



National Fire Protection Association

1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471
Phone: 617-770-3000 • Fax: 617-770-0700 • www.nfpa.org

MEMORANDUM

To: NFPA Technical Committee on Ambulances

From: Yvonne Smith, Project Administrator

Date: January 2, 2013

Subject: NFPA 1917 Proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) No.1089

The attached proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) is being submitted to you for letter ballot. This proposed TIA was submitted by Dia Gainor and endorsed by Fred Schimmel, Paul Holzapfel and Aaron Reinert.

This proposed TIA will be published for public comment in the January 4, 2012 issue of *NFPA News* with a Public Comment Closing Date of February 13, 2013. Any public comments received will be circulated to the committee. The Standards Council will consider the issuance of this TIA at their March 6 - 7, 2013 meeting.

In addition to being balloted on the technical merits of the proposed TIA, the Committee is also being balloted on whether or not this matter is of an emergency nature. Please see Section 5 (copy enclosed) regarding the processing of TIAs from the *NFPA Regulations Governing Committee Projects*.

Please complete and return your ballot as soon as possible but no later than **Thursday, January 10, 2013**. As noted on the ballot form, please return the ballot to Yvonne Smith either via e-mail to ysmith@nfpa.org or via fax to 617- 984-7056. You may also mail your ballot to the attention of Yvonne Smith at NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169.

Note: Please remember that the return of ballots and attendance at committee meetings are required in accordance with the NFPA Regulations Governing Committee Projects.

Attachments

Section 5 Tentative Interim Amendments.

5.1 Preliminary Determination of Compliance.

A Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) to any Document may be processed if the Council Secretary determines, after a preliminary review, and consultation with the appropriate Chair, that the Amendment appears to be of an emergency nature requiring prompt action and has the endorsement of at least two Members of the involved TC or TCC. If processed, the question of emergency nature shall be considered by the TC and TCC. The text of a proposed Tentative Interim Amendment may be processed as submitted or may be changed, but only with the approval of the submitter.

5.2 Evaluation of Emergency Nature. Determination of an emergency nature shall include but not be limited to one or more of the following factors:

(a) The document contains an error or an omission that was overlooked during a regular revision process.

(b) The document contains a conflict within the document or with another NFPA document.

(c) The proposed TIA intends to correct a previously unknown existing hazard.

(d) The proposed TIA intends to offer to the public a benefit that would lessen a recognized (known) hazard or ameliorate a continuing dangerous condition or situation.

(e) The proposed TIA intends to accomplish a recognition of an advance in the art of safeguarding property or life where an alternative method is not in current use or is unavailable to the public.

(f) The proposed TIA intends to correct a circumstance in which the revised document has resulted in an adverse impact on a product or method that was inadvertently overlooked in the total revision process, or was without adequate technical (safety) justification for the action.

5.3 Publication of Proposed Tentative Interim Amendment.

A proposed Tentative Interim Amendment that meets the provisions of 5.1 shall be published by the Association in appropriate media with a notice that the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment has been forwarded to the responsible TC and TCC for processing and that anyone interested may comment on the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment within the time period established and published.

5.4 Technical Committee and Technical Correlating Committee Action.

(a) The proposed Tentative Interim Amendment shall be submitted for ballot and comment of the TC in accordance with 3.3.4. The TC shall be separately balloted on both the technical merits of the amendment and whether the amendment involves an issue of an emergency nature. Such balloting shall be completed concurrently with the public review period. Any public comments inconsistent with the vote of any TC Member shall be circulated to the TC to allow votes to be changed. A recommendation for approval shall be established if three-fourths of the voting Members calculated in accordance with 3.3.4.5 have voted in favor of the Tentative Interim Amendment.

(b) The proposed Tentative Interim Amendment shall be submitted for ballot and comment of the TCC, if any, which shall make a recommendation to the Council with respect to the disposition of the Tentative Interim Amendment. The TCC shall be separately balloted on both the merits of the amendment (as it relates to the TCC

authority and responsibilities in accordance with 3.4.2 and 3.4.3) and whether the amendment involves an issue of an emergency nature. Any public comments inconsistent with the vote of any TC or TCC Member shall be circulated to the 28 TCC to allow votes to be changed. A recommendation for approval shall be established if three-fourths of the voting Members calculated in accordance with 3.3.4.5 have voted in favor of the Tentative Interim Amendment.

