

COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN COPANT AND NFPA

Whereas the **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)** is recognized worldwide as a leading developer of fire safety codes and standards;

Whereas NFPA's fire safety codes and standards are highly recognized throughout Latin America and the Caribbean region;

Whereas the **Panamerican Standards Commission (COPANT)** is recognized as the local point throughout Latin American and the Caribbean region for standards harmonization;

Whereas the further recognition and adoption of NFPA fire safety codes and standards throughout Latin America and the Caribbean region would enhance the effort to save lives and protect property from the ravages of fire;

Whereas the further recognition and adoption of NFPA fire safety codes and standards throughout the member nations of COPANT would encourage free trade and exchange of information beneficial to all the peoples of the Americas and;

Whereas the translation of NFPA fire safety codes and standards into Spanish as quickly as practicable is essential to accomplishing these goals:

COPANT and NFPA do hereby agree that:

1. Where there are no comparable ISO standards, COPANT shall seek the adoption and recognition by its member nations of those NFPA codes and standards approved by the **American National Standards Institute (ANSI)**.
2. NFPA shall collaborate with COPANT to develop methods for making NFPA fire safety codes and standards available to COPANT and its members recognizing the legal rights of both parties.
3. NFPA and COPANT shall coordinate with the **Instituto Argentino de Racionalización de Materiales** (the Argentinean Institute for Standards of Materials **IRAM**), which holds the fire safety secretariat within COPANT, and the **Organización Iberoamericana de Protección contra Incendios** (the Latin - American Fire Protection Organization) **OPCI**, with which NFPA has been working in the promotion and application of its standards in Latin America in the fulfillment of the goals of this Agreement. COPANT will advise which of its members shall coordinate with NFPA in the adoption of the National Electrical Code.

Original signed by
George D. Miller
President - NFPA

Original signed by
Pablo J. Benia
President - COPANT

Original signed by
Sergio Mazza
President - ANSI

Orlando, FL., U.S.A., April 12, 1994