



2015

Hot Topics

Helping You Protect Lives And Property


Inside
2 Remembering Tim (Cont'd)

3 From Your Brooks Team

4 Article 1: Brooks Tracks State Legislation and Regulations

5 Article 2: Brooks Grants Wish for Make-A-Wish Child Abby Ferguson

5 Memoriam: Melvin R. Getz

6 Did You Know: Portable Fire Extinguishers Are Required in Laboratories Using Chemicals

7 Article 3: What is SDS?

8 Product Gallery

Remembering Tim



We sincerely appreciate all of the condolences, encouragement, and support we have been shown as we grieve the loss of one of our leaders, Tim Foughty. Tim's unexpected passing was a shock to all who knew and loved him, and his presence will be greatly missed.

Born and raised in Southern California, Tim's early career was spent with a fire equipment distributor ("FED"). Since

the FED was a customer of Brooks, I came to know Tim and his strong work ethic, analytical mind, and passion for the fire-safety industry. In 2001, I was delighted for Tim to join the Brooks team. During his tenure as Brooks' President, Tim worked diligently to ensure Brooks provided excellent product breadth and availability while delivering exceptional customer service to our customers.

Continued on Page 2

800.826.3473 • www.brooksequipment.com • www.fireextinguishertraining.com



Remembering Tim *Continued from cover*

Tim was genuinely passionate about the work that Brooks Equipment does in the fire-safety industry. He truly believed in and advocated for our mission of working together to keep our businesses and communities safe. And with more than 25 years in the industry, he excelled, and made a huge difference.



Tim's influence extended beyond the fire-safety industry. Tim brought light into the lives of his family, friends, and co-workers, and showed unparalleled loyalty and support to them. He genuinely cared about others and loved lending a helping hand. His volunteer efforts spanned many areas, from coaching little league baseball and soccer, to serving on countless industry organizations, committees, and leadership teams. His passion for helping others was never more evident than



in his generosity to those charities close to his heart, such as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. His efforts with these organizations has helped countless children over the years. Tim's passion for helping children began with his own, Aidan and Jonathan. Tim loved being a father and never missed an opportunity to spend time with the greatest joys of his life, his sons.

Tim's life was well lived during the time he was with us. He was an inspiration both personally and professionally, and we as a company want to honor his legacy by continuing to service well the industry he loved. You can trust that Brooks will carry on in championing the concerns of the fire-safety industry. With over 200 professionals serving you over the last 75 years, our goal is for Brooks to not only be the first choice of fire-safety distributors, but their best choice. What we do together matters. With that in mind, I ask that you check out all of the technical articles and resources contained in this issue of Hot Topics. Tim would want you to read this valuable content that supports your business.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric O. Smith".

Eric Smith
CEO



From Your Brooks Team

Dear Valued Brooks Customer,

Summer has arrived and, as a follow up to June's National Safety Month, we here at Brooks want to remind you of the importance of safety at work, on the road, and at home. Brooks is your source for any safety need, such as traffic and roadside equipment, head, eye, and hearing protection, protective clothing, first aid, and more. We are committed to keeping you aware and making sure you are safe and prepared for any environment.

In addition to safety, Brooks strives to do our best for our customers and community. Last year, we had the opportunity to partner again with Make-A-Wish and sponsor, Abby Ferguson, a Wish Child with a rare, genetic disease called Sanfilippo. This April, Brooks celebrated Abby and her family at a send off party to Disney World. Look for the article in this issue that shares more about Abby.

Also, be sure to check out all of the other articles in this issue of Hot Topics. Our technical experts work hard to provide you with valuable content that you need to do your job as well as help sell life-saving products to your customers.

Thank you for choosing Brooks!

Sincerely,

The Brooks Team



Brooks Tracks State Legislation and Regulations

By Mark Conroy

Brooks continues to monitor legislative issues and code adoptions. A licensing bill in Arkansas that would have allowed plumbers to work on fire protection systems, without passing the current criteria for fire protection system technicians, failed. A bill in North Dakota for licensing of sprinkler fitters also failed. In California, a bill to allow specialty contractors to be exempt from extinguishing system licensing is being studied. A licensing bill in Pennsylvania for sprinkler contractors and inspectors is also being studied. Texas, Missouri, and New Hampshire are considering bills that affect their fire codes. A bill in Texas would prevent local jurisdictions from deviating from state law for extinguishers and systems. Minnesota could move responsibility of fire codes to the fire marshal. Washington State amended their building code for business buildings that have four or more stories. New Jersey is considering reinstating the IBC 906.1 exception, which allows fewer extinguishers in certain buildings with quick response sprinklers. New York is studying building code issues, including the deletion of requirements for extinguishing systems at gas stations. Connecticut is continuing their adoption process of the 2012 IFC.

