



NASFM Newsflash

November 2007

Dear NASFM Member,

Welcome to the November *Newsflash*. It is important to keep in mind that the most effective communication efforts are *two-way*. This month, we are providing key program updates and *requesting information from you*. Your collective knowledge can help find solutions to fire protection challenges we all face.

We encourage you to share information and experience with fellow NASFM members. A great way to contribute is by submitting a short article for this newsletter. And remember, we rely on you to provide us with information that can be useful to your colleagues in other states. Please send all submissions, article ideas and feedback to Rebecca Harned at rharned@firemarshals.org.

Sincerely,
Jim Narva
NASFM Executive Director

Request for Information from State Fire Marshals!

Recently we received an important request for information from every state, and we would appreciate your feedback. The question:

Does your state have legislation that assigns responsibility for fire safety inspections of public schools and also mandate a minimum timetable between inspections?

Please respond to Erin Friel, NASFM's Administrative contact, by email at efriel@firemarshals.org with the related information on your state.

Consumer Warning on Chinese-Made Electronics

The National Association of State Fire Marshals has issued a consumer alert on certain Chinese-made computer and consumer electronics products that are intended for use by children. Preliminary testing by Consumer Product Safety Task Force Chairman Bill Degnan showed that a printer and a boombox were easily

ignited by a birthday candle and suggests that these types of products pose a potentially serious fire hazard due to the highly flammable nature of their outer enclosures. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission has been notified by the retailer of these products.

The consumer warning released by NASFM can be found at:

http://www.firemarshals.org/docs/Consumer_Electronics_Warning_Oct_2007.pdf or [Click Here](#).

Revised Proposal Submitted to the IEC

NASFM has submitted a revised proposal to the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) to incorporate a reference to the IEC's "Technical Specification (TS) 62441: Accidentally caused candle flame ignition," which was developed as part of the IEC's work on the new Technical Committee 108 Standard on the "Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology." The revision would add a standard on the flammability of the outer housings to the existing safety standards for these products. NASFM's proposal will be reviewed by relevant technical panels within Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and the IEC during this year.

A copy can be found at:

http://www.firemarshals.org/mission/residential/fuels/it_and_consumer_electronics.asp or [Click Here](#).

Alabama State Pipeline Meeting a Success

On October 2nd, NASFM, in conjunction with the Alabama State Fire Marshal's Office and the Alabama State Fire College, conducted the latest in our series of state pipeline and hazardous materials safety meetings. Alabama State Fire Marshal Ed Paulk hosted the meeting, which was attended by about 50 people, including emergency responders, pipeline industry representatives, and pipeline and hazardous materials safety stakeholders from the federal, state and local levels.

Presentations included the US Department of Transportation's current pipeline and hazardous materials safety initiatives, the Alabama Public Service Commission's regulatory role in pipeline safety in Alabama, and NASFM's *Pipeline Emergencies* training, LNG and High Consequence Area programs. In addition, an industry panel of state pipeline operators gave the emergency responders an overview of their current emergency response prevention programs.

The follow-up activity to this meeting is the Pipeline Emergencies Train-the-Trainer session, which will be held at the Alabama State Fire College on November 19th. For more information on NASFM's Pipeline Safety Program [Click Here](#) or visit <http://www.safepipelines.org/>.

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendar!

November 2007

Nov. 5 - Board of Directors Strategic Planning Meeting

Nov. 6 - Board of Directors Meeting

Nov. 7 - Hydrogen Executive Leadership Panel Meeting

**Please note: all above meetings will be held in Washington, DC*

Nov. 14 - Alaska Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Meeting in Anchorage, AK, hosted by State Fire Marshal Dave Tyler

Nov. 18 - Alabama Pipeline Safety Train-the-Trainer Session in Tuscaloosa, AL, delivered by Safety Instructor Mike Callan

Nov. 26 - NASFM Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Advisory Committee Meeting in Washington, DC

April 2008

April 21 - Montana Train-the-Trainer Session in Billings, MT, delivered by Safety Instructor Mike Callan

June/July 2008

June 28 - July 3 - NASFM 2008 Annual Conference at the Hyatt in Denver, CO