

National Fire Sprinkler Magazine

July – August 2020
No. 221



The Flagship Publication of The National Fire Sprinkler Association



Storage and Shipping

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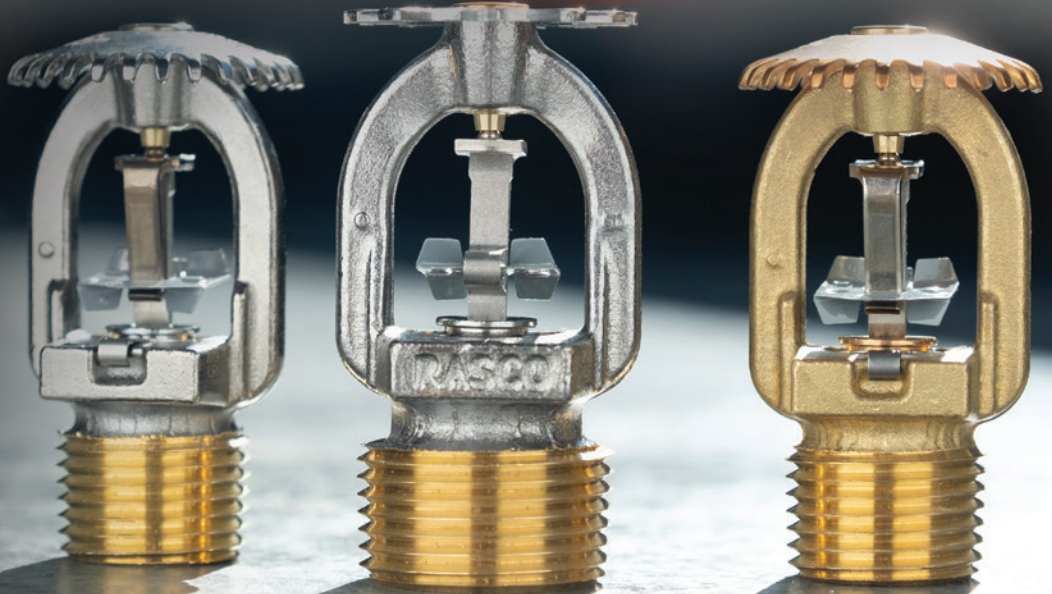
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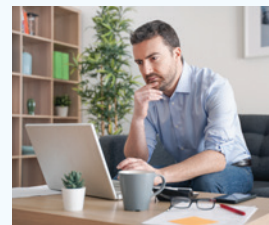
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Virtual Classroom Training

07/21/2020
**Sizing Fire Pumps for Sprinkler
Contractors
– Tech Tuesdays**
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7/28/2020
**Sprinkler System Plan Review
(1 day)**
Houston, TX

7/29/2020
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Houston, TX

7/30/2020
Advanced Hydraulics
Houston, TX

8/6/2020
NFPA 13, 14, 20 Update 2016
Baltimore, MD

8/10 - 21/2020
**Two Week Layout Technician
Training**
Baltimore, MD

08/18/2020
**11 Steps of Hydraulic Calculation
Review – Tech Tuesday**
Live Online Training

9/2-3/2020
**Navigating the ITM Liability
Requirements**
Baltimore, MD

09/9 – 10/ 2020
ITM Hands On
Dallas, TX

09/15/2020
**Irregular and Nonuniform Hydraulic
Areas – Tech Tuesday**
Live Online Training

9/15/2020
**Standpipe Systems for Fire
Protection**
Missoula, MT

9/16/2020
Pumps for Fire Protection
Missoula, MT

9/17/2020
Hydraulics for Fire Protection
Missoula, MT

10/1/2020
Pumps for Fire Protection
Baltimore, MD

10/5-16/2020
**Two Week Layout Technician
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Baltimore, MD

10/20/2020
**Understanding the Fire Pump
Acceptance Test – Tech Tuesday**
Live Online Training

11/5/2020
Hydraulics for Fire Protection
Baltimore, MD

11/16-20/2020
**Layout Technician Blended
Learning – In Class Practicum**
Baltimore, MD

11/17/2020
**ITM and Fire Pumps
– Tech Tuesday**
Live Online Training

12/2-3/2020
**Navigating the ITM Liability
Requirements**
Baltimore, MD

12/14/2020
NFPA 13, 14, 20 Update 2016
Millburn, NJ

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**Manual Hydraulic Calculations
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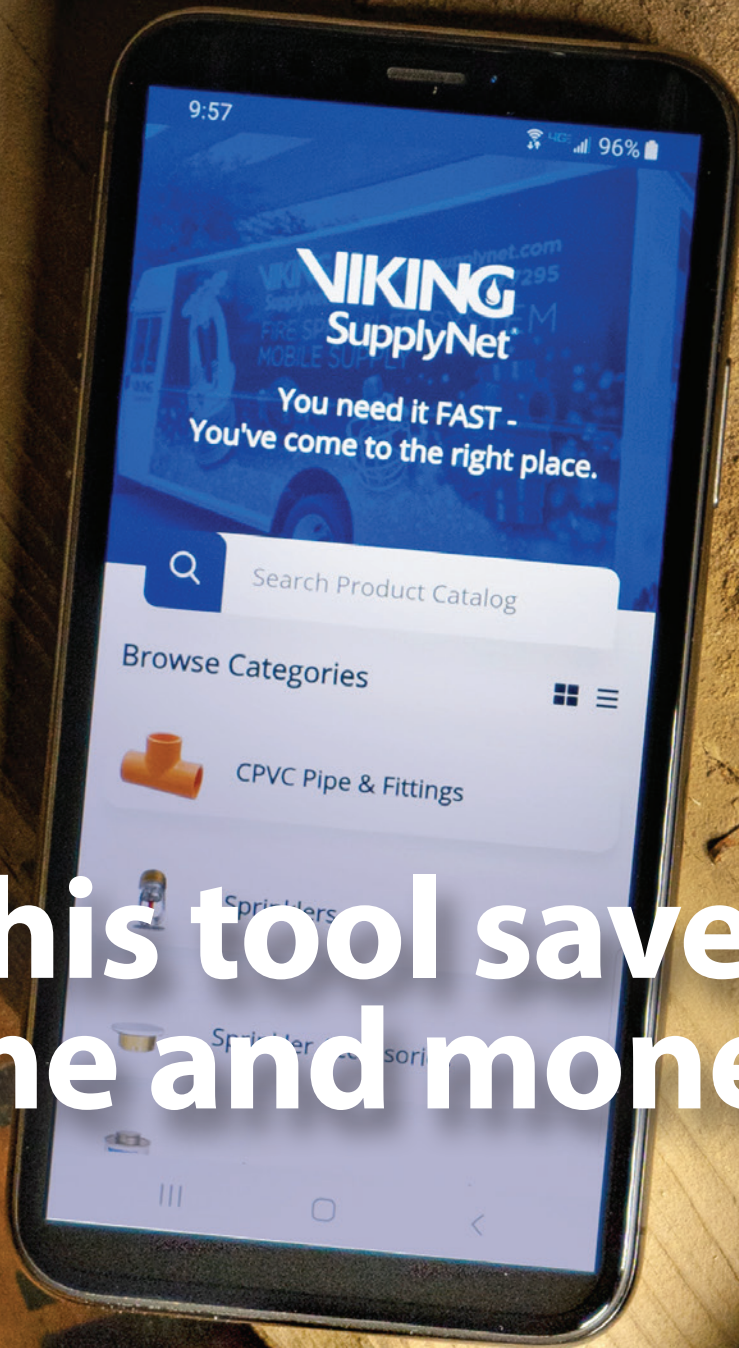
12/16/2020
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12/18/2020
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NFSA is closely monitoring all requirements related to COVID-19 and will make final decisions on all in class training two weeks prior to the class start date.

Visit www.nfsa.org/Training for more information and to register for these seminars.



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Fire is fast. Fire sprinklers are faster.

One Tough Industry

“When the going gets tough, the tough get going.” I can't help but think about our fire sprinkler industry within the context of this quote. As I reflect on that quote, I must say thank you. Thank you to our NFSA staff, Board of Directors members, Council members, Committee members, and NFSA members in general. You've definitely proven you are one tough crew during these past few months of serving through a world-wide pandemic and national state of emergency.

We have truly been in this together, and as NFSA President I have felt the strength that comes from you, your businesses, and your commitment to our industry. It has made a difference to me and I hope some of the efforts made by NFSA's team has made a difference to you. It was amazing to observe areas of the country with more than 75% of workers in the fire sprinkler industry out of work, yet other parts of the country with less than 10%.

We have all faced many tough decisions during these unprecedented times, but having a team prepared for challenges with the proper attitude and tools made these decisions more appropriate for the future. We implemented our recession budget on May 1st, which included reduction in staff and program cuts as well. We did what we had to do to survive and thrive given the situation, now it's time to turn our attention to recovery, and I'd like to think that in the recovery mode that's on the horizon we will find new ways to thrive.

There are opportunities in the midst of this crisis, and your association has been working hard to make sure that policy leaders, media, and the general public understands this. You are essential for a reason, and that reason is fire and life safety. Whether we are promoting ITM as buildings come back online, or sharing information about recent fire sprinkler incentives that are now part of the federal tax code, there are ways to spotlight the important role that fire sprinklers play in our world.

During our Virtual Annual Seminar and Business & Leadership Conference (which was a success because of all of you logging on to be a part), we were reminded of NFPA's Ecosystem by NFPA President Jim Pauley. As Jim talked about the way we have collaborated since 1905, I couldn't help but be reminded

of all of those who have gone before us to pave the way to here and now. The hard times that they went through are important for us to remember now. This too shall pass, I can almost hear them reassuring us. I believe we will be stronger as a result of our past and our planning for the future.

I will also admit that the success of our virtual conference makes me look forward to our **May 12-14, 2021 Annual Seminar and Fire Sprinkler Expo** at the Cosmopolitan in Las Vegas with renewed energy. I enjoyed all our technical speakers and business/leadership speakers and can't wait to hear their full segments in Vegas. Don't forget we have President Harry S. Truman's grandson, Clifton Truman Daniel lined up to do a re-enactment of his grandfather's famous speech on fire prevention from 1947. You will be so amazed at how much is still applicable today. There is so much for us to learn from the past, and there is so much for us to be excited for in our future.

I look forward to our continued recovery, and I assure you that your association is here to help. We are working diligently to fulfill our mission, *“To protect lives and property from fire through the widespread acceptance of the fire sprinkler concept.”* Working together we are building a stronger industry and a safer world. We couldn't do it without you, and I hope that tough times like these have reminded you of why being a member of NFSA is important. Know that we appreciate you, and that we are determined to grow our industry, even while dealing with impacts beyond our control.

Remember, September/October is our Member Takeover issue, and I encourage you to submit an article. We love focusing on our members and the good ideas you have and the good work that you do. We held our March Board of Directors meeting in person, we held our June Board meeting virtually and we will hold our October Board



“There are opportunities in the midst of this crisis, and your association has been working hard to make sure that policy leaders, media, and the general public understands this. You are essential for a reason, and that reason is fire and life safety.”

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of Directors meeting with a blend of in-person and virtual. Our meeting and seminars have changed greatly in the past five years and will continue to evolve in a way that involves more of you, our members.

Much has changed and it will continue to change with impacts to the fire sprinkler industry. As we see the type of occupancies change, our favorite stores and restaurants modify facilities, another transitions in homes and the roles they serve, or as growth shifts to storage, distribution, and delivery; we as a fire sprinkler industry have to adapt and innovate. Our role as an association and your role as a company leading in the fire sprinkler industry will evolve as we all attempt to serve our members and customers ahead of

the next curve.

NFSA was out ahead with our service during COVID-19 and we will continue to serve this great industry. As a reminder, the latest information on the pandemic that affects the fire sprinkler industry can be found here: www.nfsa.org/covid-19

Stay safe, stay well, and serve well.

May God bless you,



Shane Ray, President



We Love to Showcase Our Members' Projects!

Thank you **Chris Smith and Fire Sprinklers, Inc.** for our great cover photos! NFSA Contractor Members, get in on the action! Send us photos of your projects along with a few descriptive sentences and you might find yourself featured on the cover of NFSM!

Email NFSM Editor Joanne Genadio at genadio@nfsa.org with materials and/or any questions!