Status of State Legislation and Regulation Updates as of June 2015

State	Summary	Status
Arkansas	HB 1055 is a licensing bill that would grandfather plumbers to work on fire protection systems.	Bill referred to committee but was not taken up before adjournment (died in committee)
California	AB 1208 would allow specialty contractors to be exempt from licensing for fire suppression systems.	Referred to committee
Connecticut	Ongoing process for adopting 2012 IFC.	FEMA sending letters and attending state meetings to help ensure extinguisher requirements remain
Minnesota	HF 276 moves the authority to adopt fire codes from Labor and Industry to Public Safety (state fire marshal). Bill also impacts review and permitting of fire protection equipment.	Legislative session ended, so bill is dead
New Hampshire	HB 427 adopts 2015 NFPA 1 and allows amendments by state fire marshal.	Passed in House with amendment and currently in Senate committee
Missouri	SB 231 makes changes to fire code for boats, reducing extinguishers where a fixed system is provided	Passed in the House and Senate and delivered to governor, May 27, 2015
New Jersey	Division of Codes and Standards developing regulations to reinstate IBC 906.1 exception to allow fewer extinguishers in buildings with quick response sprinklers.	FEMA working to update to latest IBC with no such exception
New York	Fire Prevention and Building Code Council held January public hearing on topics, including gas station fire suppression systems.	Postponed decision pending additional study
North Dakota	HB 1451 is a licensing bill for sprinkler fitters.	Failed February 16, 2015
Pennsylvania	HB 1063 is a bill for licensing of fire sprinkler contractors and inspectors.	Referred to committee on April 27, 2015
Texas	HB 684 would allow individual counties to adopt their own fire code.	Legislative session ended, so bill is dead
Texas	HB 2426 is a bill that would restrict local jurisdictions from adopting ordinances and rules inconsistent with state law for extinguishers and systems.	Failed
Washington	SB 5139 deletes exemption of type-B (business) occupancies that are four or more stories tall from the building code.	Signed by governor May 11, 2015

Brooks Grants Wish for Make-A-Wish Child Abby Ferguson

On April 25th, Brooks celebrated Abby Ferguson and her family at a *Frozen*-themed send-off party, full of dancing, food, and fun. Through the efforts of our employees and the funds raised for Make-A-Wish, we were able to grant Abby's wish and send the Ferguson family to Walt Disney World to meet Elsa, Abby's favorite Princess. We also sent her off with her own princess gear for her adventure. It was an event to remember and Brooks looks forward to a continued relationship with the Fergusons.

Abby was diagnosed in April 2013 with a rare childhood genetic condition known as Sanfilippo Syndrome Type IIIA, also referred to as Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS IIIA), which causes progressive brain damage over time. While we have been able to affect a small part of Abby's life, the power of her wish has also brought so much joy to our employees who have gotten to share in her journey.

To learn more about Abby, her foundation, and how you can help make a difference in her life and the lives of children who also battle Sanfilippo, visit <http://abbygracefoundation.org>. or to make a donation go to <http://walkforwishesclt.kintera.org/remembertim>. ♦



In Memoriam

Melvin R. Getz - 1932 to 2015

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Melvin Getz, a well-known industry pioneer and founder of Getz Fire Equipment in 1957. Melvin was an inventor of mobile service vehicles and fire extinguisher service equipment that is used and recognized throughout the world. He led his company through unprecedented growth and diversification for 43 years, until he retired and sold the company to his son, Rod Getz, who continues to execute his father's vision. In addition to running a successful business, Melvin was a past board member of the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) and made such an impact that he was recognized with a Life-Time Achievement Award and the Pat Fredrickson Award in 1997. It was evident that he loved his business and the industry he served—we will always remember him for the impact he made. ♦



Melvin R. Getz

Portable Fire Extinguishers Are Required in Laboratories Using Chemicals

By Mark Conroy

The standard that applies to laboratory buildings, laboratory units, and laboratory work areas, where chemicals are handled or stored, is NFPA 45, Standard on Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals. The standard doesn't apply to laboratory type facilities where small amounts of flammable liquids or gases are handled or stored and certain smaller facilities; although it could be used as guidance where portable fire extinguishers are being installed as a first line of defense for incipient fires.

