



## Today's discussion is from the Miscellaneous Category.

### SAFENET

SAFENET is a form and process that provides a method for reporting unsafe situations on or off the fireline. The information provided on the form will help collect important, safety-related data to determine long-term trends and problem areas. A SAFENET may be filled out at any time to report a valid concern about unsafe situations in fire operations, as well as document corrective action.

- Discuss the methods for filing a SAFENET.
  - Electronically by accessing the SAFENET website at [safenet.nifc.gov](http://safenet.nifc.gov) or linking to it through the NIFC website.
  - By hardcopy via US Mail. SAFENET paper forms are stamped, self-addressed, sealable forms that can be mailed from any US postal drop.
- Discuss advantages of filing a SAFENET through your supervisor versus sending it yourself.
  - Increase the chances of finding an immediate solution.
  - Keeps supervisor "in the loop."
- Discuss using SAFENET in situations other than fire.
  - Prescribed fire
  - All-risk
  - Training
- Where does a SAFENET go, and what response can you expect?
  - SAFENETs are received and stored in a database in Boise. After a SAFENET is received, the names are removed. . The SAFENET doesn't get posted to the web until 48 hours after it has been forwarded to the affected agencies for corrective action.
  - Every new SAFENET is then forwarded to the affected agency's designated list of contacts, which usually includes the National or Regional Safety Officer.
  - It is each agency's responsibility to ensure that corrective actions are taken.
- Corrective actions can be filed by anyone at any time. They are automatically attached to the individual SAFENET on the database. This statement could probably use a little work. We sometimes get "arm-chair quarterbacks" who weren't remotely involved with the incident submitting corrective actions. One example read something like, "This squad boss should be given a stern talking to by their supervisor and told 'Get it right or get out of fire,'" We don't want folks who weren't involved or in the chain of command making guess-work corrective actions. A corrective action is also sanitized to remove names or identifying information, and only goes public when the SAFENET does.
- Discuss using SAFENET to monitor safety issues other firefighters may be having.

**Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.**

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