

# NFPA 660



## UPCOMING CHANGES AND WHAT THEY MEAN FOR COMBUSTIBLE DUST SAFETY

EXPERTS TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE SAFETY REGULATION APPLICATION

# NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA)

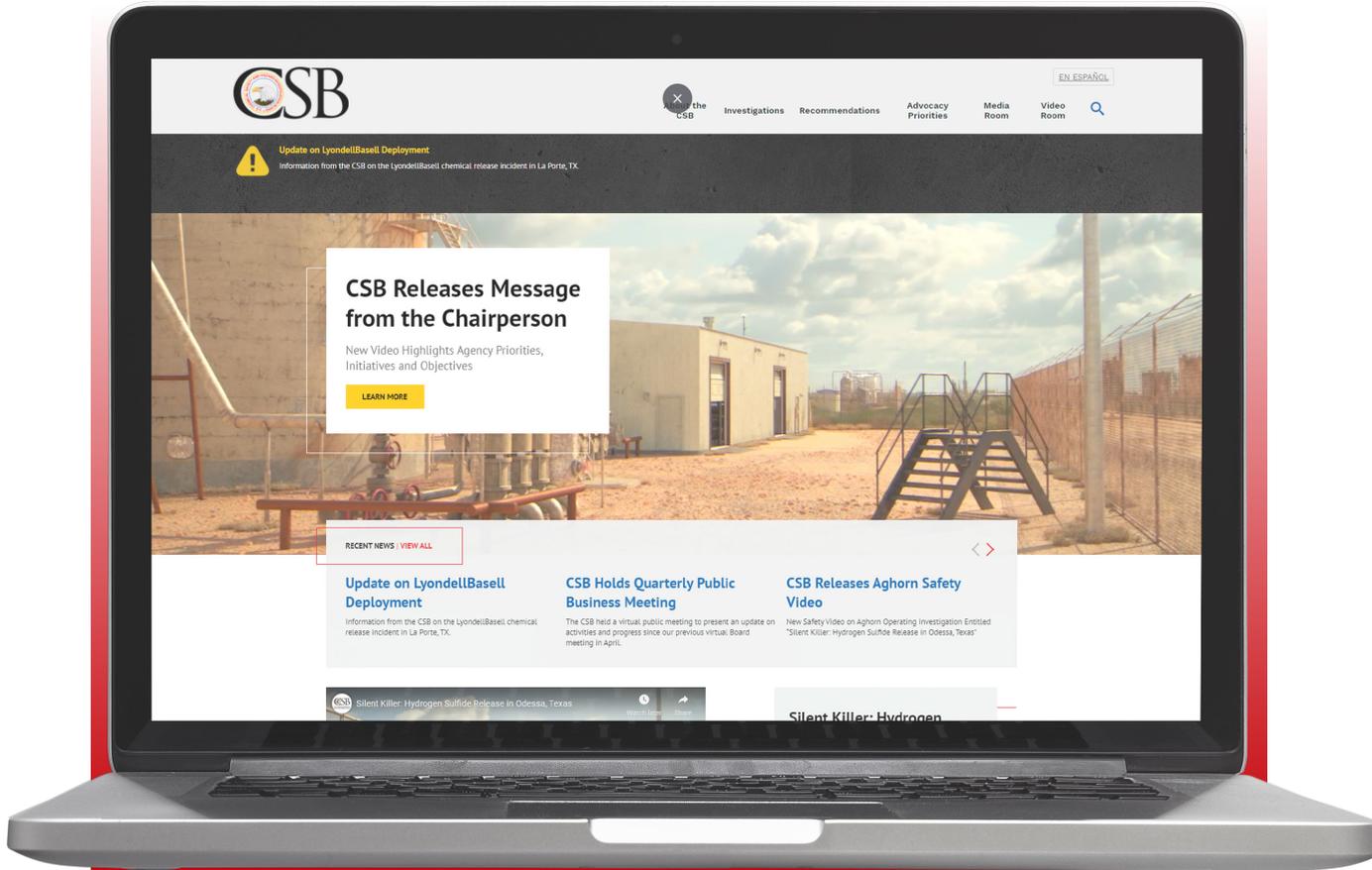
- NFPA is a non-profit organization
- NFPA is not affiliated with the government or enforcement/policies
- Go to NFPA website for the latest up to date information [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)

## CONSOLIDATION OF THE NFPA DUST STANDARDS

---

- The NFPA Standards related to combustible dust are in the process of being consolidated into a new Code
- New combined Code to take the number of NFPA 660
- The current model of Combustible Dust Standards is a split based on industry- or commodity- specific segment
- A long history of combustible safety has led us here.....

# CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD



Independent federal agency that investigates chemical accidents

From 2006-2017 they have documented 59 fatalities and 303 injuries in Combustible Dust incidents

Issued recommendations of proposed rulemaking for combustible dust hazards to OSHA in 2007

[www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov)

1980-2012

**148** **879**

fatalities

injuries

# COMBUSTIBLE DUST INCIDENT BY INDUSTRY



**Coal and Carbons**

Coal  
Cement  
Carbon Black

**Metals**

Raw Metal  
Metal Parts  
3D Printing

**Wood**

Board  
Wood Pellet  
Woodworking  
Sawmill

**Food and Beverage**

Grain and Feed  
Bakery and Snack  
Pet Food  
Dairy

**Chemicals**

Plastics  
Specialty Chemical  
Resins

**Others**

Specialty Items  
Mixtures

Source: 2006 CSB Study

# COMBUSTIBLE DUST INCIDENT BY INDUSTRY



**Coal and Carbons**

Coal  
Cement  
Carbon Black

**Metals**

Raw Metal  
Metal Parts  
3D Printing

**Wood**

Board  
Wood Pellet  
Woodworking  
Sawmill

**Food and Beverage**

Grain and Feed  
Bakery and Snack  
Pet Food  
Dairy

**Chemicals**

Plastics  
Specialty Chemical  
Resins

**Others**

Specialty Items  
Mixtures

Source: 2018 CSB Study

# COMBUSTIBLE DUST INCIDENT BY INDUSTRY



**Coal and Carbons**

Coal  
Cement  
Carbon Black

**Metals**

Raw Metal  
Metal Parts  
3D Printing

**Wood**

Board  
Wood Pellet  
Woodworking  
Sawmill

**Food and Beverage**

Grain and Feed  
Bakery and Snack  
Pet Food  
Dairy

**Chemicals**

Plastics  
Specialty Chemical  
Resins

**Others**

Specialty Items  
Mixtures

Source: 2019 DSS Incident Report

“

# DRIVER OF CRITICAL CHEMICAL SAFETY CHANGE.”

The CSB has issued four **recommendations** to OSHA calling for the issuance of a comprehensive general industry standard for combustible dust as the Board's first:

## BACKGROUND

### NFPA STANDARDS AND OSHA HISTORY

- **OSHA NEP** released in 2007
- **NEP** refreshed again in 2008 (Imperial Sugar)
- **NFPA** started the process for a better Standard on combustible dust

# STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

OSHA held a series of Stakeholder Meetings following the NEP release and notice of proposed rulemaking (2009-2011)



“

***NFPA 654 is a good starting point. However, OSHA should not focus solely on NFPA 654 given that many other standards are involved.***

---

“

***Many NFPA standards are unclear, and often small businesses do not know that their facilities have a problem. Liability insurers could be a key element to the process by explaining the standards to small businesses in a way that they can understand and implement.***

---

“

***NFPA guidelines are complex and do not use consistent language (different committees write different sections). OSHA should use more straightforward and cohesive language to explain what is required.***

---



# NFPA 652

# THE GAME CHANGER

## NFPA 652 Standard on Combustible Dust

Released September 2015

Scope: \_\_\_\_\_

**The standard shall provide the basic principles of and requirements for identifying and managing the fire and explosion hazards of combustible dusts and particulate solids.**

- Specific Chapter structure and introduction of retroactive requirements.
- All other standards have revised to match the 652 format and chapter structure.
- Correlating Committee also formed to oversee all "Dust Standards".

