

# ***DRAFT***

## ***HEALTHCARE INTERPRETATION TASK FORCE***

**19 MAY 2004**

**Salt Palace Convention Center**

**Room 151C**

**Salt Lake City, UT**

### **MINUTES**

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:55 PM
2. Members and guests present were:

#### **MEMBER**

Ken Bush  
Gene Cable  
Doug Erickson  
Ken Faulstich  
Greg Harrington  
Tom Jaeger  
Phil Jose  
Skip Lightner  
Robert Palmer  
Dean Samet  
Robert Solomon  
Dale Woodin

#### **REPRESENTING**

IFMA  
Department of Veterans Affairs, NY  
ASHE  
VA (Alternate)  
NFPA  
Gage-Babcock – AHCA  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
HHS – Indian Health Service  
Department of Veterans Affairs, NY  
JCAHO  
NFPA  
ASHE

#### **GUESTS**

Chad Beebe  
Josh Elvove  
Richard Fasano  
Peter Leszczak  
Susan McLaughlin  
Tom Schipper  
Dick Strub

#### **REPRESENTING**

Washington St. DOH  
Department of Veterans Affairs, Denver, CO  
Russell Phillips & Associates  
Guest  
ASHE  
Kaiser Permanente, ASHE  
AHCA

3. The agenda was reviewed and it was approved.
4. The minutes of the 19 November 2003 meeting were approved as submitted.

## 5. Review of Questions

- A. VA Request (Larimer). This subject deals with a number of variations relating to the TIA for alcohol hand rub solutions. Specifically, the question addresses corridors that are less than 72 inches in width. The HITF took no action on the questions. The current TIA language clearly prohibits use of the materials for the conditions described. The HITF recommends that the VA consider pursuit of a study to determine if use of the material in corridors less than 72 inches is appropriate.
- B. VA Request (Lambert). This subject relates to the TIA for alcohol hand rub solutions. Specifically, the question addresses use of the material in areas such as primary care clinics – normally defined as a business occupancy. The HITF took no action on this question. The TIA only addressed new and existing healthcare occupancies. A public comment to NFPA 101/NFPA 5000 to address the broader use would be in order.
- C. Door Locking Permissions (Jaeger). This is a carryover item from the November 2003 meeting. The HITF completed a letter ballot on the subject in January 2004. During this process, a comment from Ken Bush raised an issue about reference to the appropriate sections of NFPA 101. Based upon Mr. Bush’s letter ballot comment, the original 10 November 2003 request from Tom Jaeger was revised to also reference Section 18.2.2.4 and 19.2.2.2.4. This clarifies and directs attention to locking of patient room doors as a part of the interpretation. After review of the subject, the HITF agreed with the reasons and issued the interpretation with responses to the 8 questions as shown.

## 6. Discussion Items:

- A. CMS Rule Making. CMS published a “Final Rule” concerning: the use of previous editions of NFPA 101 (1967, 1973, 1981); compliance dates for emergency lighting requirements; clarification of compliance date for the roller latch prohibition. No formal action was taken by the HITF.
- B. GAO Report – Nursing Home for Safety. The GAO Report commissioned in 2003 to evaluate nursing home fire safety compliance is scheduled to be completed in July 2004. This was FYI only for HITF members.
- C. Compliance with Previous Editions of NFPA 101: Some surveyors have been requiring items required by previous editions of the code to still be maintained even though the particular provision is not required in a more recent edition of the Code. A specific citation was the operable window criteria that was required in the 1967 code. More recent editions (1997) of NFPA 101 no longer require this feature. The HITF was provided with a copy of a K-Tag report citing this exact issue. Tom Jaeger agreed to work on some language that would help to clarify when a particular feature has to be maintained versus where a feature can be removed without violating compliance with a more recent edition of the Code.

7. New Business

- A. Doug Erickson will bring forward an item to clarify a provision dealing with Article 517.50 (517.45 in 2005 NEC) of the NEC.
- B. Josh Elvove is going to review the minute item from the November 2003 Reno meeting concerning smoke barriers. An additional question or clarification on that subject may be submitted.
- C. It is the understanding of one HITF member that the Maine State Fire Marshals office is not allowing the NFPA 101, TIA on alcohol hand gel rubs to be utilized until it is expressly permitted by CMS. Individual HITF members may try to follow up on that rumor.

8. Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 16 November 2004.

9. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Minutes submitted by Robert Solomon, PE, NFPA