



# PROPANE EXCHANGE

June-July 2011 \* West Virginia Propane Gas Association

## In This Issue

*Make Sure Your Employees Are in Compliance with State Law*

*A Reminder from Last Year*

*Propane Emergencies Grant Used in West Virginia*

*Leak Tests Are Crucial Life Savers*

*NPGA Asserts Primacy of NFPA 58*

*Propane GAS Act Building Support*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

July 18-22, 2011	CETP Classes Sleep Inn Beckley/Beaver, WV
Aug. 11-19, 2011	CETP Classes Days Inn Suites Bridgeport, WV
Sept 14-16, 2011	Annual Meeting & Legal Symposium Inn at Charles Town Charles Town, WV



[BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW](#)

## It's Time for Training & Education

### MAKE SURE YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW.

The West Virginia Propane Gas Association is again offering classes which will help anyone who does residential propane installation comply with state law which took effect July 1, 2010.

The State Fire Commission now requires that anyone who does these installations must be certified in Basic Principles & Practices 1.0 and Preparing & Installing Vapor Distribution Systems 4.2.

These classes are being offered in July and August in Beckley & Bridgeport. Registration is open to any one in the propane industry.

A full Schedule and Registration Forms may be found at [www.wvpropanegas.org](http://www.wvpropanegas.org).

### A REMINDER FROM LAST YEAR

Anyone who took either or both of the CETP courses at last year's classes is reminded that the *Skills Assessment* has to be completed and returned **within a year of taking the class**.

This is in addition to taking the class and passing the test. Failure to complete and return the signed *Skills Assessment* means that one is **not certified** and will not be recognized by the State Fire Commission.

## Propane-Fueled Heat Pump Named to R&D Top 100

*The editors of R&D magazine named the IntelliChoice Energy NextAire rooftop heat pump air conditioner fueled by propane one of the 100 most significant products introduced in the marketplace in the past year.*

*Developed through a partnership that includes the Propane Education & Research Council, Blue Mountain Energy, IntelliChoice Energy, Southwest Gas, and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the heat pump package will be aimed at the commercial market when it's launched in 2012.*

**West Virginia Propane Gas Association**  
107 S. West Street, #825  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Telephone: 703-530-9772  
Fax: 703-530-9653  
wpga@aol.com  
www.wvpropanegas.org



## Propane Emergencies Grant Used in West Virginia

### PROPANE EMERGENCIES CLASS HELD IN MAY

Blue Flame, Inc. of Berkeley Springs, WV held a Propane Emergencies session for the volunteer firefighters of Morgan County in May. The classroom session was funded by a grant from the West Virginia Propane Research & Education Foundation.



### Leak Checks Are Critical Lifesavers

Doing a leak check can save lives. It determines whether a propane piping system, including the piping system connected to appliances, is suitable for service.

A leak check must be performed immediately after the gas is turned on in a new gas system or a system that has been restored after an interruption of service. CETP E-Learning can help you review the basics such as:

- How to do a leak check using a high-pressure gauge.
- How to use a magnehelic gauge to do a low-pressure leak check.

Visit [www.propanesafety.com](http://www.propanesafety.com) for printed and interactive materials you can use on this subject.



# NPGA Asserts Primacy of NFPA 58 in DOT Proposed Rule



## *Propane GAS Act Building Support*

*Legislation to extend the three alternative fuel tax credits for propane Autogas, Autogas vehicles and Autogas refueling stations continues to attract support in Congress.*

*Building the cosponsor lists for HR 2014 and S.1120 was the top task for Propane Days which State Director Dean Haldeman and Executive Director Tom Osina attended.*

*So far, 13 cosponsors have joined in the House. Three Senators have also signed on.*

**The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)** published a proposed rulemaking recently that would require motor carriers who engage in cargo tank loading and unloading to perform a risk assessment of the operation and develop and implement safe operating procedures based upon the risk assessment.

**Additionally, the Agency proposed** that each employee involved in lading and unloading operations be trained and certified on an annual basis on the required job task associated with loading and unloading.

**Although the proposed rulemaking** acknowledged that compliance with NFPA 58 was acceptable to demonstrate compliance with limited aspects of the proposal, there were other elements of the proposal, such as development of a risk assessment and hose maintenance requirements, where this was not clear.

**NPGA noted** that NFPA 58 already provides the level of facility hose management and maintenance sought by PHMSA through this proposal. NPGA further asserted the overall value and primacy of NFPA 58 to demonstrate full compliance with the proposed rulemaking.

**NPGA stated** its opposition to PHMSA proposing to establish more stringent training requirements for employees who engage in loading and unloading operations by requiring such employees to receive annual training and qualification/certification.

**NPGA contended** that the current function-specific training requirements in the Hazardous Material Regulations (49 CFR 172.704) already sufficiently cover loading and unloading requirements.

**Further,** for the past 20 years, NPGA has utilized the industry-developed Certified Employee Training Program (CETP), which addresses loading and unloading operations, to train its employees.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Bob Elliott at [relliott@npga.org](mailto:relliott@npga.org)