



FIRE PREVENTION

The mission of the FDNY's Bureau of Fire Prevention is identification, monitoring and correction of locations, conditions or equipment that pose a hazard to life and/or property within New York City. During the past year, the Bureau has been working to continue efforts to expand its mission to provide timely, accurate and reliable information to first responders and members of the public.

Emergency Action Plans

Since 9/11, the Department has been moving toward more proactive preparedness. The "Office Building Emergency Action Plan" or EAP requirement--which went into effect April 2006--is a major initiative by FDNY. This rule provides for a phased-in implementation of updated emergency and evacuation plans for office buildings. In August 2006, buildings with 40 or more floors or designated landmarks had plans filed. In October, management personnel of buildings of 25 to 40 floors were required to file and in December, the remaining office buildings had to file plans.

The EAP requirement is unique because it focuses on a variety of incident types--from natural disaster to terrorist threat--that a building and its occupants may face. It also requires that building managers make reasonable efforts to coordinate their plans with those of their neighbors. The Emergency Action Plan, coupled with improved stairway markings, signage and sprinkler requirements, ensure that building owners and occupants are pre-

pared in the event of a large-scale emergency.

The Department is implementing training and tools to facilitate EAP plan review and also introduce team reviews by Fire and technical staff of the Bureau of Fire Prevention. The Department is partnering with the Department of Buildings (DOB) on an initiative to develop a digital repository to store and manage high-rise building floor plans and related information. Partnering with the DOB provides a mechanism that ensures the information is refreshed, verified and available to FDNY emergency responders.

Lightweight Wood I-Beam Construction

The use of lightweight laminated materials may pose safety concerns to Firefighters during emergencies, particularly in case of structural fires. In response to these concerns, the FDNY implemented a mechanism requiring building owners who are planning to use this material to file notice with the Fire Department. In order to improve the reporting mechanism to ensure that local fire companies are aware of locations that used or plan to use these materials, Fire Prevention partnered with the DOB to automatically process this information. Each company now will receive an updated report for their administrative district in the new format. This first report reissues all known locations in the administrative district that employed the use of lightweight or laminated materials. Each month thereafter, units will be notified of any filings with the DOB that indicate the intent to use these materials, as well as any locations with certification that installation has been completed.

Emergency Action Plan in High-Rise Buildings

Highlights of the Rule stipulate that each building must develop, implement and practice an Emergency Action Plan, including:

- Written EAPs must be submitted for Fire Department review and acceptance.
- Designation of a Fire Safety/EAP Director to be authorized to implement the Emergency Action Plan. Other staff must be trained (Deputy Wardens) to assist in building evacuations.
- EAPs must be implemented within designated time frames:
 1. August 2006--40 stories or higher.
 2. October 2006--25-40 stories.
 3. December 2006--All others.
- Distribute emergency evacuation educational materials to building occupants. Routinely conduct emergency escape drills with building tenants/occupants:
 1. Twice during first year.
 2. Once yearly thereafter.

FISCAL 2006

◆ Bureau of Fire Prevention	
Inspections	232,237
Violations Issued	80,476
Violations Corrected	68,160
Summonses Issued	7281
◆ AFID (Apparatus Field Inspection Duty)	
Inspections	49,109
Violations Issued	4980
Violations Corrected	4582
◆ Combined	
Violations Issued	85,456
Violations Corrected	72,742