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HPBA Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association

HOTNEWS

a monthly newsletter for HPBA members

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Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association · 1901 North Moore Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22209 · ph 703-522-0086 · www.hpba.org · hpbamail@hpba.org

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DOE Litigation Update

As previously reported, HPBA's challenge to DOE's April 16, 2010 Final Rule was consolidated with HPBA's and the National Propane Gas Association's (NPGA) challenge to the November 18, 2011 Final Rule. A joint HPBA-NPGA opening brief was filed on April 23rd.

DOE filed its reply brief on May 23rd. The National Resources Defense Council (NRDC), which joined both cases, now has until June 6th to file its brief. HPBA will have until June 20th to file a reply brief responding to both DOE's and NRDC's briefs.

HPBA’s reply brief will be followed by additional administrative filings (due June 27th and July 5th), at which point the briefing will be complete. We then expect a reasonably prompt order scheduling oral argument, which is likely to be held in September or October of this year.

CSA Glass-Fronted Fireplace Revised Standard

At the request of several fireplace manufacturers, HPBA staff and counsel held a face-to-face meeting with manufacturers on April 12th in Chicago to discuss the draft revised safety standard for glass-fronted gas fireplaces. The meeting resulted in a decision to hire Exponent Failure Analysis Associates to review the draft standard and to test the parameters in the standard. Also at this meeting, the Glass Fronts Technology Safety Task Force (GFTSTF) was formed to direct and monitor the Exponent work. The task force has been meeting weekly to receive updates from the work being performed at Exponent.

CSA has released the draft standard to the CSA Z21.50 and CSA Z21.88 committees for their review and comment. The comments are due on July 3rd, 2012 and will be the subject of a meeting of the combined committees on July 19, 2012 in San Diego.

CPSC has also informed HPBA and CSA that it believes that draft standards should cover unvented glass fronted fireplaces. This will be a topic of discussion at the upcoming Unvented Heater Technical Advisory Group Meeting on June

15, 2012 at CSA headquarters in Cleveland.

CSA to Revise P.4.1 Standard for Gas Fireplaces

A meeting is scheduled at CSA on June 7th in Mississauga, Ontario, to begin the process of revising P.4.1, the Canadian standard for measuring gas fireplace efficiency. HPBAC supports a revision and will lead the industry caucus. HPBA has joined HPBAC in the matter and is providing financial support for the cost of supporting the revisions. Technical issues to be addressed include: 1) possible revision of the on/off cycle times; 2) investigation of a potential error in the formula used to calculate efficiency; 3) a decision on the method by which to include electrical consumption in the performance metric; and 4) the determining of a means for measuring and rating the radiant heat energy from the appliances. CSA predicts this process will take two years. Manufacturers with questions regarding the process or meeting should contact John Crouch, crouch@hpba.org, or Tony Gottschalk, tonyhpbac@bellnet.ca.

ICC 2012 "Group A" Code Development Hearings

The ICC met in Dallas April 29th through May 8th to review proposals for the 2015 code changes. The hearing participants considered proposed code changes for 2015 to the following (Group A) codes: International Building Code (IBC), International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC), International Mechanical Code (IMC), and others.

HPBA attended the IFGC and IMC hearings and spoke on an HPBA proposal in the IMC on disallowing the use of gasketed, tight-fitting fireplace doors on UL 127 fireplaces unless they have been tested and certified with gasketed doors. The proposal was approved and will go the Final Code Meeting in Portland, OR in late October.

One proposal that may concern some manufacturers was Proposal FG29 – a proposal covering the door swing on vent terminals. As stated by 502.7.1 Door swing: "Appliance and equipment vent terminals shall be located such that doors cannot swing within 12 inches (305 mm) horizontally of the vent terminal. Door stops or closures shall not be installed to obtain this clearance. This proposal was made to eliminate situations in which the terminations were being struck by opening exterior doors. The proposal was adopted and should be reviewed by direct vent appliance manufacturers. Several manufacturers state that this is already in their manufacturer's installation instructions." For more information, please contact Tom Stroud, stroud@hpba.org.