(c) All public comments, ballots, and comments on ballot on the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment shall be summarized in a staff report and forwarded to the Council for action in accordance with 5.5.

5.5 Action of the Council. The Council shall review the material submitted in accordance with 5.4(c), together with the record on any Appeals (see 1.6, 1.6.1), and shall take one of the following actions:

(a) Issue the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment

(b) Issue the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment as amended by the Council

(c) Where acted on concurrently with the issuance of a new edition of the Document to which it relates, issue the Tentative Interim Amendment as part of the new edition;

(d) Reject the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment

(e) Return the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment to the TC with appropriate instruction

(f) Direct a different action

5.6 Effective Date of Amendment. Tentative Interim Amendments shall become effective 20 days after Council issuance unless the President determines, within his or her discretion, that the effective date shall be delayed pending the consideration of a Petition to the Board of Directors (see 1.7). The President may also, within his or her discretion, refer the matter of a delay in the effective date of the TIA to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors or to the Board of Directors.

5.7 Publication of Amendment. The Association shall publish in one of its publications sent or accessible to all Members notice of the issuance of each Tentative Interim Amendment and may, as appropriate, issue a news release to applicable and interested technical journals. The notice and any news release shall indicate the tentative character of the Tentative Interim Amendment. In any subsequent distribution of the Document to which the Tentative Interim Amendment applies, the text of the Tentative Interim Amendment shall be included in a manner judged most feasible to accomplish the desired objectives.

5.8 Applicability. Tentative Interim Amendments shall apply to the document existing at the time of issuance. Tentative Interim Amendments issued after the proposal closing date shall also apply, where the text of the existing document remains unchanged, to the next edition of the Document. Tentative Interim Amendments issued concurrently with the issuance of a new edition shall apply to both the existing and new edition.

5.9 Subsequent Processing. TC responsible for the Document or part of the Document affected shall process the subject matter of any Tentative Interim Amendment as a proposal for the next edition of the Document (see 3.3).

5.10 Exception. When the Council authorizes other procedures for the processing and/or issuance of Tentative Interim Amendments, the provisions of this Section shall not apply.

NFPA® 1917-2013

Standard for Automotive Ambulances

TIA Log No. 1089

Reference: 4.12.3

Comment Closing Date: February 13, 2013

Submitter: Dia Gainor, National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)

1. Delete 4.12.3 in its entirety and renumber 4.12.4 and its Annex material:

~~**4.12.3** The maximum top speed of the ambulance shall not exceed either 77 mph (124 km/hr) or the manufacturer's maximum service speed rating for the tires installed on the ambulance, whichever is lower.~~

Submitter's Substantiation: NASEMSO cannot support or enforce 4.12.3, and the need for this deletion remains even if the TIA related to Section 4.17 is granted.

There are states where the legal speed limit is above 77 mph, including 80 and 85 mph. Further, in some states, an ambulance operating with lights and sirens can legally exceed the posted speed limit by 10 mph. Therefore, while well intentioned for roadways with a posted speed limit of 65 mph or less, a governor set to 77 mph will actually create a safety hazard as a result of ambulances traveling at much slower speeds than the surrounding traffic. Speed should be governed by the states and the owners and operators of the ambulances. Since not every chassis manufacturer makes speed governors available, NASEMSO is also deeply concerned about the risk aversion expressed by ambulance manufacturers about aftermarket installation and device failure.

Availability of this technology is extremely limited among chassis and aftermarket device manufacturers, and only one brand has been identified that can be set at 77 mph. NASEMSO recognizes the importance of safe ambulance operations and is cognizant of other electronic means of speed monitoring, the annex content on monitoring systems, as well as local EMS agency policies related to the matter.

Emergency Nature: The requirement of a speed limiting device that places a maximum speed limit of 77 mph creates a safety hazard for operators and occupants of ambulances, especially in states that have posted speed limits above 77 mph. In some states, For example, Texas, there is a posted speed limit of 85 mph and an NFPA 1917-compliant ambulance would not be able to meet the posted speed limit, thus creating a safety hazard. This is also true in states where emergency vehicles are allowed to exceed the posted speed limit by 10 mph; with 77 mph being the maximum, in a standard that comprises minimum requirements, the posted speed limit would have to be as low as 67 mph which is not common in some states. This requirement places a restriction upon some states that would prohibit them from purchasing an NFPA 1917-compliant ambulance.

