11 August 2011

To: Interested Parties

Subject:

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Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 9-11, 2011, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter.

Attached is the final decision of the Standards Council on this matter.

Sincerely,

Amy Beasley Cronin
Secretary, NFPA Standards Council

c: D. Berry, M. Brodoff, L. Fuller, T. Golinveaux, D. Matthews, A. Woodberry
   Members, Technical Committee on Smoke Management Systems (SMO-AAA)
   Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)
   Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary

*NOTE: Participants in NFPA’s codes and standards making process should know that limited review of this decision may be sought from the NFPA Board of Directors. For the rules describing the available review and the method for petitioning the Board for review, please consult section 1-7 of the NFPA Regulations Governing Committee Projects and the NFPA Regulations Governing Petitions to the Board of Directors from Decisions of the Standards Council. Notice of the intent to file such a petition must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Directors within 15 calendar days of the Date of Decision noted in the subject line of this letter.
SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): The Standards Council voted to deny the appeal on NFPA 204 to return the entire Report to the Committee. The effect of this action is that the proposed new edition of NFPA 204 will be issued.

DECISION:

At its meeting of August 9-11, 2011, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Richard Schulte of Schulte & Associates. The appeal requested that the 2012 edition of NFPA 204, Standard for Smoke and Heat Venting not be issued, and that the entire report be returned to the Committee.

As background, a Certified Amending Motion (CAM 204-1) seeking to Return the Entire Report was made at the 2011 Association Technical Meeting (Tech Session). The motion failed.

The appeal requests that the Council overturn the action that was recommended by the codes and standards development process. On appeal, the Council accords great respect and deference to the NFPA codes and standards development process. In conducting its review, the Council will overturn the result recommended through that process only where a clear and substantial basis for doing so is demonstrated. The Council has reviewed the entire record concerning this matter and has considered all the arguments put forth in this appeal. In the view of the Council, this appeal does not present any clear and substantial basis on which to overturn the results yielded by the NFPA codes and standards development process. Accordingly, the Council has voted to deny the appeal. The effect of this action is that the proposed new edition of NFPA 204 is issued.

Council Members J.C. Harrington and Jim Milke recused themselves during the deliberation and vote on this issue.