<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Text and Ballot Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 18-4-1  | Act on the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to revise Table 17.2.2.1 of the 2016 edition and Table 22.5 of the proposed 2019 edition of NFPA 13, *Automatic Sprinkler Systems* (TIA No. 1351) | 18-4-1-a Text of proposed TIA No. 1351. See Attachment 18-4-1-a  
18-4-1-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1351. **PASSED** TC Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 34 voting members/28 agree on technical merit/1 disagree/1 abstained/29 agree on emergency nature/1 disagree/0 abstained/4 ballot not returned. **PASSED** CC Ballot on both correlation and emergency nature – 20 voting members/15 agree on correlation/1 disagree/0 abstained/16 agree on emergency nature/0 disagree/0 abstained/4 ballots not returned. See Attachment 18-4-1-b  
18-4-1-c No comments were received. No Attachment |
| 18-4-2  | Act on the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to revise sections 2.3.3, 3.3.31, 3.3.37, 3.3.62, 4.5.1 and F.1.2.4 of the 2016 edition of NFPA 31, *Standard for the Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment* (TIA No. 1355) | 18-4-2-a Text of proposed TIA No. 1355. See Attachment 18-4-2-a  
18-4-2-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1355. **PASSED** TC Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 24 voting members/21 agree on technical merit/2 disagree/1 abstained/22 agree on emergency nature/1 disagree/1 abstained/0 ballots not returned. See Attachment 18-4-2-b  
18-4-2-c One comment was received. See Attachment 18-4-2-c |
| 18-4-3  | Act on the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to add new section 6.13.3.3 to the 2017 edition of NFPA 58, *Liquid Petroleum Gas Code* (TIA No. 1350) | 18-4-3-a Text of proposed TIA No. 1350. See Attachment 18-4-3-a  
18-4-3-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1350. **PASSED** TC Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 32 voting members/20 agree on technical merit/4 disagree/0 abstained/18 agree on emergency nature/6 disagree/0 abstained/8 ballots not returned. See Attachment 18-4-3-b  
18-4-3-c Three comments were received. See Attachment 18-4-3-c |
| 18-4-4  | Act on the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to revise sections 555.2 and 555.3 of the 2017 edition of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*® (TIA No. 1348) | 18-4-4-a Text of proposed TIA No. 1348. See Attachment 18-4-4-a  
18-4-4-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1348. **PASSED** Panel Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 17 voting members/13 agree on technical merit/0 disagree/0 abstained/13 agree on emergency nature/0 disagree/0 abstained/4 ballots not returned. **PASSED** CC Ballot on both correlation and emergency nature – 12 voting members/11 agree on correlation/0 disagree/0 abstained/11 agree on emergency nature/0 disagree/0 abstained/1 ballot not returned. See Attachment 18-4-4-b  
18-4-4-c Seven comments were received. See Attachment 18-4-4-c |
18-4-5 Act on the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to revise sections 682.2 and 682.15 of the 2017 edition of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code®* (TIA No. 1349)

18-4-5-a Text of proposed TIA No. 1349. See Attachment 18-4-5-a

18-4-5-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1349. **PASSED** Panel Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 14 voting members/11 agree on technical merit/2 disagree/1 abstained/11 agree on emergency nature/2 disagree/1 abstained/0 ballot not returned. **PASSED** CC Ballot on both correlation and emergency nature – 12 voting members/10 agree on correlation/1 disagree/0 abstained/10 agree on emergency nature/1 disagree/0 abstained/1 ballot not returned. See Attachment 18-4-5-b

18-4-5-c Three comments were received. See Attachment 18-4-5-c

18-4-6 Act on the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to revise section 11.7.4 and add new section 11.7.4.2 to the 2012, 2015 and 2018 editions of NFPA 99, *Health Care Facilities Code* (TIA No. 1353)

18-4-6-a Text of proposed TIA No. 1353. See Attachment 18-4-6-a

18-4-6-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1353. **PASSED** TC Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 17 voting members/15 agree on technical merit/0 disagree/1 abstained/13 agree on emergency nature/2 disagree/1 abstained/1 ballot not returned. **PASSED** CC Ballot on both correlation and emergency nature – 20 voting members/15 agree on correlation/0 disagree/0 abstained/13 agree on emergency nature/2 disagree/0 abstained/5 ballot not returned. See Attachment 18-4-6-b

18-4-6-c No comment was received. No Attachment

18-4-7 Act on the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to revise sections 6.3.3.6, 6.3.3.7, 6.3.3.9, A.6.3.3.5, and A.6.3.3.8 of the 2017 edition of NFPA 130, *Fixed Guideway Transit and Passenger Rail Systems* (TIA No. 1354)

18-4-7-a Text of proposed TIA No. 1354. See Attachment 18-4-7-a

18-4-7-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1354. **PASSED** TC Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 30 voting members/22 agree on technical merit/1 disagree/0 abstained/23 agree on emergency nature/0 disagree/0 abstained/7 ballot not returned. See Attachment 18-4-7-b

18-4-7-c No comments were received. No Attachment


18-4-8-a Text of proposed TIA No.1264R. See Attachment 18-4-8-a

18-4-8-b Ballot results of TIA No. 1264R. **FAILED** TC Ballot on both technical merit and emergency nature – 28 voting members/16 agree on technical merit/8 disagree/2 abstained/15 agree on emergency nature/9 disagree/2 abstained/2 ballots not returned. See Attachment 18-4-8-b

18-4-8-c Three comments were received. See Attachment 18-4-8-c

18-4-9 Discuss the request to process a TIA on the 2011 and 2014 editions of NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*. No Attachment

18-4-10 Consider requests from NFPA Committees to change revision cycles for the following documents:

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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1006</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>F2021</td>
<td>F2021 to A2020</td>
<td>One Time Move</td>
<td>5 to 3 ½ rev cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>472</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>A2021</td>
<td>A2021 to F2021</td>
<td>One Time Move</td>
<td>5 to 4 ½ rev cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>473</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>A2021</td>
<td>A2021 to F2021</td>
<td>One Time Move</td>
<td>5 to 4 ½ rev cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Attachment 18-4-10
| **18-4-11** | Consider the request of David Bernzweig, Columbus Firefighters Union, to develop a standard to establish the minimum requirements for the effective contamination control of personal protective equipment (PPE), accessories, and equipment. A notice was published in *NFPA News* soliciting comments on the proposed project. A total of 147 comments were received. 139 comments supported development of the project, 8 comments did not support the development of the project and 16 of the commenters indicated an interest in participating if a Committee was developed.

A webinar was conducted by NFPA Staff on the campaign for contamination control where nearly 900 people registered. The participants were polled on the need for standardized procedures for fire service contamination. Seventy percent (127 respondents) selected there is a need for a single, new, separate NFPA standard, Seventeen percent (32 respondents) selected there is need to expand NFPA 1582 to address this topic. See Attachment 18-4-11 SA18-4-11 |
| **18-4-12** | Consider the request of Bassem Khalil, Abu Dhabi Civil Defense, to develop a standard to establish protocols and practices for the use of remote video inspections of existing buildings, buildings under construction, and building systems for code compliance. Four comments were received. Three comments supported development of the project, one comment did not support the development of the project. One of the commenters indicated an interest in participating if a Committee was developed. See Attachment 18-4-12 SA18-4-12 |
| **18-4-13** | Consider the request of Axel Bogdan, 3M Science, to develop a standard on low pressure dispensing containers. This new project request was approved at the April 2016 Standards Council meeting. The Council directed that a call for members interested in serving on the new Technical Committee on Low Pressure Dispensing Containers (LPDC) be published. The NFPA Staff reported back to the Council that due to the lack of applying participants, interest for a new committee and stand-alone project appeared limited.

After review of all the material before them, the Council instructed the NFPA Staff to return to the Council with a plan on how it is intended to incorporate this material into other NFPA Documents and if those documents scopes need to be changed to accommodate this new material.

In November 2017 the Technical Committee on Aerosol Products was balloted to secure committee member approval for the new project. The ballot passed – 26 voting members/19 affirmative/4 negative/0 abstained/3 ballots not returned.

The Committee is requesting the Council dissolve the LPDC TC and move the document to the Technical Committee on Aerosol Products and work to staff the technical committee with individuals with the expertise to write the document. The scope of the Technical Committee on Aerosol Products will need to be revised to include LPDC work. See Attachment 18-4-13 |
| **18-4-14** | At the April 2017 Standards Council meeting, the Council approved the request of Chief Otto Drozd, of the Orange County Fire Rescue Department, to develop a standard for preparedness and response to active shooter scenarios and incidents (See Standards Council minute item 17-4-5 and related item 17-4-11-c). The Council approved the title of the standard, *Standard for Preparedness and Response to Active Shooter and/or Hostile Events*, appointed members as the initial roster for the technical committee charged with standards development, and established the Committee’s scope.

At the December 2017 Standards Council meeting the Council issued a decision |
to expedite the standards development process to develop a Provisional Standard (PS), NFPA 3000 (PS), Standard for Preparedness and Response to Active Shooter and/or Hostile Events (Standards Council Decision D#17-11, Minute Item 17-12-54).

The Council requested that the NFPA Board of Directors adopt by reference Annex B of the 2017 ANSI Essential Requirements, entitled “Procedures for the Development of a Provisional American National Standard (ANS) or a Provisional Amendment to an ANS” for the purpose of authorizing both the processing of NFPA 3000 as a Provisional Standard and the Council to issue a provisional standard on preparedness and response to active shooter and/or hostile events. The Board voted to approve this request on December 22, 2017.


The Technical Committee on Cross Functional Emergency Preparedness and Response was balloted on the release of the Preliminary Draft of NFPA 3000, and is now accepting Public Input. The Committee will hold their First Draft meeting March 19-23, 2018. See Attachment 18-4-14

18-4-15 Update on NFPA 277, Standard Methods of Tests for Evaluating Fire and Ignition Resistance of Upholstered Furniture Using a Flaming Ignition Source. HO18-4-15

18-4-16 Consider the request of the Technical Committee on Electronic Safety Equipment to approve the proposed document, NFPA 1802, Standard on Personal Portable (Hand-Held) Two-Way Radio Communications Devices for Use by Emergency Personnel in the Hazard Zone, and open it for Public Input, in the Fall 2020 revision cycle. SA18-4-16

18-4-17 Consider the request of the Technical Committee on Hazardous Materials Protective Clothing and Equipment to approve proposed document, NFPA 1891, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Hazardous Materials Clothing and Equipment, and open it for Public Input, revision Cycle in the Fall 2020 revision cycle. SA18-4-17

18-4-18 Review of the Process of Standards Council Decision Making by Suzanne Gallagher, Associate General Counsel. No Attachment

18-4-19 Annual 2018 Revision Cycle Consent Standards that did not receive NITMAMs, will be letter balloted by the Council with an issuance date of May 4, 2018 and an effective date of May 24, 2018:

NFPA 13R Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Low-Rise Residential Occupancies
NFPA 20 Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection
NFPA 24 Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances
NFPA 30B Code for the Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products
NFPA 40 Standard for the Storage and Handling of Cellulose Nitrate Film
NFPA 77 Recommended Practice on Static Electricity
NFPA 80 Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives
NFPA 86 Standard for Ovens and Furnaces
NFPA 88A Standard for Parking Structures
NFPA 105 Standard for Smoke Door Assemblies and Other Opening Protectives
NFPA 150 Standard on Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities
NFPA 291 Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants
NFPA 306 Standard for the Control of Gas Hazards on Vessels
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 484</td>
<td>Standard for Combustible Metals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 652</td>
<td>Standard on the Fundamentals of Combustible Dust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 750</td>
<td>Standard on Water Mist Fire Protection Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 1221</td>
<td>Standard on Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Emergency Services Communications Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 1852</td>
<td>Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 1917</td>
<td>Standard for Automotive Ambulances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 1989</td>
<td>Standard on Breathing Air Quality for Emergency Services Respiratory Protection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following 2018 Annual Revision Cycle Standards passed letter ballot of the Council as Consent Standards with the following issuance dates and effective dates:

**NFPA 111**  
*Standard on Stored Electrical Energy Emergency and Standby Power Systems*  
**Issuance Date:** December 24, 2017 and **Effective Date:** January 13, 2018

**NFPA 610**  
*Guide for Emergency and Safety Operations at Motorsports Venues*  
**Issuance Date:** November 12, 2017 and **Effective Date:** December 2, 2017

**18-4-20**  
Report of the Committee Membership Task Group J. Golinveaux (Chair).

**18-4-20-a**  
Act on pending applications for Committee Members. No Attachment

**18-4-20-a-1**  
Additional information re TC application for EMB-AAA ADDITION  No Attachment

**18-4-20-b**  
Consider a request from NFSA for Multi-Representation on a Committee. No Attachment

**18-4-20-c**  
Discuss the make-up of an NFPA Committee  ADDITION  No Attachment

**18-4-20-d**  
Discuss interest categories of Organizations  ADDITION  No Attachment

**18-4-21**  
Report of the Awards Task Group (K. Bell, Chair). No Attachment

**18-4-22**  
Report of the Policy and Procedures Task Group (D. O’Connor, Chair). No Attachment

**18-4-23**  
Hear a report from the Recording Secretary on the December 2017 Minutes, which were approved with an editorial correction. No Attachment

**18-4-24**  
The Council will review the dates and locations of upcoming Council meetings, as follows:

- **August 13-15, 2018**
  - Quincy, MA

- **December 12-13, 2018**
  - TBD
  - No Attachment

**18-4-25**  
At the December 2017 meeting, the Council reviewed the request of Richard Davis and Dr. Dong Zeng, FM Global, to develop a project addressing test methods for determining the flammability of interior/exterior wall panels.

After a review of all material submitted, the Council took action to direct the Technical Committee on Fire Tests to review the Factory Mutual Report that was recently released on this subject and report back to the Council at the April 2018 meeting with its findings. The Report – Evaluation of the Fire Performance of Aluminum Cladding Material (ACM)

The Technical Committee will be meeting March 22-23, 2018 and its findings will be included in the Supplemental Agenda. See Attachment 18-4-25 SA18-4-25

| 18-4-26 | Consider the Correlation between NFPA 70 and the Combustible Dust Documents. ADDITION SA18-4-26 |
Maynard, Mary

Subject: NFPA 1006 Revision Cycle Change

From: "Holland, Kendall" <kholland@NFPA.org>
Date: January 29, 2018 at 11:51:44 AM EST
To: "Fuller, Linda" <lfuller@NFPA.org>, "Bellis, Dawn" <DBellis@nfpa.org>
Cc: "Conlin, Edward" <EConlin@nfpa.org>, "orlando.hernandez@DPS.texas.gov" <orlando.hernandez@DPS.texas.gov>, "Fash, Robert" <RFash@nfpa.org>, "wppfdtx@aol.com" <wppfdtx@aol.com>, "Depew, Jenny" <JDepew@nfpa.org>
Subject: NFPA 1006 Revision Cycle Change

Linda and Dawn,

I hope this email finds you both well. As a follow-up to our meeting and conversation with regards to NFPA 1006 and how to best address the issues with the current edition, 2017 edition, of the document. Based on our meeting I am requesting of the standards council to consider a one-time revision cycle change from the F2021 revision that it is currently in to the Annual 2020 revision cycle.

This would require the committee to meet for their First Draft meeting by 9/5/2018, which will allow the committee to work to address existing concerns about the requirements within the document.

As we discussed, the reason for this request is due to the errors in the document as well as the adoption issues and concerns expressed to us by the Pro-Board, IFSAC, and the North American of Fire Training Directors (NAFTD).

I will be working with the committee chair, Orlando Hernandez, to schedule this meeting as well as consulting with the correlating chair, Bill Peterson, and the correlating committee staff liaison, Bob Fash, to ensure this one time move and revision cycle is as thorough as possible.

To note, currently NFPA 1670 and NFPA 1006 are in the same revision cycle given their similarities and cross committee membership. By making this move these two documents will not be in the same revision cycle but our goal is to line them back up as soon as we possibly can.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any further information from me.
Thank you.

Best Regards,
Ken Holland
Senior Emergency Services Specialist
To: Dawn Michele Bellis  
NFPA Standards Council Secretary

From: Richard Edinger  
Chair, Technical Committee for Hazardous Materials Response Personnel

Dear Ms. Bellis:

On February 19, 2018 the NFPA Technical Committee for Hazardous Materials Response Personnel met to begin our task group work, discuss initial committee inputs for all of our assigned documents and review the recent revisions to the HAZMAT Handbook. During this meeting the committee engaged in a discussion regarding the upcoming document revision schedule for the next five years. Currently NFPA 472 and 473 are Annual 2021 documents and NFPA 475 and 1072 are Fall 2021 documents. During these discussions, we discovered that due to the documents being on offset cycles, the committee will need to meet 13 times over the next five years.

Accordingly, the Technical Committee made and passed a motion requesting that the Standards Council move NFPA 472 and 473 to the Fall 2021 cycle to align these documents with the other committee documents. This action will only cause a six-month delay in the release of NFPA 472 and 473 but will reduce the meeting and travel burden on the committee by four meetings over the next 5 years. As important, this will also allow the technical committee to update the competencies and professional qualifications documents at the same time. Doing so will insure that all committee documents are aligned, reducing errors and lessening the potential need for future Tentative Interim Amendments to reconcile unintentional conflicts between the documents.