Subject: FW: NASEMSO TIA's

From: Fred Schimmel [<mailto:fschimmel@sjcind.com>]

Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 2:11 PM

To: Holland, Kendall

Cc: Paul Holzapfel; Dia Gainor

Subject: NASEMSO TIA's

Ken,
I believe the TIA's are been submitted to NFPA and as a NFPA 1917 committee member I endorse the NASEMSO TIA's.

Fred Schimmel

Standards & Compliance Manager



25161 Leer Drive - Elkhart, Indiana 46514
Phone: (574) 970-6701 / Fax: (574) 262-9597

 Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

Subject: FW: TIA on 4 17 FINAL, TIA on 4 12 3 FINAL

From: Paul Holzapfel [<mailto:paul.holzapfel@wheeledcoach.com>]

Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 2:35 PM

To: Dia Gainor; scottb@braunambulances.com; jsg9@cdc.gov; Don Lundy; jmcdonald@gsa.gov; Gary Morris; jay.bradshaw@maine.gov; aarronr@lrems.com; fschimmel@sjcind.com; SteveS@NTEA.COM; ron.thackery@emsc.net; Randy Hanson

Cc: Holland, Kendall; drew.dawson@dot.gov; Brian Litza; Jim DeTienne; simonprentiss@myfairpoint.net; Richard.Patrick@HQ.DHS.GOV

Subject: RE: TIA on 4 17 FINAL, TIA on 4 12 3 FINAL

I have been at the NASEMSO meetings and agree with their reasoning for the TIA's. As a NFPA 1917 committee member I support NASEMSO's TIA's.

Paul Holzapfel
National Sales Manager
Wheeled Coach Industries, Inc.

From: Dia Gainor [<mailto:dia@nasemsso.org>]

Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 1:19 PM

To: scottb@braunambulances.com; jsg9@cdc.gov; Paul Holzapfel; Don Lundy; jmcdonald@gsa.gov; Gary Morris; jay.bradshaw@maine.gov; aarronr@lrems.com; fschimmel@sjcind.com; SteveS@NTEA.COM; ron.thackery@emsc.net; Randy Hanson

Cc: kholland@NFPA.org; drew.dawson@dot.gov; Brian Litza; Jim DeTienne; simonprentiss@myfairpoint.net; Richard.Patrick@HQ.DHS.GOV

Subject: TIA on 4 17 FINAL, TIA on 4 12 3 FINAL

Season's Greetings! I am following up on the discussion and advice at the Model Rules for Ambulance Vehicle Design (MRAVD) meeting three weeks ago. Last week the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Board of Directors voted unanimously to proceed with submission of the two TIAs we have been refining, and on their behalf I would like to express our gratitude to those of you who assisted us for the greater good. At the MRAVD meeting the suggestion was made that NASEMSO reach out to the voting members of the Technical Committee who have either been participating at or attending MRAVD meetings for "reply all" messages of support for these TIAs. That will provide Ken Holland with an important foundation for his messaging to the 1917 Technical Committee and Standards Council.

I apologize for the temporary flurry of inbox clutter that it will create, but trust you understand the importance of your voices as NFPA staff then proceeds with organizing the Technical Committee call and balloting process.

Regards,



Dia Gainor, MPA

Executive Director

National Association of State EMS Officials

201 Park Washington Court | Falls Church, VA 22046 | (208) 861-4841 | FAX (703) 241-5603

dia@nasemsso.org | www.nasemsso.org

Mark Your Calendar:

March 5-7, 2013: NASEMSO Midyear Meeting, Hotel TBD, Washington DC

September 16-20, 2013: NASEMSO Annual Meeting, Gaylord Hotel, Nashville, TN

DoubleCheck identified this as **CLEAN**. Give feedback: [This is SPAM](#) · [More](#)

Subject: FW: TIA on 4 17 FINAL, TIA on 4 12 3 FINAL

From: Aarron Reinert [<mailto:aarron@lrems.com>]

Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 2:58 PM

To: Dia Gainor; scottb@braunambulances.com; jsg9@cdc.gov; paul.holzapfel@wheeledcoach.com; Don Lundy; jmcdonald@gsa.gov; Gary Morris; jay.bradshaw@maine.gov; fschimmel@sjcind.com; SteveS@NTEA.COM; ron.thackery@emsc.net; randy.hanson@aev.com

Cc: Holland, Kendall; drew.dawson@dot.gov; Brian Litza; Jim DeTienne; simonprentiss@myfairpoint.net; Richard.Patrick@HQ.DHS.GOV

Subject: RE: TIA on 4 17 FINAL, TIA on 4 12 3 FINAL

I support the TIA and appreciate both organizations (NASEMSO and NFPA) desire to work together in this process.

