



NASFM News

January 2009

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**Upcoming
Events...**

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**



January 12, 2009



ICC Decision Upholds Residential Fire Sprinkler Requirements

In a landmark decision on fire safety residential codes, the International Code Council (ICC) Board of Directors voted unanimously to reject an appeal by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) to remove fire sprinkler requirements from the 2009 edition of the International Residential Code (IRC).

The ICC Board's decision concludes ICC's appeals process and exhausts the final administrative option for overturning the IRC sprinkler requirements prior to publication of the 2009 edition. The residential sprinkler requirement - requiring fire sprinklers in all new townhouses effective immediately upon adoption, and in all new one-and-two-family residences effective January 2011 - will be published in the 2009 IRC, which serves as the basis of regulation for new home construction in 48 states plus DC.

"This is arguably the most significant code development for fire safety in the history of the residential code" said NASFM President Alan Shuman. He encourages its prompt adoption in the states to enable NASFM to further achieve its mission of protecting life, property and the environment from fire.

Carbon Monoxide Detector Appeal Denied

During the final action hearings for the International Residential Code (IRC), the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) testified in support of a code proposal to require carbon monoxide detectors in homes built according to the 2009 edition of the IRC. In addition, NASFM coordinated the testimony of other supporters of the change. As a result of these actions, the proposal was supported by the voting members present and will be in the 2009 edition of the IRC.

The American Gas Association (AGA), a trade organization for the natural gas industry, had testified against the proposal and filed an appeal of the decision made by the voting membership because it was contrary to the recommendation of the ICC Code Technology Council. Only matters of procedure or process can be appealed regarding the final action hearing votes and no issues of these types were raised in the appeal filed by AGA.

NASFM submitted a written response to the appeal countering the AGA filing point-by-point and offered verbal testimony during a teleconference Board of Appeals

NASFM Board Meeting
Orlando, FL

February 4, 2009
Train-the-Trainer
Overland Park, KS

June 19-21, 2009
NASFM Annual
Conference
Redmond, WA
Online Conference
Registration will be
available by
January 15th

hearing. As a result, the Board of Appeals voted to recommend that the ICC Board of Directors deny the appeal and uphold the vote of the governmental members which the ICC Board of Directors did at a subsequent meeting.

The carbon monoxide detector requirement will be in the 2009 edition of the IRC and the NASFM Model Code Coordinating Committee is working on a follow-up code change proposal to add the requirement for residential occupancies built under the International Building Code (IBC).

Schedule a Pipeline Emergencies Train-the-Trainer Session in Your State



Through our Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), NASFM has been tasked with providing Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Sessions on NASFM's Pipeline Emergencies Program for emergency responders.

The Pipeline Emergencies training program was created in response to the immediate need for an integrated training program specific to pipeline emergencies for emergency responders and the pipeline industry. Pipeline Emergencies is an instructional program outlining the actions required of personnel responding to a pipeline emergency. The program covers both liquid and natural gas pipelines, and a range of emergencies including leaks, spills and fires.

Train-the-Trainer Sessions are offered free of charge and are held in cooperation with the State Fire Marshal's office under NASFM's Cooperative Agreement with USDOT. NASFM provides training materials, continental breakfast and lunch.

In 2008, NASFM held a total of five Pipeline Emergencies Train-the-Trainer Sessions which were attended by over 225 people (from fire service and the pipeline industry).

If you are interested in having this training opportunity offered in your state, please contact Courtney Clyatt at (202) 737-1226 or ccliyatt@firemarshals.org, email. She will work with your office to arrange a training session.

The next TTT is scheduled for Overland Park, KS on February 4, 2009.

Train-the-Trainer Audit

As part of the Cooperative Agreement between the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), an audit has been conducted to measure the penetration and effectiveness of the Pipeline Emergencies Train-the-Trainer program from its inception in 2004 through year ending 2008.

Research was conducted to establish a baseline number of initial Train-the-Trainer sessions held over a five-year period. It was determined that 60 sessions were completed in 30 states training approximately 8,500 students. A database of 900 names, representing a balanced cross section of the United States, was compiled for the purpose of distributing an on-line survey.

The responses clearly demonstrated a very favorable opinion of the quality of the Train-the-Trainer program and the effectiveness of the training materials. A

majority of students expressed confidence that the program had prepared them to train others to respond more efficiently to pipeline incidents. A little more than half have plans to train others in the future.

A final report will be issued to PHMSA by January 30th detailing the results of the survey and offering recommendations for updating the program and expanding to states/regions with high risk of pipeline incidents that have not yet received the training.

Wingspread V Report Available Online



The National Fire Heritage Center, whose goal is to archive the history of the American Fire Service and Fire Protection Disciplines, has posted "Wingspread V: Statements of National Significance to the Fire Service and To Those Served." The Wingspread V conference, which took place April 2006 in Atlanta, is the most recent of the meetings that have been held once each decade since 1966 to highlight critical issues facing the fire services. The topics covered by Wingspread V are wide-ranging and include the Fire Problem in the United States, Firefighter Safety, Federal Fire Programs, Professional Development, Collective Bargaining, Interoperability, Fire Prevention and Public Education, Sustainable Revenue and the Impact of Technology.

Wingspread V and the four previous Wingspread reports can be downloaded from the NationalFireHeritageCenter website at <http://nationalfireheritagecenter.com/Library.htm>.

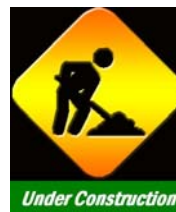
New NIOSH Report on Preventing Firefighter Fatalities Available



A new publication by The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), No. 2009-100, "Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program: Leading Recommendations for Preventing Firefighter Fatalities, 1998-2005," is now available. The document summarizes the most common recommendations from the 335 investigations conducted during the first eight years of the NIOSH Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program. NIOSH believes the document will be a valuable resource for improving the safety and health of the nation's firefighters.

The report can be downloaded at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2009-100/>.

NASFM Website Restructuring



We are currently in the process of restructuring the NASFM website to make it more user-friendly and improve its overall effectiveness. During this time some features on the existing NASFM site may be temporarily unavailable while the web developers configure and develop the new site. Thank you for your patience and understanding while we work diligently to provide you with enhanced services via the web.

Please contact Rebecca Harned at rharned@firemarshals.org with any questions or comments about the website.