# CORRELATING COMMITTEE

**Correlates between the industry specific standard and the fundamental standard**

Goal is to have continuity between combustible dust standards:

**Definitions**

**Structure**

**References**

# DUST HAZARD ANALYSIS (DHA)

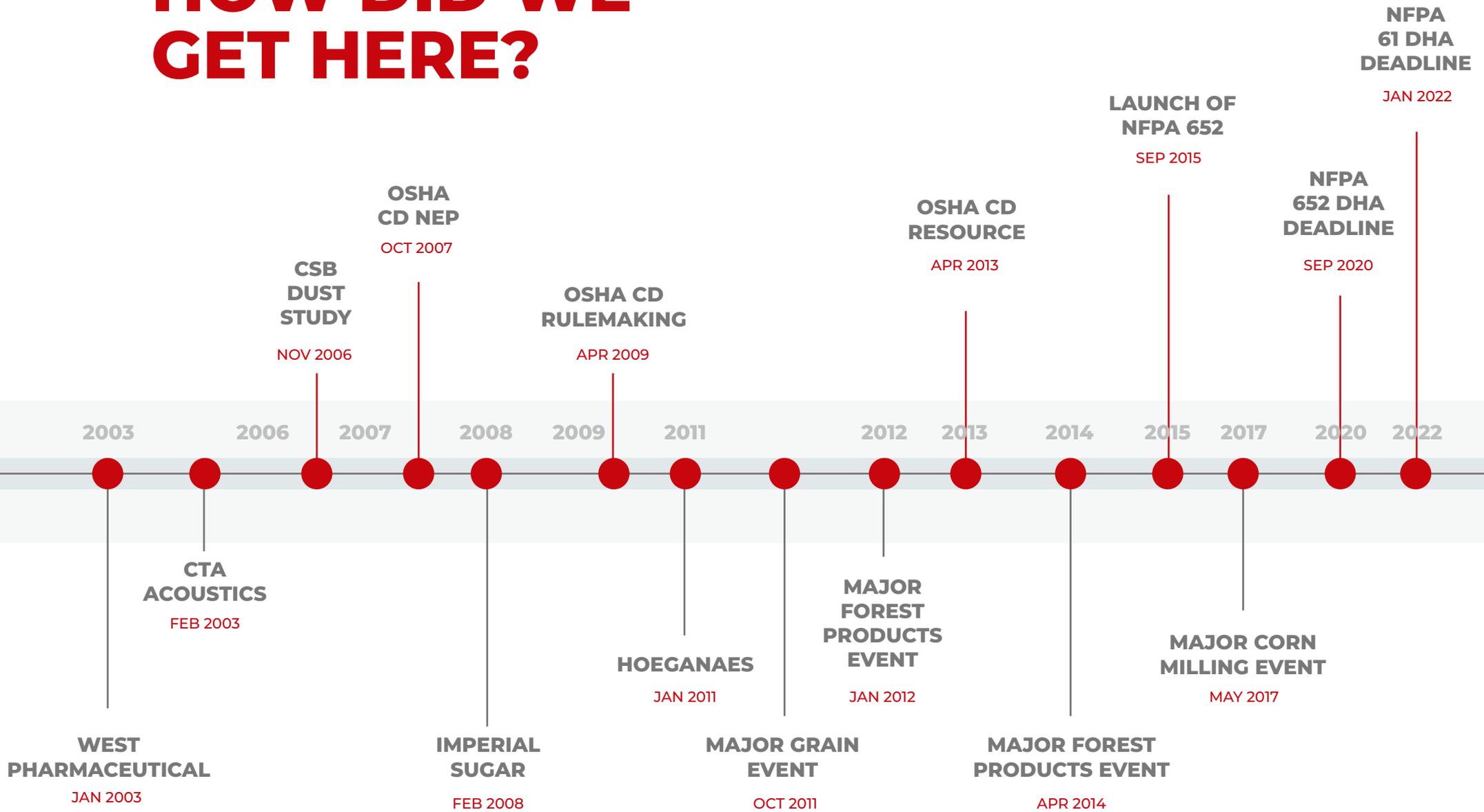
## **NFPA 652 introduced the Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA)**

