OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM

Title of research need: Fire Investigation Component of Publicly Funded Compartment Fire Research

Keyword(s):   Compartment fires, enclosure fires, fire investigator education, fire origin

Submitting subcommittee(s):   Fire and Explosion   **Date Approved:**

(If SAC review identifies additional subcommittees, add them to the box above.)

Background Information:

1.   Description of research need:

Over the last several years a series of full scale tests in laboratory constructed compartments and in formerly occupied buildings has been conducted. Additional testing is planned. The ability to use buildings for testing is of great value because such testing presents the most realistic conditions possible. Testing programs such as these should be expanded so that as data is gathered and analyzed the research can benefit the fire investigation community. The proposed research would not interfere with planned research goals as the data gathering would be conducted post-fire test. Research is needed to determine the most effective way to implement this suggestion.

2.   Key bibliographic references relating to this research need:

3a. In what ways would the research results improve current laboratory capabilities?

This research will help laboratories to make small changes to their test plans that can greatly increase the benefit and expand the audience for their research.

3b. In what ways would the research results improve understanding of the scientific basis for the subcommittee(s)?

3c. In what ways would the research results improve services to the criminal justice system?

This research will help the fire investigation community to apply a more systematic approach to the results of fire pattern analysis.

4. Status assessment (I, II, III, or IV):   I

	Major gap in current knowledge	Minor gap in current knowledge
No or limited current research is being conducted	I	III
Existing current research is being conducted	II	IV

This research need has been identified by one or more subcommittees of OSAC and is being provided as an informational resource to the community.

Approvals:

Subcommittee   Approval date:

(Approval is by majority vote of subcommittee. Once approved, forward to SAC.)

SAC

1. Does the SAC agree with the research need?   Yes   No

2. Does the SAC agree with the status assessment?   Yes   No

   If no, what is the status assessment of the SAC:

Approval date:

(Approval is by majority vote of SAC. Once approved, forward to NIST for posting.)