



# NASFM News

## June/July 2011

### In This Issue

[State Fire Marshal Profile: Adolf Zubia...](#)

[PE 2nd Edition Now Online...](#)

[PHMSA Launches Dedicated Website for Stakeholder Comments...](#)

[OSHA Cites 2009 IFC as Exit Routes Option...](#)

[NVFC Firefighter Arson Working Group Requests Help...](#)

[2nd International Conference on Fires in Vehicles \(FIVE\)...](#)

[Articles on Dangers of Fuel Gel Firepots Results...](#)

[Vision 20/20 Introduces Online Guide...](#)

[NIOSH Requests Comments...](#)

### Quick Links

[NASFM](#)

[Fire Safety and Green Buildings](#)

[Pipeline Emergencies](#)

[Residential Fire Safety Institute](#)

[Common Ground Alliance Newsletter](#)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



### See You in New Orleans!



NASFM staff have teamed up with our conference hosts, Butch Browning and his staff at the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office, to bring you a memorable 22nd NASFM Annual Conference in the Big Easy, July 14-16. [Click here](#) to view the news release from the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office.

For the latest version of the Conference Program, click on [www.firemarshals.org/events/program-agenda/](http://www.firemarshals.org/events/program-agenda/).

This June - July combined issue of the NASFM News will be followed by a special August issue featuring a report from the Annual Conference.

### State Fire Marshal Profile: Adolf Zubia, South Carolina



Q. When were you appointed State Fire Marshal?

A. February 2011

Q. What did you do before you became State Fire Marshal? A.

Retired as Fire Chief for the City of Las Cruces, New Mexico, in December 2009.

Q. If you could describe your career to this point as a TV show, what would the TV show be, and why?

A. "Mission Impossible"...because I have made it by the skin of my teeth! Second choice is "The Andy Griffith Show." While I was police commissioned, I carried one bullet in my shirt pocket. I couldn't really think of a TV show that would fit or describe my career to this point, however, one thing has been very clear to me. My successes have been because of the help, guidance, and leadership of many others in my profession and life. My success is because of the positive relationships I have developed over the years, and I anticipate my future growth will continue because of those relationships and new ones developed along the way.

Q. What is the size of your staff (and your budget)?

A. 70 full-time employees and approximately 250 part-time employees with a budget of approximately \$12 million.

Q. Brag a little: What program(s) are you most proud of?

A. We have a number of education, training and certification programs that run through our agency. All of the programs are essential and beneficial to our customers. Since it is difficult to pick one program, I want to mention that I am very proud of the fact that the S.C. Fire Academy trained more than 28,000 persons last year. I am also pleased with our positive impact on new fire recruits throughout the state by providing five fire academies, training more than 120 recruits a year.



### Upcoming 2011 Events...

July 14 -16  
NASFM Annual  
Conference  
New Orleans, LA

follow us on  
**twitter**

NASFM has entered  
the social media  
world of Twitter!

Follow us **@NAofSFM**  
for regular updates.

### Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

Q. What are the goals for your office for the coming year?

A. To review our current codes and regulations. Our plan is to revise and modify all of them to a more appropriate and streamlined version.

Q. What is your biggest frustration as State Fire Marshal?

A. Dealing with existing processes in state government. This is a time-consuming process that can be compromised by special interests, personal agendas and other outside influences.

Q. What would you like to know from your fellow State Fire Marshals?

A. How can I help you?

Q. What benefits would you like to receive from your membership in NASFM?

A. Develop relationships and use them as a sounding board when the need arises.

## Pipeline Emergencies Program Second Edition Textbook Now Available Online



NASFM, working with a cooperative agreement from the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), recently unveiled the new, second edition Pipeline Emergencies textbook (PE 2). At the IAFC Hazardous Materials Response Conference in Baltimore, MD, in June, PE 2 was introduced to more than 1,000 first responders.

Once again, NASFM partnered with HazMat training specialists Mike Hildebrand and Greg Noll to develop this state-of-the-art curriculum. Mike Callan updated the trainer's Facilitator Guide to make it fully compatible with the new text. Emergency Film Group worked with Red Hat Publishing to embed video into the chapters and enhance the interactive training scenarios.

The completely updated text is now online in an electronic e-book. Soon the trainer's Facilitator Guide, full-length video, and all other program enhancements will be available. Visit the dedicated website ([www.pipelineemergencies.com](http://www.pipelineemergencies.com)) today to register and see the exciting and interactive format.