PFI Annual Conference:
Special One-Day Pass for Retailers

The PFI Annual Conference is headed to the northeast this summer to Foxwoods Resort & Casino, July 29-31, in Mashantucket, CT. PFI is extending a special opportunity to hearth retailers – a one-day registration on Monday, July 30th. This special registration, only $125, includes all

conference sessions on marketing, industry safety and a special breakout session for retailers on the PFI Fuel Standards Program. Also included are an exhibit pass and a ticket to the evening's reception and barbecue. To register, please complete the One-Day Hearth Retailer registration form and submit to PFI.

For more information about the conference, visit the PFI website or contact the PFI staff.

In Memoriam: John Davis

The hearth industry was saddened to hear of the death of John Davis on May 8th in Bentonville, Arkansas, where he and his wife of 45 years, Helen, lived after he retired from Simpson Dura-Vent. John, vice president of Sales and Marketing at Simpson Dura-Vent, retired in 2011 after 20 years at the company. According to the announcement from DuraVent, during his tenure, the company tripled in size to sales of over $100 million a year. He was also a strong supporter of the hearth industry's effort to help improve the air quality in Libby, Montana, and served on the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Education Foundation's Board of Governors. John was a Vietnam veteran and was buried with full military honors.

Department Activities

Communications

The perennially popular May is National Barbecue Month campaign is on a very successful track for 2012. The campaign's press release, "New Poll Reveals It's All About the Cookout" was sent to more than 226 online newsrooms and newsfeeds nationwide. It was very quickly posted to popular, high traffic news sites from Yahoo! News to *The Sacramento Bee*. This year's National Barbecue Month campaign materials are posted on the HPBA website. HPBA Barbecue, our Facebook fan page, now has over 19,000 followers – a 10% increase from the campaign's kickoff date on May 1st of this year.

A Glass Safety Education campaign is in development and planned for the fall. The goal of the campaign is to raise the awareness of the burn potential of glass-fronted fireplaces, especially to small children. The campaign will also include safety recommendations and how homeowners that already own a gas-fronted fireplace can minimize the risk with a screen or barrier.

Membership

Recently, HPBA's primary contact for every member company should have received a letter about updating contact information for the *2012-2013 Membership Directory & Products Guide*. This very popular resource is an important benefit of membership that will be mailed out in November. All changes must be received by June 11, 2012. The update can be accomplished in two ways:

1. Update your company listing quickly and easily online by

using the electronic directory at www.hpbamemberdirectory.org.

a. Log in with User Name: hpbamember and Password: member (all lower case).
b. Then, click “Edit Membership Information” (in the top left corner) and you will be prompted to enter your Member ID and Postal Code.
c. If you do not have your Member ID available, please contact Ian Glowacki – iglowacki@hpba.org or (703) 522-0086 x 135.

2. Alternatively, you can contact Ian for a printout of what we have on file.

Please contact Jamie Beaulieu, beaulieu@hpba.org or (703) 522-0086 x148, with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your assistance!

HPBA Young Guns

The Young Guns published the first edition of their newsletter – *HPBA Young Guns News* – last month. The newsletter is posted on the Young Guns Facebook fan page. Be sure to “like” our community fan page and keep abreast of our activities. The Young Guns is a group of HPBA members who are under 40 OR who have been in the industry for less than five years. To add your name to the distribution list, email youngguns@hpba.org.

HPBEF

FITS is back! The Fireplace Installer Training System (FITS) covers the basics of gas fireplace installation. The workbooks have been developed to provide clear, short sessions with abundant illustrations, activities and concise text. The Fundamentals workbook provides the basic knowledge about hearth appliances (venting systems, heat transfer and clearances, safety and consequences) and is the foundation for understanding why attention to detail, and following installation instructions, is essential in the fireplace installation industry. The Installation workbook covers the entire installation process and is organized by the different topics in installation instructions for B-vent, direct-vent and unvented fireplaces and their venting systems.