Critical requirement that has improved combustible dust safety and awareness

Deadlines started within NFPA Standards to complete DHA's based on the industry



# HOW DID WE GET HERE?



# NFPA COMBUSTIBLE DUST STANDARDS



## ■ NFPA 652

Fundamentals of Combustible Dust

## ■ NFPA 654

Chemicals and Plastics  
Other industries as well

## ■ NFPA 61

Agricultural or Food Products

## ■ NFPA 655

Sulfur

## ■ NFPA 484

Metals and Alloys

## ■ NFPA 664

Wood and Wood Processing

# NFPA STANDARD USAGE FLOW

**Fundamentals document**

**NFPA 652**

**Industry/commodity  
specific documents**

**NFPA 61**

**NFPA 654**

**NFPA 655**

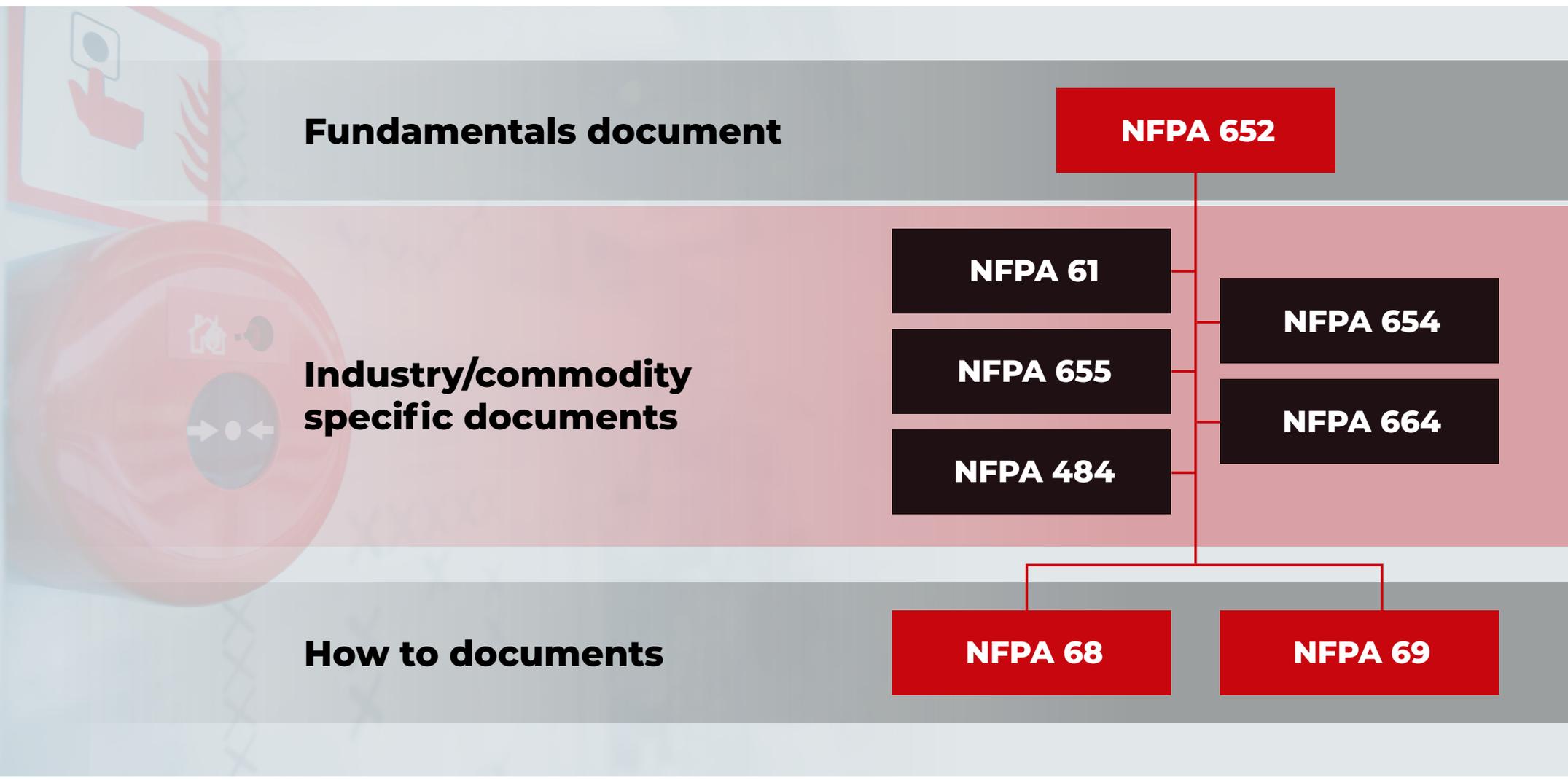
**NFPA 664**

**NFPA 484**

**How to documents**

**NFPA 68**

**NFPA 69**



# CURRENT NFPA DUST STANDARD STRUCTURE



- Chapter 1 – Administration
- Chapter 2 – Referenced Publications
- Chapter 3 – Definitions
- Chapter 4 – General Requirements
- Chapter 5 – Hazard Identification
- Chapter 6 – Performance-Based Design Option
- Chapter 7 – Dust Hazard Analysis (DHA)
- Chapter 8 – Management Systems
- Chapter 9 – Hazard Management: Mitigation and Prevention
- Annex X

---

# “HOW TO” STANDARDS



Standards that the fundamentals or industry documents reference to for applying or design of specific systems or requirements