PE 2 is available as an application for your Apple iPad, iPod Touch, or iPhone. Just go to Apple's App Store to download the Pipeline Emergencies app for free. A Droid version is coming soon.

For a CD copy of the book (\$15) or a hard-copy (\$30), contact NASFM or the PE program to place an order. Email your order to us at [info@firemarshals.org](mailto:info@firemarshals.org).

## PHMSA Launches Dedicated Website for Stakeholder Comments on Pipeline Safety



The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has created a dedicated website, [www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipelineforum](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipelineforum), to foster an ongoing dialog with stakeholders on issues related to pipeline safety. The intent of the site is to continue the discussions held during the April 18, 2011, Pipeline Safety Forum. PHMSA intends to analyze the incoming comments and to produce a report to the nation on the state of the country's pipeline infrastructure.

## OSHA Cites 2009 IFC as Exit Routes Option

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has recognized the International Code Council's 2009 International Fire Code as an alternate compliance option for means of egress in its Occupational Safety and Health Standards. ICC petitioned the federal agency asking for its code to be recognized as a way for an employer to demonstrate compliance with the OSHA Exit Routes and Emergency Management (formerly called Means of Egress) requirements.

"In jurisdictions where the 2009 International Fire Code is enforced, employers whose buildings have been inspected and approved can use that approval to demonstrate compliance with OSHA requirements (Sec 1910, Subpart E)," Code Council CEO [Richard P. Weiland](#) said. "We thank OSHA for recognizing the safety attributes of our code as well as the professional expertise and science that goes into the code's development."

The Council's petition, which started in 2004, was offered on behalf of ICC Members and all jurisdictions that adopt and enforce I-Codes; building and fire code enforcement officials; and building owners and managers with facilities that are maintained in compliance with the I-Codes.

"Allowing the IFC regulations to be used for exiting buildings will save money by eliminating the need to demonstrate compliance with dual regulations, and by avoiding potential construction modifications due to conflicting codes," Weiland said. "OSHA's recognition demonstrates collaboration between the agency and those who share the mission of protecting the health and safety of building occupants."

The [U.S. Department of Defense](#) and the [U.S. General Services Administration](#) supported the Code Council's petition along with local and state jurisdictions, including [New York state](#), [Jefferson County](#), Colo., and the city of [Hampton, Va.](#)

Twenty-seven states with approved Occupational Safety and Health plans also will have to update their plans to incorporate the new rule within six months of the final rule's publication. The final rule was published in June and took effect July 8.

The [International Code Council](#), a membership association dedicated to building safety, fire prevention and energy efficiency, develops codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools.

## NVFC Firefighter Arson Working Group Requests Help With Database

A National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) working group of fire investigators, fire service leaders and academicians is addressing the topic of firefighter arson. They are currently writing the first portion of a White Paper on the topic scheduled to be released this Fall. They have also developed an interim online database in which fire investigators, fire service leaders and others who have access to this data are being asked to supply information on previous cases. They hope that this database will help them troubleshoot and "beta-test" the development of a more substantial official database in the near future.

The interim database is located at <https://nvfc.wufoo.com/forms/firefighter-arson-case-data-collection/>. NASFM members have been asked to share this website with the fire service in their states who have access to this data.

If you have any questions contact Matthew Hinds-Aldrich, Assistant Professor of Fire Science, Anna Maria College, [mhinds-aldrich@annamaria.edu](mailto:mhinds-aldrich@annamaria.edu) or Allison Moore ([amoore@nvfc.org](mailto:amoore@nvfc.org)) who is coordinating the project for the NVFC.

## 2nd International Conference on Fires in Vehicles (FIVE) in Chicago, 27-28 September 2012



The SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden has issued a Call for Papers for the 2nd International Conference on Fire in Vehicles (FIVE 2012). NASFM is an Honorary Sponsor of the FIVE 2012 conference.

The FIVE Conference will be held in Chicago at the Renaissance Hotel, 27-28 September 2012.

The objective of this conference is to exchange knowledge of fires in vehicles, including both road and rail vehicles. In recognition of the fact that many of the fire problems faced by these vehicles are the same, the solutions to them can also be similar.

