



SEI Certifies Structural and Proximity Fire Fighter Gear Used By Fire and Emergency Responders

McLean, VA . . . April 5, 2007. The Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) is pleased to announce its first certifications for helmets and gloves have been issued to the 2007 edition of NFPA 1971, *Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting*. March 1, 2007 is the date designated by the NFPA that certification organizations cannot permit manufacturers to label to the 2000 edition of this standard.

The scope of the NFPA 1971 standard specifies minimum requirements for the design, performance, testing and certification of structural fire fighting and proximity fire fighting protective ensembles and ensemble elements that include coats, trousers, coveralls, helmets, gloves, footwear, and interface components. NFPA 1971-2007 also specifies additional optional requirements for these products which will provide limited protection from specified chemicals, biological agents, and radiological particulates (CBRN) terrorism agents in a single-exposure wearing.

In addition to initial compliance testing at Intertek, SEI's contract laboratory for this program, manufacturers who participate in the SEI certification program must pass a rigorous quality assurance audit of their manufacturing facility and be certified to ISO 9001. Also, all products carrying the SEI label are required to be re-certified annually. This means that all products must be re-tested annually at Intertek, and the manufacturing facility must continue to successfully meet all SEI quality assurance requirements during two annual follow-up audits.

SEI's mission is to assure that products have been manufactured to specifications and should perform at expected levels. SEI-certified fire fighter helmets and gloves that meet the NFPA criteria are now available as an option for emergency responders.



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Information about SEI's certification program and the most current version of the SEI **Certified Product List** can be accessed on SEI's web site, www.SEInet.org, by anyone, anywhere in the world at any time of the day. The **Certified Product List** provides certified product model names and numbers, manufacturer's names, addresses, and contact numbers.

A copy of the SEI **Certified Product List** may also be obtained free of charge by writing to SEI, 1307 Dolley Madison Blvd., Suite 3A, McLean, VA 22101. Requests may also be sent by fax: 703/442-5756 or by e-mail at: info@SEInet.org.

SEI - Your Symbol of Quality in Safety Equipment



Certified Model – NFPA 1971 – 2007 edition



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