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FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group
REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov
DATE : 04/30/2001
SUBJECT : SAFETY ADVISORY : Six Minutes for Safety

Beginning May 1st, the Federal Fire and Aviation Safety Team (FFAST) is initiating an interagency fire safety program called Six Minutes for Safety.

Program Features:

A new safety topic will be featured each day, with optional talking points and discussion information. It will be available in a calendar format through the National Interagency Fire Center Web Site. The URL is < www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/index_j.asp>.

Firefighters, module leaders, and fire managers develop all topic ideas.

Goals:

Provide a daily Six-Minute interactive briefing, with a primary focus on topics that historically get our people in trouble. Research has shown that a combination of high-risk situations in a low frequency occurrence amplifies the potential for mistakes, accidents, litigation, and individual or agency liability.

On a given day, all fire organizations will discuss/review the same six-minute topic.

To have active participation. This means not only using Six Minutes for Safety topics and briefings, but also having input on the topic calendar. Input for discussion topics is welcome and available through the NIFC web page.

Target Audience:

All firefighters including, but not limited to, Type I & II crews, Smokejumpers, Helitack, Engine and Initial Attack Modules/Crews, and non-primary fire personnel assigned to an incident.

Support Personnel, Lookouts, air-attack modules, aerial observers, dispatchers, and pilots.

Type III, II, and I Incident Management Teams, Prescribed Fire Modules and Fire Managers.

In order to stress key points and work around scheduled days off, some topics may be repeated. In addition to providing six minute daily refresher training for experienced personnel, Six Minutes for Safety is also designed to provide new fire personnel a training and experience base to deal with many low frequency/high risk occurrences.

The Federal Fire and Aviation Safety Team (FFAST) encourages every fire program to become involved in Six Minutes for Safety. This is the first interagency safety initiative that, on a daily basis, addresses the

high-risk situations that historically get our people in trouble . The fire community continuously works to find new ways to keep our people safe on the fireline , and we think this new initiative will have a tremendous positive impact.