If this request is approved, the Technical Committee will provide an update to the Council upon completion of one cycle under this proposed schedule. We will include a report on the success of this effort and or if this change created unexpected conflicts or issues along the way. Based on detailed discussions among committee members, we firmly believe that by moving all of the documents to the same revision cycle, this will improve management of the documents and make it easier for the HAZMAT response and training / education communities to receive all of the documents at once as opposed to having to wait 6 to 8 months between documents.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,

Richard Edinger
### New Project Initiation Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Explain the Scope of the new project/document:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To define the minimum requirements for fire departments to control workplace exposure to products of combustion, carcinogens, chemical toxicants, or ultrafine particles that have the potential to result in harm immediately or over a long period of time.</td>
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<tr>
<th>b. Provide an explanation and any evidence of the need for the new project/document:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Firefighters experience many kinds of acute and chronic illness at a higher rate than the general population. No standard currently exists to address the control of exposure to products of combustion, carcinogens, chemical toxicants, and ultrafine particles. There is much evidence of a correlation between these job-related exposures and cancer as well as other illnesses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Fire Service Occupational Safety and Health (FSOSH) technical committee documents do not adequately address the requirements needed to help reduce workplace exposure to the toxic products of combustion. A new document that could provide appropriate specific requirements and guidance for contamination control of personnel, apparatus, and fire stations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The intent of this new document is to address areas that are not already covered by the documents in the FSOSH project but falls within the committee scope.</td>
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<tr>
<th>c. Identify intended users of the new project/document:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fire service related emergency responders working in potentially hazardous environments. Organizations providing rescue, fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials mitigation, special operations, and other emergency services, including public, military, private, and industrial fire departments.</td>
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<tr>
<th>d. Identify individuals, groups and organizations that should review and provide input on the need for the proposed new project/document; and provide contact information for these groups:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IAFF, IAFC, Firefighter Cancer Support Network, NFFF, NVFC, FDSOA, NIOSH Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program, NIOSH NPPTL.</td>
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<tr>
<th>e. Identify individuals, groups and organizations that will be or could be affected, either directly or indirectly, by the proposed new project/document, and what benefit they will receive by having this new document available:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency service organizations providing fire suppression services. This standard will address the minimum requirements for these organizations to minimize exposure to toxic substances that they may encounter.</td>
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<tr>
<th>f. Identify other related documents and projects on the subject both within NFPA and external to NFPA:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NFPA 1500 Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety &amp; Health Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>NFPA 1851 Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting. NFPA 1851 addresses cleaning, care, and maintenance of protective clothing and equipment. The proposed new standard would address routine exposure to toxins and recommend mitigations that are not within the scope of NFPA 1851. The proposed standard does not conflict with NFPA 1851. The scope in NFPA 1851, 1.1.5, states that it does not cover organizational programs under the jurisdiction of other NFPA standards.</td>
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<tr>
<th>g. Identify the technical expertise and interest necessary to develop the project/document, and if the committee membership currently contains this expertise and interest:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The current committee makeup of the NFPA Fire Service Occupational Safety and Health technical committee has the technical expertise needed to develop this new standard.</td>
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Please send your request to:  
NFPA  
Codes and Standards Administration  
1 Batterymarch Park  
Quincy, MA 02169  
Stds_admin@nfpa.org  
Rev. 10/09

Signature: _____________________________  
Name: David Bernzweig  
(please print)  
Affiliation: Columbus Firefighters Union
Special Notice NFPA 350

Due to an unanticipated delay of the posting of the First Draft Report for NFPA 350, Guide for Safe Confined Space Entry and Work, the deadline for submission of Public Comments for this standard is being extended to December 8, 2017. The First Draft Report for NFPA 350 is now available at www.nfpa.org/350. Should you have questions, please contact Standards Administration at stds_admin@nfpa.org or 617-984-7246.

Fire Prevention Week

Sure, you probably know that National Fire Prevention Week is in October, but did you know that...

• Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health observance in the United States, according to the National Archives and Records Administration’s Library Information Center
• In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation
• NFPA has been the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922 (the year the commemoration initiated)
• President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first National Fire Prevention Week on October 4-10, 1925, which began the tradition of the President of the United States signing a proclamation recognizing the event
• Fire Prevention Week is observed annually the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9th falls to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire (which began October 8, 1871 and did most damage October 9th)
• The 2017 Fire Prevention Week theme is Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week and additional NFPA Public Education campaigns, go to www.nfpa.org/public-education

New Projects Being Explored

Contamination Control

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards Council is in receipt of a New Project Initiation Request for the development of an ANSI Accredited Standard to establish the minimum requirements for the effective contamination control of personal protective equipment (PPE), accessories, and equipment. Specifically, it is anticipated that contamination control will consist of removing products of combustion, carcinogens, chemical toxicants and ultrafine particles which have the potential to result in harm either immediately or over sustained exposures and time. If standards development is approved by the Standards Council, the standard may additionally call for effective contamination control of other foreign matter residue.

NFPA is currently soliciting comments to gauge whether support exists for standards development addressing effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. NFPA specifically seeks input on the following:

1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? OR

Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment?
2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

3. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an application, in addition to your comments in support of the project, online at: Submit online application

*Note: Applications being accepted for purposes of documenting applicant interest in committee participation. Acceptance of applications by NFPA does not guaranty or imply the Standards Council will ultimately approve standards development activity on this proposed subject matter.

Please submit all comments, in support or opposition, for effective contamination control of personal protective equipment, accessories, and equipment by December 15, 2017 at: stds_admin@nfpa.org.
Maynard, Mary

Subject: FW: Fire Service Feedback on Need for New Standard

From: Willette, Kenneth
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Bellis, Dawn <DBellis@nfpa.org>; Fuller, Linda <lfuller@NFPA.org>
Cc: Conlin, Edward <EConlin@nfpa.org>; Grant, Casey <cgrant@NFPA.org>; Floyd, Curt <CFLoyd@nfpa.org>; Dubay, Chris <cdubay@NFPA.org>
Subject: Fire Service Feedback on Need for New Standard

Hi Dawn and Linda:
Recently, Casey and I conducted a webinar on the Campaign for Contamination Control. There were nearly 900 registrants with 290 viewers at the peak.

We were able to have live polling of four questions during the webinar. One question was “Is standardized procedures for fire service contamination control needed?”

Seventy per cent (127 respondents) selected there is a need for a single, new, separate NFPA standard on this.

Seventeen percent (32 respondents) selected there is need to expand NFPA 1582 to address this topic.

Attached is a screen shot of the poll question and all results.

I would like to get this data to the Standards Council as they consider the need for a new document on fire service contamination control, can you advise the best way to do it?

Thanks!
Ken

Kenneth R. Willette
Responder Segment Director | NFPA
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02169-7471
+1 617 984 7299 office
+1 617-750-0111 cell
www.nfpa.org

Happy Holidays! NFPA will be closed December 25-January 1. Place your orders by Wednesday, December 13 to ensure domestic delivery by year end. We look forward to serving you in the new year.

National Fire Protection Association
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards.

IT’S A BIG WORLD. LET’S PROTECT IT TOGETHER.”

Important Notice: Any opinion expressed in this correspondence is the personal opinion of the author and does not necessarily represent the official position of the NFPA or its Technical Committees. In addition, this correspondence is neither intended, nor should it be relied upon, to provide professional consultation or services.
Question 4 - Is standardized fire service contamination control needed?

- a. We need a single separate new NFPA standard on this topic. 70.1% (127)
- b. We need to expand NFPA 1582 to fully address this topic. 17.6% (32)
- c. This topic is important, but consider another approach. 1.10% (2)
- d. The current NFPA standards addressing this topic are sufficient. 2.76% (5)
- e. Modify current NFPA standards on different topics. 2.76% (5)
- f. This question is not applicable to me. 5.52% (10)
- No Vote

Broadcast Results
We have pursued this on our own in conjunction with Rehab and Infection control sops based on existing standards.

Current Ontario ministry of labour guidelines address rehab, hazmat, fire operations etc separately.

Most Fd’s are pursuing 2 sets of PPE as are we, even though we wash gear in an extractor after each fire, but also bag and send in contaminated gear to our service provider.

We have hose-washing equipment and disinfectants on our rigs as well. My point is that we are currently trying to include everything in one sop but it appears to require separate sops, hence I would lead to separating the standards as well.

The interior of rigs need deconning based on wind direction and exposure, different tools are either hard surfaced or not, electrical or gas powered, air monitors have additional considerations, even SCBA must be addressed to ensure water doesn't enter LDV's etc and then freeze up.

Their appears to be too many variables, especially when considering the need to use clean water or soap and water or a disinfectant due to bio hazard (infection control)

So a standard that addresses the difference between disinfectant procedures vs. Cleaning POCs from fire exposure probably makes more sense in the long run.

Note: we are Windsor Fire and Rescue Services across from Detroit Michigan.

We are a medium size department that fights residential, commercial and industrial fires and average a couple of fires a week and sometime a couple a day.

Managing crew rotation(PPE exchange, showers etc) and keeping sufficient resources in service is a serious consideration and while we absolutely need to prevent firefighter cancers and take every reasonable precaution, we also have the very real fiscal challenges associated as well.

Utilizing existing equipment such as air monitors/HCN monitors in the rehab and PPE doffing areas are separate considerations at fires for example, than what is required at a medical where PPE is contaminated with blood and body fluids.

These issues need to be addressed at the strategic (command sops) level, tactical and task levels.

Just my thoughts, good luck with this important endeavor.

Either way, I would be interested in the Technical committee.
Maynard, Mary

From: Jeff Alberts <JAlberts@Savannahga.Gov>
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2017 8:41 AM
To: stds_admin
Cc: Curtis Wallace; Elzie Kitchen; Nathan Gaskill
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE
Attachments: NFPA Document.docx

Importance: High

NFPA Committee on Contamination Control of PPE,

Savannah Fire & Emergency Services has attached the comments associated with the questionnaire on Contamination Control of PPE to this email. If you have any follow up questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. Thank you and have a good day.

Thank You,
Jeff Alberts
Research and Planning Chief
Savannah Fire & Emergency Services
121 East Oglethorpe Ave
Savannah, Georgia 31401
C: 912.210.6620
O: 912.651.4351
1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment?

Savannah Fire & Emergency Services (SFES) is in favor of establishing a protocol that includes practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. SFES is also in favor of expanding 1581.

2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

It is vital that the fire service industry develops a comprehensive ANSI Accredited Standard that establishes the minimum requirements for effective contamination control of personal protective equipment (PPE), accessories, and equipment. Such a standard would identify the removal of products of combustion, carcinogens, chemical toxicants and ultrafine particles which have the potential to result in harm either immediately or over sustained exposures and time. The standard would provide recommendations in the form of industry best practices as a common operating platform to work from. Currently, SFES uses a number of facets which we believe would be beneficial to this this standard.

- No tobacco use policy
- Cancer screenings (i.e., colonoscopies and mammograms) in with annual physicals
- Hood exchange after a working structure fire
- After-the-fire-decontamination process that removes harmful contaminates and chemicals that accumulate on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including tools and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) during fire extinguishment and overhaul, by using dry decon and wet wipes.
- Exposures entered in NFIRS

3. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

Yes, SFES would have two interested Battalion Chiefs, Battalion Chief Elize Kitchen and Battalion Chief Nate Gaskill. Online Application for involvement is forthcoming.
Maynard, Mary

From: dmandersen12. <dmandersen12@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 10:51 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: Contamination Control of PPE

Members,

With new studies emerging seemingly weekly confirming the presence of carcinogens in firefighting operations, I strongly support inclusion of contamination practices for carcinogens in NFPA 1582.

I am a firefighter who has felt the personal impact of fire service related cancer in my own family, and in the fire department I serve at. Please contact me for further details.

Sincerely,

Dane Andersen

Representative
Casper Freighters Association
Local 904
Casper, WY
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582 and support this initiative.

Sincerely,

(Write your name)

Christopher Armstrong, MS, CFO
Fire Rescue Chief
Littleton Fire Rescue
1221 W. Mineral Avenue
Littleton, CO 80120
303-795-3810 (office)
720-353-0439 (cell)
www.littletongov.org
Twitter | Facebook | YouTube

Sender and receiver should be mindful that all my incoming and outgoing emails may be subject to the Colorado Open Records Act, § 24-72-100.1, et seq.
From: Mike Arnold <mikearnoldafsd@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 11:07 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

There is a growing concern in the fire service about this subject with many firefighters who are retired and are dying of cancer with this being said I think it's a good idea. I am in favor of this NFPA standard which may save lives today and in the future. I believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Mike Arnold - Fire Chief
Erv's Sparta Area Fire Protection District
202 East Oak Street
Sparta, Wisconsin, 54656
Phone - 608-269-5493
Cell - 608-633-2200
Fax - 608-269-5404
We are in complete support of the proposed project: Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment

Sincerely,

Steve Austin
Chairman of the Board of Directors
First Responder Center for Excellence for Reducing Occupational Illness, Injuries and Deaths, Inc.
Hi NFPA,

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I don't personally care whether it should be in NFPA 1582 or not, however I do believe there should be wording in the standard that explains the need for education on how to reduce the risk of cancer through efforts other than cleaning equipment, tools, PPE, etc such as exercise, nutrition, stress reduction etc.

Sincerely,
Gamaliel Baer
We at the City of Winston-Salem Fire Department are being proactive and have developed a written policy with steps to address decontamination of equipment and personnel on the fire scene. In addition we are trying out specialized PPE to see its effectiveness and efficiency as well as utilizing cancer product resistive hoods.

I believe I speak for most of, if not all, we are in support of a standard for decontamination of PPE and equipment, I do however caution the wording and the extent of requirements as there are many departments out there who cannot afford full implementation. Just as the turnout gear replacement requirement, there are departments out there with small budgets who do not utilize their gear on a daily bases as municipal departments do and we ask them to replace the gear every 10 years in which it may only be used a handful of times during this time frame.

Christopher D. Belcher
Christopher D. Belcher, Captain
Winston-Salem Fire Department
Training/Special Operations Division
(336) 773-7958/(336) 407-9352
christopherb@cityofwsfire.org
Greetings,

I am in favor of the development of a new standard dealing with the effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment?

I am not in favor of using the existing standard NFPA 1581 being expanded. I think this topic in dealing with carcinogens and other toxins is large enough to warrant its own standard. It would get lost in NFPA 1581 which focuses more on EMS-related exposures. Contamination control should reach out to more than on-scene and deal with practices in the station and even the transport of PPE. This would all get muddied in NFPA 1581.

I am interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee and am submitting an application.

Thank you for pursuing this.

Cindy Bonham

Cindy Bonham, MPA, CFO
Battalion Chief/Health and Safety Officer
Charlotte Fire Department
Office (704) 336-2698
Fax (704) 632-8453
cbonham@charlottenc.gov
From: Matthew Braunshweiger <mbraunshweiger@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2017 11:16 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

NFPA 1582 Committee

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Matthew Braunshweiger
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to firefighters. I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Gregory A. Bulanow MS, EFO, CFO, MIFireE
Fire Chief
North Charleston Fire Department
P.O. Box 190016, North Charleston, SC 29419
Office: 843-740-2644
Fax: 843-745-1002
www.northcharleston.org
www.facebook.com/NorthCharlestonFireDepartment
www.twitter.com/NCFDChief

The NCFD is an internationally accredited agency.
Good morning,
I am personally in favor of creating a new standard. With the amount of synthetics the fire service must contend with today and in to the future, I believe a stand-alone standard would be worthy.
Sincerely,
Brian Burch
A-Shift Captain, Station 53
Central Arizona Fire & Medical Authority
Cell: 928-710-2372 Office: 928-772-7711
NFPA Standards Council,

1) I am in favor of establishing a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. I do not believe that carcinogen decon should be lumped in with EMS exposures on NFPA 1581.

2) The Fire Service has gained more information in the past few years regarding what and how we are exposed to various chemicals and carcinogens. With that knowledge we have begun to implement best practices for further reducing our exposures to these chemicals/carcinogens. This NFPA standard has enough information to stand alone. With results from current studies this NFPA standard will grow. Some of the items this standalone policy could cover include:

- Gross Decon on the scene
- Wet wipe use
- Transporting Fire Gear after its soiled
- Clean Cab concept
- Decon of tools/equipment
- Decon of clothing
- Decon of firefighter
- Saunas
- Washing fire gear
- Switching into 2nd set/backup set of fire gear

Having a National Standard regarding these issues will help departments implement these positive life changing steps.

3) I am intersted in the Technical Committee for this standard. I will be applying.

Respectfully,

James Burneka Jr.
Firefighter Cancer Consultants, LLC
Dayton Ohio Fire Department
(937) 604-3611
JimBurnekaJr@gmail.com
Good Afternoon,

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Thank you very much for your consideration for this exceptionally important topic.

Sincerely,

Captain Lisa Burton

Castine Fire Rescue Department

Everyone Goes Home Lead Advocate - Region 1/New England

National Fallen Firefighters
Contamination control of fire department personnel’s personal protective equipment is a growing threat and concern to the fire industry as a whole. This is a topic that is being heavily researched at this point and as the data is released this will become a very large part of the fire services basic trainings that will reach many areas. I’m in support of a complete standard that addresses this issue as it is and will be a topic of firefighter safety that will be ever-changing. I’m in full support of a new standard and will do my part to help make it so.

Colby Cagle
IFSTA/FPP
Curriculum Manager

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
Hi Ed….In reference to your question on whether this should be rolled into NFPA 1581 or create a new standard...my vote would be to create a new standard. This is a serious enough issue that our members need to know....I feel a stand alone would put emphasis on this particular issue. Just my two cents...thanks so much and sorry for the delay in response. Have a great day, Mary
Maynard, Mary

From: Ivo Ceciliano <FDIGC@coralsprings.org>
Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2017 7:28 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment.

