce the tragic toll of fire losses in this nation by advocating these actions, including the proposed changes to the International Residential Code that would require automatic sprinklers in all new residential construction.

Only fire sprinklers can detect fire AND automatically control it – affording families the time to make a safe escape and protect valuables and property. Please join with us in helping to save lives by supporting the installation of residential fire sprinklers in all American homes.

For more information on increasing the awareness of the benefits and availability of residential fire sprinkler systems, please visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov and the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition's Web site at www.homefiresprinkler.org.

Morgantown, WV Fire Prevention Program

By Robbie Robertson

Morgantown, the home of West Virginia University, has 28,000 residents with a fully career fire department of 47 personnel. An additional 28,000 persons, students at the University, live there during the school year. It has a Class 3 ISO rating. At one time the city had the reputation of being the sofa burning capital of America due to post game activities of students. It no longer has this reputation.

Faced with a funding request for additional fire suppression personnel,, a city council committee recommended hiring two additional fire inspectors, bringing the total to four. These individuals were selected for their interest in fire prevention rather than their rank in department. The council committee felt that aggressive code enforcement, plus fire safety education, plan review and thorough fire investigation would probably save more lives and property than additional fire suppression personnel.

An aggrieved property owner who felt he was being “picked on” by city fire inspectors resulted in an evaluation of the effectiveness of the three pronged program after it had been in effect for three years. Not only did Morgantown surpass all other cities of like population category in West Virginia in fire code enforcement activities, but no fire deaths or injuries occurred during the three years included in the survey. An average of over 8,000 inspections are made per year, with over 3,000 violations detected, most of which are corrected.

Plan reviews total over 250 per year and over 6,000 attend public education programs each year. These programs range from pre-school to offices and industrial plants to senior centers. Training and certification requirements are quite stringent for fire inspectors, all of whom have fire suppression backgrounds and are subject to fire ground duties during major emergencies. Inspectors issue citations that can result in fines being imposed. A major strength of the inspection program is the goal of obtaining compliance with applicable codes through detailed knowledge of applicable code provisions. For example, domestic sprinkler heads are permitted in lieu of one hour fire separation for heating plants in rooming houses.

The city averages less than ten structural fires per year. Inspectors are assigned inspections based upon the occupancy

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USFA Releases New Firefighter Autopsy Protocol

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has issued an updated version of the *Firefighter Autopsy Protocol* manual. The Protocol has been extensively revised since the original 1994 edition. The new *Firefighter Autopsy Protocol* manual addresses additional areas of information and considers emerging issues and new technologies for conducting autopsies.

"The updated *Firefighter Autopsy Protocol* manual is intended to advance the analysis and understanding of the causes of firefighter deaths and contribute to the future development of improved health and safety standards, operational procedures, and technology for our nation's firefighters," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "With the continued development of our understanding to the causes of firefighter fatalities, we can all work toward preventing them in the future."

Each year an average of one hundred firefighters lose their lives. This protocol provides specific sections dealing with general background related to the conducting of autopsies as well as additional information where current autopsy practices may be supplemented to ascertain causes and mechanisms of firefighter fatalities. It includes discussion on the examination of personal protective clothing as well as toxicological evaluations. It is recommended that autopsies be performed for all firefighter fatalities where a line-of-duty death has occurred.

To download the *Firefighter Autopsy Protocol* and for further information about this project, please visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/research/safety/

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of property damage is preventable—not inevitable—and we are pleased to make funding available to organizations, like the New England Association of Fire Marshals, that share the same philosophy," said Michael Spaziani, manager of FM Global's Fire Prevention Grant Program. "After all, it's much better to prevent a disaster than to recover from one."

FM Global's highly competitive Fire Prevention Grant Program (www.fmglobal.com/grants) awards grants quarterly to fire departments—as well as national, state, regional, local and community organizations worldwide—that best demonstrate a need for funding, where dollars can have the greatest impact on preventing, preparing for and controlling fire in the community.

For nearly two centuries, many of the world's largest organizations have worked with FM Global to develop cost-effective property insurance and engineering solutions to protect their business operations from fire, natural disasters and other types of property risk. The company, ranked #578 among FORTUNE Magazine's largest companies in America, employs 4,700 people in its 52 offices worldwide, which serve more than one out of every three FORTUNE 1000 companies operating in nearly 140 countries—all of which benefit from its superior insurance capacity, risk assessment services and scientifically proven property loss prevention engineering expertise and research. With US\$6.3 billion in policyholder surplus, FM Global is rated A+ (Superior) by A.M. Best and 'AA' (Very Strong) by Fitch Ratings and was named "Best Global Property Insurer" and "Best Property Insurer – North America" by *Global Finance* magazine.



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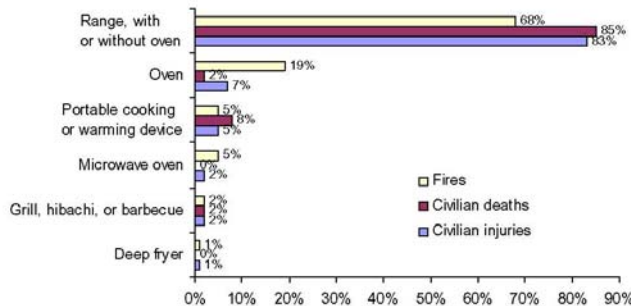


Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment

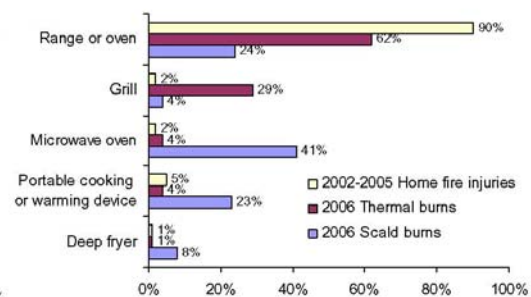
In 2005, U.S. fire departments responded to **146,400** home¹ structure fires that involved cooking equipment in 2005. These fires caused 480 civilian fire deaths, 4,690 civilian fire injuries, \$876 million in direct property damage.

- Cooking equipment fires are the leading cause of home structure fires and associated civilian injuries.
- Ranges accounted for the largest share (67%) of home cooking fire incidents in 2005. Ovens accounted for 19%.
- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires.
- In 2002-2005, unattended cooking equipment was the leading factor contributing to home cooking fires (38%), deaths (45%), injuries (46%) and direct property damage (37%).
- Twelve percent of the fire occurred when something that could catch fire was too close to the equipment.
- Three-fifths (59%) of reported home cooking fire injuries occurred when victims tried to fight the fire themselves.
- In a 1999 study of range fires by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 83% of frying fires began in the first 15 minutes of cooking.

Home Cooking Equipment Fires by Equipment Involved, 2005



Reported Fire Injuries and Emergency Room Treated Burns Involving Cooking Equipment



- Only 1% of cooking fires began with clothing but these clothing fires caused 12% of the cooking fire deaths.
- One out of every five cooking fires that began with clothing resulted in a death.
- In 2006, hospital emergency rooms treated around 29,850 thermal burns and 8,460 burns caused by cooking equipment. Ranges accounted for 62% of these thermal burns and grills 28%. Microwaves accounted for 41% of the scald burns.

¹ Homes are dwellings, duplexes, manufactured homes, apartments, townhouses, rowhouses and condominiums.

Source: *Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment*, John R. Hall, Jr., NFPA, Quincy, MA, February 2008
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NFPA 600, *Standard on Industrial Fire Brigades*; and NFPA 601, *Standard for Security Services in Fire Loss Prevention*.

The **Committee on LP-Gases at Utility Gas Plants** is seeking members in all interest categories except users. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 59, *Utility LP-Gas Plant Code*.

The **Committee on Manufacture of Organic Coatings** is seeking members in all interest categories except special expert. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 35, *Standard for the Manufacture of Organic Coatings*.

The **Committee on Manufactured Housing** is seeking members in all interest categories except enforcing authority. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 501, *Manufactured Housing*; NFPA 501A, *Manufactured Home Installation, Sites, and Communities*; and NFPA 225, *Manufactured Housing Installation*.

The **Committee on Marine Fire-Fighting Vessels** is seeking new members in all interest categories except manufacturers. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1925, *Standard on Marine Fire Fighting Vessels*.

The **Committee on Marine Terminals** is seeking new members in all interest categories except special interest. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 307, *Standard for the Construction and Fire Protection of Marine Terminals, Piers, and Wharves*.

The **Committee on Merchant Vessels** is seeking members from the commercial fishing industry and towing vessel industry. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 301, *Code for Safety to Life from Fire on Merchant Vessels*.

The **Committee on Mining Facilities** is seeking new members in the user category, specifically the metal mining industry. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 120, *Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Coal Mines*; and NFPA 122, *Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Metal/Nonmetal Mining and Metal Mineral Processing Facilities*.

The **National Electrical Code Panel 4** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Panel is responsible for Articles 225, 230, 690, 692, and 705 of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*®.

The **National Electrical Code Panel 13** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Panel is responsible for Articles 445, 455, 480, 695, 700, 701, 702, and 708 of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*®.