---

## **NFPA 68**

venting and  
flameless venting

---

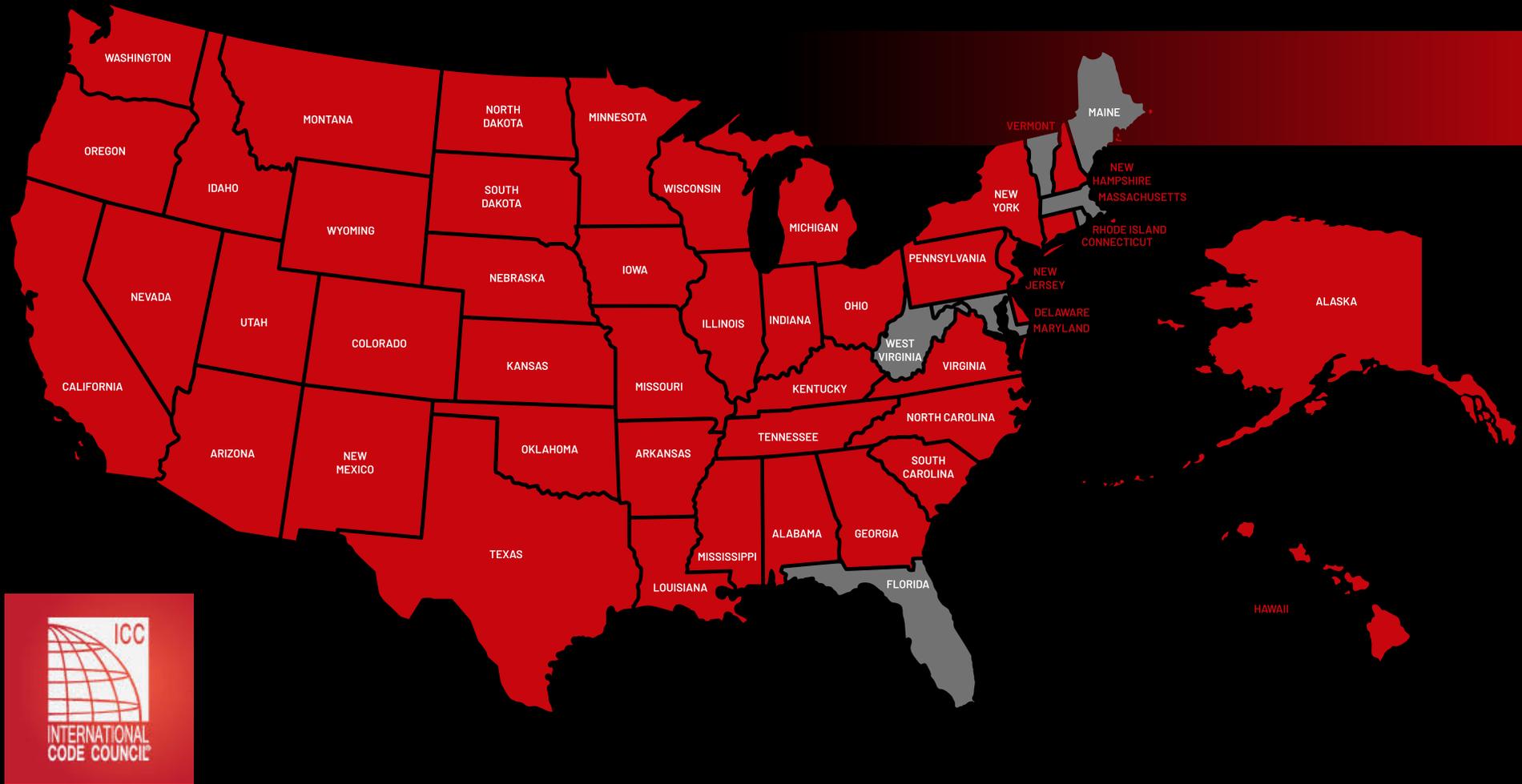
## **NFPA 69**

suppression, isolation,  
inerting, prevention

---

## **NFPA 70 & 499**

electrical  
classification



# INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODES

NFPA 652 now included in the IFC code as a Standard to