Have a good camera, iPhone or Android with great lens quality? Photograph your subject in the highest quality level and send them along to genadio@nfsa.org. We'll let you know if you have a winner!

A Special Thanks to our Leaders

I hope as you begin to peruse this edition of National Fire Sprinkler Magazine that you, your family, your co-workers and/or employees are all healthy and doing well. I know the strains of the pandemic have touched each and every one of us of over the past several months and it would be foolish to assume that you too have not been impacted in some way. Hopefully it was only minimally, and we have all turned the corner for the better.

It is during the difficult times that the true ability to lead is easily exposed. Leaders are forced to make difficult decisions during trying times because they are unavoidable. Each decision made often has a measurable impact. Residing in New Jersey, I have watched both our Governor and New York's Governor be forced with making these decisions 24-7. Our specific area has been more heavily impacted by COVID-19 than many other countries have. Whether you agree or not with all the decisions these gentlemen have made, I believe they have both stepped up to the almost impossible task presented to them and have proven to be leaders. Being a true leader is often having to tell people what they do not want to hear, what may not be easily achieved, but must be done to best protect the best interests (and in this case lives) of all.



You can reach me at:

kmezaros@qrfpss.com

kent@quickresponsefireprotection.com

NFSA's President Shane Ray, and our NFSA leadership team have proven themselves up to the task at hand. From Day 1 of the Pandemic our team has worked tirelessly to make sure the impact to our industry would be as minimal as possible. They communicated with every governor across the country and worked hard to keep our supply chains open, and to be sure our industry was acknowledged as essential. They reshaped our Association's inner workings so NFSA could continue to do business normally – and they have done it well.

Cancelling our Business and Leadership conference at the Desert Ridge Resort in Phoenix this year was especially painful. I was Chairman of the Seminar & Exposition Committee for many years, and still sit on the committee even while serving as Chairman of the Board. I know the amount of hard work that goes into planning these events by both the committee and staff. I, like you, look forward to attending, and getting to spend time with industry peers, family, and friends. However difficult it was, staff proved up to the challenge as they quickly put together an awesome alternative, and therefore allowed us to partake in a little bit of normalcy, post-Covid-19 style. Our virtual Business and Leadership Conference had over 1500 registrants and over the course of two afternoons went flawlessly and was packed with outstanding speakers and topical information. While nothing will make me happier than to be with all of you at the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Las Vegas next May for our Annual Seminar, I now know that our team will make sure we will have an awesome program, no matter what the restrictions may or may not be at that time. I have to thank Viking's President James Golinveaux for organizing the 'virtual cocktail reception' after Friday's program ended, as a seminar would have not been the same without watching James enjoy some celebratory Captain Morgan. Leave it to our industry's leaders to find an enjoyable way to still consume alcohol with your friends while busting each other's chops (now that is true leadership!) from hundreds or thousands of miles away.

So, hopefully as you read this your roots have been dyed your favorite color and your hair is back to its normal length. Hopefully, you've gotten to physically interact with a co-worker (safely) and maybe even enjoyed a meal or drink somewhere outside of your own residence. Here's to hoping your business volume is back to summer of 2019 levels, and maybe there is a vaccine and a cure close to our fingertips to put this all behind us. I personally want to thank each and every one of our leaders for their efforts and what they have accomplished to date. Please continue to lead others to the best of your abilities and let us all please be healthy and happy.

God bless and thank you to all NFSA members for your support and the opportunity to continue to serve.

Respectfully yours,

Kent Mezaros, Chairman

Social Recruiting: 7 Tactics for Better ROI

by Eyal A. Katz

Recruitment practices have undergone a major change in the last couple of years. Social recruiting has become increasingly popular, and in recent years, it has taken center stage.

Marketers and HR have both been tasked with creating and boosting employer branding on social media and leveraging this branding for social recruitment. But which social recruiting tactics will get you the best results? And what constitutes as social recruiting, anyway?

What Are the Best Ways to Get Results from Social Recruiting?

1. Know Your Audience

Adjusting your strategy to each social network is important. LinkedIn is where you go to share and gain professional knowledge, so it's only natural for a recruiter to send a message to a potential candidate on LinkedIn and see if they'd be interested in a position. Instagram, on the other hand, would be more suited for "softer" social recruiting techniques, such as posting job openings, team photos and reflecting company values through images and quotes.

2. Do Your Research

Your research should include more granular insights. Try to understand what candidates consider to be valuable when picking a new workplace. Are they looking to learn new skills, or maybe they're interested in unique benefits which your company offers? One of the ways to uncover those insights would be social listening, while other ways include surveying your current employees or candidates. Arming yourself with this research will allow you to target candidates on social media better and see more success with social recruiting.

3. Invest in Employer Branding

Sharing HR-related content on social media is paramount to social recruiting. Make sure candidates are able to discover your company culture, the value you provide to employees and all the reasons why your people LOVE working for your company.

4. Recruit Your Existing Employees

Referrals are a major part of any company's recruitment strategy. In fact, 82% of employers rated employee referrals



above all other sources for generating the best ROI. Employee advocacy allows employers to tap into referral recruitment in the most effective way. Employees who share job openings or even general company content will be able to extend the company's reach to a new, extensive pool of talent and position the company as a good employer.

5. Transparency Is the Name of the Game

In some rare cases, such as recruiting for a very senior position, HR managers will choose not to reveal all the details at first, but this applies mainly to executive recruitment. Candidates understand this nuance and expect to get the full details about a position if they're being approached on social media.

6. Create an Awesome Candidate Experience

A candidate experience for professionals coming in through social recruiting should reflect your company's recruitment processes and leave a good impression. Remember that Glassdoor is only a click away, and frustrated candidates can take to social media to vent their anger at a bad recruitment experience. As with everything in marketing, personalization creates better engagement, and engagement is key when trying to seek out talent in a competitive job market.

Article Source: https://EzineArticles.com/expert/Eyal_A_Katz/2167080

Should I Consider a PLD Diesel Fire Pump for my Warehouse Design?

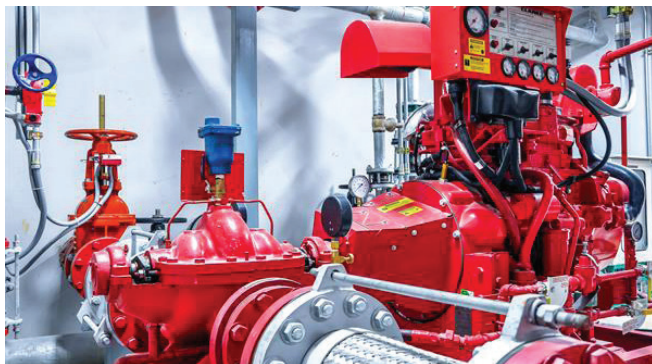
By Michael Joanis, PE **Director of Contractor Services**



What is a PLD?

A PLD is a pressure-limiting device. This is a fire pump with a variable speed pressure-limiting control that is used to limit the discharge pressure by reducing the driver speed. The PLD is set for a maximum discharge pressure, such as 175 psi. When this pressure is achieved, the engine throttle is adjusted to limit the speed and maintain discharge pressure. A PLD is specific to diesel pumps. Variable speed electric fire pumps are available; however, they function differently and have a higher price point.

Variable speed controllers have been used for years in other applications. This concept is not new to fire pump applications either. PLDs debuted in the 2003 edition of NFPA 20 and were first approved by FM Global in 2008. The 2003 edition of NFPA 20 permitted the use of variable speed pressure-limiting controls and prohibited the use of relief valves to control the maximum discharge pressure. While PLD technology has been around for 17 years, new fire protection technology is sometimes measured in dog years.



How does it work?

Diesel engines are inherently variable-speed devices. Pumps on fire engines are variable speed driven. The rpm is determined by the amount of fuel delivered to the engine. Adjusting the throttle will change the speed of the engine and the associated speed of the pump. For the typical constant-speed pumps, the speed is set to a constant rpm by setting a governor on the engine throttle.

The pump pressure compared to the driver speed is defined by pump affinity laws. These laws define how a centrifugal pump will perform with varying impeller trim and rpm. Flow is directly pro-

portional to speed. However, pressure is exponentially proportional to speed. A small change in speed will result in a proportionally larger variation in pressure. For example, a pump developing 100 psi of churn pressure at a rated speed of 1,780 rpm will only produce 81 psi (20% reduction) when the speed is reduced to 1,600 rpm (10% reduction).

Review of the Standards:

NFPA 20 and NFPA 13 determine requirements specific to maximum sprinkler system pressure and the use of PLD diesel fire pump controllers. NFPA 13, 2019 edition, section 5.2.3 permits the use of a fire pump in accordance with NFPA 20 as part of an acceptable water supply source and section 7.1.2 requires aboveground system components to be rated for not less than 175 psi.

NFPA 20, 2019 edition, section 3.3.76, provides definitions for variable speed pumps and controllers.

- A variable speed pump is defined as having a pressure limiting control or self-regulating variable speed fire pump unit.
- A variable speed pressure limiting control is defined as a control system used to limit the total discharge pressure by reducing the pump driver speed from rated speed.

Section 4.7.7 provides general pump, driver, and controller requirements including:

- Maximum net pump shutoff (churn) pressure plus the maximum static suction pressure, adjusted for elevation, shall not exceed the pressure for which the system components are rated.
- Pressure relief valves shall not be used to control over pressure of the system components.
- Variable speed pumps are acceptable to limit system pressure.

Section 4.8 provides several requirements for self-regulating variable speed pump units including:

- Maintain the factory certified test data.
- Use a factory assembled and listed as a unit.
- Provide supervisory signals indicating set pressure not met and overpressure.
- Controller shall display set pressure, boost pressure, calculated rpm, calculated flow, alerts, and faults.
- Include a password protected means to field adjust the set pressure.

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Section 11.2.4.3 provides requirements for variable speed-controlled engines including:

- Variable speed controls are not a replacement for the engine governor.
- Failure of the speed control system shall cause the engine to operate at pump-rated speed.
- For pressure limiting control, the pressure sensing line shall be connected between the pump discharge flange and the pump discharge check valve.

Section 14.2.6.4 provides acceptance testing requirements including:

- Perform a flow test in the variable speed mode at 0, 25, 50, 74, 100, 125, and 150% of rated load.
- Perform a flow test at 0, 100, and 150% rated load with the fire pump operating at full rated speed.

When to consider installing a PLD diesel fire pump for a warehouse

You should consider a PLD diesel fire pump to maintain the maximum system working pressure for sprinkler systems. The maximum system working pressure is developed during a no-flow condition when the pump is running. This is the total of the maximum static water supply pressure (adjusted for elevation) and the maximum pump churn pressure created at no-flow. If this condition exceeds 175 psi, you should consider using a PLD control for your diesel fire pump. The addition of a PLD control can be cost effective. My experience is that this option adds less than 5% to the cost of the pump package. That cost can be easily offset by several design factors and flexibility.

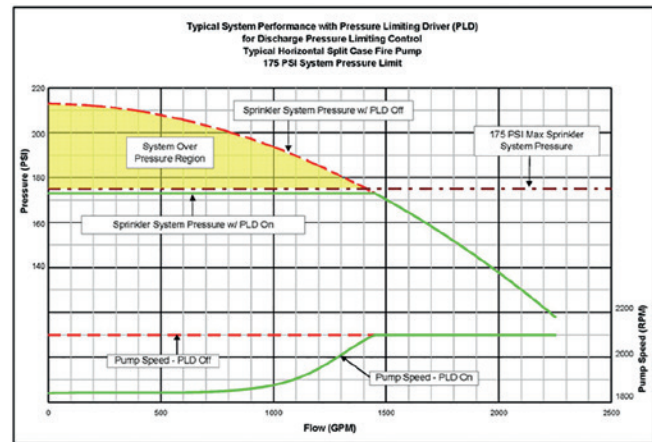
You can use a PLD to address the pressure increase between rated to churn. For example, at rated flow and pressure, the pump combined with the water supply creates less than 175 psi. However, at churn condition, the pump creates greater than 175 psi. The PLD control can be used to reduce the engine speed at low- or no-flow conditions, and to limit the pressure increase between rated to churn. This is commonly referred to as cutting the top off the pump curve.