The **Committee on Oxygen Enriched Atmospheres** is seeking new members in all interest categories except for special expert and research and testing. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 53, *Recommended Practice on Materials, Equipment and Systems Used in Oxygen-Enriched Atmospheres*.

The **Committee on Pre-Incident Planning** is seeking new members in all interest categories. The Committee is responsible for NFPA 1620, *Recommended Practice for Pre-Incident Planning*.

The **Committee on Public Fire Educator Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all interest categories except labor and user. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1035, *Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator*.

The **Committee on Public Safety Telecommunicator Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1061, *Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Safety Telecommunicator*.

The Committee on Record Protection is seeking members in the all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 232, *Standard for the Protection of Records*.

The **Committee on Road Tunnel and Highway Fire Protection** is seeking members in the following categories: enforcers, researchers, and users. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 502, *Standard for Road Tunnels, Bridges, and Other Limited Access Highways*.

The **Committee on Shipbuilding, Repair, and Lay-Up** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 312, *Standard for Fire Protection of Vessels During Construction, Conversion, Repair, and Lay-Up*.

The **Committee on Signaling Systems—Public Emergency Service Communication** is seeking members for the installer/maintainer category. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1221, *Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Emergency Services Communications Systems*.

The **Committee on Signaling Systems—Public Fire Reporting Systems** is seeking members in all categories except manufacturers. This Committee is responsible for chapters in NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm Code*®.

The **Committee on Solvent Extraction Plants** is seeking members in all interest categories except special expert. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 36, *Standard for Solvent Extraction Plants*.

The **Committee on Special Operations Protective Clothing and Equipment** is seeking members in the following interest categories: enforcer, labor, user, and consumer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1951, *Standard on Protective Ensemble for Technical Rescue Incidents*; NFPA 1975, *Station/Work Uniforms for Fire and Emergency Services*; and NFPA 1983, *Standard on Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services*.

The **Committee on Static Electricity** is seeking members in the categories of enforcer, insurance, and research/testing. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 77, *Recommended Practice on Static Electricity*.

The **Committee on Tank Leakage and Repair Safeguards** is seeking members in the interest categories of equipment manufacturers and insurance. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 326, *Standard for the Safeguarding of Tanks and Containers for Entry, Cleaning, or Repair*; and NFPA 329, *Recommended Practice for Handling Releases of Flammable and Combustible Liquids and Gases*.

The **Committee on Telecommunications** is seeking members in the user category, specifically from the cable industry. The Committee is responsible for NFPA 76, *Standard for the Fire Protection of Telecommunications Facilities*.

The **Committee on Textile and Garment Care Processes** is seeking members in all interest categories except users and manufacturers. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 32, *Standard for Drycleaning Plants*.

The **Committee on Transportation of Flammable Liquids** is seeking members in the interest categories of enforcer, insurance, and manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 385, *Standard for Tank Vehicles for Flammable and Combustible Liquids*.

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NFPA Technical Committee's Call for Members

The **Committee on Aerosol Extinguishing Technology** is seeking members in all interest categories except special experts. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 2010, *Standard for Fixed Aerosol Fire Extinguishing Systems*.

The **Committee on Aircraft Maintenance Operations** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 410, *Standard on Aircraft Maintenance*.

The **Committee on Animal Housing Facilities** is seeking members in all interest categories, except user. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 150, *Standard on Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities*.

The **Committee on Boiler Combustion System Hazards—Fluidized Bed Boilers** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for chapters in NFPA 85, *Boiler and Combustion Systems Hazards Code*.

The **Committee on Boiler Combustion System Hazards—Fundamentals** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for chapters in NFPA 85, *Boiler and Combustion Systems Hazards Code*.

The **Committee on Boiler Combustion System Hazards—Pulverized Fuel Systems** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer and users. This Committee is responsible for chapters in NFPA 85, *Boiler and Combustion Systems Hazards Code*.

The **Committee on Boiler Combustion System Hazards—Single Burner Boilers** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for chapters in NFPA 85, *Boiler and Combustion Systems Hazards Code*.

The **Committee on Boiler Combustion System Hazards—Stoker Operations** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturers and users. This Committee is responsible for stoker material in NFPA 85, *Boiler and Combustion Systems Hazards Code*.

The **Committee on Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Venting Systems for Heat-Producing Appliances** is seeking members in the interest categories of installer/maintainer, enforcing authority, and consumer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 211, *Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances*.

The **Committee on Combustible Metals and Metal Dusts** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer and user. The Committee is responsible for NFPA 484, *Standard for Combustible Metals*.

The **Committee on Commissioning Fire Protection Systems** is seeking members with a specific interest in both smoke management and emergency power supply.

The Committee on **Dry and Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 17, *Standard for Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems*; and NFPA 17A, *Standard for Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems*.

The **Committee on Electrical Equipment in Chemical Atmospheres** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 496, *Standard for Purged and Pressurized Enclosures for Electrical Equipment*; NFPA 497, *Recommended Practice for the Classification of Flammable Liquids, Gases, or Vapors and of Hazardous (Classified) Locations for Electrical Installations in Chemical Process Areas*; and NFPA 499, *Recommended Practice for the Classification of Combustible Dusts and of Hazardous (Classified) Locations for Electrical Installations in Chemical Process Areas*.

The **Committee on Electrical Equipment Evaluation** is seeking members in all interest categories.

The **Committee on Electrical Equipment of Industrial Machinery** is seeking members in all interest categories except users or manufacturers. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 79, *Electrical Standard for Industrial Machinery*.

The Committee on **Electrical Equipment Maintenance** is seeking members in all interest categories except user. The committee is responsible for NFPA 70B, *Recommended Practice for Electrical Equipment Maintenance*.

The **Committee on Electrical Systems Maintenance** is seeking members in all interest categories except special experts. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 73, *Electrical Inspection Code for Existing Dwellings*.

The **Committee on Electronic Safety Equipment** is seeking members in the following interest categories: enforcer, labor, user and consumer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1800, *Standard on Electronic Safety Equipment for Emergency Services* (Proposed); and NFPA 1982, *Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS)*.

The **Committee on Emergency Medical Services Protective Clothing and Equipment** is seeking members in the following interest categories: enforcer, labor and user. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1999, *Standard on Protective Clothing for Emergency Medical Operations*.

The **Committee on Emergency Services Organization Risk Management** is seeking individuals in all categories except enforcer and special expert. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1201, *Standard for Providing Emergency Services to the Public* and NFPA 1250, *Recommended Practice in Emergency Service Organization Risk Management*.

The **Committee on Emergency Vehicle Mechanic Technicians Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1071, *Standard for Emergency Vehicle Technician Professional Qualifications*.

The **Committee on Explosives** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturers. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 495, *Explosive Materials Code* and NFPA 498, *Standard for Safe Havens and Interchange Lots for Vehicles Transporting Explosives*.

The **Committee on Exposure Fire Protection** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturers and special experts. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 80A, *Recommended Practice for Protection of Buildings from Exterior Fire Exposures*.

The **Committee on Fire Department Rescue Tools** is seeking members in all categories except manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1936, *Standard on Powered Rescue Tools*.

The **Committee on Fire Department Safety Technician Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all interest categories.

The **Committee on Fire Hose** is seeking members from all interest categories except manufacturers and users. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1961, *Standard on Fire Hose*; NFPA 1962, *Standard for the Inspection, Care, and Use of Fire Hose, Couplings, and Nozzles and the Ser-*

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vice *Testing of Fire Hose*; NFPA 1963, *Standard for Fire Hose Connections*; and NFPA 1964, *Standard for Spray Nozzles*.

The **Committee on Fire Officer Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1021, *Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications*.

The **Committee on Fire Risk Assessment Methods** is seeking members in all interest categories except special experts. The Committee is responsible for NFPA 550, *Guide to the Fire Safety Concepts Tree* and NFPA 551, *Guide for the Evaluation of Fire Risk Assessments*.

The **Committee on Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all interest categories except enforcers, special experts, and users. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1041, *Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications*.

The **Committee on Flash Fire Protective Garments** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer.

This Committee is responsible for NFPA 2112, *Standard on Flame-Resistant Garments for Protection of Industrial Personnel Against Flash Fire*; and NFPA 2113, *Standard on Selection, Care, Use, and Maintenance of Flame-Resistant Garments for Protection of Industrial Personnel Against Flash Fire*.

The **Committee on Flammable and Combustible Liquids—Fundamentals** is seeking members in the interest category of enforcer. The Technical Committee is responsible for portions of NFPA 30, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code*.

The **Committee on Garages and Parking Structures** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer, special experts, and users. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 88A, *Standard for Parking Structures*.

The **Committee on Handling and Conveying of Dusts, Vapors, and Gases** is seeking members in all interest categories except special experts.

This Committee is responsible for NFPA 91, *Standard for Exhaust Systems for Air Conveying of Vapors, Gases, Mists, and Noncombustible Particulate Solids*; NFPA 654, *Standard for the Prevention of Fire and Dust Explosions from the Manufacturing, Processing, and Handling of Combustible Particulate Solids*; and NFPA 655, *Standard for Prevention of Sulfur Fires and Explosions*.

