

NEWS RELEASE



**American Association of Snowboard Instructors
National Ski Patrol
Professional Ski Instructors of America**

NSP and PSIA/AASI to Dissolve Joint Statement of Understanding

March 11, 2008—Lakewood, Colorado—In a significant move that will benefit each organization, the National Ski Patrol (NSP), the Professional Ski Instructors of America (PSIA), and the American Association of Snowboard Instructors (AASI) have agreed to discontinue their Joint Statement of Understanding (JSOU) effective July 1, 2008. The decision, a continuation of previous revisions to the JSOU that resulted in independent administration, communications, advertising and sponsorship, and member services staff, means additional separation of finance and accounting, meetings and conventions, and information technology functions.

“At one time the JSOU made sense, but as the organizations have moved in different directions, the economies of scale it created no longer exist,” said NSP Executive Director Tim White. “This move signifies independence and greater opportunity to improve services to our memberships. It’s a historic time, and the NSP Board and staff are excited to be part of it.”

“The two associations have different emerging strategic objectives, short-term goals, and member needs. However, there are significant benefits to the snowsports industry that come from continued cooperation on industry initiatives,” added PSIA/AASI Executive Director Mark Dorsey. “We look forward to PSIA/AASI and NSP continuing as strong industry partners.”

For more than 17 years, NSP and PSIA/AASI shared an executive director and office staff. In June 2007 the associations renegotiated their existing JSOU, agreeing upon the need for independent executive leadership and the realignment of support staff. Since then, the associations have continued to share some services and staff positions in finance, IT, and meetings/conventions. With the separation of these functions, the associations will continue to share an office building and warehouse in Lakewood, Colo.

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