A PLD can address variations in the static water supply pressures caused by seasonal or daily changes in the water level in a gravity tank. During churn condition, the pump creates greater than 175 psi during periods of high-water supply pressure. The PLD control can be used to offset the seasonal increases in static water supply pressure.

PLD control allows flexibility for your system layout, pipe sizing, and the associated system demand. Many warehouses have long runs of feed main pipe to remote sprinkler system zones. The large system demand associated with storage applications creates additional friction loss in long feed mains and requires the installation of larger pipe and/or increased fire pump rated pressure. The design may also require the use of existing system piping for renovation projects. During the hydraulic calculation process, a particular pipe layout and sizing may result in churn pressures exceeding 175 psi. A PLD can accommodate a preferred or existing system layout and pipe sizing.

A PLD control can allow for improved and/or alternate storage design criteria. There are several design approaches to storage applications. The commodity classification and storage arrangements can vary and require flexibility in the selected design criteria. There can be options to use CMDA, CMSA, ESFR, In-Rack, Alternative, and special design criteria approaches. With changes in system demands based on various design approaches, the preferred design criteria may increase the pump rated and churn pressure and exceed 175 psi. A PLD will allow for improved storage flexibility and design criteria.

A PLD helps accommodate a system demand that falls between 100% and 140% of the pump's rated flow. When selecting a fire pump to meet a system demand beyond the rated flow, the required rated and churn pressures will increase. The PLD can be used to offset this increase and permit the pump to be used beyond the rated flow.



Summary:

The use of PLD diesel pumps is code compliant and cost effective. It allows control of system pressure, flexibility in system design, and additional pump selection options. When over pressurization of a system becomes a concern, the PLD option can be the most cost effective and reliable option when compared to break tanks, pressure reducing valves, increased pump rated flow, or custom pumps with flatter (lower churn pressure) performance curves. PLD control should not be used to provide unnecessary safety factors, but it is an effective tool to manage pressure as part of a quality fire protection system.

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2021 IFC Changes to Storage

by Jeffrey M. Hugo, CBO, [Vice President of Codes and Public Fire Protection](#)



The International Fire Code (IFC) and portions of the International Building Code (IBC) underwent a major update for storage related occupancies in the 2018 edition and continues to expand in the 2021 edition. This article briefly describes the new requirements in the 2021 edition of each storage situation in several chapters of the IFC or IBC.

Chapter 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems

Upholstered furniture and mattresses in a storage occupancy (S-1) have had a sprinkler trigger since the 2012 edition of the IFC and IBC. The 2021 IBC/IFC keeps the 2,500 square feet threshold but changes the code application for fire sprinklers from occupancy to fire area. In the past, the 2,500 square feet was applied for storage of upholstered furniture and mattresses throughout the occupancy instead of to a fire area. An exception is also added to the 2021 IBC/IFC for fire sprinkler systems to be exempted in single story self-storage facilities accessible from the exterior. (Section 903.2.9.2)

Open parking garages have long been exempted from fire sprinklers due to the openness of the structure. The 2021 IBC eliminates this blanket exemption and provides two new major thresholds to trigger fire sprinklers: new open parking garages over 55 feet in height or new open parking garages over 48,000 square feet in fire area to have fire sprinklers installed. (903.2.10, 903.2.11.3)

Chapter 11 – Construction Requirements for Existing Buildings

The 2021 IFC, Chapter 11 requires all existing high-rise buildings over 120 feet to retrofit with fire sprinklers. High-rises less than 120 feet (down to 75 feet) have an option to provide a second stairway, a full fire-alarm system, or retrofit with fire sprinklers. While this does not affect many storage buildings, the text is written to apply to all occupancies. (1103.5.4)

Chapter 32 – High-Piled Combustible Storage

Lithium-ion batteries are added as a high-hazard example of commodity classes to Table 3203.8 of the IFC. Classifying lithium-ion batteries as a high-hazard commodity benefits the code users with a clearer direction on a commodity classification for the application of Table 3206.2 for general fire protection and life safety systems

when lithium-ion batteries are stored. (Table 3203.8)

The mixed commodity figures in the 2021 IFC changed to correlate to the 2019 edition of NFPA 13. The only difference from the IFC to NFPA 13 are the amounts of plastic in Class I and II plastics. The IFC will permit small amount of plastic in Class I and II commodities whereas NFPA 13 moves any amount of plastic to a Class III commodity. (Figure 3203.9(1) and (2))

Inspection of the storage layout plan is new text for the 2021 IFC and is found in the housekeeping and maintenance section of the IFC. This requires the storage plan from Section 3201.3.2 to be inspected on an annual basis and any change to the storage layout, i.e. commodities, storage height, fire protection, must be approved by the fire code official. (3205.1)

Fire department hose connections in storage occupancies are a past fire code requirement. The 2021 IFC eliminates the requirement for additional hose connections. The fire code official can still require hose connections in high-hazard storage commodities over 300,000 square feet in areas where additional fire protection is needed. (Table 3206.2 Footnote f.)

Automated rack storage in the 2021 IFC is expanded to require a manual switch and an automatic shutdown to initiate the shutdown to initiate the shutdown process. The 2021 IFC uses the term “shutdown process” as performance language to determine how an automated storage, i.e. robotic retrieval, picking systems, conveyor systems, etc. properly quits during a fire event. The shutdown process is part of the design and plan review process that includes the code official and building owner. Fire sprinkler waterflow or fire detection systems are part of the initiation of the shutdown process. (3209.4)

It is important to note that at the time this article was written, the 2021 editions have not been published by the International Code Council. This means the section numbers could be off slightly when you, the reader, start to apply the code in the future. It also means you have an active industry association (the NFSA) working on your behalf to be “in the know” and advocating for you long before the model code is printed. •

A Little Backstory About What's Ahead

by Caleb Armbrust, **Director of Membership**



At the time of writing this, it has been about 5.5 months since I officially took on the role of NFSA Membership Director, a role I have immensely enjoy thus far. Prior to that, I served as the Special Projects Manager, which exposed me to many different elements of the association, our members, and the way the industry functions. A highlight of my three years with NFSA has been the chance to meet so many of you and learn your companies' stories. The goal of this column will be to update you on new benefits, new technology, and the occasional member spotlight.

NFSA and Technology

When I joined NFSA in March of 2017, a top priority was to get the association on a sustainable path as it related to technology and our web presence. Alex Siu had recently moved us to Office 365 and implemented Concur for expense tracking. In 2017, we launched our new website on WordPress, the first step in ending our contract with the current AMS vendor. In 2018, we launched a blog to better highlight the happenings of the association and industry. We have been on Microsoft Teams for more than two years, and these technology investments have paid dividends for NFSA in our response to COVID-19 and our ability to respond quickly and host a successful virtual conference.

A New Association Management Software (AMS) for NFSA

For a proactive and engaged association in 2020, a robust member engagement platform is at the core of relational success, both today and in the future. These are large and complex technology systems that are one-part customer relationship management (CRM), one-part event platform, one-part training platform, one-part group/chapter management and one-part website. The pace of technological advancement only compounds the challenge of picking a long-term solution! After nearly eight months in the sales and discovery process, we settled on a vendor with a solution built on Microsoft Dynamics CRM, now fully cloud-based.

By the time you read this, the new platform will be live. I want

to ask you for your help as we all get used to this new platform together. This is our association platform and it is robust enough to do the things so many of you have requested over the years. One of our most valuable services, *Expert of the Day*, will be housed in this system and we will continue working to make the article search, member directories, chapter information, and, yes, a digital buyer's guide, function even better.

You, the Suppliers and Manufacturers, the Contractors, the Professionals, and the Governmental Members are the Fire Sprinkler Industry, and we collectively come together at NFSA events to raise our voice, "*The Voice of the Fire Sprinkler Industry*." May we never forget that we all join as an industry to advance the fire sprinkler concept. I sincerely hope this new platform is a tool that serves to amplify our voice and your relationships. •

I look forward to hearing from you in this new role by phone 614. 315.1358 or email armbrust@nfsa.org. Good, bad, or indifferent, I appreciate your feedback and suggestions.



NEW MEMBERS

Contractor

Ryan Wychopen
Fire Systems of Texas
McAllen, Texas

Supplier and Manufacturer

Robert Gottermeier
VIEGA LLC
Broomfield, Colorado

Professional

Micah Davis
Dynamic Fire Designs
Spring Hill, Florida

Kevin Rowe
Maasai Contracting LLC
Cold Spring, New York

Michael Enfinger
Fire Professionals of
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Gregory Heitman
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Peter Lazdins
Seminole, Florida

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Greenville, South Carolina

Subscriber

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Public Works
Clayton, Missouri

Duane Emanuel
St. Louis County Dept. of
Public Works
Clayton, Missouri

Michael Ochonicky
St. Louis County Dept. of
Public Works
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City of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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Solvay, New York

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Charles King
South Carolina State
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Idaho State Fire Marshal
Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

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Kermit Johnson
City of Orlando
Orlando, Florida

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East Hartford, Connecticut

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Tony Arnold
Reedy Creek Improvement
District
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David Paananen
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Gene Os
Granby FD
Granby, Massachusetts

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NEW MEMBERS

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Tamarac, Florida

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Massachusetts

John Wyatt
Delaware State Fire
Marshal

Cintia Chelles
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Steve Lennon
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Naples, Florida

Clarence Hodge III
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Constantine Notte
Lee County, Florida-retired
Cape Coral, Florida

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Franklin Fire
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These Incentives Improve Community Safety and Provide Developer Savings

In exchange for installing home fire sprinklers in entire developments, authorities having jurisdiction can offer locally negotiated trade-ups as incentives to developers. These incentives may include:



- Street-Width Reduction
- Longer Dead-End Streets
- Tee Turnarounds Permitted
- Increased Street Grades and Building Setbacks
- Additional Units Permitted
- Expansion of Existing Water Supply May Not Be Needed
- Increased Hydrant Spacing
- Subdivision Single Access Point
- Gated Communities

HOME FIRE SPRINKLERS PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT*

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 98%

Reduce fire damage by up to 97%

Reduce water usage to fight a home fire by as much as 91%

Reduce water pollution

* *Environmental Impact of Automatic Fire Sprinklers*, FM Global, 2010



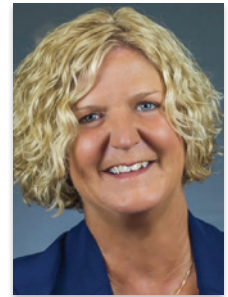
For more information about home fire sprinkler incentives, including case studies, video testimonials, fact sheets and NFPA 13D information, visit our website at HomeFireSprinkler.org/crr.

Home Fire Sprinklers: A Win-Win for Your Entire Community

Home fire sprinkler incentives can reduce construction costs, while protecting residents and firefighters, and help to protect the environment.

Adapt and Overcome...

by Vickie Pritchett, **Executive Officer**



It certainly makes for a good goal during the uncertain times we find ourselves in with the international pandemic. While Team NFSA has made adjustments to our travel plans, we have responded to the challenge by taking many of our events online. The first opportunity we had to do this was our Annual Seminar and Business & Leadership Conference on April 30 and May 1, 2020.

What an amazing two days online! Two afternoons of learning with many of our industry's greats! Thank you to all our presenters and attendees! We sure proved that we could "pivot" and we also reminded ourselves of just how special the fire sprinkler industry is! As we continue to utilize the technology of Microsoft Teams for Chapter and Fire Team NFSA events, we realize that we can deliver much needed information in spite of impacts of the pandemic.

I've shared with many of our Chapters, but it's worth stating again. This health crisis has given NFSA the opportunity to provide real time value to our members. Whether we were interpreting state executive orders or rallying the troops with Voter Voice, we responded and made a difference. We were a big part of the process, and we listened to our members to know what needs were priorities. It feels good to know that our association can be a part of the initial response to COVID-19 and also the recovery plan. Remember, we will adapt and overcome.

If you see needs that you have, please reach out and let us know how we can best address these needs and serve. We are focused on responding to the needs identified and we are prepared to lead the way across the nation as policy makers continue to adjust to the on-going threats from the virus. Until a vaccine is available, we know that times will remain uncertain. That's why it is critical for members of the fire sprinkler industry to be apprised of the safest models for taking care of your employees while delivering the life safety services you perform.

