



National Hydrogen Association

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2009 Priorities of the National Hydrogen Association Codes and Standards Program

Prepared by the National Hydrogen Association

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Background:

The National Hydrogen Association (NHA) works with our members, our Codes & Standards Steering Committee, and the National Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Codes & Standards Coordinating Committee to identify and discuss priorities for our safety, codes and standards activities. These priorities are shared with the Department of Energy to help inform future areas of focus.

We compile annually a draft set of priorities based on these discussions for delivery to the NHA Board of Directors, who then sets the NHA Program for the upcoming year. The NHA Board is meeting in November to consider the following 2009 priorities in safety, codes and standards:

NEW Priorities for 2009:

A) Codes and standards development needs and priorities:

1. Harmonization of indoor refueling requirements between NFPA 52 2009 and IFC (2012).
2. Other indoor operations.
3. Confined spaces – vehicles – parking, tunnels, etc.
4. Harmonization of separation distances for gaseous hydrogen storage between NFPA 55 2009 and IFC (2012).
5. Separation distances for liquid hydrogen storage.
6. Dispensing station handbook - CGA might be developing a handbook for users.

B) Outreach needs and priorities:

1. More hydrogen fueling station permitting workshops – remain focused on hydrogen and fuel cells.
2. Targeted educational sessions with permitting officials on indoor fueling.
3. Workshops to accelerate pick up of projects, such as workshops for state and local officials to address safety, codes & standards – how the codes work – which codes are used, how hydrogen technologies can be implemented in their state/region.

C) R&D needs and priorities to support codes and standards development activities:

1. Disseminate data collected by DoD and NREL from indoor applications at defense depots.
2. Data on the existing US regulations for vehicles in tunnels, with information on jurisdictional authority.

The following represents the NHA's ongoing priorities, based on the 2008 priorities, and updated to include Goals/Metrics that relate to the newly identified priorities insofar as possible:

ONGOING Priorities:

- Inform the membership of key elements and progress expected through the codes and standards activities of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), CSA-America, The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Code Council (ICC), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).
 - Goal/Metric: As news is created, ensure it is either added to the next Codes and Standards Steering Committee agenda, included in the next monthly *Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Safety Report* or both.

- Coordinate perspectives on outstanding issues for deployment of fueling stations, especially composite storage, indoor dispensing, and setback distances. It is through the Hydrogen Industry Panel on Codes (HIPOC) that code change proposals are coordinated and members are kept informed of the progress and results.
 - Goal/Metric: Ensure the appropriate input is obtained for the next cycle of US Codes; NFPA 2; NFPA 52; ICC Codes (due March 24th, 2009); Identify opportunities to educate code bodies on indoor fast-filling and coordinate proposals for harmonization between I-Codes and NFPA; Participate directly in ISO TC 197 working groups that are addressing these topics and ensure consideration is given to the positions developed in the US.

- Support industry efforts for hydrogen education and training.
 - Goal/Metric: Hold a Safety- or Codes and Standards-related workshop coordinated with industry needs in conjunction with the NHA's Annual Conference.

- Act as industry liaison through participation in HIPOC and similar forums.
 - Goal/Metric: Ensure members are informed of the timelines and procedures for submitting comments to NFPA and ICC for the next code cycles, and ensure members have an opportunity to participate in HIPOC meetings if desired.