

# BROOME COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

## OFPC WARNS DEPARTMENTS TO BE CAUTIOUS OF ESCAPE SYSTEMS THAT CLAIM COMPLIANCE WITH NFPA 1983

In our training programs, both the "awareness" presentation discussing compliance with the reg and the train-the-trainer program now available, FD's are encouraged to take a buyer beware approach due to the use of language such as "MEETS OR EXCEEDS NFPA 1983 REQUIREMENTS" on escape system components without indicating certification by an approved/certified testing organization as required by NFPA 1983. While equipment lacking the required certification may (or may not) be adequate for the purpose we indicate it does not meet the requirements of 800.7. If there is additional information or reference material you'd like distributed or included in our programs re: compliance with the reg, please let me know.

1. OFPC staff should be aware of the language below selected from NFPA 1983 re: a prohibition within that standard on labeling equipment as compliant with the standard or use of NFPA or identification of the standard unless the equipment is compliant with all requirements, including testing, certification and labeling.

**4.1.2** All product labeled as being compliant with this standard shall meet or exceed all applicable requirements specified in this standard and shall be certified.

**4.1.3** All certification shall be performed by a certification organization that meets at least the requirements specified in Section 4.2, Certification Program, and that is accredited for personal protective equipment in accordance with ISO 65, General requirements for bodies operating *product certification systems*. The accreditation shall be issued by an accreditation body operating in accordance with ISO 17011, General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies.

**4.1.4** Manufacturers shall not claim compliance with portions or segments of the requirements of this standard and shall not use the NFPA name or the name or identification of this standard, NFPA 1983, in any statements about their respective products unless the products are certified as compliant to this standard.

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