I have had cancer twice and I’m only 36 years old. I truly believe that my testicular cancer at 24 years old was due to improper handling and cleaning of fire gear, along with bad decontamination techniques of personnel on scene. I would like for NFPA to look at this issue more carefully and make recommendations to fire departments on how to properly handle these situations. I truly believe that this is way overdue and that NFPA should’ve addressed this issue years ago. Finally it’s on the table and it should not be passed by. I was very fortunate twice to come out of cancer alive. Unfortunately, not everyone is as lucky as I am. Time to take control of this really important issue. We save lives, but we are forgetting to take care of our own.

Ivo Ceciliano
Captain
Coral Springs - Parkland Fire Department
iceciliano@coralsprings.org
City of Coral Springs, Florida • 2801 Coral Springs Drive • Coral Springs, Florida 33065

ISO Class 1 Department

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Standards Council:

Please consider this e-mail in support for NFPA’s proposal to develop protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment.

I would propose that the Contamination Control information be included in NFPA 1581, Chapter 7.

It is vitally important for NFPA to develop a clearinghouse of fact, in order to separate the empirical and scientific information from those attempting to change behaviors or alter practices based upon no supporting data more than their idea of a “best practice”.

NFPA will continue to receive my support, and the support of my organization to create quality committees to vet important information to best protect the fire service, and the citizens they represent.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice support for the project,

Bradd K. Clark
NFPA # 573345

---

BRADD K. CLARK
Fire Chief & Emergency Management Coordinator
Office: 352.629.8306 | Cell: 352.789.9122 | bclark@ocalafl.org | www.ocalafire.org | Facebook | Facebook En Español
I would be in favor of including the cleaning and decontamination of protective clothing and equipment in the protective clothing standard. The standard would be all inclusive of your protective clothing and would be easier to follow and find for the fire service.

Gregg A. Cleveland, Fire Chief Retired
La Crosse Fire Department
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to firefighters and others. Additionally, I currently serve as President of the Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs and cancer is of great concern to our members and their organizations. Cancer is the greatest killer of firefighters and we need to increasingly do more to protect our firefighters and their families.

The fire service needs a standard to establish the minimum requirements for contamination of PPE, tools and equipment. i.e. removing products of combustion, carcinogens, chemical toxicants. I have no preference if it should be included as part of NFPA 1582 or a standalone standard. What is important is the expeditious creation of a standard and any additional information that can be shared with our members to combat this epidemic.

Anything further, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Jon Cohn, Fire Chief
Greenfield Fire Department
President, Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association
4333 S. 92nd Street
Greenfield, WI 53228
jonc@greenfieldwi.us
Station: 414.545.7946
Fax: 414.545.8875
Cell: 414.699.8328

Greenfield is a connected community
Get connected #PulsePointMKE
Our department is actively researching best practices regarding this project and I would highly recommend the Standards Council authorize a committee to develop a standard for the fire service to adopt locally. I support this effort to reduce the exposures to firefighters of harmful carcinogens that potentially could lead to life threatening cancers for our employees. I am willing to serve as a committee member.

Jeffrey P. Collins, MS, PE
Fire Rescue Administrator
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue

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To My Friends at NFPA:

I strongly support the creation of this document and believe it should be a Standard. The fire service is working diligently on preventing and managing cancer-causing exposures among firefighters and this standard would be significant guidance in addressing these current and critical needs.

Until last month, I served as the Facilitator for the creation and management of the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance. This is a diverse group formed three years ago that is deeply engaged in addressing firefighter exposures to carcinogens and other cancer causing agents. Thank you to all of you at the NFPA for your leadership in considering the creation of this critically important standard.

Professionally,

Chief Dennis Compton
Chairman of the Board of Directors
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
480-244-8529
Maynard, Mary

From: Robert Corbell <RCorbell@northwestfire.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 6:05 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I would like to see a separate standard for the contamination control of PPE. I feel that a lot of organizations do not follow 1581 as they should and including the contamination control of PPE in 1581 would imply that it is not truly important.

Robert Corbell
Captain – Medical Services
Northwest Fire District
520-887-1010
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has potential to save lives by reducing the amount of carcinogens firefighters are exposed to. I do believe it should be part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Tim Cortez
Division Chief
Casper Fire-EMS
307-235-7561

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From: Tim Cowan <timcowan30@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 10:28 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Timothy S. Cowan
City of Oneida Fire Department, NY
NYS NFFF Advocate
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to my fellow firefighters and others. However, without proper funding many departments will not be able to comply. Knowing this, maybe it should come out as a guide and not a standard, but some national guidance is definitely needed and would be greatly appreciated.

If it makes it to a standard, I think it should be a stand-alone standard, because decon is mentioned in numerous other standards like 1582 and 1851, just to mention a couple. Maybe, one standard to cover all decon.

Rick Dangerfield WSO-CSSD
Special Assistant to the Fire Chief
(Safety & Compliance Officer)
North Charleston Fire Department
P.O. Box 190016, North Charleston, SC 29419
Telephone: 843-297-0980

The NCFD is an internationally accredited agency.
Maynard, Mary

From: Dawson, Lea <leadawson@hobostrom.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 4:19 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

Good Afternoon,

Below is the input from H.O. Bostrom Company regarding the new project request for the Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment.

1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment.

Yes, we are in favor of developing standards for established protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. We can see the protocols and practices being added to NFPA 1581, however it would most likely double the length of the standard. Therefore, we do not favor one route over the other, but in general would like to see this project move forward.

2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

As a seat manufacturer, we will be able to better improve our products for safety if the standard was set by the NFPA, versus each department adopting their own requirements. This way we, and the industry, would have a minimum requirement to meet and develop from as new advancements in safety arise. In addition, addressing this through a developed standard would bring the issue to the attention of departments who may not yet be discussing the dangers of carcinogen exposure.

3. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

We would be interested in being part of a technical committee that would help generate the text of the standard, however, we are not sure we would have enough background information on the topic to be part of the NFPA committee.

I look forward to hearing this project is moving forward. If there is any other input we can provide or if there is any other way we can be of help, please let us know.

Thank you!

Lea Dawson | Systems Improvement Specialist | H.O. Bostrom Company
262.955.6788 P | 262.542.3784 F | LeaDawson@hobostrom.com
818 Progress Avenue | Waukesha, WI USA 53186

Please note the upcoming H.O. Bostrom closure dates, and book your orders early to ensure your desired ship date. Thank you.

Holiday break: December 22nd and 25th.
Inventory: December 28th-29th. No shipments; administrative and sales functions are not affected.
Subject: FW: Posted New Project Request on Contamination Control

From: DeBobes, Leo J. [mailto:Leo.DeBobes@stonybrookmedicine.edu]
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 2:24 PM
To: Depew, Jenny <JDepew@nfpa.org>
Subject: RE: Posted New Project Request on Contamination Control

I think it should be a new standard and I’d love to be on that committee!

Leo

From: Depew, Jenny [mailto:JDepew@nfpa.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2017 1:56 PM
To: Depew, Jenny <JDepew@nfpa.org>
Cc: Montes, John <JMontes@nfpa.org>
Subject: Posted New Project Request on Contamination Control

Colleagues,

The NFPA has received a new project request on contamination control. We are seeking public comments and any potential committee applications for this project from now through December 15, 2017. Please share this information with your constituent groups and let me know if you have any questions. The link below contains more detailed information:

https://community.nfpa.org/community/nfpa-today/blog/2017/10/05/should-nfpa-develop-an-all-new-standard-on-ppe-contaminant-control-or-roll-the-requirements-into-nfpa-1581?ru=2080&sr=stream

Best,

Jenny Depew on behalf of John Montes, Emergency Services Specialist
Administrator, Technical Projects
NFPA
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02169-7471
jdepew@nfpa.org
Phone: 1-617-984-7505
Fax: 1-617-770-0700

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www.nfpa.org

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Good Day,

I am in favor of a standard that will establish protocol and procedures for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. While this issue could be addressed in NFPA 1581, it could also be addressed in 1851 and 1500. With that in mind, this issue is important enough, in an attempt to prevent contamination from cancer causing carcinogens, to have its own standard and then be referenced in the other three.

We all should know by now the importance of cleaning our PPE after a fire as it has been proven that contaminated gear results in continued exposure to cancer causing carcinogens. Routine cleaning of PPE after a fire can and does remove a substantial amount of surface contaminants before they have a chance to set limiting the transfer of the carcinogens to the apparatus and stations. Routine cleansing used in combination with Advanced and Specialized cleaning as part of a regular care and maintenance program provides us with the best chance of reducing potential and existing health risks from contaminated PPE to our personnel.

Thank you for the considering a consensus standard to address this present and serious fire service issue and for the opportunity to express an opinion.

Thanks,
Bruce
From: Instructor John Dixon <fireinstructorjohndixon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 10:00 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I DO believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

John Dixon

"Aut Viam Inveniam Aut Faciam"

Regards,

John Dixon, FO
Fire Officer / Instructor
NFFF Advocate
InstructorJohnDixon.com
C: 201.952.4735

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
New Jersey Advocate
As the fire service learns more about the potential contaminants borne by the hazard zones we work in, I believe that the NFPA would be best suited to create a new standard that specifically addresses the cleaning and treatment of the personal protective ensemble after exposure at a structure fire. This standard would hopefully address the recognized best practices for minimizing occupational exposures from the time of exiting the fire environment through the gear being returned to service.

I would prefer that this be addressed as a separate standard specifically because, in my mind, the 1581 standard is about infectious diseases. Keeping them separate avoids confusion and clearly shows the significance of keeping our gear clean.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input.

Sincerely,

Mike Dobesh

[Contact information for Mike Dobesh]
Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment

As the voice for Palm Beach Fire Rescue, I support the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. The contamination of PPE during fire ground operations has nothing to do with infection control. Fire ground contamination more closely resembles hazardous materials exposure and would not fit in an infection control standard.

Darrel Donatto  
Deputy Fire-Rescue Chief

Town of Palm Beach  
Palm Beach Fire Rescue  
300 N. County Road  
Palm Beach, FL 33480  
Phone: 561-227-6492  
Cell: 561-719-3517  
Fax: 561-838-5408  
www.TownofPalmBeach.com

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I am in support of the creation of a new standard that establishes best practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. The nature of the contamination and the uniqueness of the avenues of contamination via equipment, apparatus, and work tasks make this an independent issue, separate from the current practices identified for infection control.

Equally important is the fact that the fire service needs a stand-alone standard that brings attention to this epidemic rather than incorporating (nice way of saying burying it) into the infectious disease standard.

Dave Downey, MPA, CFO
Fire Chief
Miami - Dade Fire Rescue
(305) 984-0124
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others. I believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582, at least in part. I would be for the creation of an implementation standard as well.

Sincerely,

Heath Doyle
Safety Captain
TCESD #2 A-shift
Maynard, Mary

From: Otto.Drozd@ocfl.net
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 11:23 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I fully support the establishment of a new standard for Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories and Equipment. There is a growing body of knowledge and substantive research that warrants that an Industry wide standard be created to reduce the death and disability to our firefighters.

Otto Drozd III, EFO, CFO
Fire Chief
Orange County Fire Rescue Department
Office (407)836-9112
Cell (407)637-7559
Otto.Drozd@ocfl.net

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Maynard, Mary

From: Dyal, David <ddyal@ci.stuart.fl.us>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 5:42 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

- Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? YES
- Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment? YES
- Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.
- As a cancer survivor I am very sensitive to this issue. Had prostate cancer at 50 years of age (15 years ago) and now I am seeing more 50'rs having the same disease. We did not properly decon our equipment and did not know any better and really did not have the equipment even if we knew to decon. A standard for decon is essential for preventing this disease as much as practical.
- As the end user of the equipment, it is incumbent for firefighters to properly decontaminate the gear and reduce exposure to carcinogens. Having a proven, scientifically-based procedure that ensures proper decontamination is essential to maintain our equipment properly. Unfortunately, there is no current standard other than the washing instructions and periodic inspection of the layers. Standards are essential to keep the process within guidelines and efficient for any department to adopt and implement.
- As a Fire Chief, having a standard to which to refer allows me more sway in the annual budget to acquire proper equipment and supplies. Once a standard is published, then it becomes more difficult for elected officials to deny funding these preventive programs. Standards assist with grant applications as well by demonstrating a need for proper laundering equipment, PPE materials, soaps, etc.
- Buying gear is very expensive. Having a standard for PPE materials that recognizes an innate ability to be properly deconened without damaging the material is essential to properly purchasing gear that will hold up to the repeated washing without significantly decreasing expected life of the material or decreasing its effectiveness over time.
- Just as UL tests the gear materials for flame, wear and tear, moisture barriers, etc., we specify our PPE materials based upon those findings and buyers need to be assured through standards that the material we are purchasing is truly effective. Having a national standard encourages the manufacturers to comply to those minimum performances and encourages new research on materials. Again, having PPE built to an NFPA standard as a minimum justifies the expense of the gear when budgeting. It is not a “nice to have” but a “need to have” item for budget and grant purposes.
- In the end, it is SAFETY of the users that is essential to attain every chance we get. Please seriously consider this developing this new standard.
- Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

Dave Dyal
Fire Chief
Stuart Fire Rescue
800 S.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Stuart, Fl 34994
Office: 772-600-1287
Mobile: 561-662-9714
email: ddyal@ci.stuart.fl.us

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NFPA Standards Council

I cannot thank you enough for making this issue of Contamination Control of PPE/equipment a priority and providing an opportunity for those of us in the fire service that would certainly have something of value to say.

I am very supportive of your proposed project and it is a welcome initiative. I have been working on firefighter cancer awareness and prevention for a decade now and it is certainly my life’s mission to help our fire service culture understand the need to take the highly toxic (carcinogenic) fire ground cross contamination serious.

As you’ll see my answers below, I agree that there exist so many parallels in what the fire service went through in the mid 80’s with blood borne pathogen and in reading through the document many of the sections can be easily modified to fit the mold for PPE and equipment contamination; this is actually a big component of the “training” I discuss in the following paragraphs.

A team that I co-chair and coordinate in my department called FACE (Firefighters Attacking the Cancer Epidemic) has been working on FF Cancer Research, Prevention, Education, Support for 4 years now. During this time we have built relationships and partnerships with the following: Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center assisting with launching the Firefighter Cancer Initiative; a multi-disciplinary state-wide research project (www.sylvesternewbadgeofhonor.com); The Florida Fire Chief’s Association; The State Fire Marshal’s Office; The Bureau of Fire Standards; The Firefighter Cancer Support Network; The Florida Professional Firefighters and IAFF Leadership.

The FACE team, last year, morphed into a State FACE Team encompassing 12 separate fire departments, of which I also co-chair, meeting regularly by webEx. A predominance of the work of this team from day one has been concentrated on fire ground toxic cross contamination. Also from day one 4 years back, we connected the blood borne culture transition we went through decades ago as a way to help our personnel understand the extremes in similarity to the issues we face with fire ground carcinogen exposure. We developed a 2 hour course on the specifics of Post Fire On-Scene Decon and have taught our entire department (approx 1400 personnel) and have helped inspire other departments in our state to do the same. Last week we moved to interagency training and have nearly completed Coral Springs Fire Departments training on post fire on scene gross decon.

Through our non-profit (501c3) organization, the Florida Firefighter Health and Safety Collaborative’s State FACE Team, we have created a model SOG on the issue of PPE, Equipment and Personnel fire ground decontamination (contamination control) that has been accepted, by working with the State’s Fire Marshal’s Office and Bureau of Fire Standards as a resource recommendation for all to follow. We are in talks with the University of Miami and the Bureau of Fire Standards to assist with curriculum additions that address these goals as well.

Thank you again for this opportunity.
Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment

The NFPA Standards Council is in receipt of a New Project Initiation Request for the development of an ANSI Accredited Standard to establish the minimum requirements for the effective contamination control of personal protective equipment (PPE), accessories, and equipment. Specifically, it is anticipated that contamination control will consist of removing products of combustion, carcinogens, chemical toxicants and ultrafine particles which have the potential to result in harm either immediately or over sustained exposures and time. If standards development is approved by the Standards Council, the standard may additionally call for effective contamination control of other foreign matter residue.

NFPA is currently soliciting comments to gauge whether support exists for standards development addressing effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. NFPA specifically seeks input on the following:

1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? **YES**

2. Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment. **YES**

3. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development. **Total Support…**
   - Our fire service personnel are front line to all biohazard, chemical, toxin, radiological exposure.
   - Our culture is droned into the belief from marketing, trade, visuals, “traditions”, “leadership”, that the job is intended to be a “dirty” job and being “dirty” is glamorized; much like blood on your hands / skin back in the pre-mid 80’s was culturally acceptable and normal.
   - Science pulls no punches on the volatility of gasses (OV’s) and particulate (PAH’s) on the fire ground as being known carcinogenic and an extreme health hazard. Studies support the urgent need for a 180 degree shift in our mindset.
   - Cross contamination and the obvious smell thereof is something so common place to the American Firefighter. The smell of plastics, products of combustion on everything from radio straps, to SCBA packs, to interior of fire engine & seats, to our stations and equipment is so common place. There is little to no reaction from firefighters to high concentrations of toxins and carcinogen related VOC’s and PAH’s and thus a massive shift in this mentality needs to come from all levels. Leadership from the NFPA is paramount and welcome.
   - It is my understanding the NFPA 1500 (2018 edition) is supporting a direction to the AHJ to begin to train its members in the appropriate management of cross contamination from fire ground toxic exposure. A connection to NFPA 1581 which already is so very familiar to our fire service on bloodborne is a perfect way to blend current KSA’s to newly and badly needed KSA’s on the fireground.
   - Unless actions are taken AT the fire ground to address contamination reduction, JUST as we take action AT the hospital when a rescue unit (ambulance’s) patient compartment is covered in blood, we will continue to expose our personnel and see the number of firefighters affected by or dying from cancer grow.
   - New firefighters, sitting in their minimum standard’s class, deserve the same heavy safety minded education on the fire ground exposures as the receive on
Scene Safety / BSI; a known critical failure on every EMT’s or PM’s trauma and medical scenario.