The laboratories covered by the standard are classified based on the type and amount of flammable gases and flammable and combustible liquids. The classification of Class A, B, C, or D laboratory is determined based on a table in Chapter 10 of the standard, which provides limitations on quantities and doesn't include the storage areas. In general terms, the largest amounts will be found in Class A laboratories and the least amounts in Class D laboratories. Typically, the laboratory class is determined by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) which could be the laboratory owner, their insurance company, or the local fire official.

Chapter 6 requires all laboratory units to be provided with fire protection appropriate to the fire hazard, and specifically includes portable fire extinguishers. This chapter also requires portable fire extinguishers to be selected and installed in accordance with NFPA 10.

Extinguishers for both Class A and Class B Hazards are needed in laboratories. For any area of a building there must be a complement of extinguishers for Class A Hazards

complying with both area-of-coverage and travel distance criteria for Class A. Additionally, laboratories generally have Class B liquids stored in certain areas, including those in storage cabinets and safety cans, but the dispensing and handling of flammable and combustible liquids and gases is often conducted throughout the laboratory. Therefore, the actual walking distance (travel distance) from any point to the nearest fire extinguisher can't exceed 30 or 50 ft, depending on the Class B rating of the extinguisher selected (see table below).

For the purpose of determining portable fire extinguisher size (rating), NFPA 45 requires that Class A laboratories be categorized as Extra Hazard and B, C, and D as Ordinary Hazard. The following table is used for selecting portable fire extinguishers where the Class B fire hazards comply with the Class A, B, C, and D laboratory classifications outlined in NFPA 45.

Extinguishers for Class B Hazards in Laboratories

	Class A Laboratories		Class B, C, & D Laboratories	
Travel Distance	30FT	50FT	30FT	50FT
Extinguisher Rating	40-B	80-B	10-B	20-B

Many Class B, C, and D laboratories have safety cans and storage cabinets of flammable or combustible liquids. Portable fire extinguishers for extra hazard occupancy (40-B or 80-B) would typically be needed for those locations.

Keep in mind that all buildings (including laboratory buildings) need a complement of extinguishers for Class A, common combustible

fires. Therefore, multi-purpose dry chemical or larger halogenated agent extinguishers are typically selected to satisfy both Class A and Class B hazard requirements for laboratories using chemicals.

The laboratory owner has a responsibility for life and property protection through prevention and control of fires and explosions involving the use of chemicals in the laboratory. The installation of portable fire extinguishers is not only required by NFPA 45 but is an important component of any laboratory owner's fire and emergency management plan. ♦

Mark Conroy is an engineer in our Boston, MA office and a member of the NFPA Technical Committee on Portable Fire Extinguishers.

This is another report in a series on codes and standards that address portable fire extinguishers for specific applications. This article presents the personal opinions of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of the NFPA. Copyright © 2015, all rights reserved.

Customer Quote

"Once again, Brooks is great! As we get busier around here, we are finding value in ordering supplies from a single source, Brooks! Excellent customer service over the phone and almost everything is in stock in So-Cal. Keep up the great work, and thank you!"

**– Randall Akins
Aztec Fire & Safety, Inc.**

What Is An SDS?

By Charles Vincent

OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) was revised in 2012 to align with the UN Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). This standard requires all chemical manufacturers, distributors, and importers to provide Safety Data Sheets (SDS) to downstream users. SDSs, formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), are similar in many ways.¹ However, have you ever looked at an MSDS and asked yourself, "What is all this information?" The change from an MSDS to a SDS is to make data sheets more user-friendly for the everyday worker. SDSs are required to be in an easy-to-navigate 16 section format. The SDS format includes the following sections:²

1. Identification
2. Hazard(s) Identification
3. Composition/Information on Ingredients
4. First Aid Measures
5. Fire-Fighting Measures
6. Accidental Release Measures
7. Handling and Storage
8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection
9. Physical and Chemical Properties
10. Stability and Reactivity
11. Toxicological Information
12. Ecological Information*
13. Disposal Considerations*
14. Transport Information*
15. Regulatory Information*
16. Other Information










*Non-Mandatory by OSHA, but must be included to meet GHS standards.

How does this system benefit you? Labeling provisions will be the most notable difference you will see. With the addition of Pictograms, and Signal words, these changes should improve

comprehensibility to identify hazards for the everyday employee. As an employer of workers who handle hazardous materials, training must be offered to let employees know about the updated system. Employers are also responsible for keeping up with the labels on chemical containers. The employer must re-label items if the labels are removed or defaced. However, if the employer is aware of newly-identified hazards that are not disclosed on the label, the employer must ensure that the workers are aware of the hazards.