FIVE will bring together scientists, regulators, test engineers, industry, suppliers, insurance companies and other organizations from the diverse field of transportation to discuss important fire issues. SP believes that this exchange of knowledge will significantly enhance economic and safe solutions - sustainable solutions - to problems in the fire area. The first FIVE conference in Gothenburg, Sweden, in September 2010 was a great success with more than 230 delegates from 20 countries.

Manuscript abstracts of not more than two pages should be submitted to the Secretariat by email ([five@sp.se](mailto:five@sp.se)) by 1st December 2011. For more information see [Call for Papers](#) or visit the Conference website ([www.fireinvehicles.com](http://www.fireinvehicles.com)) where you can find Author instructions.

## Articles on Dangers of Fuel Gel Firepots Results in CPSC Recall

Firepots are a relatively new product, available only in the past few years. They consist of a glazed ceramic container with a stainless steel reservoir into which an alcohol-based fuel gel is poured and ignited. The product is marketed for indoor and outdoor use.

The pourable gel fuel can ignite unexpectedly and splatter onto people and objects nearby when it is poured into a firepot that is still burning. This hazard can occur if the consumer does not see the flame or is not aware that the firepot is still ignited. Fuel gel that splatters and ignites can pose fire and burn risks to consumers. It cannot be put out by a "stop, drop, and roll" maneuver. The fuel gel spreads and continues to burn. Horrific injuries have resulted.

A series of articles by reporter David Halbfinger of the New York Times in June ("[A Summer Firepot, I a 'Safe' Label, and Two Life-Altering Explosions](#)" and "[After Accidents, Firepot Manufacturer Stops Sales](#)") resulted in an investigation by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and a [voluntary recall](#) of NAPAFire and FIREGEL Pourable Gel Fuel due to fire and burn hazards.

Thanks to those State Fire Marshals who worked with the reporter to bring to light incidents involving this new and very dangerous product. NASFM urges its members to share information about these dangers with the public and continue to remain diligent about incidents involving firepots and fuel gels, as these products continue to be sold and used (only one manufacturer's products have been recalled so far).

## Vision 20/20 Introduces Online Guide to Fire Prevention Advocacy

The Institution of Fire Engineers USA Branch (IFE-USA) has launched a new Web-based Vision 20/20 Fire Prevention Advocacy Toolkit that gives local fire departments the tools they need to prove the value of fire prevention in saving lives and reducing the impact of fire on a community and its economy. This program was funded by a DHS Fire Prevention and Safety Grant to IFE-USA to demonstrate the value of investing in fire prevention in these difficult economic times.

Included in this toolkit, among others, are resources such as fire prevention advocacy strategies, community investment in fire prevention, implementing an advocacy program, working with the local media, evaluating your program's impact, and reaching audiences.

"There has never been something like this that local fire chiefs can use to prove the value of fire prevention programs," said Vision 20/20 Project Manager Jim Crawford. "The Vision 20/20 Fire Prevention Advocacy Toolkit gives them the information that they can use in reaching out to community leaders, city officials and other decision makers to prove the impact that fire prevention programs have in not only saving lives but making communities economically sound and viable."

The Vision 20/20 Fire Prevention Advocacy Toolkit can be found at <http://www.strategicfire.org/advocacytoolkit/>.

## **NIOSH Requests Comments on Firefighter Fatality Investigation Program**

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is seeking input on its Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP) to ensure that the program is meeting the needs and expectation of the U.S. fire service and to identify enhancements to the program.

Several resources are available for those who would like to comment on the FFFIPP:

1. FFFIPP Report and Proposed Future Directions - 2011, which includes specific topics for stakeholder input: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/future2011.html>.
2. Strategic Plan for the FFFIPP that was finalized in 2009 after public input: [www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/strategicplan2009.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/strategicplan2009.html).
3. FFFIP web site that includes an overview of the FFFIPP: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/>.

Written comments are being requested in the following ways:

1. Mail to NIOSH Docket Office, Robert A. Taft Laboratories, MS-C34, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45226.
2. Fax to 513-533-8285.
3. Email to [NIOSHdocket@cdc.gov](mailto:NIOSHdocket@cdc.gov).
4. Submit using the on-line form available through the NIOSH Docket at the following link: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docket/review/docket063B/default.html>.

Email attachments should be formatted in Microsoft Word. Comments are requested no later than July 29, 2011 and should reference Docket Number NIOSH-063B. For additional technical information on the FFFIPP, contact Paul Moore, [pmoore@cdc.gov](mailto:pmoore@cdc.gov), (304) 285-6016