The **Committee on Hazard and Risk of Contents and Furnishings** is seeking members in the interest categories of enforcer, consumer, insurance, fire service, education, and manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 555, *Guide on Methods for Evaluating Potential for Room Flashover*; proposed NFPA 556, *Guide for Identification and Development of Mitigation Strategies for Fire Hazard to Occupants of Passenger Road Vehicles*; and proposed NFPA 557, *Standard Fire Loads for Engineering Design of Structural Fire Resistance in Buildings*.

The **Committee on Hazardous Materials Protective Clothing and Equipment** is seeking members in the following interest categories: consumer, enforcer, labor, and user. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1991, *Standard on Vapor-Protective Ensembles for Hazardous Materials Emergencies*; NFPA 1992, *Standard on Liquid Splash-Protective Ensembles and Clothing for Hazardous Materials Emergencies*; and NFPA 1994, *Standard on Protective Ensembles for First Responders to CBRN Terrorism Incidents*.

The **Committee on Health Care Facilities—Fundamentals** is seeking members in all interest categories, especially in the areas of health care systems, nursing homes and assisted living. This Committee is responsible for chapters within NFPA 99, *Standard for Health Care Facilities*.

The **Committee on Health Care Facilities—Health Care Emergency Management and Security** is seeking members in all interest categories except special experts and users. The Committee is especially seeking members with an expertise in areas of security. This Committee is responsible for chapters within NFPA 99, *Standard for Health Care Facilities*.

The **Committee on Health Care Facilities—Hyperbaric and Hypobaric Facilities** is seeking members in all interest categories except users. This Committee is responsible for chapters within NFPA 99, *Standard for Health Care Facilities* and NFPA 99B, *Standard for Hypobaric Facilities*.

The **Committee on Health Care Facilities—Mechanical Systems** is seeking members in all interest categories, especially manufacturers. This Committee is responsible for chapters within NFPA 99, *Standard for Health Care Facilities*.

The **Committee on Health Care Facilities—Medical Equipment** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for chapters within NFPA 99, *Standard for Health Care Facilities*.

The **Committee on Hot Works Operations** is seeking members in all interest categories except special experts. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 51B, *Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting, and Other Hot Work*.

The **Committee on Hydrogen Technology** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for proposed NFPA 2, *Hydrogen Technologies Code*.

The **Committee on Incident Management Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for proposed NFPA 1026, *Standard for Incident Management Personnel Professional Qualifications*.

The **Committee on Incinerators and Waste Handling Systems** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 82, *Standard on Incinerators and Waste and Linen Handling Systems and Equipment*.

The **Committee on Industrial and Medical Gases** is seeking members in the enforcer category only. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 51, *Standard for the Design and Installation of Oxygen–Fuel Gas Systems for Welding, Cutting, and Allied Processes*; NFPA 51A, *Standard for Acetylene Cylinder Charging Plants*; NFPA 55, *Standard for the Storage, Use, and Handling of Compressed Gases and Cryogenic Fluids in Portable and Stationary Containers, Cylinders, and Tanks*; and NFPA 560, *Standard for the Storage, Handling, and Use of Ethylene Oxide for Sterilization and Fumigation*.

The **Committee on Internal Combustion Engines** is seeking members in the interest categories of enforcer and user. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 37, *Standard for the Installation and Use of Stationary Combustion Engines and Gas Turbines*.

The **Committee on Laser Fire Protection** is seeking members in all interest categories except special expert and user. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 600, *Standard on Industrial Fire Brigades* and NFPA 601, *Standard for Security Services in Fire Loss Prevention*.

The **Committee on Liquid Fuel Burning Equipment** is seeking members in the interest categories of enforcer, insurance, and user. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 31, *Standard for the Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment*.

The **Committee on Loss Prevention Procedures and Practices** is seeking members in all interest categories. This Committee is responsible for

(Continued on page 29)

Part Two of AFSA's New Hydraulic Calculations Series Released

Latest Affordable, Convenient Training for Fire Sprinkler Layout Technicians

The second in a four part series focusing on hydraulic calculations for automatic fire sprinkler systems, Fire Sprinkler Systems Hydraulic Calculations – Part Two, is now available through AFSA's e-learning courseware portal eCampus.

Written by well-known industry expert Russ Leavitt, S.E.T., and produced by AFSA, this second installment in the hydraulic calculations series focuses on giving layout technicians and others seeking NICET certification, as well as Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), the foundations in key subjects of calculation models and applications, and working knowledge of NFPA 13: *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*.

Upon completion of this course, students will understand principles of elevation pressure; understand concept of friction loss including utilization of the Hazen-Williams formula; understand how to use equivalent lengths; be able to calculate sprinkler flows for multiple sprinklers; and be able to perform simple single line hydraulic calculations.

Fire Sprinkler Systems Hydraulic Calculations – Part Two and the proceeding Part One are value priced at the exceptional cost of \$50. Other courses may vary.

Part One of the Hydraulic Calculations seminar series came online with great success in late 2007. Part One focuses on understanding basic terminology; basic hydraulic concepts including pressure, density, area of coverage, and friction loss; and familiarity of standard formulas for calculating area of operation (or coverage), minimum flow, sprinkler operating pressure, and K-factors. This initial course is designed to lay the foundation for study of friction loss formulas and simple single line calculations.

The subsequent Part Three and Four courses are each two-hours and will cover more advanced design criteria. They will be available in the coming months.

To view the more than 350 courses offered - including Parts One and Two of hydraulic calculations, visit the eCampus online by clicking on the "Click Here to Enroll: Fire Sprinkler eCampus" link in the center of AFSA's homepage, www.firesprinkler.org. Once at the eCampus, select "View Course Listings," then "Course Listing by Category" and go to "Miscellaneous," or search keyword "AFSA-Fire Sprinkler Systems Hydraulic Calculations, Part 2" to access Part Two. For more information about this and other courses, visit <http://www.firesprinkler.org/training/ecampus.html>.

(Continued from page 29)

The **Committee on Vehicular Alternative Fuel Systems** is seeking members in the interest category of enforcer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 52, *Vehicular Fuel Systems Code*.

The **Committee on Wastewater Treatment Plants** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer and special experts. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 820, *Standard for Fire Protection in Wastewater Treatment and Collection Facilities*.

The **Committee on Water Additives for Fire Control and Vapor Mitigation** is seeking members in the categories of user and enforcer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 18, *Standard on Wetting Agents*; and NFPA 18A, *Standard on Water Additives for Fire Control and Vapor Mitigation*.

The **Committee on Water-Cooling Towers** is seeking members in all interest categories except manufacturer and installer/maintainer. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 214, *Standard on Water-Cooling Towers*.

The **Committee on Water Spray Fixed Systems** is seeking members in the enforcing authority interest category. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 15, *Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection*.

The **Committee on Wildfire Suppression Professional Qualifications** is seeking members in all categories. This Committee is responsible for NFPA 1051, *Standard for Wildland Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*.

Anyone interested in serving on one of these committees or on any NFPA technical committee can download a form from NFPA's web site at <http://www.nfpa.org/codesTC> or request a technical committee application form from Codes and Standards Administration, NFPA, One Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.



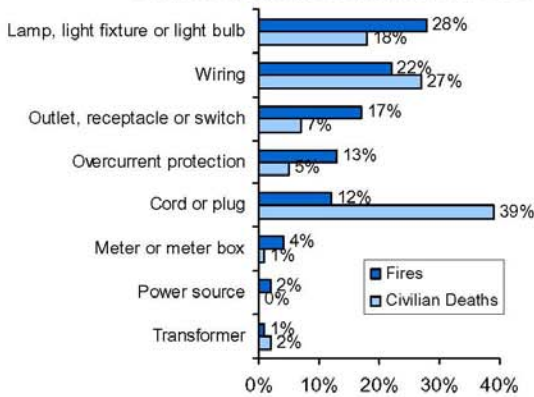
One-Stop Data Shop
 Fire Analysis and Research Division
 One Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169
 Email: osds@nfpa.org
 www.nfpa.org



Home Fires Involving Electrical Distribution or Lighting Equipment

U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of **20,900** reported U.S. home¹ structure fires involving electrical distribution or lighting equipment in 2005. These fires resulted in 500 civilian fire deaths, 1,100 civilian fire injuries, and \$862 million in direct property damage.

Home Fires Involving Electrical Distribution or Lighting Equipment, by Major Equipment Group 2002-2005



Halogen lights have a higher risk of fire than incandescent lights.

Some type of electrical failure or malfunction was cited as factor contributing to ignition for 73% of electrical distribution or lighting equipment home structure fires.

Fires involving electrical distribution or lighting equipment are not the same as fires involving electrical failure or malfunction. Appliances and other home electrical equipment can also have electrical failures.

**Home Structure Fires, 2002-2005 Annual Averages
 Electrical Distribution or Lighting Equipment vs. Electrical Failure or Malfunction**

	Fires	Civilian Deaths	Civilian Injuries	Direct Property Damage (in Millions)
Electrical distribution or lighting equipment	24,180	321	828	\$698
Electrical failure or malfunction	53,600	507	1,431	\$1,421

Note: All statistics are based on non-confined fires.

¹Homes are dwellings, duplexes, manufactured homes, apartments, townhouses, and rowhouses.

Source: *Home Structure Fires Involving Electrical Distribution or Lighting Equipment*, John R. Hall, Jr., NFPA, Quincy, MA. March 2008. Copyright 2008 Liberal use of NFPA fact sheets is allowable with attribution.

