



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIHA[®] MEDIA ALERT

Statement from American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) on Firefighter Fatalities Caused by Arizona Wildfires

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (July 1, 2013) — The American Industrial Hygiene Association[®] (AIHA) is saddened to learn that 19 firefighters died yesterday as they battled wildfires in Yarnell, Arizona. This tragic event is one of the deadliest wildfire incidents in the U.S. in at least 30 years. Our thoughts are with the families of the victims and their communities.

Employers are responsible for the safety of their workers and must do everything they can to protect workers from the hazards associated with the response and recovery operations for wildfires. The [Occupational Health and Safety Administration](#) website has several resources to help workers and employers prepare for wildfires, as well as information on hazards that may be present in areas affected by wildfires. These include safety hazards like unstable structures and heavy equipment and health hazards like heat stress, hazardous materials and carbon monoxide.

About AIHA[®]

Founded in 1939, the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) is the premier association of occupational and environmental health and safety professionals. AIHA's 10,000 members play a crucial role on the front line of worker health and safety every day. Members represent a cross-section of industry, private business, labor, government and academia.