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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Video: Firefighters Support Use of Steel Drums to Increase Fire Safety

SEVERNA PARK, Md. (April 24, 2014) – The Industrial Steel Drum Institute (ISDI) today released a new video that features interviews with two fire safety professionals about the safety advantages of packaging flammable and combustible liquids in steel drums. In the video, Battalion Chief Jeff Blake and Fire Marshal Larry Medina, both of the city of Bend Fire Department in Bend, Ore., speak to the many safety advantages that steel drums provide during a warehouse fire situation.

On camera, Medina explained that “when [steel drums] are subjected to heat or flame, they’ll maintain their structural integrity and perform remarkably better than any other type of material. The metal will provide some added time to keep everything intact, allowing fire suppression to do its job and put the fire out while preserving some of the material that’s not involved.”

“From a fire protection standpoint, there’s a huge advantage to having the steel drum,” Blake agreed. “The best element that helps us is a working fire-protection system, but the second best thing would be proper containerization of flammable material... For us, the greater protection is in the steel drum.”

“The testimonials given by these experienced fire professionals are astounding,” said Kyle R. Stavig, chairman of ISDI and CEO of Myers Container LLC and General Steel Drum LLC. “Their insights provide incredible perspective on the true value of using a steel drum in a warehouse or for transportation. It’s the safety of the community that really counts.”

Codes such as the National Fire Protection Association’s NFPA Code 30 provide warehousing professionals with standard procedures relating to the storage of flammable and combustible liquids. Although current U.S. Department of Transportation regulations allow the transport of flammable liquids in many different types of packaging, NFPA Code 30 restricts the use of certain packaging types during storage. This code allows combustible and flammable liquids to be stored in relieving-style steel drums supplied with plastic, fusible fittings in facilities that have foam and water fire suppression systems. [ISDI Alert 14-14: Stacking Drums Filled with Flammable Liquids](#) provides more detail on this issue.

The new video can be found at www.whysteeldrums.org, as well as on the organization’s [YouTube page](#). To learn more about the fire control and warehousing benefits of steel drums, visit <http://www.whysteeldrums.org/safety-security/>.

About the Industrial Steel Drum Institute (ISDI)

ISDI, formerly known as the Steel Shipping Container Institute, represents the industry before federal agencies and the U.S. Congress, acts as liaison with other industry groups and individual corporations, and plays an active role with international organizations, including the U.N. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. ISDI’s mission is to promote the common interests of its members through government relations, technical research, education and information exchange, media relations, and generic marketing programs. For more information, visit <http://www.whysteeldrums.org>.