Lamps, light fixtures and light bulbs accounted for the largest share of the 2002-2005 home structure fires involving electrical distribution or lighting equipment.

Cords and plugs accounted for the largest share of the 2002-2005 home structure fire civilian deaths involving electrical distribution or lighting equipment.

Nearly half (42%) of civilian deaths in 2002-2005 home structure fires involving electrical distribution or lighting equipment began in the living room, family room or den.

Home structure fires involving electrical distribution or lighting equipment show a winter peak.

Wire or cable insulation is what ignited first in 30% of electrical distribution or lighting equipment home structure fires.



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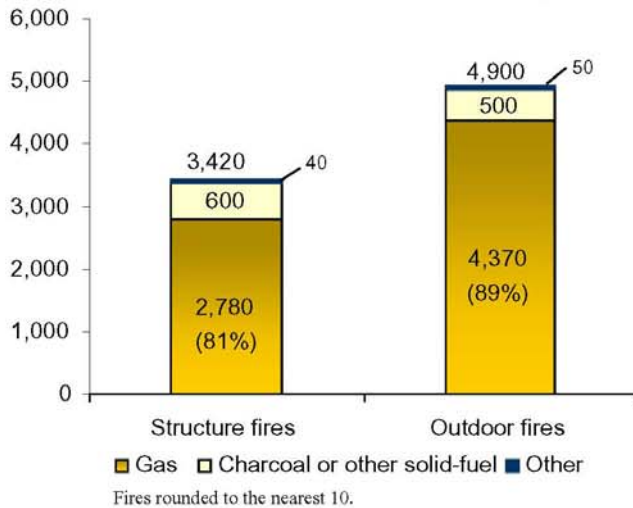


Home Fires Involving Grills

In 2005, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated **8,300** home¹ fires involving grills, hibachis or barbecues, including 3,400 structure fires and 4,900 outside fires. These 8,200 fires caused 10 civilian deaths (to the nearest ten), 110 reported injuries and \$137 million in direct property damage.

- Almost all the losses occurred in structure fires.
- The 3,400 home structure fires involving grills accounted for 2% of the reported home cooking equipment fires, 3% of associated civilian deaths, and 2% of associated civilian injuries, but 16% of the associated property damage.
- One-third (35%) of the non-confined² home structure fires involving grills started on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch, 18% started on a courtyard, terrace or patio, and 11% started on an exterior wall surface.

2005 Home Grill Fires by Power Type



- Gas grills were involved in a total of 7,200 home fires, including 2,800 structure fires and 4,400 outdoor fires.
 - Leak or break was the leading factor contributing to gas grill fires.
 - Flammable or combustible gas or liquid was the leading item first ignited in gas grill fires.
- Charcoal or other solid-fueled grills were involved in a total 1,100 home fires, including 600 structure fires and 500 outside fires.
 - The leading cause was something that could burn being too close to the grill.
 - Structural member or framing was first ignited in one-fifth of the charcoal-or other solid-fueled grill non-confined structure fires. Exterior wall covering or finish was first ignited in another one-fifth.

An estimated 8,610 people were seen at hospital emergency rooms for thermal burns caused by grills.³ Most of these burns were due to contact with the grill, not fire.

1. Homes include one- and two-family dwellings, apartments, town houses, row houses, and manufactured housing.
 2. Little causal detail is required about certain categories of minor fires, identified by incident type and collectively called confined fires, by the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). See the full report for more details.
 3. U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System.
 Source: *Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment*, John R. Hall, Jr., NFPA, Quincy, MA, February 2008

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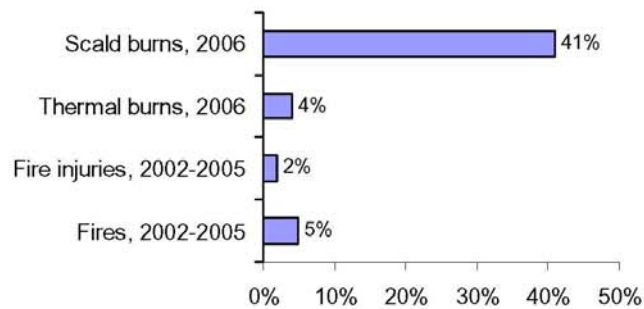


Home Fires Involving Microwave Ovens

Microwave ovens were involved in an estimated 7,400 home¹ structure fires in 2005, resulting in 87 civilian injuries and \$18 million direct property damage. There were no reported fire deaths.

- Nearly one-third (30%) of 2002-2005 non-confined microwave oven home structure fires cited appliance housing or casing as the item first ignited.
- Microwave ovens involve more emergency room scald burn injuries than any other cooking device.
- Nearly half (41%) of the microwave oven injuries seen at emergency rooms in 2006 were scalds.
- Microwave ovens accounted for 41% of cooking equipment scald burns but only 5% of home cooking structure fires.

Microwave Oven Share of Cooking Equipment Injuries and Fires



¹ Homes are dwellings, duplexes, manufactured homes, apartments, townhouses, rowhouses and condominiums.

Source: *Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment*, John R. Hall, Jr., NFPA, Quincy, MA, February 2008

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2008 Firewise Leadership Awards Call For Nominations

Awards promote local, regional, state efforts to reduce wildfire risk

The National Firewise Communities Program is calling for nominations for its third annual awards program to recognize outstanding efforts to promote a cooperative approach to reducing the loss of lives, property, and resources in the wildland/urban interface.

The Firewise Leadership Awards are open to individuals and organizations conducting wildland fire mitigation activities in residential developments in the wildland/urban interface. Eligible Firewise efforts may include, but are not limited to:

- Innovations in engineering
- Program communications, advertising, exhibits, and/or other informational programs
- Success in involving communities
- Collaboration across agency jurisdictions

Special partnerships

The Firewise Leadership Awards provide recognition to the drivers of the Firewise movement – whether they are individuals, groups or departments – and encourage other innovative initiatives that promote the Firewise mission.

Winners of the 2007 Firewise Leadership Awards were announced throughout November and December in their local communities. Winners were selected based on their impact at the local or statewide level.

For example, Tony and Patricia Siciliano were recognized for their extensive efforts spanning three counties in providing risk assessment training, assisting with community wildfire protection plans, organizing a Firewise educational event and mitigation project, and leading the communities' efforts to earn Firewise Communities/USA designation – a national community recognition program.

“Pat and I are honored to be recognized,” said Tony Siciliano. “We believe very strongly in the Firewise program and we hope that those we talked to will continue making their homes and surrounding areas safe.”

Beyond recognition, the Firewise Leadership Awards program will help program administrators capture success stories and share best practices across the country, between all types of interests – public, private, and tribal.

The Firewise Leadership Awards are open to a maximum of the following every year:

- *Two Regional Level Awards* – Impact in more than one state
- *Three State Level Awards* – State level impact, with relevance in a majority of the state, measured by land or population
- *Three Local Level Awards* – City/municipal, county, or regional impact within a single state

The 2008 Firewise Leadership Awards winners will be announced in November at the bi-annual National Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Education Conference, "Backyards and Beyond," in Tampa, Florida.

All entries must be submitted by June 30, 2008. Visit www.firewise.org/awards for entry guidelines and forms. E-mail questions to firewiseawards@nffpa.org.



Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association

*Dedicated to the prevention of fire through
Fire Inspection and Public Education*
by Tod Doebler President

The road has been long, but well worth it. As of March 1st, we have adopted NFPA 1 UFC as the new Wisconsin Fire Prevention Code, along with the 2006 ICC building code package. I have lost track as to the number of years this process has taken. Being involved on the code committee really has given me a sense of accomplishment. This code package will benefit the citizens of Wisconsin. The NFPA 1 UFC training throughout this state by Jim Dolan has had a positive impact for our association.

Unfortunately, there has already been a hiccup in the process in regards to a legislator's proposal for a modification to this new code. He was successful in getting an amendment passed in a very swift manner.

The annual conference committee has been diligently working on our '08' Conference, "Community Safety in Good Hands". As of this writing they have Charlie Dickinson, Deputy US Fire Administrator and Jim Crawford, Fire Marshal of Vancouver, Washington and director of Vision 20/20, as key note speakers. These individuals will bring a vast amount of knowledge to our Association. The conference committee is determined to raise the bar from last year, and they are well on their way.

NFPA has established a public educator network group, were we are sending a representative in June to this network. This is what this nation needs is a resurgence in teaching our citizens proper life safety behaviors.

Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association is committed to the protection of all of our citizens and that is why we are doing whatever it takes to support the passing of the International Residential Code for residential sprinkler requirements. We have adopted a resolution backing this adoption of the IRC. At present, we are canvassing our state to rally our members to make the trip to Minneapolis in September to vote on this important proposal.

Wisconsin, as of now, has signed into law the Fire Safe cigarettes legislation. We are proud to finally join so many other states in adopting this legislation.