- The International Association of Firefighters, who deems the firefighter loss of life due to cancer to be a LODD (line of duty death) tracks the % of LODD firefighters annually. The past 3 years, they have released the % showing it to be 62%, more than half annually are loss of life due to cancer.
- Training that will shift culture change in the fire service on this topic is greatly needed and must be a priority of any organization serious about the commitment to firefighter safety.

4. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? YES If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.* I will submit this application in the coming weeks and would be honored to be considered.

Please submit all comments, in support or opposition, for effective contamination control of personal protective equipment, accessories, and equipment by December 15, 2017.

Samuel A. Eaton, Battalion Chief
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
PBC F.A.C.E. Team Co-Chair
FFSHC State F.A.C.E. Team Co-Chair
Operations "B" Shift
405 Pike Rd
West Palm Beach, FL 33411
561-644-1447

Employee Health & Safety ● Quality ● Efficiency ● Customer Service ● Fiscal Sustainability
Sir or Madam,

To respond to the request for input on contamination control of structural PPE, here are several questions and observations:

- Of all of the existing standards and practices that this guidance could be applied to, why a standard on infection control?

- The NFPA Hazmat Response Committee has been working on some language that would tie in fireground decon practices to the hazmat decontamination guidance that exists. If related to fireground activities, does some of this material belong in one of these standards (472 or 1072)?

- If this material were to be developed as a stand alone document, it would likely have to be correlated with existing PPE standards to prevent conflicting information (ex. 1851).

- Does the proposed scope of the new document include fireground decon activities (i.e. capturing run-off) or just post incident activities using gear cleaning equipment? If both, then there may be enough material for a new standard or recommended practice as this research evolves.

In closing, I don’t think that this material belongs in the proposed standard. Depending on the intended scope of this proposal, it would be better served to be placed in 1971 or 1851 if the objective were to relate it to structural PPE maintenance.

Respectfully,

Richard “Rick” Edinger  
Deputy Fire Chief, Chesterfield Fire and EMS  
Chesterfield VA  
Chairman - NFPA Hazardous Materials Response Committee
Personally, I believe that contamination control should be under its own standard. It is a very vast subject, with the ever evolving fires comes with ever evolving standards to decontaminate. If you guys include this standard under the infects standard, in 10 years or less there will be so many additions to the standard, you will give the contamination control its own standard. To save the confusion and the hassle, just start off with a whole new standard. I have a little less than 4 years of experience in the fire service, I started when I was 15, I have seen the rapid growth to the fire service knowledge and the dangers. I did a research paper on contaminants of a normal house fire, and believe me, from the little research I had to do, I want to find out the best way to keep myself and my peers alive long enough to see one of us make Chief. Focusing back on the point, save money, confusion, time, and effort by creating a new standard. Let me learn something new to save lives of my fellow firefighters. Thank you for this opportunity to voice my opinion, I love being able to take part in the process.

Sent from my iPhone
Although this suggested standard looks to be primarily fire ground operations centric, it has some common issues with recent discussions our 472 committee had on contamination. But the chemical contamination issues in a hazardous materials emergency are uniquely different and need to be specifically addressed in 472.

It would be impossible to adequately address both firefighting PPE and haz mat PPE in either 1581 or 472 so I believe that the NFPA Standards Council needs to create a separate standard for the fire service PPE contamination issue within the scope of this project. That information should be coordinated in 472 for a unified position in both standards that is targeted to the tasks performed.

Rick Emery, CHMS

Emery & Associates, Inc.
113 Birmingham Place
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Office (847) 680-0799
Fax (847) 680-7060
iPhone (847) 668-8579

Email: rick@emerysafety.com
Website: www.emerysafety.com
I would like to make a few comments on the inclusion in NFPA 1581 of a piece for Fireground PPE decontamination. As cancer is one of our higher risks, it would seem to make sense to include this issue in the 1581 document. PPE care and maintenance is part of 1581 already and is referenced in some of the subsections. If we as an industry could begin to recognize fire debris can be just as deadly as blood borne debris, we would go a long way to addressing the issue. I would support this matter being included in NFPA 1581. I also speak for the Kansas State Firefighters Association as the President of that organization and ask that this matter be included in the NFPA 1581 document.

“A good firefighter knows how. An educated firefighter knows why”

Kevin Flory
Division Chief of Training/Safety
City of Topeka Fire Department
785-368-4180 (w)
785-230-2307 (c)
www.topeka.org/TFD
klflory@topeka.org
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.
I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1581.

Kenn Fontenot
To Whom It May Concern,

I would be in favor of creating a separate standard for effective contamination control of PPE, equipment and accessories as it relates to cancer prevention.

Sincerely,

Scott A Freitag  
Fire Chief  
Central Arizona Fire and Medical  
8603 E. Eastridge Dr.  
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

“You do not lead by hitting people over the head -- that's assault, not leadership.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am asking the committee to consider to make this another standard separate of the medical standards of NFPA 1581. I feel strongly about this as last year we lost a very good fighter and Chief of The Springs Fire Department can definitely say that our chief died a rare and very tough bout with Leukemia, but he had been a firefighter for thirty years or more and between going to structure fires, vehicle fires, and brush fires plus live fire training at the county training center carcinogens not only built up carcinogens in his body but on his turnout gear. Very rarely were these items washed or hung to be dried in the air. When I first joined turnout coats and boots were kept in storage area on the trucks and when you opened the door to these areas you could smell the most recent fire or fires of the past. When it became a standard that we would go to full bunker gear we were given gear gear bags which for the most part are still kept in the trunk of your personal vehicle or in the back of your pickup truck. Does everyone take them out to air them or dry them I am not sure. I would say do if they really get wet but I strong doubts that it gets done.

This is my first time in making a comment on any new standard and I may not have made it strong enough or this comment may even be ignored. But I lost a chief and a very good friend and my brother-in-law who is also member of this department lost a chief and his younger brother do to this terrible disease. Nor do I say this was the reason he got this disease I am no doctor or research scientist in this area but I am sure of one thing that it could not of helped.

Please consider my comment on this matter before you so that you can help prevent this happening to other firefighters and maybe there families.

Sincerely,

James W. Gledhill FF/EMT/LPN/SFO
To whom it may concern,

I Rich Goddard, am in favor of any NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I feel with the increased threat and the and the liability of this issue there should be a standard of its own.

Thank You!

Rich Goddard

Lieutenant

Gallatin Fire Station 4

315 Big Station Camp Blvd.

Gallatin, TN. 37066

615-452-6289 (work)
Yes, I am in favor of having a new standard for just contamination control of PPE. Infection control is very important, but preventing cancer causing situations should be our number one goal at this point in the fire service. So a new and separate contamination control standard will allow for this initially to occur, but also expansion. Thank you.

Todd Gorham
Battalion Chief
Health Programs Manager
Safety and Personnel Services Division
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department
Work: 703-246-3851
Cell: 571-214-3556
Maynard, Mary

From: Green, Kevin <greenk@mydelraybeach.com>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 2:03 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in favor of a new, stand-alone standard.

Regards,

Kevin L. Green
Assistant Chief of Operations
Delray Beach Fire Rescue Dept.
501 W. Atlantic Ave. Delray Beach, FL 33444
(561) 243-7412 Office  |  (561) 635-3991 Mobile
greenk@mydelraybeach.com

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Maynard, Mary

From:  Sam Greif <Samg@plano.gov>
Sent:  Thursday, October 5, 2017 3:31 PM
To:  stds_admin
Subject:  New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I believe it would be best to roll the changes into 1851 rather than create a separate document. In addition I think any recommendations made should be rooted in common sense. For example; if it is recommended that bunker gear be contained in a separate compartment after a structure fire due to off gassing, then the cleaning company contractor should not have their personnel handling the gear with just goggles and a leather apron?

Sam

Please take a moment to complete the City of Plano Customer Satisfaction Survey.
I am in support of this standard.

The push is for Cancer avoidance, gear cleaning is instilled in all new construction of fire stations, a proper protocol or standard for the care of the materials we are washing/cleaning would be a logical step in the direction of the avoidance.

As we understand many standards co-exist in there function, this standard could easily be implemented into an existing standard which will support the standard or the elements of the standard or standards it effects.

I see it being used more as guidance for the unknowing parties responsible for the gear, this could potentially increase the life of turnouts by proper care above and beyond the MFG recommendations.

Just some thoughts

Dave Groder
Deputy Chief/Safety Officer
Augusta, Maine Fire/Rescue

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
We are in favor of including Contamination and Control of PPE into NFPA 1581.

Thank You,

Glen Guarin

Fire Marshal
Glen E Guarin
#5 Hollywood Blvd NE
Ft Walton Bch, Fl 32548
(850) 833-9569
(850) 585-8351
gguarin@fwb.org
Maynard, Mary

From: Chief Hafermann <hewittchief@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 10:18 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.
I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582. Furthermore being a small department we struggle knowing how to properly decontaminate PPE and equipment. By having a standard it provides guidance to the department but more importantly provides a means to aide in securing the proper cleaning equipment and or replacement of contaminated PPE/tools.

Sincerely,
Brian Hafermann

Brian Hafermann - Chief
Hewitt Area Fire Department
Cell 715-305-1950
Work 715-591-7649
Fax 715-591-4240
I believe that this is a big enough topic as well as epidemic in the fire service that a recommended standard be put into place to aid in mitigation of carcinogen contamination of skin, gear, equipment etc. I am currently in the process of applying to be on the NFPA committee for this process

Thank you!

Sent from
Jason Haynes
Training Chief
Palm Harbor Fire Rescue
250 West Lake Rd
Palm Harbor Fl. 34684
727-784-0454
727-642-9709

********************************************************************
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********************************************************************
In favor of being included in 1851 due to contamination, control, reduction, and prevention is part of the gear process. We should have mitigation, prevention, post use, and follow-up all in one standard to ensure continuity of information and ease of referencing.

Thanks for considering

Randy

Randall W. Hanifen, Ph.D., FiFireE
Shift Captain-Unit 3
West Chester Fire-Rescue
9119 Cincinnati-Dayton Rd.
West Chester, OH 45069
513-777-1133 main
513-759-3941 direct
rhanifen@westchesteroh.org
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.
I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Duane Hendrickson, Chief
Jewell Fire and Rescue
838 Main Street
P.O. Box 399
Jewell, Iowa 50130
Office (and FAX): 515-827-5922
Cell 515-357-1837
jfr2@globalccs.net
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.
I strongly believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. Higgins

Sent from my iPad
To NFPA;

As we continue to learn more and more and the research is truly beginning to show us what is occurring on the fire scene and more importantly after, I fully believe this is a very worthwhile project and one that the NFPA should take the lead on. For many of us, we can relate a personal story that involves one of our own firefighters who have been lost to cancer. I believe that all of us would welcome a standard that we could at least strive towards and one that would truly make a difference on the newest of firefighters that we are hiring today. I would strongly support NFPA help and participation. Thank you for your consideration into this topic.

Respectfully,
Mike Irwin
Chief
Springdale Fire Department
417 Holcomb St.
PO Box 1521
Springdale, AR 72765
Office: 479-751-4510
Cell: 479-799-9091
mirwin@SpringdaleAR.gov

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Members of Council,

I am writing in opposition to creating a new Technical Committee and new document specific to Contamination Control of PPE.

There is an already established TC and Document in the form of NFPA 1851 that deals with the topic. Creating a new TC and document will simply create a future recipe for project scope and document conflict. Where does ‘routine’ PPE maintenance/laundering stop and contamination control begin? The current TC - Structural and Proximity Fire Fighting Protective Clothing and Equipment is well suited to address PPE Contamination Control (in fact is trying to evolve the issue in the next edition). While I don’t wholly agree with the TC’s approach as proposed, I feel confident that the topic is firmly on the TC’s radar. And the TC as well staffed to address the issue of Contamination Control.

Given the timeliness of the topic and related research efforts associated with Contamination Reduction, the Council (Association) may look to convene a standing Advisory Committee (analogous to the High-Rise Building Safety Advisory Committee). Given the issue of Contamination Control spans a number of different NFPA TCs (i.e. PPE, Apparatus, Facilities, Structural Fighting, Medical, training), such a body could serve to feed input and commentary to impacted TCs as well as serve as a coordinating element.

Thank you for opportunity to contribute to the discussion.

Joseph M. Jardin
Deputy Chief, FDNY Safety Command
Chair, TC on Structural Firefighting
To Whom It May Concern:

Most fire service professionals are in agreement that cancer reduction and general health and wellness are a critical priority for our industry. Furthermore, we must take steps to improve firefighter longevity through the systematic and appropriate removal of contaminants, carcinogens and the like. I firmly support this new standard and think that it is symbolic of an important step in the right direction.

Tom Jenkins
Fire Chief
Rogers, AR

Sent from my iPad
Good Morning To Whom It May Be Concerned:

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Randy Jensen, Fire Commissioner
Lake Shore Fire District
Rochester, NY 14612
As the Safety Chief for the Kansas City Missouri Fire Department a 1,340 career member department that provides ALS transport, Haz-Mat, ARFF, Technical Rescue, along with suppression operations I believe using the existing 1581 standard makes sense to me. I believe having one standard that addresses multiple issues all related such as infection control, decontamination, and cleaning PPE streamlines policies and practices for the fire service. With these issues connected in a single document could help facilitate the conversation about a universal cleaning material, standard cleaning (decon) practices, and policies to ensure best practice adherence.

If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be very interested in participating in either a new or current technical standard committee.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Johnson
Deputy Chief
Professional Development
Kansas City Missouri Fire Department
816-513-4642 Office
816-935-8301 Cell
816-513-4685 Fax

“Amateurs practice until they get it right, Professionals practice until they can’t get it wrong”
To whom it may concern,

We at Desoto Fire and Rescue, would like to voice our collective opinion to provide an additional standard as it relates to cleaning and decontaminating bunker gear etc... With the growing body of information as it relates to cancer and the fire service exposure, and the drive for cancer presumption laws, we believe that it makes better sense to provide a standalone NFPA standard, as opposed to adding additional information to NFPA 1581.

Sincerely,

Chad Jorgensen
Public Safety Director
DeSoto County Fire Rescue
122 N. Hillsborough Ave.
Arcadia, FL 34266
863-993-4842 Office
863-990-8031 Cell
863-993-4844 Fax
c.jorgensen@desotobocc.com

DeSoto County Public Safety Department

Disclaimer: “The opinions expressed herein are those of the sender and do not necessarily represent those of DeSoto County Fire Rescue.”

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NFPA-
I recommend that decontamination of personnel and their PPE go in to standard 1581.
Thank you

Chief Ronald E. Kanterman
Wilton Fire Dept. & Emerg. Mgmt.
236 Danbury Rd.
Wilton, CT 06897
203-834-6247
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others. I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,
Floyd Keeney, Jr.
Firefighter/EMT/Training Coordinator/Board of Directors
Cedar Grove Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
Cedar Grove, WV
To the NFPA Standards Council,

As the Safety Officer for the Golden Fire Department I wish to express strong support for an NFPA standard to address the effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. I support the development of a separate standard rather than expanding the existing NFPA 1581. This area of concern is extremely important to the health of our firefighters and I believe that putting the information in another standard dilutes the importance and increases the chance it will not gain the attention needed. As time goes on and we become aware of more toxic exposures I would imagine that this standard would become quite robust on its own, another reason not to tie it in with 1581.

Thank you for your work on this important new project. Feel free to contact me if needed.

Jeanette Kehoe
Captain, Training & Safety
Member FDSOA
Executive Board CO Fire Training Officers Association

Golden Fire Department
911 10th Street
Golden, CO 80401
jkehoe@cityofgolden.net
303-215-8888
Dear Mr. Stagnaro

I feel it would be beneficial to have a standard for decontamination protocol for tools, ppe, and such. We have protocols for EMS why should fire be any different? I feel this will have a greater impact with because we can see blood but we can’t see the carcinogens on our gear, clothing, and skin. At our department, we currently do not have the correct soap that is needed to thoroughly clean our gear. We have to place our contaminated gear in our vehicles (which in a few hours our children, friends, and family will be riding in) to another station to semi clean our gear. Having a minimum standard would help us sell getting the proper cleaning tools ie; washers and detergents to help reduce the potential for cancer.

Thank you for the opportunity to email my concerns.

I Jared Klug am in favor of having a standard to include decontamination language in the revised NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Jared Klug
Dear Sir / Madam:

Without a doubt, I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to reduce carcinogenic contamination and possibly save the life of a brother or sister firefighter and believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Joseph Knitter
Fire Chief / Deputy Director of Emergency Management
South Milwaukee Fire Department
929 Marshall Court
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

ph. 414.768.8191 fax 414.768.8193

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Maynard, Mary

From: firechief@cinnaminsonfire.org
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:55 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

As a firefighter who has suffered from what I believe to be fire service related cancer, I am a firm supporter of this proposal. As such, I support amending NFPA 1582 to include this proposal.

William Kramer, Jr.
Chief
Cinnaminson Fire Department
856-829-5220
To whom it may concern,

My support is for development of a new separate standard in regards to contamination control of PPE in the fire service.

Thank you,

Adam Langley, A.S.
FF/PM 5 years of service
352-274-5638

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
Greetings fellow Fire Professionals,

With respect, I don't agree with Mr. Smith's comments above of starting with NFPA 1851 for a couple reasons. Firstly, in keeping with the original intent of bringing emphasis to the subject of carcinogens and their harmful effects/cancer causing properties I believe this needs to be kept in the 15XX which highlights Fire Fighter Safety. Secondly, 1581 already references 1851 and as Mr. Pepalu pointed out, this is too broad of an issue to have just one chapter in such a pointed standard.