Make sure you visit us online to know the latest, and also follow us on social media to be literally "up to the minute" on things that impact us directly. One of the best "positives" to me throughout this crisis is the fact that fire sprinkler saves have continued...there's always a little good news on our Fridays when we receive President Ray's *Spotlight on Fire Sprinklers!* Keep those fire sprinkler saves coming, and keep your team motivated by sharing!

I'll close with a sincere thank you to everyone who joined in the fun of our virtual Common Voices Golf Classic as well! Bob Knose issued the challenge, and our members responded. If you'd like to make a donation, you can access the link here: bit.ly/CVgolf2020. The advocates are working on new content for the website as travel has been impacted due to the pandemic, and we are also in the process of making a new documentary that will chronicle the advocates, their stories and the way that the fire sprinkler industry is a key partner in progress. Working together, we will build a stronger industry and a safer world.

Until next time, be safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vickie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



FIRE SPRINKLERS IN ACTION



O'Fallon, Illinois

Single Sprinkler Keeps Restaurant Open

Employees at an O'Fallon, Illinois restaurant were surprised when they discovered a fire in a kitchen trash can while they were working. Kitchen staff at the Bella Milano were unsuccessful in extinguishing it until a lone sprinkler in the area activated and quickly extinguished the fire.

When service technician Dan Love from NFSA member Boyer Fire Protection arrived to check and restore the system, he discovered that employees had cleaned the kitchen and the fire department had already been there and gone, shutting down and draining the system before they left.

The contractor replaced the activated sprinkler and restored the system to normal. "You could not even tell there had been a fire," said Love. •

East Amherst, New York

Single Sprinkler Saves Senior Living Complex

Thank you to Michael Secor, Assistant Chief of the East Amherst, New York Fire Department for sending in this sprinkler save!

The East Amherst Fire Department was dispatched for a fire alarm at a multi-story senior living complex. The first arriving chief discovered a smoke condition on the second floor and water flowing from an activated sprinkler in a second-floor apartment. The resident of that apartment was rescued by facility staff. The occupant told crews that her toast became stuck in the toaster, which then burst into flames. A wall pendent sprinkler located



directly above the now enflamed toaster activated, suppressing the fire until firefighters arrived.

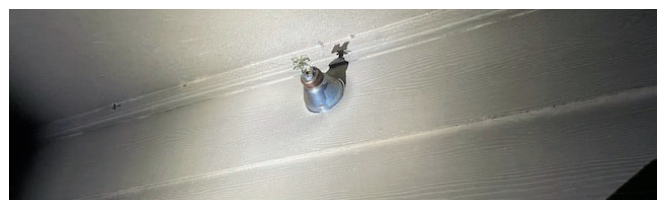
"If it were not for the automatic fire sprinkler system activating in the apartment, the loss of life and damage to the structure would have been catastrophic. The sprinkler system saved a lot of lives tonight." says Secor. •

Fort Bend County, Texas

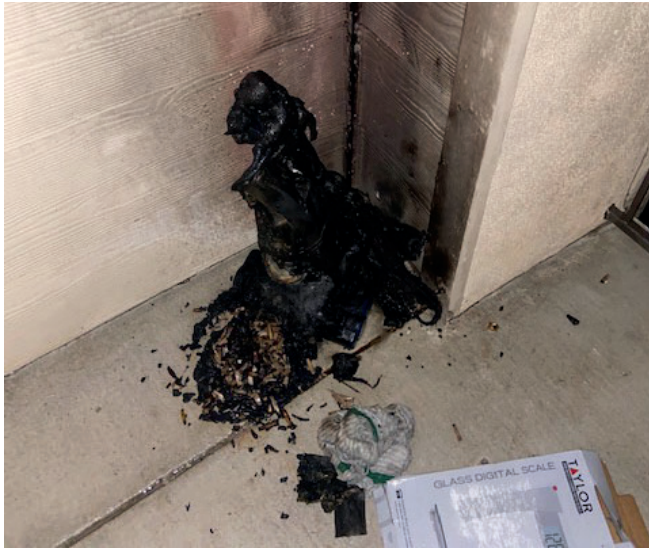
Single Sprinkler Saves Texas Apartment Building

Thank you to Assistant Chief Steven McDonald of the Fort Bend County, Texas Fire Marshal's Office for sending us this sprinkler save!

On March 31st, the Fulshear, Texas Fire Department was dispatched to a reported apartment fire. Suppression personnel arrived to find a small fire that was extinguished by a single fire sprinkler activated on the patio of the apartment.



continued from page 20



Nuts and Bolts:

Property Value:	\$1,000,000.
Damage:	\$300.

#fastestwater win!



Upon further investigation it was discovered that a mother with a small infant occupied the apartment and somehow a candle ignited a mattress and not a couch and she drug it out to the balcony. The balcony sprinkler activated and contained and almost totally extinguished the fire in the mattress. The occupant had no burns, injury, nor was there any injury to infant child. The system was temporarily shut down, sprinkler was replaced and system back in service with damage contained to the mattress. The entire apartment complex is fire sprinkler protected and we believe strongly in automatic fire sprinkler protection. •

What a GREAT #fastestwater win!

Addison, Texas

Single Sprinkler Saves Addison, Texas Apartment Complex

Thank you to Fred Calhoun of the Addison, Texas Fire Department for submitting this sprinkler save!



We received a call of a structure fire yesterday at approximately 4:45 p.m. at a five-story residential apartment complex with the following dispatch details:

Occupant reported they had a fire on the exterior porch/landing that was encroaching the adjacent apartment. Further update stated it was a couch on fire on the balcony. First arriving company reported sprinkler activation on the balcony and they performed minor mop up extinguishment.

Racine, Wisconsin

Single Sprinkler Extinguishes Kitchen Fire in Racine, Wisconsin Apartment Building

Thank you to Lt. John Magnus of the Racine, Wisconsin Fire Department for submitting this sprinkler save!

On Sunday, March 29th, at 2:45 p.m., the Racine Fire Department responded to a kitchen fire at an apartment building. Upon arrival, the occupants of the building were standing outside at a safe distance. Inside of the building on the 2nd floor, a kitchen fire that originated on the cook top was extinguished by a single fire sprinkler.

The cause of the fire was determined to be grease used for cooking igniting on the stove. The sprinkler activation was essential in preventing what could have been a potentially catastrophic fire. In addition, the buildings smoke alarm system activated and provided residents with early warning of the fire. Water and smoke damage was limited to only two of the eight apartment units. •

Richmond, Texas

Single Sprinkler Saves Richmond, Texas Apartment Complex

Thank you to Assistan Chief Steven McDonald with the Fort Bend County Fire Marshal's Office for sending us this sprinkler save!

On April 18th, a single fire sprinkler controlled a kitchen fire in a unit of an apartment complex in Richmond, Texas. The area of origin for the fire was the right rear burner on a range top.

Fire Sprinklers in Action

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Radiant heat ignited the microwave and cabinetry directly above. The responding fire department found no flames or smoke. The burner was still glowing red as if it had not been turned off. The fire was extinguished by a single fire sprinkler in the ceiling, approximately ten feet away from the fire. •

Nuts and Bolts:

Pre-fire property value:	\$49,731,900
Property damage:	\$1,000

#fastestwater win!

Belleville, Illinois

Single Sprinkler Save at Belleville, Illinois Skilled-Nursing Facility

Thank you to Asst Chief J. P. Penet of the Belleville, Illinois Fire Department for sending in this sprinkler save. J. P. is a past recipient of the Platinum Service Sprinkler Award given yearly by the Saint Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance!



The Belleville, Illinois Fire Department was dispatched to report of smoldering smell in a laundry room at Integrity of Belleville. This facility provides skilled nursing services for individuals with the diagnosis of a mental illness disorder.

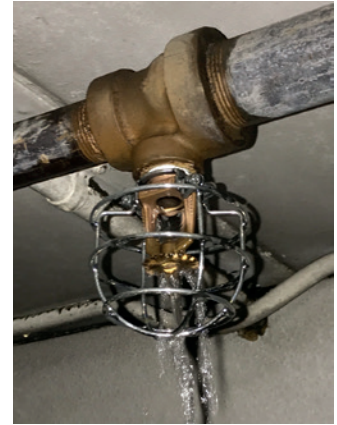
While responding, dispatch advised of an activated fire alarm for sprinkler flow. First arriving units arrived to find light smoke

conditions in the basement mechanical corridor leading to the laundry. Second due units upgraded to full alarm.

Upon reaching the laundry area, first due units found a single activated fire sprinkler directly above a laundry cart containing what appeared to be kitchen towels and mop heads. Fire units verified fire extinguishment, and called for shut-down of the sprinkler system. Upon investigation, the contents of the cart were determined to be freshly laundered kitchen towels and mops which contained residual natural cooking oils. When heated in the dryer, and bundled in the cart, the accelerated breakdown of natural oils caused a spontaneous ignition of the towels.

No injuries were reported, as the facility staff acted quickly to evacuate personnel and residents in the affected wing, and relocate others to adjacent wings, behind self closing fire doors.

The facility called in NFSA member Ahern Fire Protection of St Louis, Missouri to put the sprinkler system back in service. •



Boston, Massachusetts

Sprinkler Save at Boston, Massachusetts Apartment Building

Thank you to Jennifer Mieth of Boston's Department of Fire Services for sending us this sprinkler save!



On April 28th, at 2:20 pm, a fire was reported on the second floor of a three-story attached residential building. Fire sprinklers prevented the fire from spreading until companies arrived to extin-

guish it. There were no injuries to report. Damages are estimated at \$10,000, two residents were displaced. •

Johnston, Iowa

Single Sprinkler Save at Johnston, Iowa Apartment Complex

Thank you to Fire Marshal Craig Ver Huel of the Johnston-Grimes Metropolitan Fire Department for submitting this sprinkler save.



At 2:17 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29, the Johnston-Grimes Metropolitan Fire Department responded to a call for a fire alarm at an apartment complex in Johnston. When the first units arrived, they were notified of a grease fire in the kitchen of a second-floor apartment. The crews found light smoke where the fire occurred. A single sprinkler extinguished the fire in the kitchen of the apartment. •

Nuts and Bolts:

Type of system:	13R
Number of sprinklers activated:	One
Value of building:	\$2,150,000
Value of contents:	\$600,000
Value saved:	\$2,740,000

#fastestwater win!

Forest Grove, Oregon

Single Sprinkler Extinguishes Fire at Forest Grove, Oregon Apartment Complex

Thank you to Matt Johnson of Forest Grove Fire and Rescue for submitting this great sprinkler save!

On May 6th, occupants were in the process of moving into a second floor apartment. They placed a box on the stove, and in the process, accidentally turned the stove on. They went back to move more boxes and returned to the box smoking, they moved

it and it ignited. They dropped the box and left the apartment, in that time the sprinkler activated, extinguishing the box/contents. No injuries. •

Nuts and Bolts:

Value of building:	\$30 million
Sprinklers activated:	one

#fastestwater win!

Wayne Township, Indiana

Single Sprinkler Save at Indianapolis Elementary School

Thank you to Randy Gully of the Wayne Township, Indiana Fire Department for submitting this sprinkler save.



On May 7th, a fire erupted in an Indianapolis elementary school records file storage room. The fire involved miscellaneous office desk items plugged into a temporary power tap that was plugged into electrical outlet.

When crews arrived, they noted one fire sprinkler had activated and extinguished the fire. •

Nuts and Bolts:

Sprinklers activated:	1
Value of building:	\$15,500,000
Value Saved:	\$15,460,000

The Uninspected: Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Storage and Shipping Facilities

by Vince Powers, *NFSA's ITM Specialist*



Conducting a test and inspection (T&I) of a storage or shipping facility in accordance with NFPA 25, Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems, is typically less onerous than other building types. Typically, there are fewer rooms and floors to access than other facility types, and there are usually open ceilings. Although this is a generalization, it holds true for the most part.