I need to add on to this article, as I'm flying back from Washington D.C., after representing the Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association at the Congressional Fire Service Institute conference. This conference brings together fire service members from across the country. In conjunction with the Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association and the Wisconsin Firefighters Association, we as a collective group took time to visit the 10 senators and representatives from the state of Wisconsin. As a group, we lobbied for the concerns of the fire service in Wisconsin. We came together as one voice on such issues as: the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act, U.S. Fire Administration Funding and the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act. We are confident that we made a successful impact for the state of Wisconsin. While attending the conference dinner, we had the opportunity to network with individuals from across our nation's fire service. The exchange of ideas and information will assist all of us in the future. This is truly an example of how our nations fire service is coming together to stand as a unified group.

The trip to Washington D.C. has reinforced that the Congressional Fire Service Institute is a true example of reaching out –on a "national" level. The guidance and information exchange exemplifies why the fire service of this country is next to none.

(Continued from page 39)

NFPA 1000–2006	Standard for Fire Service Professional Qualifications Accreditation and Certification Systems	12/1/2008	A2010
NFPA 1003–2005	Standard for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 1035–2005	Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 1071–2006	Standard for Emergency Vehicle Technician Professional Qualifications	12/1/2008	A2010
NFPA 1124–2006	Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, Storage, and Retail Sales of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles	12/1/2008	A2010
NFPA 1150–2004	Standard on Foam Chemicals for Fires in Class A Fuels	4/11/2008	F2009
NFPA 1410–2005	Standard on Training for Initial Emergency Scene Operations	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 1452–2005	Guide for Training Fire Service Personnel to Conduct Dwelling Fire Safety Surveys	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 1600–2007	Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 1620–2003	Recommended Practice for Pre-Incident Planning	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 1931–2004	Standard for Manufacturer's Design of Fire Department Ground Ladders	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 1932–2004	Standard on Use, Maintenance, and Service Testing of In-Service Fire Department Ground Ladders	5/30/2008	F2009
† NFPA 2001–2008	Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems	5/29/2009	F2010

P* Proposed new document

† Change in proposal closing date or cycle

Notice of Public Hearing on Retail Sales of Consumer Fireworks as contained in Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124, Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, Storage, and Retail Sale of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles

As part of his report to the Standards Council, NFPA's Chief Engineer briefed the Council at its October 3-4, 2007 meeting on the Fire Protection Research Foundation (FPRF) project and report entitled *Fire Safety in Consumer Fireworks Storage and Retail Facilities – Hazard Assessment*. The report is dated October 1, 2007, and is available from FPRF at the following web site: <http://www.nfpa.org/categoryList.asp?categoryID=260>.

The Council has considered this report in particular as it relates to provisions concerning the retail sales of consumer fireworks as contained in Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124, *Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, Storage, and Retail Sales of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles*. The stated purpose of NFPA 1124, with respect to Chapter 7, is to establish reasonable minimum fire and life safety requirements for the retail sales of consumer fireworks. The FPRF report, however, raises serious concerns regarding the technical basis for the requirements of Chapter 7, and calls into question whether sufficient research and other technical substantiation exists to support meaningful standards development in this area.

Based upon the findings presented in the report, the Council is contemplating the following actions:

- (a) revising the scope of the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics (TC), which is responsible for NFPA 1124, so that it no longer covers the retail sale of consumer fireworks, and
- (b) taking steps to revise the scope of NFPA 1124 to exclude the retail sales of consumer fireworks, and to delete chapter 7 from NFPA 1124.

Prior to making a final decision on this issue, the Council has directed that a notice be published soliciting public input on the Council's contemplated course of action, or on other proposed courses of action that may be submitted for the Council's consideration. Furthermore, the Council will be holding a public hearing on Monday June 2, 2008 from 8:00 AM until 11:00 AM in conjunction with NFPA's World Safety Conference and Exposition in Las Vegas, NV to consider this matter. In making its decision on the matter, the Council will, in addition to the existing record, consider written submissions received by NFPA by Friday, May 9, 2008, as well as information presented at the hearing.

NFPA Technical Committees Soliciting Proposals

The committees for the following documents are planning to begin preparation of their reports. In accordance with the Regulations Governing Committee Projects, committees are now accepting proposals for recommendations on content for the documents listed below. Proposals received by 5:00 p.m. ET on the closing date indicated will be acted on by the committee, and that action will be published in the committee's report. Proposals must be submitted to Codes and Standards Administration on proposal forms available in the back of all NFPA documents or from NFPA headquarters. (NOTE: For information on specific committee meeting dates, contact Codes and Standards Administration, NFPA.) Copies of new document drafts are available from Codes and Standards Administration, NFPA, One Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471, or they may be downloaded from NFPA's web site at <http://www.nfpa.org/codelist>. If you need a current edition of a document, please contact NFPA, Fulfillment Center, 11 Tracy Drive, Avon, MA 02322, or call 800-344-3555.

Document No./ Edition	Title	Proposal Closing Date	Meeting Reporting
NFPA 2-P*	Hydrogen Technologies Code	5/30/2008	A2010
NFPA 10-2007	Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 11-2005	Standard for Low-, Medium-, and High-Expansion Foam	5/30/2008	F2009
† NFPA 12-2008	Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems	5/29/2009	F2010
NFPA 13E-2005	Recommended Practice for Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 14-2007	Standard for the Installation of Standpipes and Hose Systems	5/30/2008	F2009
†NFPA 18-2006	Standard on Wetting Agents	6/30/2008	F2009
†NFPA 18A-2007	Standard on Water Additives for Fire Control and Vapor Mitigation	6/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 25-2008	Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 30-2008	Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code	12/1/2008	A2010
NFPA 35-2005	Standard for the Manufacture of Organic Coatings	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 37-2006	Standard for the Installation and Use of Stationary Combustion Engines and Gas Turbines	5/30/2008	F2009
† NFPA 45-2004	Standard on Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals	5/30/2008	F2009
† NFPA 53-2004	Recommended Practice on Materials, Equipment, and Systems Used in Oxygen-Enriched Atmospheres	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 70-2008	National Electrical Code®	11/7/2008	A2010
NFPA 70B-2006	Recommended Practice for Electrical Equipment Maintenance	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 91-2004	Standard for Exhaust Systems for Air Conveying of Vapors, Gases, Mists, and Noncombustible Particulate Solids	5/30/2008	F2009
† NFPA 204-2007	Standard for Smoke and Heat Venting	5/30/2008	F2009
† NFPA 211-2006	Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 214-2005	Standard on Water-Cooling Towers	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 326-2005	Standard for the Safeguarding of Tanks and Containers for Entry, Cleaning, or Repair	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 329-2005	Recommended Practice for Handling Releases of Flammable and Combustible Liquids and Gases	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 405-2004	Standard for the Recurring Proficiency of Airport Fire Fighters	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 408-2004	Standard for Aircraft Hand Portable Fire Extinguishers	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 409-2004	Standard on Aircraft Hangars	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 410-2004	Standard on Aircraft Maintenance	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 422-2004	Guide for Aircraft Accident/Incident Response Assessment	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 423-2004	Standard for Construction and Protection of Aircraft Engine Test Facilities	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 495-2006	Explosive Materials Code	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 498-2006	Standard for Safe Havens and Interchange Lots for Vehicles Transporting Explosives	5/30/2008	F2009
† NFPA 505-2006	Fire Safety Standard for Powered Industrial Trucks Including Type Designations, Areas of Use, Conversions, Maintenance, and Operations	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 520-2005	Standard on Subterranean Spaces	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 551-2007	Guide for the Evaluation of Fire Risk Assessments	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 600-2005	Standard on Industrial Fire Brigades	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 601-2005	Standard for Security Services in Fire Loss Prevention	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 701-2004	Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 750-2006	Standard on Water Mist Fire Protection Systems	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 853-2007	Standard for the Installation of Stationary Fuel Cell Power Systems	5/30/2008	F2009
NFPA 900-2007	Building Energy Code	5/30/2008	F2009

(Continued on page 38)

E-manners

by R. T. Leicht

I wouldn't doubt that there is a dozen or so books on book store shelves that address this issue and I also wouldn't be surprised to learn that there are probably a few "communication experts" on the lecture tour speaking to this issue. I haven't written a book nor do I consider myself an expert. But I have been making these observations since this "new technology" became widely used. It seems that there was no "How To" instructions developed because, by its very nature, it seemed simple to use. But over the years, some rudeness, informality, and failure to proofread have become the norm and maybe we should re-visit some of the special rules for good communication skills.

There certainly are advantages to using e-mail...sometimes we need to recall what it was like in the pre-Email era. E-Mail is certainly cost effective. It costs little to operate and yet is relatively unlimited as to how many persons we can reach with it. It can also reach large audiences easily. And look at how fast it delivers! Can you imagine how long it would take if every e-mail memo you sent had to be packed into an envelope, stamped and delivered by the US Postal Service? Although it allows the communiqué to be less formal, it is still produced on a computer and therefore it provides the opportunity to edit or re-shape before sending and the ability to save the message for future reference or documentation.

But the temptations are there to abuse this tool. E-Mail at work should be work related. It is not the place for personal messages. You should never say things you wouldn't want read by others. Confidential information could be inadvertently divulged and business of the organization that should not be normally disclosed could be disclosed accidentally.