This should be expanded in 1851 and not its own standard but also revise the title to encompass not just the medical perspective, but contamination control in general; Standard on Fire Department Contamination Control Program. Stay safe out there!

Respectfully,

SMSgt Robert J. Laning
Maynard, Mary

From: Lawton, Scott R <slawton@honolulu.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 11:28 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

NFPA Standard Council,

I’m in favor of the establishment of a new section within NFPA 1581 establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment. NFPA 1851 focuses on protective ensembles for fire fighting, we need to address the contamination issue on PPC, PPE and accessories. Its really about controlling contamination that could increase the health risk to our personnel, so NFPA 1581 seems like a better fit. Unless you want to address it in NFPA 1500, as it has to do with safety, health and wellness.

The need to control contamination as a result of actions taken at a building fire are well recognized in regards to building materials, incomplete combustion products and other hazards that can contribute to the long term health and safety of our fire fighters. It is well documented that fire fighters are susceptible to a variety of health risks, with the highest risk in the various forms of cancer (NIOSH study of fire fighters and cancer rates). Aside from using an SCBA, reducing contamination that a fire fighter is exposed to would have a positive effect on our health and safety. NFPA is the Fire Service industry standard, so having a uniform standard that the fire service can follow will increase the likelihood that we can reduce the incidents of cancer in fire fighters. We have developed a SOG on gross decontamination at fire scenes, but do not have a reliable reference to cite why this is important.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this very important issue.

Scott Lawton
Administrative Services
Honolulu Fire Department
636 South Street
Honolulu, HI 96813-5007

Ph: 808-723-7104

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Because it is such a pressing issue, I’m in favor of a new standard being developed.

Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

As a firefighter for 24 years, I am in strong support of this new contamination control of personal protective equipment. As we are faced with more chemical, more hazards, the fire service needs to address and be proactive in keeping firefighters as safe as possible. Too many firefighters lose their lives every year, and too many of us are exposed to extremely hazardous chemicals and toxins.

Respectfully,

Jonas Macskassy
Due to growing awareness, concerns and prevention measures FD's are now taking in regards to this we need a standard that pertains specifically to it in place.
1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment?

I think a new standard is warranted.

2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

Cancer is overwhelming the fire service and its importance warrants a standard of its own. The control of carcinogens will require approaches differing from standard infection control and be more akin to hazmat decontamination. This would be an inappropriate and unwarranted expansion of the scope of NFPA 1581. Including these approaches in an existing standard will necessarily dilute the focus of the committee and result in an inadequate product that fails to keep up with needs and research in both areas.

3. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

Yes

Patrick S. Mahoney
Lieutenant
South Command, B-Shift
Baytown Fire Department
281-420-0420
I believe the fire service occupational cancer “fire service contamination control” should be a separate standard simply because of the size, scope and nature of providing decontamination after response to a fire has far too many moving parts.

Having written a draft SOP for my own department and actually testing the written policy I believe there are far too many actions that have to be taken for this material to be buried in another standard.

The draft policy for my department is 6 pages long and only addresses on scene decontamination to include background and purpose, dry decontamination (due to cold weather), wet decontamination and special consideration to include several footnotes.

A separate SOP is being drafted to address cleaning of equipment such as scba, protective clothing, cabs of vehicles, etc.

I would prefer to see first document from the NFPA to be in the form of guidelines or recommendations rather than a standard. I believe doing so will make it more palatable for the fire service to accept.

One final note, please do not allow gross decontamination to become a function of the Rehab Section on the fire ground. While I believe steps need to be taken to reduce cross contamination of EMS personnel and their equipment. I don’t want to lose sight of the fact that Rehab is being done to medically monitor firefighters to prevent LODD’s and I don’t want that mission watered down with additional work for the EMS personnel who are performing the Rehab functions. I know from experience that effective Rehab from trained EMS personnel have saved the lives of several firefighters and we shouldn’t allow this function to lost in the shuffle.

Thank you.

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Ed Mann
Director of Training and Education
p: 717.242.0112 | c: 717.480.8847 | f: 412.963.0415
1737 Glenwood Ave | Lewistown, Pa. | 17044

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November 7, 2017

NFPA Standards Council
Via Email: stds_adm@nfpa.org

RE: Contamination Control Standard

Dear Standards Council:

I am writing in support of adding a new chapter on Contamination Control to the existing NFPA 1581 Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, rather than creating a new/additional standard.

There is no doubt that a standard for contamination control at fire stations is needed. I think the best place to put the contamination control standard is within the existing NFPA 1581 document because many of the other parts of this document are either complementary to contamination control, or may overlap with contamination control. Approaching all of these issues in a comprehensive manner as part of one document, rather than compartmentalized, will make compliance easier and more likely.

For example, NFPA 1581 contains many of the definitions that will be needed for a contamination standard. NFPA 1581 calls for a confidential health data base for firefighters and this can easily be included as part of a contamination control standard, as can most of the standard’s language regarding reporting and recording exposures. All of the items within Chapter 5 of NFPA 1581 would be applicable to a contamination control standard.

By keeping contamination control within the NFPA 1581 document we would be reducing the change for contradictions or confusion.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Chief Joseph V. Maruca
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SUPPORT for Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment in existing NFPA 1581.

This is the appropriate place for expansion of this vital public safety, employee safety concern. All FES Infection Control Programs should be identified in the agency's NFPA 1500 Master Operating Procedures. This framework for occupational safety and health safeguards in the workplace should focus on 3 primary areas the emergency responder, the victim (direct contact), the public and employees family (indirect contact).

Controls should include items such as:

- Cleaning and inspection procedures
- Storage and Disposal procedures
- Clean Areas for cleaning and gear handling (i.e. Clean room with negative pressure systems and particulate filters in exhaust and HVAC systems -Medical alert protocols in the event of exposure (signs, symptoms, medical contact information for exposure to X,Y,Z) -Broaden screening for screening to detect exposure through the firefighter annual physical program (expand screen and testing in NFPA 1582 for most common exposures- establish permissible and non-permissible limits of exposure) -Apparatus and Fire Station cleaning protocols (jump seats, truck stalls, gear lockers, apparatus cabs, etc.) any place where direct or indirect contact through transfer of contaminant may pose a threat to emergency responders or the public.

The expansion can be done in existing NFPA(s) with and an emphasis highlighted in a detailed ANNEX, APPENDIX or MATRIX illustrating contamination procedures vs. risk .exposure via direct or indirect contact with a table of most common contaminant associated with Structure Fires, Industrial Accidents, Class A, B, C, D Fires (small) and (Large), etc.

VR//

ERIK S McCLINTOCK
Fire Chief
Fire & Emergency Services
Red River Army Depot
WK: (903)-334-3627
MB: (843) 415-5667
DSN: 829-3627
erik.s.mcclintock.civ@mail.mil

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
Dear committee
I am writing to state that I am in favor of the standard on carcinogenic contaminants that will save the lives of many of my brother and sister firefighters. I do believe it should be part of NFPA 1582. Respectfully, Lt. Scott McLaughlin, Local 1589

Sent from my iPhone
Dear NFPA,
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,
Chief Nate Melby

Nate Melby
Fire Chief
Town of Campbell Fire Department
608.385.2218
nate@melby.us
www.campbellfd.com

NE RELINQUAS
I fully support establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control. Given that NFPA 1581 already exists this standard should be expanded to cover contamination control. By including contamination control within NFPA 1581 the need for an additional standard would be eliminated. Either way, inclusion in NFPA 1581 or developing a new standard, I am glad that this issue is being addressed.

Edward J. Mello, IAAI-FIT, IAAI-CI, SCO
Safety Officer
Grimshaw Volunteer Fire Department
PO Box 1655
Grimshaw, AB T0H 1W0
(H) 780-332-4068
(C) 780-625-5360
Maynard, Mary

From: Thomas Miller <Tomfirerescue@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 2:56 PM
To: stds_admin
Cc: Dave Finger, NVFC; Kevin Quinn, NVFC; David FASNY; Reid Vaughan, NVFC; Kenn Fontenot, NVFC; Jeff Cash; George Stevens, NVFC
Subject: Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment

Dear NFPA,

With regard to the referenced issue, please accept my public input on the issue.

I do not believe that a new Standard is needed to address this issue. It is my belief that this issue can be addressed by incorporating it into the NFPA 1581 Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program. The topic is already being addressed by related language in the Annex of NFPA 1001 and in NFPA 472. It is critical issue facing the fire service but I believe that it can be adequately addressed under the umbrella of 1581. My only other suggestion is that 1581’s name be changed to Standard on Fire Department Disease Control Programs - as cancer caused by toxic exposures is not an infectious disease, but a resultant disease state caused by acute and/or chronic exposures to known carcinogens.

I also think that this issue merits direct reference(s) and/or inclusion in the following documents:
NFPA 1521 Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer Professional Qualifications
NFPA 1500 Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety, Health, and Wellness Program
NFPA 1971 Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting

The language should be clear and consistent across all documents - whether it be in the annex or in the body of the document(s). What we don't want to see is conflicting language across the documents.

Respectfully,

Tom Miller

Thomas D. Miller, MA, LPC, ALPS, ADC
Fire Instructor III
Scholarship Committee Chair / Legislative Committee Member, WV State Firemans Assoc.
WV Director to the National Volunteer Fire Council
Principal, NFPA 472/473/1072 Technical Committee
PHMSA PAPWG/PERWG Member - API RP 1162 & 1174 Consultant

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I am commenting as an individual not as a dept head.

1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment.

I am in favour of adding to the present standard of NFPA 1581. More research needs to be done and also new materials used for neck protection.

1. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

I support these new protocols as cancer is a silent killer. Cancer is not like a fire where you can just put it out. By creating new protocols that protect our younger firefighters it shows how serious the service is about cancer.

1. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

Maybe.

Susan Mikolasy
FF2
Safety Officer
Hoodland Fire and Rescue #74
From: Minick, Kyle <kminick@northcharleston.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:14 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

KYLE

M. Kyle Minick; MS, EFO, CFO, MIFireE
Deputy Chief
City of North Charleston Fire Department
Post Office Box 190016
North Charleston, South Carolina 29419
843-740-2616 office
843-745-1002 fax
843-822-1181 cell
kminick@northcharleston.org

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To Whom it May Concern:

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others. I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582. Thank you.

Regards,
Chief Fred A. Mitchell Jr
Georgetown Fire Department
47 Central Street
Georgetown Massachusetts 01833
(o) 978-352-5757
(c) 978-518-1433
To Whom It May Concern,

My name is James Mollet, I’m the Assistant Fire Chief of the Menomonee Falls Fire Department (Wisconsin). I’ve been in the Fire Service for 26+ years and have seen a tremendous change in PPE as well as how we deal with the numerous contaminants we are exposed to on a daily basis. I feel very strongly about the fact of decontamination and protection against the harmful effects of carcinogens. In my organization we’ve implemented a Turbo UV Ambulance Sanitizer® (that we cycle our Ambulances through a scheduled decon – we also use it to do small rooms in our Firehouses). We’ve put Rescue Wipes® on all front-line Heavy Piece Apparatus that our personnel are directed to use anytime they are exposed to harmful carcinogens, Turnout Gear Decon Kits on all Heavy Piece Apparatus that our personnel are directed to do a gross decon prior to getting on the rigs and going back to the Fire Stations – once back in quarters we have our members put their complete complement of Turnout Gear through one of our Gear Wash Extractors, and finally we’ve purchased more than one Nomex or PBI Hood for each member.

With that said, I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, the members of my organization and others.

I believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

James A. Mollet

Take care and stay safe,

James A. Mollet, CFO
Assistant Fire Chief
Menomonee Falls Fire Department
W140 N7501 Lilly Road
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
Email: jmollet@menomonee-falls.org
Office: 262-532-8801
Fax: 262-532-8829
Cell: 262-424-0101
I am in favor of the development of a new standard establishing contamination control of PPE. NFPA 1581 should be expanded to include contamination control, and inclusion of provisions for on site decontamination and transport of equipment.

We are currently in a FEMA funded study with the University of Arizona, and a cohort study (with Casey Grant), which is seeking to evaluate exposures to carcinogens along with effective interventions. While much of the research is still in progress, it is clear already that basic contamination control is warranted and effective. Some to the preliminary data is showing biomarkers of exposure to PAH’s post fire despite current practices, so NFPA 1581 needs to be evaluated and expanded.

Respectfully,

Paul Moore
Captain
TFD Logistics/ Safety
office: 837-7057
cell: 520-235-7074
Paul.Moore@tucsonaz.gov
Good Morning,

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others. The Perth Amboy Fire Department has an active decontamination of firefighters, PPE and equipment following fire incidents. You can see the attached policy. If you should have any questions feel free to contact me via phone or email.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Chief Edward A. Mullen
Perth Amboy Fire Department
375 New Brunswick Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Office # 732-324-3501
Cell # 848-565-7762
**Purpose**

To establish a procedure minimizing the risk of exposure to Carcinogens.

**Procedure**

The following precautions shall be taken to minimize the risk of exposure to Carcinogens in the workplace:

1. All apparatus shall be connected to the Plymovent system at all times.
2. All interior doors connecting to the apparatus floors shall be closed at all times.
3. After handling firefighting equipment in the station or on calls, hands shall be washed in the decontamination room prior to entering other areas of the fire station.
4. At fire scenes, contaminated turnout gear shall be gross decontaminated with copious amounts of water and washed prior to returning back into service.
5. At fire scenes, SCBA shall be worn during all stages of overhaul regardless if there is smoke or not.
6. At fire scenes, firefighters shall wipe soot from their skin as much as possible immediately after firefighting with the disposable wipes provided on each apparatus. The inside of the helmet and SCBA mask should be wiped as well.
7. Upon returning the firehouse, soiled turnout gear, hoods and gloves should be placed out of service until washed.
8. Backup gear shall be placed in service until the soiled turnout gear is thoroughly washed and dried.
9. The inside of the apparatus shall be washed and decontaminated as needed.
10. Members that were involved in structural firefighting shall decontaminate themselves and change their uniforms to prevent the spread of carcinogens within the fire station. Contaminated uniforms shall be washed in the uniform washing machine.
11. If members are assigned to long details outside, sunscreen should be worn.
12. Smoking is prohibited in Fire Apparatus (City Vehicles) or in fire headquarters (City Buildings).
Good morning,

Yes, the Philadelphia Fire Department is in favor of developing a new Standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment. No, the Philadelphia Fire Department is not in favor of expanding the existing NFPA 1581 Standard on fire department infection control. The Philadelphia Fire Department believes that infection control and PPE/equipment contamination are separate issues that each deserve their own independent protocol. If additional information is needed, I can be contacted at the number below.

Thanks,

Vincent P. Mulray
Health & Safety Officer
Philadelphia Fire Department
5200 Pennypack Street
Philadelphia, PA 19136
215-685-8971 - Office
E-mail: vincent.mulray@phila.gov
"One Mission, One Department, Many Partners."
1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment.

Yes. Our Department has taken measures to reduce the amount of exposure to our employees by placing wipes on all apparatus, implementing a weekly hood washing program and washing gear after significant events in addition to the bi-annual gear washing we were conducting before. We have also implemented weekly inspection / decontamination of SCBA’s. We have not gone as far as conducting gross decontamination post fire or bagging gear on scene but I anticipate that will be the next step. The difficulty is determining what constitutes a significant exposure and which personnel were most affected. As to the second part of the question, No. As much as I dislike having more standards to keep up with I think this particular issue should have its own standard. Specifically, I think it would be much less confusing for most personnel and easier for management to implement if the practices for post fire exposure were clearly defined as a stand-alone event and not mixed in with Blood Borne Pathogens and medical events. I understand that the decontamination methods and control measures would be similar but placing them all under the same standard could be confusing as to which section pertains to BBP exposure and which pertain to post fire exposure unless this was clearly defined and given a completely separate section.

2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

Given the increased use of synthetic material and the byproducts that are produced when they burn, I believe that this issue needs to be addressed. The difficulty is always dealing with the financial impact of these types of changes. Fortunately for us all of our personnel have back up bunker gear and we have a soil extractor at our headquarters station but we have been working towards that goal since 2005. If a standard were developed we would like to see specific guidelines for NFIRS reporting and documentation.

3. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council?

Not at this time.
I am absolutely in support of the new requirements for NFPA 1581. Decontamination on scene and at the fire scene are long over due. There is substantial independent peer reviewed research to indicate the positive effect from decontamination of Bunker Gear.

Stay Safe,
Neal Niemczyk
Special Operations Captain
Bat 9, Float, C-Shift
nniemczy@pbc.gov

"Actions speak Louder than Words"

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Hello,

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others. I believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Everyone Goes Home
Region VII Advocate www.firehero.org
My name is Rick Olson. I am a Captain with Central Arizona Fire & Medical Authority. I served for ten years on our Safety Committee. During my time, I took the opportunity to take classes about smoke, the toxins in the smoke, and the increased risk of cancer from those toxins. As a result of the information that I have received, I (along with my Engineer) wrote and submitted a Standard Operating Guideline to the SOG committee and it is now in place.

It is now “standard intention” in our Department after a fire for us to bag up our gear on scene (Gear goes in an outside compartment. Not in the cab.), do a simple Decon on the scene, remain out of service until we can get back to the Station and shower, and get our back-up gear on the truck. I would like to call it a “Standard Practice”, but some BC’s are not fully on board if the other resources in our area are thin. Never the less, as a Company Officer, I personally see to it that I am out of service until we are decontaminated. Our Primary set is washed in a commercial washer at our Department warehouse. Our turn-outs are then inspected prior to them getting returned to us.

