

## Fire Safety Houses Serving the U.S. Military Proudly

From Alaska and Hawaii, to California, South Dakota, Montana, Italy, Guam and Japan, **SCOTTY** Fire Safety Houses are doing duty on our U.S. military bases.

The U.S. military is taking an active lead in providing fire safety education to its personnel and their families. Last year, Mobile Concepts by Scotty delivered a **SCOTTY** Fire Safety House to the port of Naples, Italy for use on the U.S. Naval Support Activity base.

"The NSA Fire Prevention branch provides a critical service that directly impacts 10,000 plus people in the NSA Naples and Gaeta communities," said NSA Fire Chief John Morris, who is a civilian employee within the U.S. Navy in Naples. "Fire safety and prevention are accomplished through targeted programs such as facility inspections, home fire safety inspections, public education, plans review, fire extinguishers, event planning, and permit issuance. The result of these successful programs is an extremely low fire loss, both within the confines of the fence line and for family members living in our leased and economy housing throughout the Naples area."

NSA Fire Rescue protects over five million square feet of commercial and residential property including barracks and housing units within the boundaries of the bases at Capodichino, Support Site, Agnano and Carney Park.

"Our fire safety house is used primarily on base, though it will also be used to deliver the fire safety message to children in the Italian community as part of our ongoing

Community Relations projects sponsored by NSA Naples," said Morris. "Our fire safety house was a one-of-a-kind unit because it was built on a shorter frame than similar units to allow for the extremely narrow and highly congested roads in the Naples area. This modification required that the needed features had to be compressed without loss of functionality," said Morris.

At Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, the airmen and civilians are the base's most prized assets, said George Crowder, assistant fire chief, prevention at Hickam Fire Department, Hickam Air Force Base.

"Cognizant that his family is safe at home while he is deployed overseas will insure peace of mind and optimum performance in the field," said Crowder.

The fire safety house has remained at Hickam except when supporting special activities at Bellows Air Force Base, about 30 miles away. Hickam's fire safety program is incorporated into the 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing's Annual Fire Prevention Plan signed by the wing commander. Seasonal fire safety themes are discussed at the 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Occupational Safety and Health Council with the squadron commanders. Additionally, fire safety is incorporated into the Base Newcomers Brief, Military Family



*Arriving in the Port of Naples from Sicily, Italy.*

Housing Newcomers Brief, Facility Managers Brief, AFOSH 91-501 Fire Extinguisher Brief, and Contractors' Preconstruction Brief, said Crowder.

"However, our principle audience has always been preschool and elementary school age children when we utilize our fire safety house," Crowder added. "Parents are encouraged to participate with their children when touring the house."

The 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing encompasses approximately 2,520 acres of property that includes 8.69 million square feet of industrial and residential facilities. Residential housing is provided via 2,648 family housing units and 1,187 dormitory rooms. The total military and civilian working base population is more than 10,800. The 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing supports a variety of aircraft, from the C-5 cargo transport to the F-15 fighter and military aircraft traveling to the western Pacific theater.

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# Fire Safety Houses Are An Added Bonus

When Shannon Praete, grants administrator for the city of North Charleston, South Carolina, learned the fire department would be the recipient of a 2002 FEMA grant for their wellness and fitness initiative, she was elated.

But then the department came in way under budget for the initiative and ended up with leftover grant money.

“We reallocated the funds with FEMA’s blessing and were able to purchase a **SCOTTY** Combination Sprinkler/Fire Safety House and some other fire prevention items,” said Praete, who wrote the FIRE Act grant narrative. “When we reallocated the funds, we identified to FEMA what we were doing with it. They have a standing policy that if reallocated money is going toward fire prevention and education, there is a very good chance it will be approved.”

The department had an established fire safety program geared to the school-age children attending the city’s 10 elementary schools and three middle schools. The department regularly uses their fire safety house at these schools, as well as during civic functions, at churches, and carnivals, said Charlyne Smith, public relations officer with the fire department.

“Everyone was amazed at how much the fire safety house entailed and what it will be able to teach our citizens,” Smith added.

The Harrisonburg, Virginia fire department applied for their FIRE Act grant in March 2003. The narrative, written by Assistant Chief Bill Crapo, focused on the purchase of much-needed breathing apparatus.

“Due to a reduction in the cost of the apparatus, we had money left



*This SCOTTY Combination Sprinkler/Fire Safety House is getting ready to head South to its new home in North Charleston, South Carolina.*

over from the purchase,” said Wanda Willis, public relations director for the department. “At that time, we submitted an amendment to FEMA to use the leftover money to purchase a **SCOTTY** Fire Safety House.”

