



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Don't Let Your Business Go Up in Smoke

According to the National Fire Protection Association, U.S. municipal fire departments responded to an estimated 1,240,000 fires in 2013, which resulted in more than \$11.5 billion in financial loss, injured more than 16,000 people, and killed more than 3,000.

We at Federated Insurance have seen the results of this kind of devastation [first-hand](#). And, what we find most alarming is that the vast majority of fires are avoidable. An in-depth study of Federated clients' fire-related losses shows the leading causes to be:

- Spontaneous combustion of improperly stored, oil-soaked rags and other combustible materials
- Over-loaded electrical circuits and improper use of electrical cords and surge protection
- Careless smoking
- Improper storage of flammable liquids

Each of these fire risks can be avoided by following proper prevention steps.

In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2015, we are encouraging all business owners to create a fire prevention plan that includes inspecting their facilities for major fire hazards. In early October, all Federated clients will receive an updated **Fire Safety Checklist**, which is intended to help evaluate their fire risk. This updated checklist, and many additional fire prevention resources, including an employee training video, are available from your Federated marketing representative, Federated's Shield Network®, and our Risk Management Resource Center.

For more information on this and Federated Insurance's other risk management programs, or to locate your local representative, visit www.federatedinsurance.com, or call 1-800-533-0472.♦