In my opinion, some Departments may have a difficult time justifying the cost of getting a second set of turn-outs or buying a commercial washer. O the other hand, I believe that a stand alone Standard would be more beneficial in that it could be used as a tool to bring to the Fire Board or City Government.

I would be happy to help in any way that I can. Thank you.

Respectfully, Captain Rick Olson
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.
I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,
Craig J. Olson
Fire Chief

Campbellsport Volunteer Fire Department
548 E. Main Street
P.O. 709
Campbellsport, WI 53010

Telephone: 920-533-5266
web site: www.campbellsportfire.com
e-mail: colson@campbellsportfire.com

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To Whom it May Concern,

The following are the Los Angeles County Fire Department’s (LACoFD) comments on contamination control of personal protective equipment (PPE) as solicited on your website at http://www.nfpa.org/newprojects:

1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment?

LACoFD is supportive of NFPA pursuing a project addressing contamination control of personal protective equipment, accessories and equipment.

2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

Currently LACoFD is implementing an on-scene decontamination policy that includes the decontamination techniques recommended by NIOSH. We elected to act quickly when the NIOSH research findings were published because we want our firefighters to be protected sooner rather than later.

3. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

To improve our ability to protect our members from the contaminants found in the products of combustion, we look toward NFPA standards and guides to provide specific instruction. We encourage NFPA to move on this project so fire departments know how to best select equipment and process to protect our personnel.

If you have any questions you may contact me at (323) 881-6180.

Best Regards,
Daryl L. Osby, Fire Chief

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Good Afternoon,

I believe the process of Contamination Control in regard to reducing the exposure risks to carcinogens and contaminants should be in its own NFPA standard. It could also have supplements in the 1851 standard of maintenance of gear. I feel that incorporating it into the 1581 standard may not bring the same effect and gain the influence that these practices must bring in order to create change in the fire service. The research and developments in this area are creating the need for systematic change in the fire service and need to be seen as priority. I would be interested in applying to be a member of the Technical Committee.

Thank you,

Ben Oswald
Engineer / Turnout Gear Project Coordinator
Morrisville Fire/Rescue Department
260-C Town Hall Drive
Morrisville, NC. 27560
Office: (919) 463-6140
Cell: (919) 337-8121
www.townofmorrisville.org
I do believe PPE contamination discussions should be included as part of NFPA 1582. I am in favor of any NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to my fellow firefighters and others. However, without proper funding many departments will not be able to comply. Knowing this, maybe a more realistic approach would be for this to come out as a guide.

There are other NFPA standards that address decon such as NFPA 1582 and 1851. If it should become a standard, I would recommend it be a stand-alone standard and take the decon procedures out of the other standards and place them all into this one standard.

My thanks,

Joe H. Palmer
1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment.

From a professional standpoint I believe that a standard addressing PPE contamination control is way overdue. I advocate for a separate standard that departments can cite in SOGs/Ps to mandate their personnel to maintain clean, safe PPE.

2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

3. Contaminated gear is a proven hazard to personnel and the citizens that we serve. Carrying carcinogens and other poisons on gear affects personnel, the public, and the families of fire service personnel. A standard must be developed to direct departments on how to protect all from this hazard.

4. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

5. Yes, I have completed an application.

Best regards and stay safe,

[Logo]

Training and Safety
Jeff Parsons CTO B.S. | Division Chief

343 E Street
P.O. Box 50220
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402
Work: (208) 612-8506
Cell: (208) 270-0519
Fax: (208) 612-8513
JParsons@idahofallsidaho.gov
NFPA Xchange

Should NFPA develop an all-new standard on PPE contaminant control or roll the requirements into NFPA 1581?

new comment by James Peplau - View all comments on this blog post

I believe the most appropriate action is to expand NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program to cover additional actions to control contamination of fire department personal, their personal protective equipment (PPE), accessories, and equipment. Many practices for infection control will be effective for broader contamination control and are similarly applied across personnel, equipment, apparatus and facilities. NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting is too narrowly focused on PPC to be considered. It will have to reference the contamination control standard or be updated to align with it. Similarly, if a new standard is developed, practices in NFPA 1581 will have to align with it to avoid conflicting requirements and guidance.

Reply to this email to respond to James Peplau's comment.

Following Should NFPA develop an all-new standard on PPE contaminant control or roll the requirements into NFPA 1581? in these streams: Inbox
1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard?

Yes, we are in favor.

   a. If so, should the new language be included in the existing standard NFPA 1581?

      Yes, this would make sense.

2. State your reason(s) for supporting or opposing the Standard.

We are in support of this as there is no current consensus on how to best do this. Addressing this aligns with the current fire service focus on cancer prevention.
I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Jon Petroskey; Fire Chief
City of Antigo
700 Edison Street
Antigo, WI 54409
715-350-7350
715-216-3343 Cell
Maynard, Mary

From: Connie Pignataro <medicgirl170@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 3:02 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

Due to the importance of this subject, I believe it should be a separate standard. If it is included in the current standard, I think it will be lost. A separate standard will emphasize the significance that it should have. This is a very serious topic that requires focus. As the safety committee chair in our department, I have not been able to push this process forward with much success. A new standard, I believe, will give it more strength.

Thank you,
Connie Pignataro
The NFPA should address the preventable cancer exposures in the fire service by creating a standard of its own.

As a retired fire captain with over 32 years of experience, I've seen way too many of my peers die early from the cancers that are almost unique to our profession.

Creating a standard specific to firefighters and cancer will:

- Focus greater attention on this somewhat preventable killer
- Enhance the decontamination of personnel, not just equipment and apparatus.
- Provide a framework that best practices can be added to as new research becomes available
- Enhance the urgency of the AHJ to address this new set of best practices...and show due diligence -not just spend big money in lawsuits

I hope that more work can be done in the following areas:
- Second set of turnouts
- Arson investigators' needs
- A minimum requirement for showering on return to quarters.
- Showers with high pressure hoses to blast fire soot out of firefighters' skin...very important to decon firefighters' PPE (skin-where the exposure takes place)
- Decontaminate the fire engine/truck passenger areas - usually the next day with compressed air, doors open, outside with engineer in a particulate mask (the flakes of soot floating around get in the lungs...long term exposure)

Thank you in advance for what you all are going to accomplish to better our profession, and make the job more survivable!

Sincerely,

John Price, Capt/PM (retired), NFF Advocate

$\text{jpinsc@gmail.com}$

714 608-1975
November 18, 2017

NFPA Standards Council

RE: Contamination Control Compliance

Dear Standards Council:

I write this letter to add a new Chapter on Contamination Control to the existing NFPA 1581 Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program. I am not supportive of adding a new Standard for the sole purpose of Contamination Control. The existing Standard NFPA 1581 provides the necessary guidance for fire departments, adding the Contamination Control section provides proper protocols to the existing Standard.

Given the research and the data, there is a critical need to add Contamination Control to the fire service Standard, I believe incorporating the Chapter into NFPA 1581 is the best outcome for this necessary informative guidance. Incorporating the Chapter on Contamination Control will allow fire department leadership a more fluid compliance and maintain protection for the fire service personnel.

By incorporating a Chapter on Contamination Control into NFPA Standard 1581 would reduce contradictions, confusion and compliance. I urge the NFPA leadership to include a Chapter on Contamination Control not the current NFPA 1581 Standard.

Respectfully,

Kevin D. Quinn, Chairman
National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)
From: Quintela, Humberto (MDFR) <Humberto.Quintela@miamidade.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 9:44 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

Good morning, I am in support of the development of a stand establishing protocol and practices for gear decontamination.
The hazards of these types of contaminations have been thoroughly documented through many studies and research. I feel there is a need so there would be consistency and ensure there is a minimum accepted and recommended standard for all.

Regards,

Humberto J. Quintela
Chief of Safety
Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department
Training & Safety Division
9300 NW 41 Street
Miami, Florida 33178
Office-(786) 331-4216
Cell-(305) 790-9622
E-mail:Humberto.Quintela@miamidade.gov
www.miamidade.gov/mdfr

“Public Safety is our DUTY,
Firefighter safety is our RESPONSIBILITY”

Miami-Dade County is a public entity subject to Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records. E-mail messages are covered under such laws and thus subject to disclosure.
NFPA,

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do not believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

After 42 years in the fire service diesel exhaust, smoke from fires, diseases from medic calls I am worried every time I go to the doctor the effect on my body and what I took home to my family.

Sincerely,

Eric Reddeck
ABSOLUTELY, the standards on PPE contamination and decontamination should be reevaluated. In 2011 my husband was a first responder to a gas station explosion. His coat and pants were deemed hazardous and disposed of, however, there was NO second set of gear. My husband continued to wear his contaminated hoodie, helmet, gloves and boots for a month. He then received new coat, pants, hoodie gloves but continued to wear his CONTAMINATED HELMET AND BOOTS DESPITE THE MSDS SHEETS FROM BP GAS THAT SAID "ALL LEATHER ESPECIALLY FOOTWEAR SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF". In 2016 my husband was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's, memory loss and encephalopathy at 55 years old and is rapidly declining. He was two years away from being vested in pension. Now we are on social security. It pisses me off to no end that he was never given a decontamination on site or given new helmet and boots because the current thinking is these items are not really in touch with the body. The thing is..... You have to touch the damn boots and helmet with your hands to put them on.....this gives a low dose CHRONIC DERMAL EXPOSURE. This is no different from wearing a nicotine patch on your skin....YOUR SKIN ABSORBS CHEMICALS. My husband is dying, there is no alternative for him but please please reassess your protocols on how firefighters are exposed via their own clothes. This shouldn't keep happening. We know better

Mrs Riley

Sent from my iPad
From: Dick Roeder <CFDRoeder@caledoniawifd.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 12:00 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.
I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1581.

Sincerely,

Chief Richard Roeder
Caledonia Fire Department
6900 Nicholson Rd
Caledonia, WI 53108
cfdroeder@caledoniawifd.com
262-835-2050
To whom it may concern NFPA Standards Council -

1. Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Yes (personally)

   Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment. No

2. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

   The development of a specific standard would likely serve the need better, in that a rider to the 1581 would possibly bury that content into a parallel set of criteria – similar/but different. It would likely make it more difficult to place emphasis on one or the other in the 1581 if they both lived there – the independent initiatives would be sharing space so to speak? While there are similarities, there are marked differences in the manner in which you go about infection control practices and contamination control with regards to firefighting PPE and equipment. If there were to be a expansion into an existing standard, I would think the firefighting contamination control protocol would line up more closely under some of the existing hazmat standards as opposed to infection control as the practices seem to align more closely with the equipment handling and decontamination practices in the hazmat standards.

Thank you,

Mike Rogers
Deputy Chief –Operations
Charlottesville Fire Department
Charlottesville, VA
Good afternoon,

I'm writing in order to express my interest and support for the NFPA to adopt measures to adequately protect firefighters from the growing cancer risk.

My understanding is that the NFPA is presently debating between either creating a new standard or integration the approach into NFPA 1581. Ultimately I believe that the more pressing matter is that it simply be addressed; how is largely a question of arguing semantics.

However, I do believe that the quickest way to address this issue would be to modify the scope of NFPA 1581 to include not only an infection control program but a carcinogenic risk reduction program. My rationale in favor of this solution is that the technical committee already exists, there are many similarities (from station design to the equipment we wear) in the reduction of risk of infectious materials and cancer-causing materials as well as the need to ensure that any changes to personal protection, station design etc is correlated with each other so that one change does not create an issue for the other.

Should the standards council decide to create a new standard, I have submitted my application in order to offer my support to the NFPA.

All the best,

Chris Ross

Chris Ross, B. Comm
Vice-président
Association des Pompiers de Montréal Inc.
2655, place Chassé, Montréal (Québec) H1Y 2C3 | www.adpm.qc.ca
T. 514 527-9691 (poste 302)/Téléc. 514 527-8119
Courriel : cross@adpm.qc.ca
I am in favor of adding guidelines for Decon for gear. The rate of cancer amongst firefighters is several times higher compared to members of the public. It’s imperative that we find ways to reduce or even eliminate our exposure to carcinogens so we can all enjoy a lasting retirement.
Dear NFPA Standards Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed *Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment* project. As the fire service seeks solutions to reducing job related diseases related to carcinogen exposures, I am encouraged by the possibility of receiving NFPA guidance through development of a standard.

Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment?

1. The San Jose Fire Department is in favor of the development of a new standard. As we begin to employ solutions for contamination reduction and decontamination, we are essentially relying on word of mouth and commercial vendor “best practice” that have not been fully tested and/or validated through studies. The resulting concern is that we may be adopting practices and work flows that are costly and disruptive to our response network performance, and may not be truly reducing risk for our personnel. NFPA guidance is of critical importance in this area.

2.

3. Are you in favor of existing standard *NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program*, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment

4. Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.

   I am not in favor of an expanded NFPA 1581. I believe that this project is best handled under a new standard, and should perhaps be broader than the title suggests. The risk for carcinogen exposure for firefighters includes exposure to diesel exhaust, exposure during firefighting operations in multiple environments with multiple PPE ensembles, fire investigation operations, exposure from fire apparatus and fire station contamination, and contamination of personal vehicles and homes.

5. Are you or your organization interested in applying for membership on the Technical Committee if standards development is approved by the Standards Council? If yes, please submit an online application, in addition to your comments in support of the project.*

   Unfortunately I cannot commit to this project at this time.

Thank you,

Robert Sapien Jr., Assistant Fire Chief
San José Fire Department
1661 Senter Road, San José, CA
Office: (408) 794-6952
Cell: (408) 857-8418
To whom it may concern,

Dialogue between members of our organization, we felt that this project should be labeled as it's own standard. Reason being as our newer and or younger generations enter this profession would be more interested in studying a new standard rather than being stuffed into an existing standard. Cancer awareness is recognized now more than ever and we believe a new standard would benefit the awareness at a greater extent.

If you would like any more feedback feel free to contact me at any time.

Thanks
Jason Sayre
Captain Desert Hills Fire Dist.
928-486-5138

Sent from my iPhone
December 14, 2017

Ed Conlin
Division Manager
Public Fire Protection Division
National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA  02269

RE: International Association of Fire Fighters’ Response to NFPA Contamination Control

Dear Mr. Conlin:

On behalf of the 310,000 members of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), I am submitting this letter to confirm our position that the most appropriate way to address the pressing need for guidance on contamination control is through immediate revisions to current standards – specifically 1500, 1581, 1584 and 1851 – rather than through the development of a new stand-alone standard.

The contamination of personal protective equipment (PPE), self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), firefighting tools and fire hoses during fire suppression and overhaul operations occurs daily.

Preventing unnecessary exposure to the byproducts of combustion requires diligence on the part of our members to not only wear appropriate PPE throughout all phases of an emergency incident, but also to ensure that once the incident has been stabilized -- and before personnel return to full service -- that all firefighting equipment and PPE, as well as the fire fighters themselves, are properly and thoroughly decontaminated.

Currently, the industry lacks sufficient guidelines to address the critical tasks of decontamination and the prevention of cross contamination of areas where fire fighters should be safe, such as the cab of a fire truck or ambulance and in fire station living quarters.

Cancer has become the leading cause of line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) for fire fighters, surpassing the number of LODDs associated with traumatic and thermal injuries on the fire ground and in apparatus responding to and from incidents.

Research has shown that contaminants, including Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), settle on protective equipment and do not break down, leading to longer exposure times and an increased rate of various health problems. VOCs and PAHs are persistent toxins that remain constant in the air and on protective equipment.
These particulates, if not removed correctly, can then contaminate the cab of fire apparatus and ambulances, and be carried back to the station. Due to off-gassing, this may lead to extended exposure periods linked to the increasing rates of cancer in the fire service.

IAFF members, and all fire fighters, need immediate guidelines for contamination control. Creating a new standard is a long-term project that will take many years to develop. This delay is not in our first responders’ best interests. Fire fighters cannot afford to wait several years for the development of a new standard.

Incorporating contamination control requirements and related information into NFPA 1500, 1581, 1584 and 1851 provides a more urgent response to the need for guidance, as they are currently in the revision process. This will allow authorities with jurisdiction (AHJs) to implement these controls sooner.

Therefore, we recommend incorporating contamination control into the NFPA 1500, 1581, 1584 and 1851 standards.

The IAFF proposes both a short-term and a long-term plan for consideration by NFPA.

In the short-term (0 to 18 months), we recommend:

1. NFPA 1500 and 1581 Committees submit inputs during the First Draft meeting (or committee members submit inputs during the Public Input period) to provide general direction for contamination reduction efforts, which include pointers to specific existing standards to address contamination control solutions specific to the related elements.
   - NFPA 1500 Public Inputs close January 4, 2018
   - NFPA 1581 Public Inputs close January 3, 2019
2. NFPA 1851 addresses contamination control issues as planned through the current Public Comment and Second Draft meeting process. Public Comments closed November 16, 2017. The next edition will be dated 2019. The complete rewrite of NFPA 1851 will overlap with practices covered by NFPA 1500. This is an unavoidable outcome of the timing of each revision cycle.
3. The Public Fire Protection Division issued a statement to all Technical Committee chairs for all affected standards on equipment, training and qualifications to address contamination control within their standards during the current revision cycle or via the TIA process, as appropriate.
4. NFPA immediately sets up a Contamination Control Review and Advisory Committee to aid in the direction provided to the individual Technical Committees for the primary purpose of coordination among different projects.

A long-term (>18 months) approach may include:

- Use NFPA 1500, 1581 and 1584 as the over-arching contamination control standards that provide general guidance and point to specific standards for detailed requirements.
• Work with existing committee projects to establish new standards as needed to address cleaning and other maintenance areas for products where end user-based standards do not currently exist.