Often the results of the T&I of these facilities reveal mostly non-critical deficiencies, again a generalization. It is not that there are no other code violations, but many of them are simply outside of the scope of NFPA 25. This is where one of the disconnects between the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), the fire protection contractor and the building owner/occupant begins. The issue with conducting T&I of these facilities is that they are typically compliant with NFPA 25, but in many cases the fire sprinkler system will not properly protect the commodity within the building. This is not to say that the fire sprinkler system was installed incorrectly, but it is usually due to changes in the building use, occupancy or process that occurred after the space was originally occupied. There are other factors that contribute to a sprinkler system not operating, such as closed control valves. This is the primary reason for fire sprinkler system failure. However, for now, we are going to focus on the fire sprinkler system being inappropriate for the hazard it is required to protect.

When a fire sprinkler system is designed, the use, occupancy and storage contents of the building are to be disclosed to the fire protection engineer so that an appropriate fire sprinkler system can be designed and installed. Once the system is designed, approved and installed; the AHJ must complete a thorough inspection of the system, as well as conduct an acceptance test. The system must meet the approved as-built drawings. Again, the system is based on information provided by the owner – usually during the design phase. In many cases, at some point, after the building is occupied, several things can take place. The building can be sold, the tenant can change, or the existing owner/occupant changes what they are storing or how they use the building. This is where things start to go wrong. NFPA 25 and the fire codes state that when the use and occupancy of a building changes, the fire protection system must have an evaluation completed to ensure the existing fire

protection system is adequate to protect all of the changes to the building. However, most of the time these changes are made, and the required evaluation is never completed. There are several requirements that should prohibit this from happening, but it seems to slip through the cracks. U.S. Experience with Fire Sprinklers is a report from the National Fire Protection Association and states that sprinklers are reliable more than 90 percent in all building types except for storage occupancies, where the reliability falls to 79 percent.

Once the system is installed and accepted, it is required to be inspected and tested at regular intervals. NFPA 25 is the most widely adopted standard for maintaining a fire sprinkler system. NFPA 25 requires the building owner to be responsible for properly maintaining the fire sprinkler system. In many cases the building owner does not know that NFPA 25 exists. This is another reason items fall through the cracks. The 2020 edition of NFPA 25 is laid out into several chapters with chapter 4 being one of the most important chapters in the standard. Chapter 4 spells out the owner's responsibilities for properly maintaining their fire sprinkler system. This is important because Chapter 4 Section 4.1.6 states that any changes to a building will require an evaluation of the fire sprinkler system.

4.1.6 Changes in Occupancy, Use, Process, or Materials. The property owner or designated representative shall not make changes in the occupancy, the use or process, or the materials used or stored in the building without evaluation of the fire protection system(s) for its capability to protect the new occupancy, use, or materials.*

This section informs the owner or occupant that if there are any changes to a building, then an evaluation must be completed. Again, this is not always the case. NFPA 25 also has a requirement to inspect for the general information sign. However, this requirement did not appear until the 2014 edition of NFPA 25. The problem with change to a building is that a contractor conducting T&I within a building primarily work in chapters 5-16 and the annexes. As mentioned earlier, Chapter 4 - General Requirements lays out the responsibilities of the owner and sometimes the AHJ, but never the fire protection contractor. Most AHJs will conduct

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an inspection of the building annually or at some other regular interval. If being done correctly, this is the point at which any changes to a building should be noted and an evaluation of the system enforced. The AHJs do not typically cite sections from NFPA 25, but they do work within the fire codes such as the International Fire Code, NFPA 1, Fire Code, or NFPA 101, Life Safety Code. Each of these codes has language similar to NFPA 25 regarding changes to a building, but they also state that a fire protection system must adhere to the requirements of NFPA 25. This is another disconnect between AHJ, contractor and owner/occupant, as the AHJ, typically, is only looking for deficiencies noted on the contractor's report. The contractor is not required to note any changes to a building on their report, so the AHJ assumes that the fire sprinkler system is compliant. Sometimes the fire protection contractor will make notes regarding changes in the building on a separate report, known as an observation report, which is not required to be submitted to the AHJ unless specifically requested. Typically, this information will be provided to the building owner, but since it is not identified to the AHJ, these items are not addressed. It essentially is a reoccurring cycle of lack of enforcement based on the assumption the fire protection system is compliant and therefore, the building owner assumes the work does not have to be completed.

Another requirement to assist in identifying when use and occupancy has changes is the general information sign. The general information sign is required to be provided at installation of a sprinkler system in accordance NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems. This sign has been required by NFPA 13 since the 2007 edition. The sign shall be provided by the installing fire protection contractor and must include all the following information.

NFPA 13, 2016

25.6* General Information Sign.

25.6.1 The installing contractor shall provide a general information sign used to determine system design basis and information relevant to the inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements required by NFPA 25.

25.6.1.1 Such general information shall be provided with a permanently marked weatherproof metal or rigid plastic sign, secured with corrosion-resistant wire, chain, or other acceptable means.

25.6.2 The sign shall include the following information:

- Name and location of the facility protected
- Occupancy classification
- Commodity classification
- Presence of high-piled and/or rack storage
- Maximum height of storage planned
- Aisle width planned
- Encapsulation of pallet loads
- Presence of solid shelving
- Flow test data
- Presence of flammable/combustible liquids

Presence of hazardous materials

Presence of other special storage

Location of venting valve

Location of auxiliary drains and low point drains on dry pipe and preaction systems

Original results of main drain flow test

Original results of dry pipe and double interlock preaction valve test

Name of installing contractor or designer

Indication of presence and location of antifreeze or other auxiliary systems

Where injection systems are installed to treat MIC or corrosion, the type of chemical, concentration of the chemical, and where information can be found as to the proper disposal of the chemical

As an example, we will use a warehouse building that originally was designed for storage and shipping of glass jars of varying size. Several years later that business has left the building and the new tenant is a tire distributor. When the new tenant moved in, there was not a new use and occupancy permit filed so there was no trigger to conduct an evaluation of the fire sprinkler system for the new use of the building.

Depending on the requirements of each jurisdiction, the process for changing a tenant or owner of a building will be different.

However, if the general information sign were installed, the fire protection contractor could note the requirement for a hazard evaluation to the owner even though it is not required to be cited by the contractor. If the owner does not act, the AHJ could address the change in use and occupancy when they conduct their inspection of the building and could then issue a notice of violation requiring the hazard evaluation be completed. Of course, this not how the process would be completed throughout the country, but it is generally a common process.

Many of the factors mentioned throughout this article are what drive down the reliability of sprinklers. In a perfect world, all stakeholders involved would adhere to the rules and requirements ensuring less deficiencies, impaired fire protection systems, and systems protecting the wrong occupancy or materials within a building. •

SPRINKLER SYSTEM — GENERAL INFORMATION	
for _____	
Pipe schedule system <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Date: _____
High-piled storage <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Flow test data:
Rack storage: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Static: _____ psi bar
Commodity class: _____	Resid: _____ psi bar
Max. storage height _____ ft. m	Flow: _____ gpm lpm
Aisle width (min.) _____ ft. m	Pitot: _____ psi bar
Encapsulation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Date: _____
Solid shelving: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Location: _____
Flammable/combustible liquids: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Location of aux/low point drains: _____
Other storage: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Hazardous materials: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Idle pallets: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
Antifreeze systems <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Dry pipe/double interlock preaction valve test results
Location: _____	_____
Dry or aux systems <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Original main drain test results:
Location: _____	Static: _____ psi bar
_____	Residual: _____ psi bar
_____	Venting valve location: _____
_____	_____
Where injection systems are used to treat MIC or corrosion:	
Type of chemical: _____	Concentration: _____ For proper disposal, see: _____
Name of contractor or designer: _____	_____
Address: _____	_____
Phone: _____	_____

The Worst Moment of My Life

by Kim Denson

Every parent's worst nightmare: that dreaded phone call or knock at the door. I remember the day it happened to me. It was Monday, July 15th, 2019 at 3:00 in the afternoon. I remember it so vividly, and yet it seems so clouded. I was at work when my daughter's manager called me to let me know that Kaitlyn did not show up for her shift at Snooze that morning. I had just spoken to her the previous evening. She was excited that she was coming home to Houston from Austin that afternoon when she finished work that dreadful day. Not showing up for work was totally out of character for her. Her manager told me not to worry, they would run by her apartment and go check on her. I immediately sent a text and called, but it went straight to her voicemail. Worry and panic started to set in.

About twenty minutes later, I received a phone call from a Houston Police officer, who stated that he was at my home, asking if I had a daughter named Kaitlyn. I said yes, and, for a brief moment, I thought to myself, "Darn her, she got arrested and was in jail, that is why she didn't show up for work." Not sure why that was my first thought, she has never been arrested, or in trouble with the law. He proceeded to tell me that there had been a fire in her apartment. The fire likely started at 4:30 in the morning. He told me that my beautiful 26 year-old daughter and her friend Joseph did not survive. I vaguely remember screaming and collapsing to the floor outside my office. My initial response was to flee.

Everyone tried to stop me, but I just wanted to run away. Fight or flight response. The drive home was a blur, Austin Fire Chief was calling. Austin Homicide detective was calling. Medical examiner was calling. It was a nightmare.

When I arrived home, my son, my ex-husband and I stood in my living room sobbing and hugging each other in disbelief. All my friends waited outside in 90-degree heat on my front lawn. For some reason, I couldn't even open my door. I had to see, hear and know firsthand how something this tragic can happen. My friends drove us to Austin that evening. The next morning, we were standing outside her apartment complex at dawn. I was physically ill and wanted to vomit when I saw what was left in the charred remains. I just spent the weekend there with her, never dreaming something like this could happen. All I could say was "WHY? and HOW?" How could this happen?

As the days went by and I read more about apartment fires and how many lives are lost on a daily basis, I vowed to make this my mission, to prevent this from happening to anyone else. As we sat around my kitchen table planning my daughter's funeral, my friends and I decided to come up with some sort of plan to ensure this would not happen again, and that Kaitlyn and Joseph did not die in vain. We decided to start a non-profit and named it Kaitkares. Our mission is to educate people on the fire-related risks of their surroundings, and ultimately, law reform.



These pictures were taken just last May 2019 on Mother's Day Weekend. My roommate from college was doing a solo cross-country trip and stopped in Houston. We decided last minute to visit Kaitlyn in Austin. And we both spent the night at Kalt's apartment. This one of us hugging was under the Congress Avenue Bridge waiting on the bats. The other was in front of The Roosevelt Room on 5th Street. Such sweet memories.



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We all think we know about fire safety, but how many people truly practice and implement fire safety into their daily lives? Do you have a plan to escape, can you open, and are you able to get out of, a window in your apartment? Do you have a fire extinguisher in your kitchen? Do your smoke detectors have fresh batteries? Are they less than ten years old? I was surprised to learn that seven people die every single day in the U.S. from residential fires, that Texas leads the nation for the highest occurrence of residential fires, that automatic fire sprinklers have been in use in the U.S. since 1874, but are not required in older apartment buildings that were built before 1977, that each state has its own codes, and Texas grandfathers these older apartments, not making it mandatory for the building to be equipped with fire sprinklers.

Fire sprinklers are widely recognized as the single most effective method for containing and fighting the spread of fire in the early stages, before it causes severe injury, death, or damage to property. Fire sprinklers provide a life-saving cushion for a time-consuming escape. I signed up and sent e-mails to NFSA and the U.S Fire Administration. I learned the NFSA and Texas Fire Marshals work with many of the surviving family members of fires. These survivors of fire want the loss of their loved ones to not be in vain, and to make a difference, as do I. Kaitlyn and I spoke or texted every day. She was my person. She was my best friend. She had so many dreams and was so full of life. Kaitlyn was kind. Kaitlyn

was caring. Kaitlyn was giving. I am so proud to be her Momma, and I miss her every minute of every day. Part of me died with her that day. My entire life changed. It will never be as I once knew it. At first, I didn't believe that I could go on living without her. The overwhelming sadness and emptiness you feel when you lose a child is unexplainable. I cried buckets of tears, and still do, to this day. It just hits me like a punch in the gut out of nowhere that she is gone. I didn't work for three months. I am blessed to have found an amazing grief counselor who has helped put back some of the pieces of me.

Kaitlyn was a Bohemian free spirit. She was humble and loved traveling. Her need for adventure and her curious mind led her all over the world: into jungles, climbing mountains, toasting marshmallows on a volcano and exploring the deep depths of caves and canyons. She took every opportunity to meet new people and experience everything life had to offer. Being a registered nurse for the past 35 years has given me the opportunity to work with a vast population, and even in this COVID pandemic crisis, we all can see and experience firsthand how important it is to practice safe measures by disclosing and educating our population on safe practices to prevent the spread of disease. My only hope and dream is that we can also do this to require fire sprinklers in all multifamily dwellings and residential homes. •

Fire happens fast...thankfully, so does this.



