



Jay Howell has joined the team at the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory as Executive Director

The American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL) announced the hiring of veteran product safety and compliance executive Jay Howell as Executive Director

The American Fireworks Standards Laboratory is excited to welcome Jay Howell as Executive Director. Jay is a familiar face in the consumer product safety field, having served in several roles during his ten years at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), including Acting Director of Compliance and Field Operations, Assistant Executive Director of Hazard Identification and Reduction, and Deputy Executive Director, Safety Operations. Most recently, Jay was Walmart's Senior Director of U.S. Product Safety and Compliance.

“Jay brings more than 30 years of manufacturing and product safety experience to AFSL and our vital safety mission on behalf of America's consumers,” said Mike Ingram, AFSL Board President. “Adding his impressive skill set to the fantastic team we have at AFSL will make us even more effective in our support of the U.S. fireworks industry and the American consumer.”

John Rogers, who has served as AFSL's executive director since its inception over thirty years ago, has announced his intention to retire in July. John and Jay will work side-by-side for several months to ensure a smooth transition of leadership responsibilities. “John's hard work and dedication have greatly benefited the American consumer and the fireworks industry,” said Alan Zoldan, AFSL Board Vice President. “John has been a part of AFSL's amazing journey from the beginning. His diligence and expertise helped fireworks industry leaders, headed by Joel Anderson, build a safety-focused organization that has established rigorous product performance requirements for consumer fireworks that are more protective than those required by the CPSC.”

The American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL) is an independent, non-profit corporation established in 1989 whose primary purpose is to improve the quality and safety of fireworks distributed or used in the U.S. marketplace. Services provided by AFSL include: Voluntary Standards, Factory Training, and Product Certification. Additional information can be found on the AFSL's website at <http://www.afsl.org>.