• Continue the proposed NFPA Contamination Control Review and Advisory Committee to provide a mechanism to minimize conflicts between standards and provide oversight of the five fire service project areas and related contamination control/reduction issues.

Overarching coordination efforts on the part of NFPA are critical to assure consistency in the requirements of various standards related to contamination in all NFPA fire service-related standards. We suggest that this issue be discussed by the appropriate Technical Committee and correlating committee chairs, facilitated by NFPA with a recommendation to the Standards Council. This group should also layout a road map indicating which contamination issues would be addressed by each Technical Committee.

In summary, the IAFF does not believe that the development of a new stand-alone standard on contamination control is appropriate. It is our position that the NFPA 1500, 1581, 158, and 1851 Technical Committees begin work on contamination control immediately.

Sincerely,

Harold A. Schaitberger
General President
I absolutely believe that a separate standard is needed to establish minimum requirements for the effective contamination control of personnel, personal protective equipment, accessories and equipment. It is my believe that this topic is altogether different from what NFPA 1581, Standards on Fire Department Infection Control addresses and the two topics should not be combined.

Be safe,

Joe Schumacher; Captain
City of Fairfax Fire Department
540-905-9527

Sent from my iPad

---

FOIA Disclaimer
You are hereby advised that, pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, written correspondence (including, but not limited to, letters, e-mails and faxes) from and to the City of Fairfax and its officials and employees, and others acting on its behalf, may be subject to disclosure as being a public record. This includes the e-mail address(es) and other contact and identifying information for parties involved in the correspondence.
First, I applaud the NFPA for exploring this valuable topic to reduce firefighter cancers.

I believe the NFPA should develop an all-new all inclusive contamination control standard, that identifies best practices for cleaning PPE, as well as how gear should be handled after possible exposure to contaminants. In addition it should also contain other subjects that can be used for contamination control at the station and fireground:
- firefighter cancer education
- vehicle placement to reduce inhalation of fumes
- no PPE in living space
- storage of PPE
- use of sunscreen, long sleeve shirts, hats

I am providing sample policy that contains several of these suggestions.
TO: ALL OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL AND RESERVISTS OF FIRE RESCUE

FROM: JEFFREY P. COLLINS, FIRE ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: FIREFIGHTING CARCINOGEN EXPOSURE REDUCTION

POLICY #: VI-15

ISSUE DATE MARCH 17, 2016

EFFECTIVE DATE August 1, 2016

PURPOSE: To provide guidance and direction to all personnel in protecting themselves from possible toxins and carcinogenic environments and minimizing exposure to carcinogens and other toxins.

UPDATES: Future updates for this policy are the responsibility of the Deputy Chief of Operations.

AUTHORITY: Fire Rescue Administrator

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) (29CFR 1910.134)

POLICY: Palm Beach County Fire Rescue will adopt and maintain a policy to further assist in reduction and/or elimination of exposures to the dangerous toxins created at our emergency scenes with the intent to lower cancer risks among our personnel.

DEFINITIONS:

1. Incident Scenes

To minimize exposure to carcinogens and other toxins, the following actions should be taken when operating on any incident scene where carcinogens or other toxins may be present:

a. Position apparatus to minimize exposure to smoke and other contaminants. Apparatus doors and windows should remain closed unless in use.

b. Use self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) from initial fire attack to the completion of overhaul.
c. Prior to doffing PPE, crews will complete the decon process performed on their gear and personnel should remain on-air until completion. This decon process is to remove the heavier particulates as well as cool and slow the off-gassing process from the outer shell. (see On-Scene Decon SOG).

d. Prior to reporting to Rehab, remove as many carcinogens as possible by cleansing (soap/water, wipes, etc) the head, neck, jaw, throat, and hands. It is recommended personnel clean themselves prior to any food or water consumption.

e. It is recommended that contaminated gear leaving the fire scene not be transported openly in the operating cab of any PBCFR unit. Contaminated gear should be bagged and sealed prior to transport from the scene or area the contamination occurred.

2. At The Fire Station

To accomplish reducing personnel exposure, the following actions are recommended:

a. Apparatus should idle for as short a time as possible inside the bays and then move outside. Vehicle routine inspection and maintenance should occur outside the apparatus bay on the apron when the vehicle is running.

b. Vehicle placement while running should be done a safe distance away from the bay opening and downwind when possible.

c. Apparatus should avoid parallel parking next to other apparatuses when possible to eliminate dead air flow zones.

d. Positioning of the apparatus is important. Vehicle exhaust pipes should not be allowed to blow directly against doorways or up stairways to other areas.

e. Other equipment with internal combustion engines should be tested outside on the apron away from the station.

f. Keep PPE out of all living and sleeping quarters. PPE is only to be worn in the apparatus bay and areas on the exterior of the fire station.

g. Avoid placing unsealed contaminated PPE in the cab of any apparatus whenever possible.

h. All bay doors should be opened before engines are started and vehicles should not be allowed to idle in the bays for an extended period of time. All drivers should attempt to keep vehicular operation to an absolute minimum in the bays.
i. Following the operation of any apparatus or internal combustion engine, bay doors should be left open, when weather conditions permit, for approximately 10 minutes after apparatus/engines are shut down.

j. All doors leading from the apparatus bays to living quarters, kitchen or offices should remain closed and have sufficient weather stripping (or similar material) in order to reduce any emission infiltration.

k. Where possible, all station air conditioning systems shall be placed in a positive-pressure mode to create less introduction of contaminated air from entering the living quarters from the apparatus bay.

l. Follow Operational Procedure #1-65 Care and Cleaning of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and clean structural fire gear after each fire incident and annually with the department bunker gear advanced cleaning vendor. Clean all equipment (SCBA, Tools, Radio Straps, etc.,) after any significant exposure.

m. When possible every attempt should be made to shower immediately after any fire type incident.

3. Other Recommendations

The following are additional best practices to avoid unnecessary exposure to carcinogens and other toxins:

a. Do not take contaminated uniforms or PPE home or store them in your personal vehicle. Prior to cleaning, uniforms and PPE continue to off-gas for an unknown amount of time, which may expose personnel and family members to carcinogens and other toxins on uniforms and PPE. When PPE must be transported or stored, it should be placed in a protective case or bag to prevent cross contamination.

b. PPE is not to be worn inside public or private locations, unless in the course of operations as deemed appropriate by the emergency situation. Areas of concern are hospital emergency rooms, private homes, offices, and businesses.

c. Use sunscreen or sun block to protect skin from sun exposure. Long sleeves help protect against sun exposure. Boonie hats may be worn during extended operational periods when working in direct sunlight and will be at the discretion of the Incident Commander.
d. Every attempt should be made to not operate apparatus inside the bay or any enclosed environment for any length of time. Hospital Emergency Room overhangs and entrances should be treated in the same safe mindful manner as we do our own apparatus bays.

e. Avoid the use of any tobacco products.

f. Keep SCBA bottles capped (preferred) or turned in the downward direction to reduce soot build up.

Supersession History
F-R OP#VI-15 issued 03/17/2016
F-R OP#VI-15 issued 03/21/2016
F-R OP#VI-15 issued 06/29/2016
From: Paul Siebert <paul.s.siebert@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 2:54 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I believe it would be better to incorporate the information on contamination into a joint standard with 1581. The name of 1581 would need to be adjusted to better describe the new scope, but it is better to keep the information in one location for ease of research when determining contamination and infection issues. Thank you for soliciting input.

Paul Siebert
Fire Service Section Board Member
214-957-1016
paul.s.siebert@gmail.com
I would recommend that the existing 1581 be modified to include decontamination rather than creating another standard.

Thank you,

Mark Skornia
Emergency Management Director

City of Washington
405 Jefferson Street
Washington, MO 63090
C 636.221.4672
F 636.239.7694
mskornia@ci.washington.mo.us

The content of this e-mail including any attachments is strictly confidential. If you are not or believe you may not be the intended recipient, please advise the sender immediately, delete this e-mail and destroy any copies.
First, I believe the research on contamination control (or cleaning of PPE) is incomplete. There is research underway. Until this research is published, peer reviewed, and challenged any attempt to create a standard is premature. Whether a stand-alone standard or incorporation in 1851 is best cannot be determined until the research questions is answered.

1851 is a great standard and has many good things but two inadequacies are its cleaning requirements. The current routine cleaning is inadequate and to say machine cleaning is advanced cleaning is not in line with common practices. Finally, if a new standard creates difficulties in achieving results (such as the moisture barrier hydrostatic test does) it will be useless. Any technical committee should weight the science against the practicalities of compliance. Simply having the will to comply will not permit compliance.
I would like to see the contamination control of PPE incorporated into the current NFPA 1581 standard for the following reasons:

- Beneficial when searching for info on CC (under one document)
- Current standards on protecting fire department facilities are detailed
- Current standards on protecting fire department apparatus are detailed

John Smith, Training Officer
Windsor Fire and Rescue Service
Maynard, Mary

Subject: FW: [NFPA Today] - Should NFPA develop an all-new standard on PPE contaminant control or roll the requirements into NFPA 1581?

From: thayer.smith [mailto:nfpa@jiveon.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 2:21 PM
To: Conlin, Edward <EConlin@nfpa.org>
Subject: Re: [NFPA Today] - Should NFPA develop an all-new standard on PPE contaminant control or roll the requirements into NFPA 1581?

NFPA Xchange

Should NFPA develop an all-new standard on PPE contaminant control or roll the requirements into NFPA 1581?

new comment by Thayer Smith - View all comments on this blog post

Why not 1851 since that is already the standard on cleaning the gear? 1581 would also suffice as most of the cleaning information is already there as well, it just is related to contamination from people as opposed to fires. I agree it needs to be included in a standard but would suggest 1851 as the first choice and 1581 as the second before development of a stand alone standard.

Reply to this email to respond to Thayer Smith's comment.

Following Should NFPA develop an all-new standard on PPE contaminant control or roll the requirements into NFPA 1581? in these streams: Inbox

This email was sent by NFPA Xchange because you are a registered user. You may unsubscribe instantly from NFPA Xchange, or adjust email frequency in your email preferences.
Hello

Thank you for putting more emphasis on this incredibly important topic.

This absolutely must be it's own stand alone standard. I realize that it makes sense and flow for it to be in the PPE standard. However I believe that it will easily be lost in all the many pages and paragraphs.

If in its own stand alone standard it will be more prominent and I believe there will be increased awareness. Hopefully followed by greater adherence.

Thank you for allowing input on this vital endeavor.

Respectfully
Jeff Sneller
Career firefighter, three time cancer survivor

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
1) In regards to your first question of development of a standard for contamination control/isolation. I feel it not only is needed but is long overdue! Whether you put it with the current 1581 or as its own standard isn’t nearly as important as getting it included in as a standard quickly.

2) Our department has been actively addressing these issues for the last few years and it certainly helps move policy and budget priority when you can quote a nationally excepted standard. It gives solid backing and reasoning for a budget increase put forward to those that hold the “purse strings”.

3) I may be interested in the Technical Committee, but I would have to know more details on what it entails.

*Kriss Soppe*

**Colorado Springs Fire Department**

PPE Program Captain

Fire Station 18

6830 Hadler Vw

Colorado Springs, CO 80919

TEL (719)385-7018

Ksoppe@springsgov.com

“Providing the Highest Quality Problem Solving, Fire and Rescue Service to our Community Since 1894”
To Whom it May Concern,

The National Fallen strongly supports the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. Though we are not certain that expansion of NFPA 1581 is necessarily the best place for this new standard to exist, we are supportive of having a conversation with fire service organizations to determine if this is the best course of action.

The cancer problem in the fire service has emerged as one of the leading concerns of today's fire service. Research by NIOSH and others has demonstrated that exposure to carcinogens leads to firefighter cancers. Best practices and the development of standards will provide life saving actions to reduce exposures and ultimately lower the instances of occupational cancer in the fire service.

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is interested in serving on a Technical Committee if the development of standards is approved. An online application is forthcoming.

If you have any questions or need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,
Victor Stagnaro
Interim Managing Director
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
From: Staub, David <dstaub@paysonaz.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 1:40 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I am in support of a new standard.

I normally do not support adding standards but given the unique nature of this newly realized threat, it is my opinion that it does not fit well into an infection control standard. While some of the concepts may be similar this is not an infectious disease as a hazardous material issue. I am happy that we are realizing this threat and there are efforts underway to correct poor occupational practices, this should be done as a new standard.

David Staub
Fire Chief
Town of Payson
Fire Department

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
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Fellow Fire Professionals,

I do feel this issue should be addressed as firefighter cancer rates continue to rise. The attached link details the findings from a joint NIOSH, National Cancer Institute and UC Davis Dept. of Health report completed in late 2015. [https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/pgms/worknotify/pdfs/ff-cancer-factsheet-final.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/pgms/worknotify/pdfs/ff-cancer-factsheet-final.pdf)

A large number of facilities within my jurisdiction contain asbestos as well as other carcinogens. I directed my Assistant Chief for Health & Safety to develop a cancer prevention program management guide to limit the potential exposure post fire incident. I think incorporating this type of guidance within NFPA 1581 would be appropriate to give sound guidance to fire managers world-wide in an effort to limit the long-term health effects to firefighters. [https://community.nfpa.org/servlet/JiveServlet/downloadImage/105-9592-124571/462-600/Cancer+Prevnetion+Program+Mngt+Guide+Pq+1.JPG](https://community.nfpa.org/servlet/JiveServlet/downloadImage/105-9592-124571/462-600/Cancer+Prevnetion+Program+Mngt+Guide+Pq+1.JPG) [https://community.nfpa.org/servlet/JiveServlet/downloadImage/105-9592-124572/463-600/Cancer+Prevnetion+Program+Mngt+Guide+Pq+2.JPG](https://community.nfpa.org/servlet/JiveServlet/downloadImage/105-9592-124572/463-600/Cancer+Prevnetion+Program+Mngt+Guide+Pq+2.JPG) [https://community.nfpa.org/servlet/JiveServlet/downloadImage/105-9592-124573/468-600/Cancer+Prevnetion+Program+Mngt+Guide+Pq+3.JPG](https://community.nfpa.org/servlet/JiveServlet/downloadImage/105-9592-124573/468-600/Cancer+Prevnetion+Program+Mngt+Guide+Pq+3.JPG)
Sincerely,

WILLIAM L. TAYLOR, CMSgt, USAF
Installation Fire Chief
RAF Mildenhall, England

Reply to this email to respond to kureus's comment.

Following Should NFPA develop an all-new standard on PPE contaminant control or roll the requirements into NFPA 1581? in these streams: Inbox

This email was sent by NFPA Xchange because you are a registered user. You may unsubscribe instantly from NFPA Xchange, or adjust email frequency in your email preferences.
Maynard, Mary

From: Tom Tomlins <tdtomlins@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 1:52 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

1. Q: Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment?

2. A: Yes, favor in created a nationwide protocol to manage contaminated gear and PPE requirements throughout an incident including air-monitoring for those outside the hotzone (ex: Engineers at the truck)

3. Q: Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development

4. In support for there is clear correlation between working fires and hazards of modern combustible products gas that are carcinogenic. Many inhaled chemicals are not detectable by smell and although might be small in scope to the fire the accumulation of such chemicals over a period of many years/decades within the human system appears to have a great effect of health issues in emergency service personnel later years.

Thank you for your time

Thomas D. Tomlins (Tom Tom)

239-850-5990

Ret. Fire Officer of Iona McGregor Fire District Fort Myers, FL.

5.
Dear NFPA Administration,

The development of a new standard covering the contamination of PPE, accessories, and equipment is absolutely imperative. Contamination control in the fire service is one of the most important topics effecting the ongoing health and safety of us as firefighters. NFPA touches on contamination control in several different standards but justice is not done to address it and provide best practices, awareness and recommendations of the global topic within not only PPE but all equipment and accessories. The only way that this can be done is through a stand alone document in the form of a standard which addresses this crucial topic from all aspects. I truly hope the development of a new standard is successful as this will be a leading topic amongst the fire service for many years to come and NFPA needs to be the champion of this project.

Best,

Tim Tomlinson
Addison Fire Department
Gear Cleaning Solutions, LLC
214.774.2213 (O)
940.300.5718 (C)
To whom it may concern,

I wanted to take the opportunity to advise NFPA that I am in favor of standards addressing the Contamination Control of PPE and believe that NFPA 1581 is the appropriate place for these standards to reside.

The rationale for being in support of this standard revolves around the fact that there exists much confusion as to the issue of contamination control for PPE. I believe this confusion serves to expose firefighters to undue risk and the creation of a common standard will serve to bring the issue to the forefront and establish some level of consistency among the industry.

Michael S. Tucker  
Superintendent / Bureau Chief  
Florida State Fire College  
Bureau of Fire Standards & Training  
11655 NW Gainesville Rd.  
Ocala, FL 34482  
Suncom: 72833  
Phone: (352) 369-2833

"To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded." Ralph Waldo Emerson
Hello,

I recommend the NFPA Standards Council set up a separate technical committee to address the issue of contamination control. Cancer is the leading cause of death among fire fighters, active and retired. The cancer rate exceeds the cancer rate of the general population despite the fact that fire fighters are more physically fit. If the issue of contamination control is left with a current technical committee to address, there will not be the expertise nor time allotted to adequately address the issue. Contamination control is expansive. The current focus is on PPE. However, there needs to be a focus on fire fighting equipment, such as hose and hand tools; fire department apparatus—especially the interior of cabs; and, the design, finishes, and furnishings of fire stations. This is a tremendous challenge that deserves the full attention of a stand-alone technical committee with member makeup that represents the expertise of the broad spectrum of contamination.

