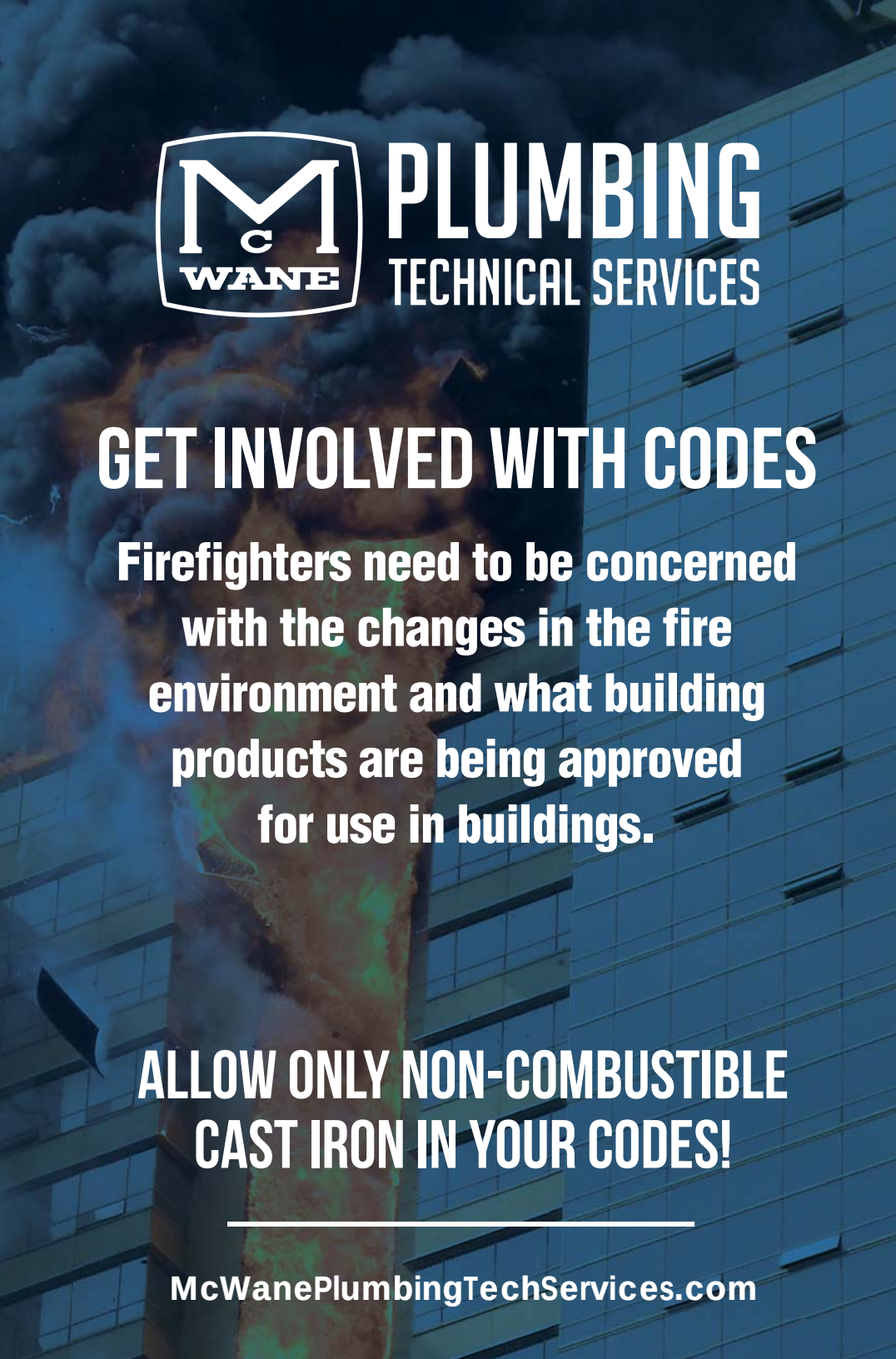
McWANE
PLUMBING
TECHNICAL SERVICES
GET INVOLVED WITH CODES
Firefighters need to be concerned with the changes in the fire environment and what building products are being approved for use in buildings.
ALLOW ONLY NON-COMBUSTIBLE CAST IRON IN YOUR CODES!
McWanePlumbingTechServices.com

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE PIPE (PVC)

THE TOXIC BREAKDOWN

It is well-known that burning polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic produces toxic smoke laden with chemicals, mainly hydrogen chloride (or hydrochloric acid) and that toxic smoke inhalation containing HCl is a primary contributor to fire-fighter and civilian deaths in accidental fire situations where burning plastic is present.

McWANE PLUMBING TECHNICAL SERVICES

BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT. BAD FOR US.

Toxic smoke is a major cause of firefighter death. Smoke inhalation causes acute life-threatening injuries.

Medical researchers have found elevated levels of long-term respiratory and other health problems in firefighters who put out fires involving large quantities of PVC

Degradation of plastics creates most of the corrosive gases found in fires.

71% OF SCHOOL FIRES ARE PRE-SCHOOL THROUGH HIGH-SCHOOL EDUCATION

IN 2015 **13%** OF FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES WERE CAUSED BY ASPHYXIATION OR SMOKE INHALATION.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. Monitor the Plumbing Code Proposals at the Local, State and Model Codes
2. Do Not Allow the Removal of PVC Restrictions in Your Local Code
3. Request Model Code Language Support from McWane Pluming Tech Services

INSIST ON SAFER BUILDING PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS & BUILDINGS

SCHOOLS

U.S. fire departments responded to 5,690 structure fires in educational properties between 2007-2011. Fires caused annual average of 85 civilian fire injuries and $92 million in property damage.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

U.S. fire departments responded to 6,240 healthcare facility fires between 2006-2010. Fires caused average of six civilian deaths, 171 civilian injuries and $52.1 million in property damage.

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Report by MIT professor found a significant level of non-compliance with plastic pipe fire-stop penetrations and that improper installation is a problem.

HOTELS

Plumbing systems in high-occupancy structures are of great concern for fire spread. Plastic pipe can easily melt or ignite in a fire creating large openings between rooms, and a pathway for smoke, hot gases and fire to spread through a building.

69% OF HEALTHCARE FACILITY FIRES OCCURRED IN NURSING HOMES & HOSPITALS

EXPOSURE DANGER HAZARDOUS
CHEMICALS TOXIC FUMES CONSEQUENCES

TAKE ACTION

INSIST ON SAFE BUILDING MATERIALS

LEARN MORE AT SAFECASTIRONPIPE.ORG

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WHAT YOU CAN DO?

1. **Attend IPC & IFC code hearings.**

2. **Get involved in local and state model code hearings.**

3. **Need help? Contact McWane Plumbing Tech Services—engineering support to assist you with local codes and help in developing stronger life-safety policies.**

McWane Plumbing Technical Services is a full-range service organization that provides educational and technical support on codes and standards as well as regulations that cover cast iron soil pipe and fittings, gaskets and couplings, and drainage products for storm and sanitary drain, waste, and vent (DWV) plumbing systems. This service is provided at no cost. Tech Services plays an active role by offering assistance to those interested in better understanding the benefits of using a cast iron plumbing system in a building application.

Learn more at: McWanePlumbingTechServices.com