comply with when equipment, processes, and operations involve dust explosion hazards.

**Also reference to industry- or commodity-specific Standard**

A code local jurisdictions use to determine building occupancy, new construction requirements, and safety

**State or local**

# CHANGE

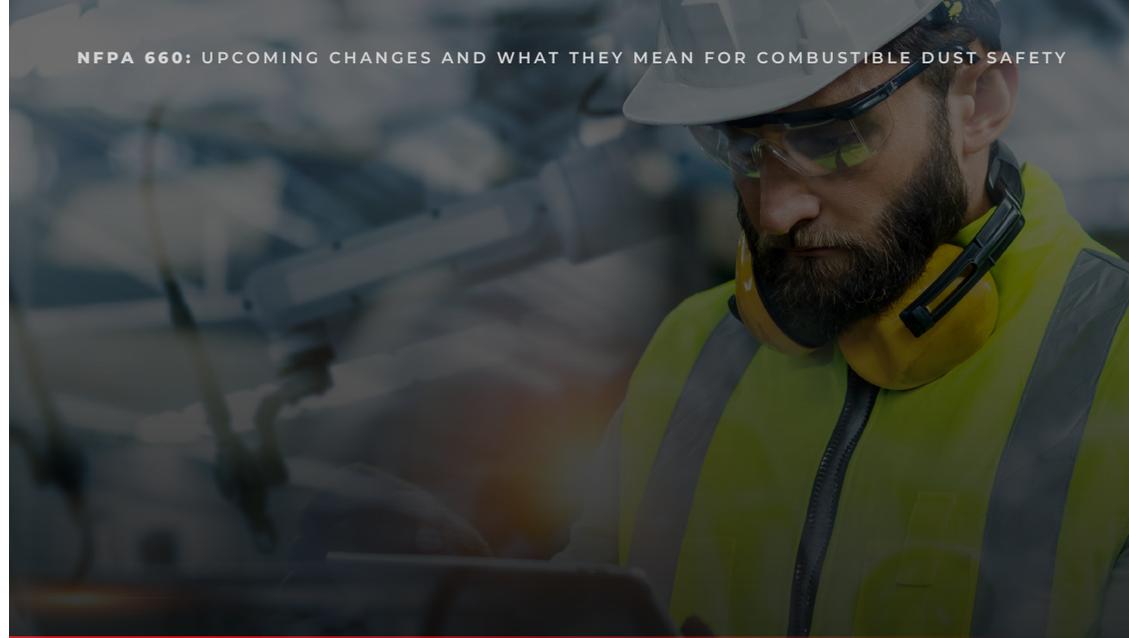
## WHY CHANGE?

