International Building Codes Continue to Recognize Acceptability of Vent-Free Gas Appliances

Arlington, VA (Oct. 15, 2008) – International Code Council (ICC) officials voted last month to continue to allow the use of vent-free gas appliances in U.S. Homes.

"Considering that one of the ICC's missions is to protect health and safety, we are pleased that it continues to recognize the acceptability of vent-free gas appliances for ambiance and supplemental home heating" said Sue Walker, chairman of the Vent Free Gas Product Section, which is part of the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), a trade association representing manufacturers of these appliances.

During hearings on Sept. 23, vent-free gas appliance proponents testified that independent scientific researchers have confirmed that homes using vent free gas appliances for supplemental heat meet recognized indoor air quality guidelines. Industry representatives also testified that all vent-free gas products are subject to stringent product safety standards and are certified by independent listing agencies.

"With heating costs expected to skyrocket this winter and the need to reduce electrical demand a top priority in the United States, the 99 percent efficiency of vent-free gas appliances and their ability to provide emergency heat during power outages makes them an excellent choice for many homeowners," said AHRI President Stephen Yurek.

About AHRI

The Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) is the trade association representing manufacturers of air conditioning, heating and commercial refrigeration equipment. An internationally recognized advocate for the industry, AHRI develops standards for and certifies the performance of many of these products. AHRI’s more than 330 member companies account for more than 90 percent of the residential and commercial air conditioning, space heating, water heating and commercial refrigeration equipment manufactured and sold in North America.

About the Vent-Free Gas Products Alliance

The Vent-Free Gas Products Alliance is a coalition of members of the Vent-Free Gas Products Section of the Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), a trade association representing more than 330 manufacturers of air conditioning, heating, and commercial refrigeration equipment. For more information, visit www.ventfree.org.