Here is a chart of the various pictograms and the hazards they represent:

HCS Pictograms and Associated Hazards

Health Hazard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcinogen • Mutagenicity • Reproductive Toxicity • Respiratory Sensitizer • Target Organ Toxicity • Aspiration Toxicity 	Flame <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flammables • Pyrophorics • Self-Heating • Emits Flammable Gas • Self Reactives • Organic Peroxides 	Exclamation Mark <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin Sensitizer • Acute Toxicity • Narcotic Effects • Irritant (skin and eye) • Respiratory Tract Irritant • Hazardous to Ozone Layer* 
Gas Cylinder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gases Under Pressure 	Corrosion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eye Damage • Corrosive to Metals • Skin Corrosion/Burns 	Exploding Bomb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosives • Self-Reactive • Organic Peroxides 
Flame Over Circle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidizers 	Environment* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Toxicity 	Skull & Crossbones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic) 

*Non-Mandatory

June 1st, 2015 was the date for manufacturers to be compliant, while distributors have until December 1st, 2015. Some state variations might be different. Currently, 25 States in the United States as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have adopted their own standards. The standards adopted are normally identical to OSHA. However, some locations may have stricter standards and enforcement policies. ♦

"Revising OSHA's Hazard Communication standard will improve the quality and consistency of hazard information, making it safer for workers to do their jobs and easier for employers to stay competitive."

— U.S. Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis

References:

1. Hazard Communication. (n.d.). Retrieved March 17, 2015, from <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html>

2. OSHA Brief. (n.d.). Retrieved March 17, 2015, from <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3514.pdf>

Charles Vincent is a Hazardous Materials Specialist in the Charlotte, NC office. Copyright © 2015, all rights reserved.

Product Gallery

For more information on these featured products, visit brooksequipment.com.

Emergency LED Light with Self-Diagnostic Testing

The **Self Diagnostic** feature of this LED emergency light performs monthly and annual tests to ensure reliable operation and to meet electrical and safety codes. Fits most standard-size junction boxes (with "EZ" quick connect). Comes with solid-state charger, NiCad battery, and power-on LED indicator light. 120/277 VAC dual voltage. UL listed.



BELR1LEDSDT

Wheel Chock

Help secure your service truck or van with this reinforced rubber **Wheel Chock**. This road-gripping chock features a fluted design for increased downward pressure to resist wheel movement, even on ice and snow. See our website for additional safety information.



MDWC

AEDs and Accessories

HeartSine's Samaritan® Pad AED was designed especially for use in public areas, providing a sophisticated defibrillator inside a lightweight and easy-to-operate system. Battery and electrode pads are incorporated into an "all-in-one" **Pad-Pak™** device, sharing a single expiration date. Designed for the minimally trained rescuer, the semi-automatic **Samaritan PAD** has both visual prompts along with voice/icon prompts for easy instruction. Medical Authorization Form included with sale of each unit. **Note:** Good Samaritan laws provide limited immunity for AED owners.

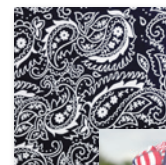


HSAEDBAS

DDPHSAEDPAK01

Ergodyne Chill-Its® Cooling Products

Ergodyne's Chill-Its® Cooling Products and **CORE Work Wear®** protect workers outdoors when the temperatures heat up. These bandanas and multi-bands provide protection from the heat and help individuals stay cool and fight fatigue. The multi-band also has several uses, and as many ways to wear it. Block out dust, dirt, and wind with its stretchable fabric.



12306EG



42103EG

First Aid and Safety Products

Brooks offers a variety of safety products and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to keep workers safe while on the job. From first aid kits to safety vests, eye protection, and more, we have the solutions to protect workers in any environment.



PSV1

TV15

460ES

FA20030

EXIT E-Light Seminars

July

28th – Dallas, TX

30th – Minneapolis, MN

August

26th – Seattle, WA

13th – Chicago, IL

September

17th – Oklahoma City, OK

24th – Grand Rapids, MI

To register, visit www.brooksequipment.com

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in the articles are the author's only and provide limited information. Although the information is believed to be reliable, Brooks Equipment Company, LLC expressly disclaims any liability for errors or omissions. The user of this article or the product(s) is responsible for verifying the information's accuracy from all available sources, including the product manufacturer. The authority having jurisdiction should be contacted for code interpretations.