- **Conflicts and gaps still exist** between Standards
- **Improves accessibility** to combustible dust safety
- **Hard for companies** with multiple industry functions to comply
- **Standards on different revision** cycles depending on the industry
- **Combined standard** brings more expertise into safety, streamlines improvement
- **A clearer Standard = less combustible dust incidents**



# **EXAMPLES** **OF CONFLICTS** **OR GAPS**

- Limited guidance on prescriptive requirements for different types of dryers
- Self heating and reactivity information on dusts
- Sections of processes that don't require a retroactive DHA based on industry
- Wood Bioenergy or Biomass processes not really considered in NFPA 664
- Lack of information for additive manufacturing (some for metals)
- Fire protection requirements and methods



# NFPA 660

**A special task group was formed amongst the dust committees**

---

**The decision to consolidate the standards into one has been moved forward by the Standards Council**

---

**The goal is to create a combined Standard or Code in the next 3 to 5 years**

---

**Extensive process involving multiple committees to make this happen**

---

**Proposed title and document number still in the works**

---

**NFPA 660 Combustible Dust Code**



# NFPA STANDARDS VS CODES



## NFPA Standard

Tends to be a more detailed elaboration, like the nuts and bolts of meeting a code

Will spell out what kind of system and how it must work

Tells you how to do it

vs

## NFPA Code

A set of rules put together by knowledgeable people

Tends to spell out that you need a system and points you to where you find details on what kind

Tells you what you need to do

# PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF NFPA 660



- **Chapters 1 through 9** would be fundamental requirements  
*What is truly fundamental?*
- **Chapter 10** would be dedicated to Fire Protection
- **Chapters 11 to 16** would contain industry specific requirements

- ▬ Chapter 11 – NFPA 61 (Food and Ag)
- ▬ Chapter 12 – NFPA 484 (Metals)
- ▬ Chapter 13 – NFPA 654 (Chemical/Plastic)
- ▬ Chapter 14 – NFPA 655 (Sulfur)
- ▬ Chapter 15 – NFPA 664 (Wood)
- ▬ Chapter 16 – NFPA 91 (Exhaust Systems)

# KNOWLEDGE OF EXISTING TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

Each existing technical committee will remain intact

Industry specific committee will be responsible for chapter associated with the respective industry

Fundamentals committee will be responsible for the front chapters with “common/fundamental” sections

Correlating Committee will continue to review content



# POSSIBLE SECTION CONFLICTS

## Chapter 1 in the new Code will address conflicts

Structure is in place now with current separate documents

---

If conflict between  
fundamentals and  
industry



you can choose

---

If industry prohibits



you follow industry

---

If not addressed in  
industry



you follow  
fundamental

---



# THE WORK BEGINS

**Technical committees** are providing input currently on which requirements should be “universal” or “fundamental”

**The correlating committee** will then combine that input into a draft of the fundamentals section

**The other technical committee** then review the respective industry- or commodity- specific chapter to see address any gaps in material or repetitive items

**Correlating committee** then forms the draft document



# NFPA STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

ANTICIPATED TO START IN 2022

Process that begins after an initial draft standard is published and enters a formal revision cycle

01

## Public Input Stage

Public input opens and closes, first draft meeting, and first draft report

02

## Public Comment Stage

Public comment opens and closes on the first draft, second draft meeting, and a second draft

03

## NFPA Technical Meeting

Notice of Intent to Make a Motion (NITMAM) reviewed and certified. Vote.

04

## Issuance of the Standard

NFPA Standard Council meets to review any appeals, decision to issue the Code/Standard

# ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

**2021**



**INITIAL DRAFT  
RELEASED**

Anticipated August 2021 timeline  
(subject to change)

**2022**



**FORMAL STANDARDS  
PROCESS**

NFPA Standard development  
process, public input

**2023**



**FINAL  
VERSION**

Final version finalized and  
issued for release

**2024**



**STANDARD  
EFFECTIVE**

Approved and issued in 2024  
and 7 original documents  
replaced

# CURRENT STANDARDS WHAT HAPPENS?



---

Typical revision cycle is **every 3 year** for the dust Standards



---

Revision process has been **put on pause** for most existing Standards



---

Should remain in current form **until 660 arrival**



---

**NFPA 484** was mid cycle so a 2021 release of a new version is likely



**CV TECHNOLOGY®**  
FIRE AND EXPLOSION PROTECTION

**For More Information and Future Updates**

---

[www.cvtechnology.com/nfpa](http://www.cvtechnology.com/nfpa)

---

[www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)



**561-694-9588**



**Jkrbec@cvtechnology.com**



**[www.cvtechnology.com](http://www.cvtechnology.com)**