

POSITION PAPER: COPPER THEFT PREVENTION ACT

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The American Supply Association Supports the Copper Theft Prevention Act.

- Copper theft is a pervasive, opportunistic crime targeting the Plumbing, Heating, Cooling and Piping and Industrial PVF (PHCP/PVF) industries, as well as construction sites.
- With the price of copper pipe and tubing up over 70% since 2005, copper theft has become a growing epidemic. Thieves steal it and resell it to copper recyclers, who take it in virtually every form.
- More important is the human cost with a clear and definitive link between stealing copper and illegal drug use, primarily methamphetamines.
- The Copper Theft Prevention Act of 2008 (HR 6831) requires copper recyclers to document the transactions of those selling copper and imposes a civil penalty against scrap yard dealers for failure to document the transactions.
- Every state in the country is impacted by this activity, but only a handful of states have enacted laws to reduce the threat. States that have enacted legislation simply put requirements on scrap yard dealers to document the transaction – but more needs to be done. As such, it is important that Congress enact legislation to put an end to copper theft.
- ASA strongly supports HR 6831 and is dedicated to the passage of this legislation.
- ASA urges all Members of Congress to co-sponsor **HR 6831 – the Copper Theft Prevention Act of 2008**.

ASA is a member of the [Coalition Against Copper Theft](#).