U.S. fire departments respond to an average of one home fire *every 86 seconds*.

On average, seven people per day die in U.S. home fires where fire sprinklers are not present.

Fire sprinklers can control and may even extinguish a fire in less time than it would take the fire department to arrive on the scene.

In a home with sprinklers, the average *property loss per fire is cut by about 70% compared to fires where sprinklers are not present*.

Residential fire sprinkler systems cut the risk of dying in a fire by about 80%.



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When the “New” Normal is the Old Normal

Since social distancing and work-from-home (WFH) recommendations turned most workplaces topsy-turvy, I find my phone pinging with texts from friends and family asking, “How do you do this all the time?” I’ve been working from home for about four years now and I consider myself a success story of the unique WFH situation. Hopefully by now you’ve set up your home office in a convenient area, away from family distractions and apart from the rest of the house. Having an office to go to definitely helps you get into work mode. Be sure to close the door to drown out household noise and tell the kids to knock before they enter! While WFH may not be the ideal situation for all and many are missing the daily interaction between co-workers in the traditional office setting, there are many advantages to WFH, and a few guidelines that will help ensure you are making the most of your new normal. I hope the following tips (*which I’ve mostly learned the hard way*) will help you make the most of the circumstances and may even sway you to actually enjoy the at-home experience.

1. **Make your bed!** Nothing starts the day better than a little organization. Making your bed will start you off on the right track, and you’ll be really happy when bedtime rolls around! Making your bed helps you establish a routine, and a routine is what will make your WFH experience a productive and successful one.
2. **Take a shower and get dressed!** I know it’s tempting to lounge in your pajamas all day and skip a shower or two, but don’t do it! First of all, you’ll feel much more motivated when you get ready for your workday as you normally would. Secondly, you’ll never know when you get a Microsoft Teams or Zoom call. Saying that the camera on your computer isn’t working only goes so far! Third, come on, give your family a break!
3. **Start your office hours at the same time each day. Don’t slack on your schedule.** If you were in the office at 8:00, then get in front of your computer at the same time. Switching to “work mode” is much easier when you are consistent. Hang out an extra hour watching 90 Day Fiancé on demand or talking to your bestie on the phone, and you’ll find it much harder to get into the swing of things.
4. **Take lunch.** Make sure to take your midday break. The problem with working from home is your office is always there! Be sure to take a break, get something to eat, run an errand or two and clear your head. You’ll be much more motivated to continue on the rest of the afternoon. Best practices include making sure you don’t hear your notifications going off when you are on your break. If your

office set up is close to your kitchen or living room, turn off the sound on your computer so you won’t be tempted to run back and read your emails during brektime.

5. **Know when to call it a day.** I know I’m guilty of doing just one more thing, answering one more email, getting started on what I know I need to do the next day. Don’t do it! Hopefully you’ve put in a productive workday. You’ve had no interruptions from co-workers coming into your office to discuss the latest episode of *The Walking Dead* or showing you 50 pictures of their new puppy. You did your job. Reward yourself with some downtime and you’ll be much happier the next day.

Do I manage to follow this routine every day? Of course not. Most difficult for me is to know enough is enough and to turn off my work brain at the end of the day. When in the office and quitting time rolls around, you get in your car and drive home. That time is when you wind down, and usually, by the time you get home you’re out of work mode. No such luck during WFH. There are nights I work and answer emails until 11:00 p.m. There are weekends, especially during social distancing while everything is shut down and there’s nothing else to do, where I’ll work on the next issue of the magazine or clean up my inbox. Nothing wrong with that, and it often happens whether you’re going into the office or not. Just be careful of overload! I find myself getting awfully crabby when I overdo it and I’m not too much fun to be around (long-distance or not).

Confession...all in all, I LOVE WFH! I get so much more accomplished, I still interact with my co-workers through phone calls, emails and Microsoft Teams, the weather doesn’t affect my day, I can walk the dog whenever he needs to go out-no more “surprises” waiting for me when I get home from work and wow, did my monthly expenses go down from not buying lunch and not filling the gas tank!

By the way, did you know that WFH is green? Read about how the environment has rebounded since we’ve all been in our homes! The waters in the canals of Venice, Italy are clear and teeming with fish, the people of Delhi, India are seeing blue skies for the first time in many years, carbon emissions are way down and the air we breathe is cleaner. Many scientists are surprised at how fast Mother Nature started to rebound. What great extra bonuses of WFH!

For those of you that miss the office experience, I hope by the time this issue is in your hands you are getting ready to return to your “normal.” For those of you that enjoy your time at home and find that your productivity has increased, WFH may be an option that could continue, at least on a part-time basis. Just know that your employer knows when you’re working. Keep up that routine, produce measurements that matter, and you may find this situation become an “old” normal for you too! •

DO YOU LIKE THIS AD?

**IT'S ONE OF THE FEW TIMES YOU WON'T
MIND THE SMELL OF A WET DOG...
WE PROMISE!**

**HOME FIRE SPRINKLERS – PROTECTING THOSE THAT
CAN'T PROTECT THEMSELVES**



DID YOU KNOW?*

- More than 500,000 pets die in house fires each year.
- The loud noise of smoke detectors often scares pets and sends them into hiding.
- Many pets are left home alone and have no way to escape the fire, even with working smoke detectors.
- Firefighters who rescue pets are often ill-equipped to provide life-saving oxygen to the animals efficiently.

* statistics from Veterinary News Network



PROTECT WHAT YOU VALUE MOST!
Learn more about home fire sprinklers at www.homefiresprinkler.org



#fastestwater

Your Association has some great ads you can use in your printed materials or at trade shows and events.

Contact NFSA Marketing Manager Joanne Genadio at genadio@nfsa.org for more information.

COVID 19 and the Industry

We continue to monitor State guidelines and are updating our website when information is confirmed that affects the fire sprinkler industry. Health officials continue advising Americans to practice social distancing while taking precautions when interfacing with others. We realize there are varying levels of impact, and we also realize that the jobsite is most likely forever changed by the coronavirus. Please visit the NFSA website for the latest information that impacts the fire sprinkler industry.

Seeking Submissions for our NFSM Member Takeover Issue

Get out your writing instruments—deadline extended until July 15th!

The September/October issue of **National Fire Sprinkler Magazine** is our 3rd Annual Member Takeover issue. Take this opportunity to share and let's get to know each other better. Together we can

accomplish great things. Getting up close and personal with fellow members helps to allow us to grow together and remain strong and increases our ability to move the fire sprinkler industry forward.

Did you have an interesting project you've worked on this past year? Do you have an exceptionally great sprinkler save you want to share? Is there an employee in your organization that's gone above and beyond that should be recognized? The possibilities are endless and the chance to showcase your news only comes around once a year.

Writing guidelines are available on the last page of each issue of NFSM. Any photos must be sent as separate files. Please do not embed them in the document. Submissions can be as in-depth as a feature article, or as easy as a photo and a caption. Send questions and submissions to NFSM Editor Joanne Genadio at genadio@nfsa.org, and let's get this thing rolling! Last year's Member Takeover issue won the prestigious MarCom Gold Award for Excellence. Let's do it again in 2020!

Advertising Members: The Sept/Oct issue is also our Readership Survey issue. Place an ad in the issue and receive a FREE customized report on how your ad was received by NFSM readers!•

NFSA's First Virtual Seminar a Success!

Thank you to everyone who logged on and became part of our history making virtual seminar on April 30th-May 1st! Over 1,500 people registered for the conference and an average of 800 connections logged on each day. At the writing of this article, we are currently working to secure permission from all speakers and we will be uploading the respective segments to our website and YouTube channel so you can continue to share throughout our fire sprinkler industry.

From technical greats to leadership best-selling authors, with a little fun mixed in throughout, Team NFSA is happy to report that we are very pleased with our first run in the "virtual" world.

Thanks and appreciation go to our wonderful sponsors! Mark your calendars now for next year's conference at the **Cosmopolitan in Las Vegas May 12-14, 2021!**

Snapshots From Our First (and hopefully last) Virtual Annual Seminar and Business & Leadership Conference



Chase Browning Receives Top Award for Home Fire Sprinkler Advocacy

A self-proclaimed “Sprinkler Nerd,” **Chase Browning** has immersed himself in all things fire sprinkler. He grew up in a fire sprinkler contractor family, working in the industry for 25 years. Chase joined the Medford, Oregon fire department staff as a deputy fire marshal in 2013. He is an instructor on both a local and national level, and he chairs the Oregon Fire Sprinkler Coalition. He serves as a principal member on several NFPA technical committees, including 13, 13D, and 13R, and is one of the few AHJs to serve on NFSA’s Engineering and Standards Committee. Chase has served as a technical panelist on several Fire Protection Research Foundation projects, as well as an active participant in Oregon’s code development and adoption process.

Chase recently received the NFPA Fire Sprinkler Initiative and the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) 2020 Bringing Safety Home Award. The award recognizes safety advocates who use HFSC’s home fire sprinkler educational materials and Fire Sprinkler Initiative resources to educate local officials as part of

an effort to upgrade or pass new home fire sprinkler legislation.

As fire sprinkler advocates realized traditional messaging about life-saving residential fire sprinklers was not convincing developers to embrace them, the HFSC focused on an incentives program. Chase and his colleagues at the Medford Fire Department were early champions of this concept, serving as one of the pilot sites to prove that early planning with developers could result in an increase in voluntary installation of fire sprinklers.

As part of his many advocacy efforts, Chase was instrumental in building two fire sprinkler burn trailers, one from a \$10,000 Bringing Safety Home grant, and one in conjunction with the Ashland Fire Department through a FEMA grant. With his support, the Oregon Fire Sprinkler Coalition has developed a wide range of educational presentations, which are posted on the Coalition website and used across the state. As Coalition Chair, Chase demonstrates his ability to bring together a diverse group of advocates to tackle issues unique to Oregon.

Chase is an enthusiastic teacher, serving as National Fire Academy instructor and an adjunct faculty instructor at southern Oregon’s Rogue Community College. For the past three years, he has taught classes for the NFSA from Washington to Texas. With his depth of experience as both a contractor and AHJ (as well as a clever wit) he consistently draws rave reviews from his NFSA class attendees.

It is his involvement on the national level that brings Chase the most professional fulfillment. He was instrumental in proposing successful changes to sprinkler spacing criteria in the UL 1626 standard which now allows for optimized sprinkler designs through new digital residential water meters. As a result of these changes, national sprinkler manufacturers of residential sprinklers have added a 15’ x 15’ spacing option to some of their sprinkler inventory.

On a personal level, Chase is a father of two, 9 year-old Weston and 24 year-old Raven. His wife Tanea is a local city council member and executive director of a nonprofit that encourages hands-on education.

As the Bringing Safety Home Award recipient, Browning was awarded a \$1000 grant to further fire sprinkler advocacy and educational efforts in his community. •



CHAPTERS IN ACTION



Left to Right: John Pecot, Crystal Reed, John Sayre, Tate Hitzeman, Aaron Wilson, Tyler Mobley, Danna Wells, Brad Anderson. Additional Board Members: Conor Kauffman, Daniel Merritt, Dale Payne

NFSA Texas Chapter 2020-2021

The NFSA Texas Chapter Board held a virtual Happy Hour and Board meeting on April 2, 2020 using Microsoft Teams. The Board discussed Texas COVID-19 construction concerns and job site issues and listened to National Fire Sprinkler updates from NFSA Headquarters staff—Executive President Shane Ray, Vice President Vickie Pritchett, Vice President/Attorney Fred Barall and Director of Field Operations Gary West. NFSA Staff shared the new CARES Act, Legal COVID-19 and best practices across the US.

Upcoming NFSA Texas Chapter Events

September 10, 2020

NFSA Texas Chapter - Industry Meeting
Dallas/Fort Worth



Caption: NFSA President Shane Ray virtually address Empire Chapter members regarding the state of the industry.