Aarron

Aarron Reinert, NREMT - P, B.A.

Executive Director

Lakes Region EMS

P.O. Box 266

39840 Grand Ave

North Branch MN 55056

(651) 277 - 4911 ext 104

(651) 674 - 4628 Fax

(763) 520 - 2525 24 hour emergency

www.lrems.com

Serving our customers with state of the art patient care, outstanding customer service, dedication to the communities we serve, and financial health and responsibility

This message contains information that may be confidential and privileged. Unless you are the addressee (or authorized for the addressee), you may not use, copy or disclose to anyone the message or information contained in this message. If you have received this message in error, please advise the sender by reply e-mail and delete the message.

From: Dia Gainor [<mailto:dia@nasemso.org>]

Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 12:19 PM

To: scottb@braunambulances.com; jsg9@cdc.gov; paul.holzapfel@wheeledcoach.com; Don Lundy; jmcdonald@gsa.gov; Gary Morris; jay.bradshaw@maine.gov; Aarron Reinert; fschimmel@sjcind.com; SteveS@NTEA.COM; ron.thackery@emsc.net; randy.hanson@aev.com

Cc: kholland@NFPA.org; drew.dawson@dot.gov; Brian Litza; Jim DeTienne; simonprentiss@myfairpoint.net; Richard.Patrick@HQ.DHS.GOV

Subject: TIA on 4 17 FINAL, TIA on 4 12 3 FINAL

Season's Greetings! I am following up on the discussion and advice at the Model Rules for Ambulance Vehicle Design (MRAVD) meeting three weeks ago. Last week the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Board of Directors voted unanimously to proceed with submission of the two TIAs we have been refining, and on their behalf I would like to express our gratitude to those of you who assisted us for the greater good. At the MRAVD meeting the suggestion was made that NASEMSO reach out to the voting members of the Technical Committee who have either been

participating at or attending MRAVD meetings for "reply all" messages of support for these TIAs. That will provide Ken Holland with an important foundation for his messaging to the 1917 Technical Committee and Standards Council.

I apologize for the temporary flurry of inbox clutter that it will create, but trust you understand the importance of your voices as NFPA staff then proceeds with organizing the Technical Committee call and balloting process.

Regards,



Dia Gainor, MPA

Executive Director

National Association of State EMS Officials

201 Park Washington Court | Falls Church, VA 22046 | (208) 861-4841 | FAX (703) 241-5603

dia@nasemso.org | www.nasemso.org

Mark Your Calendar:

March 5-7, 2013: NASEMSO Midyear Meeting, Hotel TBD, Washington DC

September 16-20, 2013: NASEMSO Annual Meeting, Gaylord Hotel, Nashville, TN

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE LETTER BALLOT
PROPOSED TENTATIVE INTERIM AMENDMENT LOG NO. 1089

To Delete 4.12.3 in its entirety and renumber 4.12.4 and its Annex material, 2013 Edition of NFPA
1917
Standard for Automotive Ambulances

Question 1: I agree with the **TECHNICAL MERITS** of the Proposed TIA 1089 to Delete 4.12.3 in its entirety and renumber 4.12.4 and its Annex material

_____ **AGREE** _____ **DISAGREE*** _____ **ABSTAIN***

EXPLANATION OF VOTE - Please type or print your comments:

*An explanation must accompany a disagreement or abstaining position.

Question 2: I agree that the subject is of an **EMERGENCY NATURE**.

_____ **AGREE** _____ **DISAGREE*** _____ **ABSTAIN***

EXPLANATION OF VOTE - Please type or print your comments:

*An explanation must accompany a disagreement or abstaining position.

Signature

Name (Please Print)

Date

Please return the ballot on or before **Thursday, January 10, 2013.**

PLEASE RETURN TO:

Yvonne Smith
NFPA
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02169

FAX: (617) 984-7056

E-mail: ysmith@nfpa.org