E-Mail Rules could be divided into two categories; effective practices and etiquette:

Effective E-Mail Practices	E-Mail Etiquette
Use formatting thoughtfully. Remember the message will be displayed on a computer screen - the message should be easy to read. Don't send "complex" messages. Don't be lured into not proofreading just because of the "quick-note" feeling.	Keep messages short. Watch your tone and be courteous. Don't get <u>too</u> informal Remember to write with the recipient in mind. Too often we write from our perspective and not that of the reader.

BE IN THE KNOW WITH UL

Join the hundreds of fire code officials who receive instant notice of the latest regulatory news that may affect your approval decisions by signing up for Underwriters Laboratory's **Ultimate Email**. It is a free service to all AHJs and only takes a minute. Just go to www.ul.com/regulators/contact.cfm, enter your contact information, area of interest, click "submit" and you're in! You will be among the first to automatically receive essential information about upcoming UL seminars, programs, services and our popular AHJ newsletters. Here is an example of the latest Ultimate Email notice:

NORTHBROOK, Ill., April 21, 2008: Underwriters Laboratories (UL) is notifying consumers that portable 500-watt halogen work lights manufactured by Shanghai Xiangshan Industries may pose a risk of fire and electric shock. These lights do not comply with UL requirements and are not eligible to bear the UL Mark.

*Name of Product: Chicago Electric Shop Light
Units: Unknown quantity
Date of Manufacture: January 2004 to present
Manufacturer: Shanghai Xiangshan Industries, Ltd.*

*Hazard: These shop lights may overheat and pose a risk of fire and electrical shock.
For more information: <http://www.ul.com/newsroom/newsrel/nr042108.html>*



BRIDGING THE GAP FROM
YESTERDAY INTO TOMORROW

The First Act

The Vision20/20 forum identified five strategies to reduce fire losses

By Azarang (Ozzie) Mirkhah P.E., CBO, EFO, MIFireE

On the evening of April 1, 2008, after two very productive days of intense brainstorming and in-depth discussions, the curtain finally came down on the first act of the Vision 20/20's National Strategic Agenda for Fire Loss Prevention. Quite literally, this forum was a gathering of a "who's-who" of fire safety attending from across the country and the UK and Australia. There were more than 170 participants representing our nation's fire service, and leaders of major national fire protection and safety organizations.

"This project is unprecedented in scope and depth. We have assembled an incredible array of experts from a diversity of fields to help craft a national plan to reduce the loss of life and property from fire. Through our collective efforts we will develop strategies that will save lives, now and for the future", said Jim Crawford, Fire Marshal for the city of Vancouver, WA, and the Vision 20/20 project manager.

Vision 20/20 was conceived last year, when the Institute of Fire Engineers (IFE) - US Branch was awarded a Fire Prevention and Safety Grant by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to develop a comprehensive national strategy for fire prevention. Vision 20/20's National Strategic Agenda for Fire Loss Prevention is a project with the goal of helping to bring together fire prevention efforts and focus everyone's efforts collectively to effectively address the fire problem in the United States.

A noble cause indeed. But, as you all know well, "this isn't our first dance", and we have been down this road on many occasions before. The 1947 President's Conference on Fire Prevention, the 1973 America Burning report, the 1987 America Burning Revisited report, and finally the 2000 America Burning Recommissioned (America at Risk) report, were all focused on the very same issue. So what's different about the Vision 20/20 Plan? Vision 20/20's website answers it as such:

1. This project involves a large number of participants representing all areas of fire prevention as well as other advocates and stakeholders to the plan and its recommended outcomes.
2. This project is committed to action, with a few strategic recommendations being converted to a national plan that stakeholders will be asked to support with documentation of specific actions and benchmarks instead of a long list of recommended practices that everyone agrees are important (but then never get completed).
3. This project will not create recommendations in a vacuum. Other existing efforts that have identified significant progress toward achieving prevention goals will be taken into account to avoid competing efforts.
4. A long term monitoring mechanism will provide regular reports on the progress of the strategic initiatives that arise out of Vision 20/20.

If "commitment to action" is the litmus test; then the fact that despite many challenges Vision 20/20 was able to pull such a high caliber team together, and have such a productive forum, in itself is a solid step and a major accomplishment. This forum was a significant step in the right direction. It is important to emphasize though that this was only the first step in beginning the journey, and not the final step. There are still many more steps yet to be taken.

It is of utmost importance to show appreciation when it is due; and I for one am amazed and very grateful for the hard

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work and long hours that Peg Carson with Carson Associates, and Bill Kehoe with the IFE - US had spent on bringing this "first act" to be played on the national stage. Without their admirable commitment to the cause, this indeed would not have been possible.

Reviewing the reports from the previous national conferences mentioned above, one can clearly identify a common theme for increasing efforts in fire prevention is always emphasized as a key component to the fire safety problem in the United States.

Recognizing the importance of fire prevention, IFE invited panelists from Australia and England to share their international perspectives with the participants. The "International Perspective" panel discussion was quite interesting and of tremendous value in disseminating information about the incredibly innovative approaches and programs that are currently being done overseas, where we could learn a lot from.

Neil Bibby, Chief Executive Officer of County Fire Authority, Victoria, Australia; Philip Hales, Head of Community Fire Safety of Cheshire Fire & Rescue Services, Winsford, England; Phil Schaenman, President of Tri-Data Systems Planning Corporation; and Mick Ballesteros, Epidemiologist/Team Lead of the Home and Recreation Injury Prevention with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC); shared with us their experiences and successes in reducing fire fatalities and losses, which only underlined the fact many of us in the United States are only beginning to realize about how far behind the rest of the world we are in our fire prevention efforts.

At the end of the two days, the participants of the Vision20/20 Forum identified five specific strategies and developed action plans for reducing fire fatalities and losses in America. The specifics and the details of these strategies will be posted on the Vision 20/20 website in the very near future, but here are the outlines:

Advocacy - Get on the agenda to make America safe from fire.

Public Education - Establish a consistent, sustained, multi-faceted educational/social marketing campaign to reduce risks and losses from fire by getting people to change their behavior toward fire safety.

Fire Service Culture - Shift the organizational culture within the fire service so that prevention is accepted and supported as a primary service for public safety.

Technology - Promote and leverage existing and new technology to enhance fire and life safety.

Codes & Standards - Development and application of codes and standards to enhance public and firefighter safety and preserve community assets.

"Everyone wants to see something happen. They just don't want another report sitting on the shelf. They want to see action. They want to show that taxpayers' money was not wasted" said Jim Crawford. According to Ed Comeau with writer-tech.com, "Everyone was in agreement that it will be critically important for there to be an ongoing commitment to this project and its ideas. Many people signed up to continue working on the various strategies as this project continues to move forward, demonstrating such a commitment."

I hope that this level of excitement and commitment continues in future, and just like the participants, we all recognize that this forum was not the conclusion, but merely the beginning of our journey in addressing the fire problem in our country. Back in the 1947, at the conclusion of the Conference on Fire Prevention, it was stated "we have enlisted not for a brief skirmish, but for the whole campaign. In winning that campaign we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that we are saving lives and putting an end to the wanton destruction of our nation's resources." It just can't be said any better than that.

Smoke Alarms: *The Science Behind Detection*

By John Drengenberg, Consumer Affairs Manager – Underwriters Laboratories

Smoke alarms have been saving lives for decades, but today the technology behind them is making headlines thanks to changes in the modern home environment and recent scientific research.

In 2007, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and the Fire Protection Research Foundation (FPRF) completed the Smoke Characterization Project, releasing extensive quantitative data and analysis that expanded on previous technical studies conducted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), United States Fire Administration (USFA), and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Project results provided further insight into modern fire scenarios. The data offered unprecedented detail about the smoke produced in home fires, and how it is unique to each occurrence, depending on variable factors such as how the fire ignites, home furnishings, air movement and room size.

The groundbreaking project also generated discussion about the different types of smoke alarms available, which detect smoke differently depending on the origin of the fire.

- Ionization smoke alarms, the most commonly found smoke alarms in North American homes because they often are more economical, are best suited for alerting home occupants of fires originating from a *flaming* source – such as a lit candle igniting a towel carelessly left next to its open flame.
- Photoelectric smoke alarms are most effective at sounding when fires originate from a *smoldering* source – such as a lit cigarette falling into a couch cushion.
- Dual-technology alarms combine the science of ionization and photoelectric sensors into a single unit.

The availability of different technologies could cause consumers to stand in store aisles, overwhelmed by the many smoke alarm choices, wondering which alarm is right for them.

The simplest answer is that smoke alarms of any kind serve as effective, life-saving tools by providing necessary warnings in home fire situations. But we've found, in part because of changing home environments, people can optimize the effectiveness of smoke alarms by having both ionization and photoelectric smoke alarm technology in the home.

While consumers can install a dual-technology alarm to incorporate both technologies, that isn't the only answer. If ionization alarms are present, consumers can install photoelectric alarms to complement the already present ionization technology.

Simply having both technologies present in a home is the best choice because every home fire is unique and unpredictable. One can't know in advance how a particular household fire will start – if that were possible, the fire could be prevented entirely. In addition, the unpredictability of fires is based on a number of factors that vary with each fire – from ignition source to furnishings fueling the fire to air movement within a room, and the geometry and orientation of the rooms within the structure.

The recommendation to have both smoke alarm technologies in the home is supported by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), and National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), as well as NFPA and USFA.