FITS was introduced in 2007 and, now that the economy is improving, retailers and installing distributors are beginning to hire new installers again. To meet their need for training, FITS is available in two formats:

- **In-House Training.** If you plan to have an experienced installer do the training, this version provides your installer/trainer with all the materials he or she needs to conduct short, meaningful, quality in-house training sessions. The Company Support Package provides training leaders with a Training Leader Guide, PowerPoint presentations, Training Leader Handbook, Start-up Guide and Brand-Specific Resources. Each company only needs one Company Support Package and one set of Installer Manuals for each installer.

- **FITS Online.** New in 2012! If your company is too small to invest in the FITS in-house training system, it is now available to you online. This outstanding opportunity enables your new installers to receive the same instruction that larger companies offer by working through the online sessions and completing the workbooks. No need to order the Company Support package – simply order one set of the special online Installer Manuals for each installer.

FITS enhances your company's commitment to provide cutting-edge installer training that can increase professionalism and reduce error and liability. For more information, go to: http://www.hpbef.org.

Statistics

- The 1st quarter results of the Hearth Quarterly Industry Survey were released to participating member companies. If your company participated but you did not receive the results, please contact Don Johnson, johnson@hpba.org.
- Coming in July: Shipment data request for the 2012 Barbecue and Charcoal Shipment survey, as well as the request for the 2nd quarter shipments for the Hearth Quarterly Industry Survey.
- The semi-annual Economic Trends Report was sent electronically to all HPBA members in mid May. If you didn't receive a copy or have questions, please contact Don Johnson, johnson@hpba.org or (703) 522-0086 x 146.

HPBExpo Report
Innovations & Ideas for Indoor-Outdoor Living
Orlando, Florida - March 13 - 16, 2013
www.hpbexpo.com

Reserve Your HPBExpo 2013 Booth Space. You'll want to join industry leaders in Orlando next year for the HPBExpo 2013 – all of the big players will be there! Information is now available at www.hpbexpo.com; just click on Apply to Exhibit. This link will take you to the 2013 Exhibitor Overview brochure, floor plans and booth contracts, as well as rules and regulations for exhibiting. A 50% deposit is due within two weeks of application submission. If you have questions or want to discuss booth options, please contact Anita Derouin, derouin@hpba.org or (703) 522-0086 x 117.

HPBExpo 2013 Website is LIVE! Start planning early and make sure that you bookmark the Expo's website, www.hpbexpo.com, to keep up-to-date on information for the HPBExpo 2013. Make your travel plans early and extend your stay in sunny Florida. Visit the About Orlando link for discount attraction tickets, restaurants, nightlife and more.

What's Happening at Expo 2013? Exciting and entertaining features and events are in store for Orlando! You won't want to miss the second annual Outdoor Burn Tailgate Party on Thursday, March 14th, the Indoor and Outdoor New Product

Pavilions, the off-site All Industry Party and a more advanced HPBExpo mobile application to customize your Expo experience!

Increase Your Exposure at HPBExpo 2013. Sponsorship opportunities, such as mobile app sponsorships, exhibit guide map sponsorships, indoor/outdoor carpet logos, convention center window clings, mobile phone charging stations, and more are available for exhibitors interested in expanding their exposure at the show. A full brochure will be posted to www.hpbexpo.com in mid June.

HPBExpo 2012 Highlight. Rutland Products, a manufacturer of high-quality products for hearth, patio, chimney and barbecue products, is pleased to announce the winner of its HPBExpo show prize. Attendees stopped by the booth in Atlanta to register to win $500 in Rutland products. This year's winner was Bromwell's from Cincinnati, Ohio. Bromwell's is one of the oldest and well-respected luxury hearth shops in the U.S. and has been in operation continuously since 1819. Congrats to Bromwell for their win!

HPBExpo Locations, Revenues and Exhibits FAQs. Frequently asked questions regarding the trade show logistics was recently published in *Hearth & Home* magazine.

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1901 North Moore Street, Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22209