I state these thoughts based on my following experience:
1. Former member of NFPA Fire Service Occupational Safety and Health technical committee
2. Former member of NFPA Fire Department Apparatus technical committee (where I chaired the safety task group for many years)
3. Current member of NFPA Structural and Proximity Fire Fighting Clothing and Equipment
4. Current member of NFPA Correlating Committee on Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment
5. Member of Project Team for the NFPA Fire Protection Research Foundation’s project on “Campaign for Fire Service Contamination Control”
6. Retired health and safety officer for 24 years with the Charlotte Fire Department
8. Vice-chair of the NFPA Fire Service Section
9. Cancer survivor

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Robert Tutterow  
President, F.I.E.R.O  
1029 Lansdowne Road  
Charlotte, NC 28270  
704-576-1386  
www.fireppesymposium.com  
www.fierofirestation.com  
www.firepeworkshop.com
Gentlemen,

After much consideration as to whether this project should be under NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, or a stand alone standard, I have some serious concerns with both ideas.

Placing this into NFPA 1581 sounds like a “decent” idea, as it currently could “loosely” be determined to include “Infection and Contamination control”, however I feel that it would get “lost” here as we are discussing primarily human infection control. I was also told that a new stand alone standard could take between 5-7 years to develop and print, and frankly I feel that this is far to long to wait to address an issue that claimed 60% of the IAFF LODDs since 2002, and 70% of the IAFF LODDs in 2016 alone, as per the IAFF!

However, I would like to STRONGLY suggest that we place the issue of Contamination Control of PPE in either NFPA 1851 as it specifically discusses the issue of Care and Maintenance of PPE already, or as a second choice into NFPA 1500 which discusses occupational exposures, and since the 2018 version has now seriously begun to address the issue of cancer, carcinogens and gross decon on scene. Either of these standards makes more sense to me than 1581!

I hope you will consider this in your decisions, however this issue is so important that we MUST get it out ASAP!

Thanks for listening!

Keith Tyson
Vice President, Education, Research and Outreach
Firefighter Cancer Support Network
Cancer Survivor

ktyon@fcsn.net
Mobile 786 351-3276
NFPA Representative,

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination for our Fire Service members.

I do not believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582. I would support a separate standard for this.

Sincerely,

Eric Valliere
Assistant Fire Chief
Scottsdale Fire Department
Office: 480-312-1893
Cell: 480-710-1230

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My recommendation would be to include recommendations regarding the decontamination of firefighting gear in NFPA 1852. That standard seems to be a logical fit and should make the information easier to find. NFPA 1581 is also used by non-fire based EMS agencies that do not use structural firefighting gear and they should not have to pay for a document that only partially applies to them. NFPA 1581 should remain focused on biohazard exposures.

John A. Vanatta Jr.
Deputy Chief
Siloam Springs Fire Department
1450 Cheri Whitlock Dr.
P.O. Box 80
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479)524-3103 – office
(479)427-0526 - cell
As of earlier today, I was made aware that the NFPA has received 12 comments, I hope that this will change quickly. The NFFF along with the 60 plus members of the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance have been screaming from the roof tops that the fire service needs to take more action to prevent cancer in the fire service, And I have grave concerns about mitigating other exposures and the threat of emerging diseases. I am urging all of our responders to not delay in sending a simple email that can make a big impact.

I am in favor and would applaud an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582 and the time to act is now.

Sincerely,

Joel

Chief Joel Vetter 631.852.4856 Office  
Suffolk County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services 631.852.4861 Fax  
Emergency Support Services  
30 East Ave. Yaphank, New York 11980 631.852.4815 Emergency Off Hour Contact / Call Out

All emails of a personal and/or non-county related please send to jmv721@optonline.net

Visit the www.suffolkcountyny.gov to find out further details about various programs provided. Programs like SMART911, Code Red, Suffolk County Emergency Preparedness Registry, Take Heart Suffolk County, PulsePoint and much more...

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Suffolk Medical Reserve Corps. Volunteers Committed to Protecting, Promoting, and Advancing The Health and Safety of Suffolk County.

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Good morning, I have just read the email regarding the possibility of adding a new standard regarding carcinogen exposure. It is surprising that this is even a question. YES we need a standard. Our fire service members are dying every day from cancer and we know what is causing this. As a firefighter with cancer I wish that I knew then what I know now. Please do the right thing here. This is a no-brainer.

Mark Villalpando  
City of Racine Fire Department  
Division Chief EMS  
262.635.7930 262.939.1151  
mark.villalpando@cityofracine.org
Maynard, Mary

From: Benjamin Whiteley <bwhiteley@pflugervillefire.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 10:13 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: Standard for best practices in contamination control

I'm in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others. I do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Thanks,
Benjamin Whiteley
Maynard, Mary

From: hwildland <hwildland@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 10:39 AM
To: stds_admin
Subject: We as a fire department support any standard as it relates to the health of firefighters

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
To Whom It Concerns,

I am in favor of an NFPA standard that has the potential to save lives and reduce carcinogenic contamination to me, my brother and sister firefighters and others.

I Tracy S. Williams do believe it should be included as part of NFPA 1582.

Sincerely,

Tracy S. Williams
Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal
Westview-Fairforest Fire Department
311. N. Blackstock Road
P.O. Box 170367
Spartanburg, SC 29301
(w) 864-576-2529 Ext. 100
(F) 864-587-8485
twilliams@wffd.org

www.wffd.org

Cancer Survivor, 2009
I am in favor of a new standard to address this problem in the fire service. In some ways I feel it could almost be a guide instead of a standard, like NFPA 921. As this document takes off, it will definitely grow in the upcoming years as more research becomes available for not only PPE and equipment, but cross contamination of apparatus, stations, personal vehicles, personal homes, etc. The document can also address levels of exposure, length of exposure, and materials exposed to. In some ways, this document could provide architectural guides to building new stations around cancer prevention.

David Yows  
Division Chief, CFEI, CVFI  
San Juan County Fire Department  
209 South Oliver Drive  
Aztec, NM 87410  
505-334-1180 Office  
505-334-3239 Fax

NEW email: yowsd@sjcounty.net

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From: Tom Lambert <tlambert@zoominternet.net>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 1:38 PM
To: stds_admin
Subject: New project on Contamination Control of PPE

I feel it should have its own standard. This is somewhat new to the fire service and the youth of the fire service needs to realize how important this is and the effects it could have on the later in life, If put under “infection control” I that fear that they may overlook something that could be life changing later in life...Tom Lambert 330-550-2480
14 December 2017

Mr. Ed Conlin
Division Manager
Public Fire Protection Division
National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02269

Dear Mr. Conlin:

I am writing in response to the NFPA Standards Council request for comments related to the Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Accessories, and Equipment. Although I was already aware of this request, from other sources, I am responding to your blog which states “The NFPA Standards Council has received a New Project Initiation Request from the fire service asking NFPA consider developing an ANSI Accredited Standard to establish minimum requirements for the effective contamination control of fire department personnel, their protective equipment (PPE), accessories, and equipment.”

Before I started my own company, I was a past Technical Committee member for NFPA 1976, NFPA 1971 and NFPA 1851. Although I am no longer a principle member of these committees, I stay involved with the activities of NFPA 1971 and NFPA 1851 as a Health Safety Officer instructor for the Fire Department Safety Officers Association and as a OSHA Training Officer for the OSHA OTIEC at the CA University, Dominguez Hills.

First allow me to say that regardless of the outcome, I am very ecstatic that work on this subject is going to be addressed. Due to the nature of our industry, the concerns over contamination are obvious but sometimes we need to state the obvious. From OSHA’s perspective, exposure to soils and contaminates would be a recognized hazard and presents both a safety and health exposure to apparatus, personnel, facilities, and to our customer the public. I have been reminded several times that fire and emergency services organizations should already be addressing these concerns but, from experience, they are not. Especially when observing how soiled and contaminated PPE (firefighting, station uniforms, rescue, others) is currently being handled after an event.
Although this is directly related to the New Project Request, I would like to solicit the NFPA Standards Councils help to address another problem and that is with the independent service providers (ISP) that clean and maintain fire and emergency services PPE. I can state unequivocally that most ISPs do not have an effective and functional OSHA compliant comprehensive health and safety plan that would protect their employees from exposure to contaminants such as asbestos, silica, bloodborne pathogens or the numerous other soils and contaminates. For the most part, the ISP treats PPE as laundry. I agree, it is the responsibility of the ISP to comply with OSHA and provide for the safety and health of their staff and, not that of NFPA. However, I feel that the NFPA has a moral and ethical obligation as the fire service is bringing these exposure issues to the ISP. I would like to see the Technical Committees that deal with safety and health issues to at least make a reference that directs the fire and emergency services organization to establish that the ISP has an effective and functional health and safety program that would protect their staff by addressing exposure issues such as asbestos, silica, and bloodborne pathogens, which OSHA has specific regulations on.

Before I submit my comments, I did not read anywhere what is being defined as the scope of Personal Protective Equipment, Accessories, and Equipment. Is this reference directed at all PPE or, is the reference specific to a type of PPE such as the structural and proximity protective ensembles?

Regardless of how NFPA Standards Council is defining PPE, I would like to respectfully submit that I am writing in opposition to establishing a new ANSI Accredited Standard on Contamination Control of Personal Protective Equipment, Accessories, and Equipment. I feel that there are Technical Committees in place that can take on this very important subject.

If the scope of this request is directed at structural and proximity firefighting ensembles or a specific type of PPE, I am also in opposition to adding this work to NFPA 1581 Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program. I feel that if this is the case, NFPA 1851 is the Technical Standard of choice. It is my opinion as a fire service and safety professional; past technical committee member of NFPA 1971, NFPA 1851, and NFPA 1976, that this material is best suited to be in NFPA 1851. NFPA 1851 is already recognized and referenced by the fire service as the standard as well as the source for criteria regarding the maintenance of protective ensembles for structural and proximity firefighting and, as such, it is the logical place for the additional information and requirements for the control of handling soiled and contaminated PPE that could pose an exposure hazard. Although NFPA 1851 does not currently provide for contamination control to the extent needed, it does speak to it (Chapter 7.1.4 and in other places) so the framework for contamination control of protective ensembles is in place. In addition, I have encountered other training programs that are also referencing and using the criteria provided by NFPA 1851 as a best practice and OSHA 29 CFR 1910 for protecting apparatus, facilities, firefighting personnel, the public, and firefighter families from the safety and health hazards from exposure to soiled and contaminated protective ensembles. In fact, I am one of those organizations. Although NFPA 1851 would have a long way to go on the subject of contamination control, this is the document of choice because contamination control fits best under maintenance which includes the inspection for soiling and contamination and the cleaning to control exposure hazards.
On a related note, may I also recommend that NFPA 1851 become a standalone standard in the PPE project rather than a project under the 1971 committee. The subject of how clean is clean and contamination control is very complex and requires expertise that is not currently found on the technical committee due to size restrictions. It is also recognized that the scope of 1851 may need to be adjusted to provide for additional information and requirements.

If NFPA Standards Council is defining PPE to encompass all PPE types I would then I would be in favor of adding the work to NFPA 1581 with cross references to the other applicable safety standards such as NFPA 1500, NFPA 1851, and related PPE SCAM documents.

In closing, I sincerely thank you for soliciting and considering my opinions and comments. Please let me know if we can provide any further information and support.

Sincerely,

Karl J. Beeman, CSHM, CSMP, FD-HSO
Occupational Safety & Health Support (OSH Support)

9724 Casper Peak Ct
LV, NV 89117

702-513-2828
kjbeeman@cox.net
osh_support@cox.net
NFPA is currently soliciting comments to gauge whether support exists for standards development addressing effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment. NFPA specifically seeks input on the following:

Are you, or your organization, in favor of the development of a new standard establishing protocol and practices for effective contamination control of PPE, accessories, and equipment? No, I am not in favor of creating a new standard.

Are you in favor of existing standard NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, being expanded to include requirements for contamination control of PPE, accessories and equipment? Yes

Please state your reason(s) for supporting or opposing such standards development.
In my opinion, having just one source to go to for decontaminating PPE would be ideal because there is likely substantial overlap when it comes to the removal of contaminants, whether they be byproducts of combustion or infectious agents. Hopefully the work of the How Clean is Clean group will result in practices that achieve decontamination on multiple levels.

Thank you,
Kurtis

Kurtis Bennett
Firefighter/Paramedic
Cancer Prevention Officer
San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

(619) 533-3493-Office
(760) 845-6243-Cell
kurtisb@sandiego.gov
I do not think it should be in a standard, cleaning and decontamination should be SOG's not SOP's...common sense says you should clean your tools, gear and selves. I think it is silly to legislate common sense and it seems the NFPA is doing it all too often....example...requiring a shower within an hour of a fire...Really???

I also find it interesting that NFPA has never required interchangeable air cylinders...seems like you bend to the vendors more than truly looking for safety and functionality improvements.

--
Craig W. Brinkmann
Chief of Department
Mount Horeb Fire
608-469-0305
I am writing in opposition to establishing a new project on Contamination Control of PPE. NFPA 1851 is already recognized and referenced by the fire service as the standard as well as the source for criteria regarding the maintenance of protective ensembles for structural and proximity firefighting and, as such, it is the logical place for the additional information and requirements for the control of soiling and contamination that could pose an exposure hazard. Although NFPA 1851-2014 does not provide the specifics to exposure control it does speak to it (Chapter 7.1.4 and in other places) so the framework for the contamination control of protective ensembles.

In addition, I have encountered organizations and some advanced training programs that are also referencing and using the criteria provided by NFPA 1851 and OSHA 29 CFR 1910 for protecting apparatus, facilities, firefighting personnel, the public, and firefighter families from the safety and health hazards from exposure to soiled and contaminated protective ensembles. Although NFPA 1851 has a long way to go on the subject of contamination control, this is the document of choice because contamination control fits best under maintenance which includes the inspection for soiling and contamination and the cleaning to control exposure hazards. Combining all user controlled contamination control processes in one document will make managing the processes easier and user friendly.

That said I also recommend that 1851 become a standalone standard in the PPE project rather than a project under the 1971 committee. The subject of how clean is clean and contamination control is very complex and requires expertise that is not currently found on the technical committee due to size restrictions. It is also recognized that the scope of 1851 may need to be adjusted to provide for additional information and requirements.

Although I feel strongly that NFPA 1851 contain the requirements for contamination/exposure control, I also recognize that NFPA 1581 should contain language supporting NFPA 1851.

Adding updates to NFPA 1851 rather than take the excessive time required to establish a new standard will better serve the fire emergency response community. We can ill afford to wait establishing requirements for processes we know are critically necessary for the safety of our firefighters. Adding the necessary information into NFPA 1851 will save time thereby saving lives by allowing implementation to occur quickly.

Thanks for your consideration of my comments.

DANIEL S. DODSON, GS-11, DAF
Assistant Fire Chief for Health and Safety Luke AFB Fire Emergency Services DSN 896-3761 COMM (623) 856-3761
NFPA Standards Team,

It is my opinion that we do not need a new standard on this subject when we already have NFPA 1851. Inspection and cleaning/decontamination is the best approach when dealing with contamination and we have these two approaches already identified in NFPA 1851.

It is my understanding that the NFPA 1851 Technical Committee (TC) is the same as the 1971 TC. I believe 1851 has evolved to a point that it should be separated from 1971 and its own TC of SMEs elected.

R,

Mike

//SIGNED//

MICHAEL D. PATTERSON, GS-11, DAFC
Program Manager
USAF Fire Emergency Services

Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFEC)
Fire Emergency Services Division (CXF)
139 Barnes Drive, Suite 1
Tyndall AFB, FL 32403-5319
DSN: 523-6150 COMM: (850) 283-6150
Toll-Free: 1-888-232-3721 Ext 1-283-6150
Fax: (850) 387-1476
Yes I am sorry, I had the two mixed up in my hurry to be efficient at work today. This one is for the contaminated control of contaminated PPE this time.

My opinion on adding in more regulations or requirements for cleaning and maintenance of Firefighting PPE / PPC is Most departments that have the personal and a grasp of the issue already have a solid policy, and although it is extremely important and I buy into the idea whole heartedly to reduce the risk to fire fighters, I do feel that adding another "Shall" or set of codes that could end up being used against an already struggling fire department, both in members and monitory, would be a yet another standard they have to know about. Then would have to set up and vigorously enforce a new policy and program or otherwise would give an Attorney plenty of material to work with on any and all claims of exposure.
Even a "should" could be used that way.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion
I am writing in opposition to establishing a new project on Contamination Control of PPE. It is my opinion as a longtime member (since 1984) of the Protective Clothing and Equipment project, a current member of the Correlating Committee and ESE committee, past chair of ESE, 1972 and 1976 that this material is best included in NFPA 1851.

NFPA 1851 Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting is already recognized as a standard for care and maintenance of Firefighter PPE, it is the logical place for the additional information and requirements for contamination control. That said I do recommend that 1851 become a standalone standard in the PPE project rather than a project under the 1971 committee. This would serve to bring additional expertise to the committee.

While the scope of 1851 is already inclusive, “This standard establishes requirements for the selection, care, and maintenance of firefighting protective ensembles to reduce health and safety risks associated with improper maintenance, contamination, or damage”, It is recognized that this scope may need to be adjusted to provide for any additional information and requirements.

Language should also be added to 1581 requiring the contamination control process be established and followed. The details of how to perform the Contamination Control should be in 1851. There are currently fire departments exposing members to contamination during the inspection and cleaning detailed in 1851 due to the lack of specific requirements for protecting the personnel handling contaminated gear for cleaning.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Varner

Bruce H. Varner, CFIFireE
Board Member & Trustee
Institution of Fire Engineers
Business Manager USA Branch
bruce@bhvarner.com
602.448.1161
www.IFE-USA.org
Twitter @ifeusabranch
@chief7100
I do not believe it should be part of the NFPA 1582.