



## **RESOLUTION NUMBER 2-2003**

### **THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FIRE MARSHALS RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ARC FAULT INTERRUPTOR TECHNOLOGY**

**Whereas,**

The National Association of State Fire Marshals, whose members consist of the senior fire officials from each state, is committed to the preservation of life, property and the environment from fire, and continues to maintain vigilance for new technology to improve fire safety; and

**Whereas,**

The National Association of State Fire Marshals recognizes that electrical fires rank *fourth* among causes of residential fire deaths, and *second* among the causes of direct property damage. The Federal Emergency Management Agency reports that in rural areas, deaths from electrical distribution fires occur nearly twice as often as in urban areas, and problems with fixed wiring are believed to be the cause of some thirty-five percent of all electrical fires; and

**Whereas,**

The National Association of State Fire Marshals supports the position of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission and many safety experts that the Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter technology is a critical new fire prevention technology that will greatly reduce the potential for electrical fires by shutting off power to circuits where arcing is detected; and

**Whereas,**

The Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter technology branch circuit protection will prevent thousands of electrical fires by safely tripping a compromised electrical circuit before the fire begins.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,**

The National Association of State Fire Marshals hereby endorses the Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter technology in all *electrical distribution circuits* of residential occupancies and other occupancies for the reduction of arc fault initiated fires; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,**

The National Association of State Fire Marshals commends the state of Vermont for improving electrical fire safety by requiring Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter technology in 1- and 2-family dwellings for all circuits; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,**

The National Association of State Fire Marshal recommends that all fire service organizations and allied safety organizations support this technology to reduce the risk to life safety and property loss from arc-fault-initiated fires; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,**

The National Association of State Fire Marshals recommends to all State Fire Marshals to maintain vigilance at each state level to prevent the loss or eroding of the National Electrical Code requirements for Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter technology.

This resolution is reaffirmed by the membership at the Association's  
Annual Conference in Anchorage, Alaska, on July 12, 2003,

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Carvon Hudson, Acting Chairman  
Membership, By-Laws & Resolutions Committee

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Donald P. Bliss, President, NASFM