The department has had a public education program in place for approximately 20 years.

“We begin the program in the third grade and have now expanded it to include all seventh through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students,” Willis said. “We also teach safety to pre-school students, first and second graders, college students and senior citizens. The fire safety house will be used with all of these age groups.”

The community has four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. Harrisonburg is also home to two major universities, James Madison University, and Eastern Mennonite University. Together their student enrollment is in excess of 17,000 students, said Willis.

Harrisonburg is expecting delivery of their new fire safety house later this year. The

department had applied for FIRE Act grants previously, but was denied. Patience and a good attitude were essential.

“When we submitted our amendment to FEMA and told them we would like to purchase a fire safety house, they in turn asked that we share our house with other departments in our region,” said Willis. “We happily agreed to do that.” 🐶

## Made In The U.S.A.!

### Brayden Scott

Born on November 2, 2003

@ 3:09 a.m.

8 lbs. 10 oz.

**Manufactured by:  
Henri & Anne Degre**



Photography by Melinda

# TECH TALK with Roger

Quality control manager at



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by SCOTTY

## 100% Customer Satisfaction

each trailer's final inspection, everything is double-checked to make sure nothing is missing, even if it's as minor as a tire valve cap. Loose items are stored properly, windows are checked that they are latched, and storage doors are checked to make sure none were left unlocked.

Our nearly 1,000 fire safety houses have been shipped on airplanes, cargo ships, and even towed over the Alcan Highway, which is nearly 100 miles of gravel road in route to Alaska. How did the trailer perform over such a grueling road surface? Flawlessly! Our transport driver's truck however, suffered two broken lights from flying rocks.

Since we are a custom trailer manufacturer, we are constantly offering different features and appliances per the customer's specifications. Every trailer is reviewed to be sure that its customized standard operating guideline manual, supplied with each trailer, has adequate instructions explaining how to use each feature. Each time we deliver a trailer, a walk-through is done with our delivery staff to review any new item such as unique appliances or other specialized features.

Our transport team is carefully handpicked to not only be a careful, safe and courteous driver, but also be able to demonstrate the trailer in a comprehensive manner. Our representatives have backgrounds which include a high school teacher, an engineer, a safety equipment inspector, a police officer, and an over-the-road truck driver, all with the characteristics that mean they not only understand the mechanics of the trailer, but can also explain each and every feature. The drivers will take as much time as necessary to make sure that your staff clearly understands the proper use of the trailer; they even recommend that you videotape their presentation so it can be reviewed later. As the trailer is demonstrated, you're given an opportunity to ask questions and to note your satisfaction for each item.

After our representative leaves, you can always contact me with any questions you may have. I'm more than happy to talk about the trailers which we take so much pride in.

Mobile Concepts not only builds quality trailers, we DELIVER quality trailers! 🐶

By Roger Stoner

The germinating process of a SCOTTY Fire Safety House has a lot of facets, including the customer's initial concept, telephone calls, discussions, designing, purchasing, and the execution of the assembly.

As quality control manager at Mobile Concepts, I'm involved with many of these processes. When a trailer nears its finishing stages, I think of it as the last lap in an Indy race, which is NO time to relax since it is this phase that sets the tone of the customer's first impression of their trailer.

The very first phrase of our company's mission statement is "to produce 100 percent customer satisfaction..." To us this isn't just an excerpt from the mission statement; it's the criteria of everything we do.

We maintain specialized staff for every stage of the trailer's development, including people whose primary focus is to make sure the trailer is clean for its presentation. After



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*Travis Air Force Base in California is the proud owner of this **SCOTTY** Fire Safety House model HD-35PC*


**Serving The U.S. Military Proudly**

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“Our fire losses are favorable compared to the national statistics,” said Crowder. “All visitors are treated to some form of fire safety training tailored to the age group and interests. During Fire Prevention Week, we visit the three child care facilities on base and perform an actual structural fire exercise that involves the children as scenario players. We also visit the three Hawaii state elementary schools on base, execute fire

safety briefs based on the annual theme and perform firefighting vehicle demonstrations for the children.”

Mobile Concepts’ President Anne Degre said since all **SCOTTY** vehicles are custom built, creating needs’ specific fire safety houses for use by our military is never a problem.

“We can meet any construction specifications, whether it’s electrical, the length, width, weight, or height of the vehicle. We can easily make changes to any of our 22 floor plans,” said Degre. “And through the use of the Internet, we can email blueprints, photos and other design changes directly to our customers. It’s a very efficient way to correspond with our overseas and our U.S. and Canadian customers.” 

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by **SCOTTY**

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