



Near-Miss Matters

Volume 42, October 2013

In honor of the National Fire Protection Association's Fire Prevention Week (October 6-12) and of the upcoming holidays, this month's Near-Miss Matters focuses on responding to kitchen fires. Cooking is still the leading cause of all residential building fires and injuries and is a particularly important safety topic to emphasize in our local communities. From 2008 to 2010, cooking was, by far, the leading cause of all residential building fires and accounted for 45 percent of all residential building fires responded to by fire departments across the nation ([USFA, Topical Fire Report Series, Vol. 13, Issue 12, January 2013](#)). Electric ranges are the leading cause of home cooking appliance fires. Range fires were involved in 77% of home structure fire injuries involving cooking equipment and accounted for 84% of all fire deaths involving cooking appliances. Seventy-four percent of range fire injuries involve stovetop cooking, and frying accounted for 59% of range fires. Ignition prevention technologies exist and are being studied but are a long way off from becoming standard ([IAFC Position Paper, Residential Range-Top Safety, February 2013](#)). Reports in the Near-Miss Reporting System, such as [Report 05-406](#), warn us against complacency and remind us to always wear ALL Personal Protective Equipment. The reports in the Resources below show the different forms a kitchen fire can take - review them and talk to your crew about their experiences responding to kitchen fires. As always, the first line of defense against injury is prevention. Reach out to your community through schools, civic groups and local media to stress the importance - to both children AND adults - of being safe and using common sense in the kitchen.

What's New

Stay tuned... Report of the Week will be resuming in a new format in the coming months!

ROTM

[October 2013 Report of the Month](#)

Resources

Related Reports:

[Dropped pan of burning grease splashes firefighter in face \(05-0406\)](#)

[Crew finds dynamite and blasting caps during overhaul \(05-0471\)](#)

[Firefighters burned at](#)

Upcoming Events

Webinar: [Social Media in Large Scale Incidents](#), 31 October 2013 at 11 AM EDT.

[structure fire \(05-0805\)](#)

[Electrical hazard
encountered at structure
fire \(10-0879\)](#)

Near-Miss Fundamentals

The most common event type entered in the Near-Miss Reporting System are fire emergency events, followed by vehicle events and non-fire emergency events. Remember though, Near-Miss is here to collect ALL your stories, not just fire emergencies! Submit your stories and urge your colleagues to do the same!

Testimonial

"Near-Miss provides a safe and anonymous method to share tough lessons learned. It's been extraordinarily successful in getting firefighters to report near misses and in turning those near-miss reports into valuable learning opportunities for the fire and emergency service."

-Chief William R. Metcalf, EFO, CFO, IAFC President and Chairman of the Board



[Unsubscribe](#) from the National Fire Fighter Near-Miss mailing list. To change your email address, please [click here](#).

Firefighternearmiss.com is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's [Assistance to Firefighters Grant program](#). Founding dollars were also provided by [Fireman's Fund Insurance Company](#). The project is managed by the [International Association of Fire Chiefs](#) and supported by [FireFighterCloseCalls.com](#) in mutual dedication to firefighter safety and survival.