Empire Chapter Holds First Virtual Meeting

On May 5th, the New York Empire Chapter held its first virtual meeting. The Microsoft Teams format worked out quite well and the meeting was well-attended. NFSA President Shane Ray provided an informative State of the Industry address to attendees with special emphasis on fire sprinklers as “essential services” during the COVID-19 pandemic. AGF Mfg.’s Jim McHugh provided an overview of AGF products and the newly formed AGF University, which provides training for fire sprinkler personnel. The Chapter lobbyist, Todd Vandevort offered to continue working pro bono for us as his contract is at an end and with a recession budget in place, there are no funds to renew at this time. We are extremely grateful for his offer and look forward to continue working with Todd in our efforts to advance the fire sprinkler concept in New York.

NFSA PenJerDel Chapter Holds Successful Virtual Chapter Meeting

The NFSA PenJerDel Chapter is proud to announce that its first virtual meeting was a success! The meeting was held on May 18th, 2020 utilizing the Microsoft Teams platform and boasted a large number of attendees from the greater Philadelphia area and beyond.

Topics of discussion included future chapter events, recovery plans in the wake of COVID-19, contractor certification, and new initiatives to benefit the fire sprinkler industry in the greater Philadelphia area.

While COVID-19 has forced the PenJerDel Chapter to cancel or postpone many events, it has led to many innovations that will benefit the chapter and its members in the future. With the virtual chapter meeting being successful, the PenJerDel Chapter looks forward to including virtual meetings in their yearly schedule. Furthermore, team members are also looking into utilizing the Teams platform for training seminars. Things have no doubt been a challenge, but the team has taken the opportunity to adapt and adopt new ways to reach out to members and students.



Pictured Left to Right: Indiana Chapter Vice-Chairman & Legislative Chairman Dan Whitman, NFSA Area 5 Director Jon Ackley, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb, NFSA Great Regional Manager Ron Ritchey, Indiana Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Brian Roberts, Indiana Chapter Board Member Carlin Darnell.



L to R: Ron Ritchey, Dan Whitman, Representative Jim Pressel, Doug Sheridan, Brian Roberts, and Brian Sauer.



L to R: Doug Sheridan, Ron Ritchey, Dan Whitman, Senator Chris Garten, Brian Roberts, and Brian Sauer.

Indiana Governor Signs Indiana Chapter Bill into Law

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb signed Senate Bill 405 into law which clarifies that automatic fire sprinkler drawings are not required to be submitted for a State Construction Design Release (CDR) for any small installations or alterations on fire sprinkler systems, even if any other construction that is “a part of, supple-

mental to, or an accessory of” the project would otherwise require it. The effective date of this law is July 1, 2020.

This law was needed to reduce excessive fees being charged by some state and local jurisdictions that have required full fire sprinkler drawings and hydraulic calculations to be submitted for small projects involving as few as two or three sprinkler heads.

Several members of the Indiana Chapter Board, along with NFSA Area Director Jon Ackley, were instrumental in helping educate Governor Eric Holcomb, and our two primary bill sponsors Senator Chris Garten and Representative Jim Pressel about this issue. Our lobbyist team of Jake German and Brian Burdick with Barnes and Thornburg were key in helping us get our bill passed and signed.

AIM to Learn
Every Wednesday in May. 11am to 12pm EDT.
1 CEU and it's FREE!

- MAY 6**: Jim Lake | Viking Corp. - What's So Special About Special Sprinklers? (Viking SupplyNet)
- MAY 13**: Philip Gunning | Victaulic - Special Application Attic Sprinklers—How Special Are They? (Victaulic)
- MAY 20**: George Nicola | Reliable - The Special Operations of Combustible Concealed Space Sprinklers (Reliable)
- MAY 27**: Manny Silva | JCI - Specific Application Window Sprinklers—More Special Than You Think (Johnson Controls)

All classes 45 minutes followed by 15 minutes of Q&A

Virtual Challenge or Virtual Opportunity?

COVID-19 forced the Florida Fire Sprinkler Association (FFSA) to cancel one of our favorite things, our Area Interest Meetings (AIMs). AIMs are lunch and learn type meetings that are held across the state, in 11 different locations and attended by industry professionals and AHJs. The one-hour event allows participants to network with other industry professionals while providing valuable education.

When COVID-19 hit, the challenge was how to duplicate an Area Interest Meeting virtually? The opportunity presented itself with a few phone calls to NFSA members from Viking, Victaulic, Reliable and JCI. The idea of AIM to learn was hatched and the May series of AIM to Learn - What is so Special about Wednesdays in May? was scheduled. The AIMs were held as one-hour virtual presentations where participants could participate in live questions and answers. Although it did not give us the opportunity to network together, it did open a door to provide free training that was beneficial to our industry. The series had over 170 registrants each week. FFSA wants to send a big thank you to our presenters:

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Jim Lake, Viking, Phil Gunning, Victaulic, George Nicola, Reliable and Manny Silva, JCI.

The virtual AIMs were so successful, FFSA is planning a new series of virtual AIMs for July! The July series AIM to Learn – We are here to Pump You Up, will feature topics related to pumps.

We have already received a commitment from the highly regarded speaker, Chris Dilday with SPP Pumps, and are working to fill the rest of the month. Watch your email for upcoming events! We hope we can gather again soon but until then, NFSA has provided us with the technology to visit virtually. •



FLORIDA FIRE MARSHALS AND INSPECTORS ASSOCIATION

Post Office Box 325 • Hobe Sound, FL 33475

Phone: 772-349-1507

www.ffmia.org

Florida Fire Sprinkler Association Delivers Much Needed PPE

On April 10, 2020 FFSA Executive Director Lorrell Bush announced that they had purchased over 1,000 KN95 masks for distribution to first responders in need.

"Within seconds they were gone – 18 Fire Departments, 2 Hospitals and 2 Doctors' offices received some of these masks, but so many needed them that we were unable to help. The Florida Fire Sprinkler Association, a chapter of NFSA purchased and distributed 1500 of these masks and I wish we could do more" said Lorrell just 4 days later.

This is typical of the generosity constantly exhibited by Executive Director Bush and her team. The FFSA along with their parent organization the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) are always there to go the extra mile to help. Everything from monthly training of AHJ's to sponsorships at conferences and events, we can count on the constant support of this great team.

To think that there were fire departments and doctor's offices, even hospitals in need of this critical piece of personal protection is not something anyone could imagine. The forward thinking of Lorrell and her team is typical of the high expectations that FFSA and NFSA carry for a level of service delivery to not only their membership, but those that we all serve.

It is not enough to just say thank you when you see how impactful this generosity spreads to others in our communities. We can all learn from this type of "paying it forward".

With sincere gratitude!

Jon Pasqualone
Executive Director
FFMIA

INTERNATIONAL FIRE MARSHALS ASSOCIATION



CHAPTER #3

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

NFSA Contractor Members

-It's Your Turn to Shine!

In an effort to increase our contractor members' visibility in **NFSM Magazine**, we're looking to showcase your work that dovetails with the themes of our remaining issues. Got some great photos of the work you do? Able to shoot us a quick description? We'd love to feature our members' work on the cover of each issue, as well as within. Themes for the issues follow.

*Send materials to NFSM editor
Joanne Genadio at genadio@nfsa.org.*

Please do not embed photos into a document. We need hi-rez images sent as attachments to an email. For the cover shot, we're looking for portrait-oriented photos.

Any questions, shoot Joanne an email and she'll get right back to you. We can't wait to see what you've been up to!

SEPT/OCT

Member Takeover—*your choice!*

Deadline July 15th

NOV/DEC

**Sprinkler Acceptance Initiatives
-What Are You Doing to Advance
the Industry?**

Deadline September 16th



SPRINKLING OF NEWS

■ SeisBrace® 2.0 from Anvil International® Includes the New Requirements of NFPA 13 (2019)

Anvil International's latest update to SeisBrace®, a web-based seismic fire protection design tool, introduces new features to assist designers when complying with the new requirements of NFPA 13. The latest updates to SeisBrace 2.0 makes the process of running zone of influence calculations consistent, fast, and easy. Pre-loaded with NFPA 13 2016 and 2019 requirements, as well as self-correcting functionality, SeisBrace 2.0 ensures compliance and inability to miscalculate. The end result is a complete submittal PDF package with all calculations and submittal sheets included.



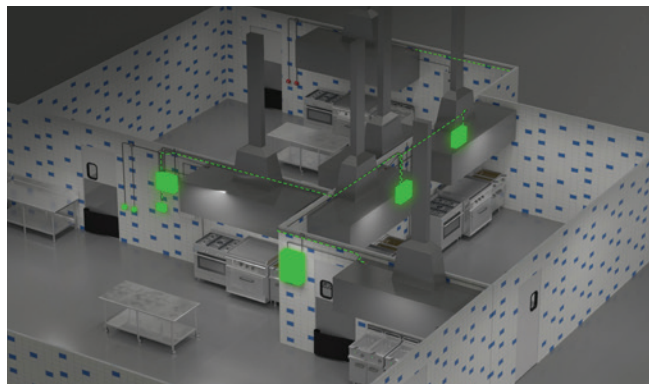
SeisBrace® 2.0, is a free online seismic design tool for fire protection available without download. Online availability allows access to instant updates without having to download a new version or update patches. The program can be used anywhere and on any device with internet access. Full range of new features include: detailed calculations in accordance with NFPA 13, 2016 / ASCE7-10 and 2019 / ASCE7-16, three possible methods to optimize brace layout, pipe selection by manufacturer for more accurate load calculation, anchor selection by manufacturer to maximize structural attachment capacity, prying factors of Anvil products to maximize swivel component, UL or FM loads to comply with project specifications, and more.

To access the free web-based software visit www.seisbrace.com or contact your local Anvil representative for a demo today.

■ New Restaurant Electric Detection Technology offered with ANSUL Restaurant Fire Suppression Systems

Johnson Controls introduces ANSUL® Restaurant Electric Detection (RED) Technology, delivering next-generation commercial kitchen fire protection with industry-leading centralized monitoring and real-time status of up to 16 hazard zones. Combining linear detection with electric actuation, ANSUL RED Technology simplifies fire protection for the food service industry by monitoring individual hazard zones that discharge only when and where they are needed. New ANSUL® RED Technology integrates with ANSUL® R-102 or PIRANHA Suppression Systems for complete, scalable, UL compliant protection from detection to suppression.

ANSUL RED Technology is expandable for added hazard zones including pollution control units (PCUs). The system features up to eight controllers which can monitor two hazard zones each and all connect to one display module for centralized monitoring. RED Technology provides the flexibility to protect a full spectrum of appliances used in today's demanding kitchens by offering a wide range of detection options that tie into a 4,000-event history log.



ANSUL RED Technology meets NFPA 96 – Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations and NFPA 17A – Standard for Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems. It is fully listed with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) when combined with globally relied upon ANSUL R-102 or PIRANHA Restaurant Fire Suppression Systems.

ANSUL RED Technology provides confidence and safety in high-volume cooking environments by helping to minimize the potential for grease buildup and by simplifying maintenance. It offers a cleaning mode, which allows kitchen staff to disengage individual hoods while keeping other hoods in operation. The system automatically resets itself in the event the system is not reengaged and offers confirmation when active.

System integrity is enhanced through password protection for Authorized ANSUL Distributor access while service and maintenance notifications provide 24/7 troubleshooting to keep kitchens running efficiently. These features make ANSUL RED Technology desirable for a wide range of applications, including catering facilities, cafeterias, casual and fine dining restaurants, fast food chains, food courts, hotels, casinos, cloud kitchens, culinary kitchens and sports complexes of all sizes.

For more information, visit www.ansulred.com/1.

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■ Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc. introduces Model FX Dry Pipe Valve

Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc. announced the introduction of the Model FX Dry Pipe Valve. The Model FX Dry Pipe Valve is a differential type, externally resettable valve used to control water flow to a sprinkler system subject to temperatures below 40°F (4°C). The valve clapper is held in the set position by pneumatic pressure, which acts on a larger surface area than that of the incoming water pressure. For the valve to open, pneumatic pressure from the system must be released.