Along with UL and its affiliate Underwriters Laboratories Canada (ULC), these organizations also recommend installing smoke alarms on every level of the home, outside sleeping areas, and inside bedrooms. Residents should replace batteries annually, and test the smoke alarms monthly. In Canada, such recommendations are contained in CAN/ULC-S552 (Maintenance and Testing of Smoke Alarms) and CAN/ULC-S553 (Installation of Smoke Alarms).

Another technology option for consumers to consider for optimal detection in existing structures is interconnected smoke alarms. The National Fire Alarm Code (NFPA 72) and the National Building Code of Canada require the interconnection of smoke alarms for newly constructed homes. These alarms can be connected to each other by hard wire or wireless technology. If one alarm is triggered, all interconnected alarms in your home will sound, possibly alerting you to a fire earlier.

Beyond today's technology

Smoke alarm technology continues to evolve. Thanks to the collaborative research efforts of the fire safety community, government

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agencies and public safety advocates, we know more than we ever have about smoke and fire behavior in residential fires. We're continually using that knowledge in pursuit of measurable advancements in smoke alarm performance through our nationally accredited standards development processes in Canada and the United States.

When talking about smoke alarm requirements, *consensus* is the operative word. UL and ULC don't develop or update standards arbitrarily or in a vacuum. Our scientists and engineers collaborate with foremost experts in the field through the UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) and the ULC Technical Committee. In fact, UL has more than 300 STPs and ULC has 17 Technical Committees, each focusing on a different area of expertise, ensuring that efforts are clearly focused on a highly specialized area – such as smoke alarms.

The North American standards relating to smoke alarms are UL 217 (Single and Multiple Station Smoke Alarms) and CAN/ULC-S531 (Smoke-Alarms). These standards are under constant review by the respective standards groups that draw on the expertise of UL/ULC representatives and a balanced panel of industry representatives, including regulators, trade associations, advisory groups, consumer groups, manufacturers, and other testing, certification and standards organizations.

UL 217 and CAN/ULC-S531 have been updated many times since modern smoke alarms were introduced and the standards will continue to evolve in response to evolving hazards, scientific study and advancements in technology. The UL STP for smoke alarms currently has seven task groups that include some of the nation's foremost fire science experts. Included in the work of these groups is an evaluation of recent smoke research findings and recent technological improvements in smoke alarm development. Their proposed revisions to the smoke alarm standards are expected to include new procedures and test requirements that better reflect modern home environment, pursuant to optimizing escape times in home fires. Their proposals may also include more aggressive alarm threshold limits to potentially improve response to non-specific fires while avoiding nuisance alarms – those alarms that sound in response to burning toast, for example.

The ULC Technical Committee is represented in the work of this STP and vice versa. Information is shared between the two committees and the ultimate intention is to develop a bi-national (Canada and the United States) standard on smoke alarms.

As an independent organization that has been developing standards, testing and certifying products for more than 110 years, UL and ULC are proud to be active partners in improving fire and life safety. It is our hope that continued collaboration between government and safety organizations will only make smoke alarms even more effective than they have been over the last 30 years.



U.S. Fire Administration Releases Report on I-35W Bridge Collapse in Minneapolis

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) announces the release of the Interstate 35W (I-35W) Bridge Collapse and Response Technical Report. The report examines the area's emergency preparedness for, and response to, the August 1, 2007 bridge collapse in Minneapolis, Minnesota that killed 13 people and injured 121 others.

"To the nation's firefighters, collapse of structure is something for which they all plan and prepare. The uniqueness of this bridge collapse, and the challenges faced by firefighters and their command staffs, offers an opportunity for firefighters across this nation to learn from the Minnesota response to this event. As a result, firefighters continue their efforts to prepare for any and all emergencies nationwide," said United States Fire Administrator Greg Cade.

Just after 6 p.m. on the evening of August 1, 2007, the 40-year old bridge collapsed into the river and its banks without warning. At the time, there were approximately 120 vehicles carrying 160 people on the bridge. The impact of the fall broke the span into multiple planes of broken steel and crushed concrete. Cars, buses, and trucks – all resting precariously along guardrails or suddenly unprotected edges – crashed into other vehicles, partially embedded in the muddy river bank, or dropped precipitously into the river.

The local response to the bridge disaster — and the coordination with metro, State, and Federal partners — demonstrated the extraordinary value of comprehensive disaster planning and training. The city's ability to respond had evolved over several years of investing heavily and widely in all the elements that make a crucial difference when disaster strikes. Their investment covered widespread training on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) that extended beyond city department heads and into all employee levels. Over half of the city's 4,000 employees have received NIMS training.

USFA develops reports on selected major fires and events throughout the country. These emergencies usually involve multiple deaths or a large loss of property, but the primary criterion for deciding to write a report is whether it will result in significant "lessons learned." In some cases, special reports are developed to discuss events, drills, or new technologies or tactics that are of interest to the fire service.

To order or download other USFA technical reports, please visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov and select the link Order Publications.



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rather than the territory in the city. This is felt to give the inspector a higher degree of expertise than with a geographic arrangement as is used in some jurisdictions. Morgantown's success is well worth duplicating in other cities and counties.

For additional information contact Chief David Fetty, Morgantown Fire Dept. 300 Spruce St. Morgantown, WV 26505 phone 304 284 7480.

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- **CODES and STANDARDS.** Develop and apply codes and standards to improve public safety, enhance firefighter safety, and preserve community assets.

Many objectives and outcomes were also targeted within each of these strategies. IFMA will update you as more forum information becomes available.

It was personally and professionally rewarding to be associated with this group of fire service leaders. Several of the fire safety professionals have been in leadership positions for decades: people like Fresno Fire Chief Randy Bruegman, former Phoenix Fire Chief Alan Brunacini, Fire Protection Engineer Chip Carson, Dr. Harry Carter, former Fire Chief Ronny Coleman, NFSA's Jim Dalton, Scottsdale Fire Marshal Jim Ford, John Granito, Dr. John Hall, Pat Mieszala, Wayne Powell (formerly of USFA, now with Marriott), J. C. Robertson (another former IFMA President), Phil Schaeenman of TriData, and Paul Schwartzman. Many contemporary fire prevention leaders were also there, such as Meri-K Appy, U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade, Ed Comeau, NASFM President John Dean, Phil DiNenno of Hughes Associates, Fire Marshal Michael Love (Montgomery County), NIST's Dan Madrzykowski, Alan Perdue from the IAFC Fire & Life Safety Section, Fire Chief Shane Ray, and Jeff Shapiro. And, of course, frequent IFMA writer Ozzie Mirkhah gave the forum's opening presentation. In typical Ozzie fashion, he challenged us to look at the history of fire prevention support in past national reports and questioned why more has not been done in light of overwhelming evidence that prevention works.

The reason I name all these people is simple: I wish to acknowledge their contributions to fire and life safety over the years. Although in listing names, one invariably misses people who should be acknowledged and I certainly did not intend to miss anyone. I recognize there are thousands of other fire service professionals out there who contribute to fire and life safety in their communities everyday.

One of the benefits of being surrounded by national leaders is the opportunity to hear their assessments of fire safety and fire prevention from their respective vantage points. I wish I could have bottled the knowledge, wisdom, and insight of the collected masses at the forum. However, I was able to pick up a few pearls of wisdom (unfortunately, I do not remember whom to credit for each of these comments):

- "You cannot live in the same space as products of combustion."
- "Fire prevention needs to be added as a fourth core fire department service: firefighting, rescue, emergency medical service, fire prevention."
- "All buildings succumb to one of three fates: they are torn down, they fall down, or they burn down. The fire department will be there for the last two events and often for the first one also."
- "Remember: We are only 11 generations removed from the first fire chief, Benjamin Franklin."
- "Sometimes it takes 25 years to accomplish an overnight success."
- "Effective fire prevention is a great asset to firefighter safety."

Research Study: Measuring Code Compliance Effectiveness

IFMA is working with the Fire Protection Research Foundation and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to con-

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The board attended the Congressional Fire Services Institute Dinner on April 3 in Washington, DC. The dinner was well attended.

Remember IFMA is your organization. Please contact any of the board members or myself with comments, suggestions, or concerns. We are always looking for members interested in participating. Have a safe and enjoyable summer and hope to see you in Las Vegas.

Two New Self Study Courses Offered by National Fire Academy

The U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Academy (NFA) announced that two new self study courses are now available through NFA Online. These new courses – *ICS 300: Intermediate All-Hazard NIMS ICS Review for Expanding Incidents (Q464)* and *ICS 400: Fundamentals Review for Command and General Staff (Q466)* can be used as pre-course modules or refresher training for the classroom-based ICS 300 and ICS 400 courses delivered nationwide by State Fire Training Agencies.

“These new courses incorporate the most recent changes to the National Response Framework and provide an excellent review tool for firefighters,” said U.S. Fire Administrator, Greg Cade. “The material presented in these online courses will better prepare the participants to be successful in the required classroom portion of the NFA’s Incident Command program offerings.”

Completion of Q464 and Q466 alone does not satisfy the requirements for ICS 300 and ICS 400. To access these and other self study courses, visit NFA Online and select the *Browse Catalog* or *New Student*.

Twelve courses are available through NFA Online in the following curriculum areas: Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Response to Terrorism, Fire Prevention, Incident Management, Management Science, and Public Education. Over the course of the next several weeks, there are several of the *Incident Command Simulation Series* self study courses due to be released as well as the *National Fire Incident Reporting System Self Study*.

Focus on Fire: Novelty and Toylike Lighters – Playing with Fire

Novelty lighters in the hands of children are a deadly and emerging threat to life and property nationwide. Children are attracted to these lighters because they look like toys, complete with visual effects, flashing lights, and musical sounds.

Mistaking lighters for toys has proven to be dangerous as novelty lighters are responsible for injuries, deaths and accidents across the Nation. State and local governments are taking action by banning the sale of novelty lighters and limiting their distribution.

It is critical to focus public attention on the dangers of these toylike devices. For this reason, the theme for National Arson Awareness Week (May 4-10, 2008) is Toylike Lighters – Playing with Fire.

For more information on novelty and toylike lighters, please visit the U.S. Fire Administration's Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/.



Arson Awareness Week

Toylike Lighters: *Playing with Fire*

May 4-10, 2008

2008 Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week

The U.S Fire Administration is pleased to once again participate as a partner in the **2008 Fire/EMS Safety, Health and Survival Week**, scheduled for June 22-28, 2008. The program is sponsored by the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF).

The theme for this year is *Committed to Long Term Results*, which encourages long term investments by both chiefs and firefighters to enhance their health and safety. The ultimate goal is to institute a strong culture of health and safety within the fire and EMS service.

Recommended activities and materials will incorporate three key areas where standard operating procedures, policies, and initiatives – along with the training and enforcement that support them – can limit fire and EMS personnel’s risk of injury or death.

1. Initiate an emergency vehicle policy, to include:
 - A. Always buckle up.
 - B. Always stop at red lights and stop signs.
 - C. Always drive at speed limits and defensively.
2. Fully implement the Wellness-Fitness Initiative:
 - A. Provide annual medical and physical evaluations.
 - B. Provide equipment and time for exercise.
 - C. Provide nutrition information.
3. Fully implement NFPA 1500, especially sections addressing personal protective equipment (PPE):
 - A. Provide compliant PPE.
 - B. Train and enforce use of PPE, including respiratory protection

Keep watching www.iafc.org/safetyweek for more information on this year’s program and planning resources developed by the IAFC Safety Health and Survival Section.

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duct a study on “Measuring Code Compliance Effectiveness.” The study is underway and is due to be completed July 2008. The IFMA Board’s goal is that this study reveals findings similar to a 1976 study done by NFPA and the Urban Institute, which showed a correlation between fire inspections and a decrease in fire loss. In late May, IFMA Board representatives will attend a workshop in Chicago to review the study’s preliminary research findings.

New Chapter

As mentioned earlier, IFMA now has 28 chapters. Chapter 28 was recently awarded to the California Fire Chiefs, Fire Prevention Officers, Northern Division. We welcome the Northern California group to IFMA and hope that they become an active IFMA Chapter.

Some of the existing chapters represent more than one state (Delaware Valley and New England); California has two chapters (Northern California and Southern California); and we continue to have one Canadian Province as a chapter (Alberta). This means we have chapters in almost three dozen states. The chapters do some wonderful things for their members and for IFMA. The IFMA Board enjoys seeing chapters build on the strengths of other chapters.

Meetings with Other Associations

During the same week as Vision 20/20, the IFMA Board held a board meeting, met with the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), and attended the Congressional Fire Service Institute Dinner.

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NASFM shared concerns about counterfeit listings (especially UL listings) on consumer and electrical products, which seem to be coming primarily from Asian countries. UL's Bob James attended the IFMA Board meeting and reinforced the same information.

IFMA has a representative attending the Public-Private Fire Safety Council. IFMA continues to be a major participant in the National Fire Academy's PARADE Conference. The 2009 conference will be May 14-16, 2009.

Consumer Fireworks Sales and NFPA 1124

As many of you probably know, the NFPA Standards Council has proposed removing Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124. This is the chapter that regulates the retail sales of consumer fireworks. Although IFMA remains opposed to the consumer use of fireworks, we also recognize that these dangerous items are legal in most states. As such, fire officials and the public need some protection criteria. Although Chapter 7 of NFPA 1124 may not be perfect, it does provide enhanced levels of protection over standard mercantile occupancies. IFMA has stated its objections to removing Chapter 7 and has requested that the Standards Council appoint a task group of fire service and industry representatives to develop the necessary protection criteria and submit these changes as a Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA), if necessary. The Standards Council will be convening a hearing on Monday, June 2, at the NFPA meeting in Las Vegas.

Regional Fire Code Development Committees

IFMA co-sponsors four regional fire code development committees with NFPA. These four groups meet again in July and August.

My Farewell

This is my last message as President of the International Fire Marshals Association. At the June meeting, a new president will be elected. The nominating committee has recommended Los Angeles Fire Marshal Jimmy Hill to be the new president. I have served on the IFMA Board with Jimmy for several years and I am confident that he will be a good IFMA President. I hope that you afford him the same welcome and respect that you gave me.

Although I will certainly not miss writing a President's Message four times a year (sometimes it is hard to find interesting things to write about), I can say without a doubt that being IFMA President was a personal and career high-point for me. No greater profession exists than the fire service, and within the fire service, no more professional group than fire marshals and fire inspectors. I am honored and humbled for the opportunity to represent this fine organization comprised of people who have dedicated their lives to ending the devastation of fire.

I was privileged to take over as president on the 100th Anniversary of this association. Together with your IFMA Board, I have seen so many positive changes in these two years: the growth and expansion of PARADE, the increase in the number of IFMA Chapters, the wonderful work done by the regional fire code development committees, the Fire-Safe Cigarette legislation going from an idea to a reality in the majority of states, and recognition of IFMA as a leading fire prevention organization.

At the same time, we have had some struggles: the defeat of residential sprinklers in the International Residential Code®, the expansion of consumer fireworks, and the eventual defeat of a proposal to allow LP-Gas heaters in single family dwellings.

Thanks again for the incredible honor and for your daily efforts to enhance fire and life safety. I look forward to working with you on other fire and life safety issues in the future.

Coming Events

May

- 20 TG Hydrogen Technology, Live Meeting Web Conference Call
 20–21 TG Telecommunications, Centennial, CO
 20–23 Cultural Resources, Siena, Italy
 20–22 Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment—Special Operations Protective Clothing and Equipment, Charlotte, NC
 30–June 1 Fire Service Training, Las Vegas, NV
 31 Fire Marshal Professional Qualifications, Las Vegas, NV

June

- 2 **NFPA Standards Council Hearing on Retail Sale of Consumer Pyrotechnics, Las Vegas, NV**
 2 NFPA Standards Council, Las Vegas, NV
 2–5 TCC Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment, Burlington, VT
 2–5 **World Safety Conference & Exposition, Las Vegas, NV**
 11 TG Hydrogen Technology, Live Meeting Web Conference Call
 17–18 Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting, Denver, CO
 17–18 Fire Protection for Nuclear Facilities, Washington, DC
 17–18 Foam, Philadelphia, PA
 17–18 Handling and Conveying of Dusts, Vapors, and Gases, NFPA Headquarters, Quincy, MA
 18–20 Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment—Wildland Fire Fighting Protective Clothing and Equipment, Missoula, MT

July

- 8–9 **Northcentral Regional Fire Code Development Committee, Colorado Springs, CO**
 9 Fire Department Ground Ladders, Portland, ME
 10–11 Public Fire Educator Professional Qualifications, San Antonio, TX
 14–16 Electrical Equipment Maintenance, Spearfish, SD
 15–16 Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment—Respiratory Protection Equipment, Portland, ME
 22–24 NFPA Standards Council, NFPA Headquarters, Quincy, MA
 29 **Northeastern Regional Fire Code Development Committee, Manchester, NH**
 29 Fire Tests, Linthicum, MD
 29–30 Smoke Management Systems, Rosemont, IL

August

- 5–6 **Western Regional Fire Code Development Committee, Boise, ID**
 7 Water Mist Fire Suppression Systems, Deer Park, TX
 12–13 Mining Facilities, Marinette, WI
 12–14 Airport Facilities, San Diego, CA
 12–15 Electric Generating Plants, Portland, ME
 14–15 Aircraft Maintenance Operations, San Diego, CA
 19–20 Health Care Facilities—Piping Systems, Charlotte, NC
 26–27 **Southern Regional Fire Code Development Committee, Albuquerque, NM**

September

- 8–19 Health Care Facilities, NFPA Headquarters, Quincy, MA
 11–26 Automatic Sprinkler Systems, Savannah, GA
 16–18 Cultural Resources, Nantucket, MA
 26–27 **IFMA Board Meeting, Chicago, IL**

October

- 1–3 Fire and Emergency Service Organization and Deployment-Career, San Diego, CA
 2–3 Public Emergency Services Communications, San Leandro, CA
 6–7 Public Safety Telecommunicator Professional Qualifications, Providence, RI

November

- 6–7 Emergency Vehicle Mechanic Technicians Professional Qualifications, Schiller Park, IL