The model FX valve is fully assembled and rigorously tested at Reliable's Liberty, South Carolina manufacturing facility. It is available pretrimmed, including optional butterfly control valve and/or accelerator. Alarm and high/low air pressure switches are included with pretrimmed FX valves. The single FX valve assembly makes it easy to specify, order and install, which saves valuable time for designers, purchasing managers, and fitters. The Model FX is available in 2" through 6" sizes, with Groove/Groove, Flange/Groove, and Flange/Flange end connections. For comprehensive product options, approvals and specifications, visit reliablesprinkler.com/fx.

■ Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc. Introduces Window Protection Sprinklers

Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc. announced the introduction of the Model WP Series Window Protection Sprinklers. The Model WP Series Sprinkler is used with fixed glazed assemblies to create a cULus Listed alternative to a fire-rated wall. The Model WP Series is a 5.6K (80 metric) Fast Response Specific Application Pendant Vertical Sidewall Sprinkler that is Listed to provide complete wetting of various glass surfaces.

The Model WP Series is available with either glass bulb or rugged fusible link operating elements in both ordinary and intermediate temperature ratings. They may be used with heatstrengthened, tempered, or stronger glass windows. The Model WP Series is available in standard finishes of natural bronze, chrome plated, and white polyester. Special finishes of bright brass, dull chrome, black and custom color polyester are available upon request. The WP56



Model WP56 Window Protection Vertical Sidewall



Model WP56L Window Protection Vertical Sidewall

glass bulb sprinkler is also cULus Listed as corrosion resistant with electroless nickel plating (ENT), white polyester or black polyester finish. To protect a building exterior from fire originating from an adjacent building, open Model WP Series Window Sprinklers may be used on deluge systems. For more information, refer to Bulletin 181 or visit www.reliablesprinkler.com.

■ Johnson Controls Introduces New TYCO® Series EC-8C Extended Coverage Sprinkler for Corridors and Hallways

Johnson Controls announces the release of the TYCO® Series EC-8C 8.0 K-factor pendent sprinkler for corridors and hallways. The new extended coverage, quick-response sprinkler offers low nozzle design pressure due to its 8.0K orifice optimized for 0.1 gallon-per-minute-per-square-foot commercial, light-hazard design density. With a maximum coverage area of 28 feet by 10 feet, the sprinkler offers the cost-saving benefits of using fewer sprinklers at lower design pressure compared to standard-coverage sprinklers.



Ideal for commercial applications, including hotels, hospitals, schools, offices and data centers, the UL Listed Series EC-8C sprinkler is intended for use in automatic sprinkler systems designed in accordance with NFPA 13. The sprinkler offers two separate temperature ratings – 155°F and 200°F – and is available with two recessed pendent escutcheon options.

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SPRINKLING

SPRINKLING OF NEWS

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The recessed pendent version is intended for use in areas with a finished ceiling and can be used with the two-piece Style 30 or 40 recessed escutcheons. The Style 30 recessed escutcheon provides up to a half-inch of total adjustment from the flush pendent position, while the Style 40 provides a three-quarter-inch vertical adjustment from the flush position. The adjustment space allows for more flexibility in cutting the fixed pipe drop to which the sprinkler attaches.

For more information on TYCO® Series EC-8C sprinkler solutions for commercial buildings, visit www.tyco-fire.com.

■ Johnson Controls introduces TYCO® Concealed Window Sprinkler

Johnson Controls announces the release of the new TYCO® Model CWS Concealed Window Sprinkler, designed to provide an alternative to a two-hour fire-resistance-rated glazing assembly. The 5.6 K-factor CWS is UL and C-UL Listed as a specific application automatic window sprinkler and can be used in accordance with the International Building Code as an alternative to interior fire partitions or exterior wall assemblies, as evaluated in ICC ESR-2397. The CWS is the first and currently only concealed pendent vertical sidewall window sprinkler to be specifically listed to provide complete wetting and coverage for heat strengthened, tempered or ceramic glass windows using closed sprinklers.

The sprinkler discharges an even coat of water when activated, which cools the window to help prevent shattering during a fire event. The flat-plate concealed design houses the sprinkler above the ceiling. The cover plate is available in a variety of colors and finishes as well as in custom, factory-painted colors.

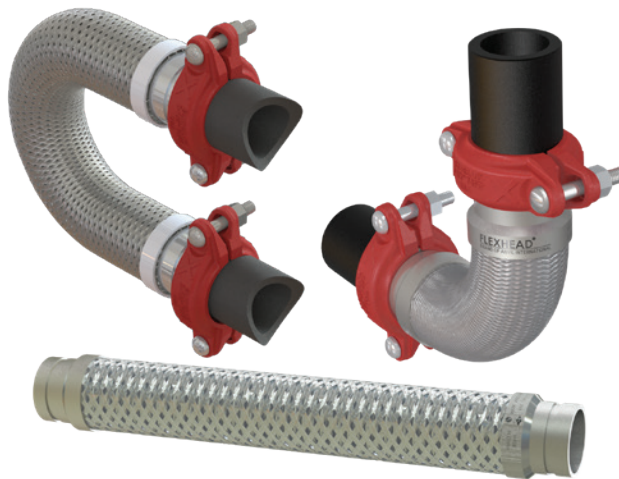
The TYCO® Concealed Window Sprinkler is part of a full window sprinkler line that includes horizontal sidewall and pendent models. It also joins the TYCO® family of aesthetic fire sprinklers, including commercial flat-plate concealed models.

For more information on TYCO® window sprinklers from Johnson Controls, visit <https://www.tyco-fire.com/>.

■ FlexHead® Flexible Pipe Products Provide Flexibility for Designers and Installers

Anvil International's new FlexHead® Flexible Pipe (FFP) products provide a time and money saving solution for pipe to pipe connections around obstacles by replacing odd angle elbows. The new flexible pipe fittings come with industry standard groove ends and are available with pre-installed Anvil SLT couplings. The FlexHead Flexible Pipe (FFP) allows for quick installation, requires a reduced number of fittings, and maintains low friction loss numbers.

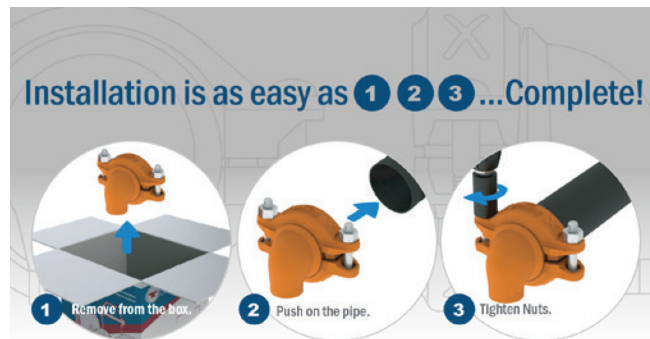
FlexHead Flexible Pipe products are available in lengths of 24" and 48" with an OD of 2", 2 1/2", 3" and 4". Pressure rating for 2", 2 1/2" and 3" is 300 PSI and 4" is 250 PSI. The stainless steel hoses are cULus listed and FM approved.



For more information on Anvil's FlexHead Flexible Pipe products for the fire protection industry, visit www.anvilintl.com.

■ Gruvlok® SLT Fittings with SlideLOK®

Anvil International's new Gruvlok® Coupling with pre-installed SLT Fittings install 5 times faster than industry standard grooved fittings in fire protection systems. The new Figure FP7074SLT and SE5-SLT utilize a patented design to allow caps and end of line fittings to be pre-installed at the factory eliminating the need for field fabrication. No loose parts and no special tools required means installation is as easy as simply pushing the FP7074SLT or SE5-SLT on the pipe and tightening the nuts.



Both the cap and end of line fitting are designed to be used with standard roll, cut or swage grooved pipe, and Gruvlok or Anvil SPF grooved-end fittings and valves. The FP7074SLT (1"-4") and SE5-SLT (1 1/4"-3") are designed for use in fire protection systems, have a 450PSI working pressure, and are UL and ULC listed and FM approved.

For more information on Anvil's SLT fittings for the fire protection industry, visit www.anvilintl.com.

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■ Victaulic Adds Virtual Access to Renowned Continuing Education Program

Victaulic is now offering free virtual courses from its accredited and award-winning Victaulic University program to construction professionals around the world.

Growing demand for more versatile training options and shrinking access to traditional classes given the COVID-19 pandemic presented an opportune time for Victaulic to make its robust catalog of courses, many of which offer International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) Continuing Education Units (CEUs), available to industry professionals such as owners, engineers, contractors, architects and designers online.

Victaulic has instructed 175 live sessions since March, attracting approximately 7,200 virtual learners from 99 countries. Attendance is growing rapidly as Victaulic adds new content and more users discover the program.

Victaulic's 45+ piping technology courses are available at no cost in two virtual formats: live, instructor-led webinars and self-paced courses, which are available on-demand at any time. Courses are taught in English, Spanish, and German, with new languages being added regularly, and cover several industries, including:

- General Engineering/Construction
- Plumbing, Heating and Air
- Data Centers
- Fire Protection
- Virtual Design and Construction

CEUs or Professional Development Hours (PDHs), which are required for maintaining engineering certifications are immediately available upon completion of applicable courses.

For more information or to register, please visit www.victaulic.com/learn.

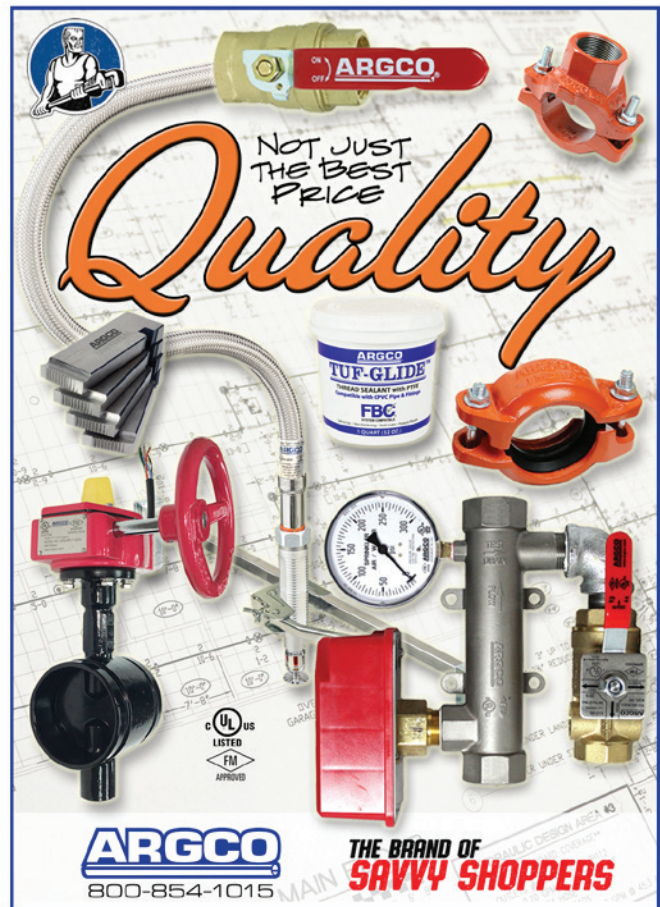
■ Zurn Pledges \$1 Million of Hygienic Product to Healthcare Facilities in Fight Against COVID-19

Zurn Industries, LLC pledged one million dollars in hygienic product donations to qualifying healthcare facilities addressing COVID-19. These products help improve hygiene by reducing the transfer of pathogens from surfaces or objects.

The bundle of products in the donation helps healthcare facilities upgrade to a touchless environment. The products include sensor-operated handwashing faucets and soap dispensers, sensor-operated flush valves, a select group of sinks made with CuVerro® Antimicrobial Copper-Nickel alloy surfaces, and hand dryers.

Healthcare facilities administrators in the United States and Canada can go to zurn.com/hygienic-solutions to learn more and complete a form to apply for donations. For non-healthcare, commercial facilities interested in converting their hand-operated plumbing products to touchless models, as well as paper hand drying to touchless hand dryers, they can visit the same website page to learn more about Zurn's hygienic touchless restroom solutions.

For more information, visit Zurn.com.



FUTURE DATES FOR NFSA ANNUAL SEMINARS AND BUSINESS AND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

May 12-14, 2021

Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas, NV

May 3-6, 2022

Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater Beach, FL

May 3-6, 2023

JW Marriott, Austin, Texas

May 7-10, 2024

Wailea Beach Resort, Maui, HI

www.nfsa.org/annual-seminar

REGIONAL NEWS

*From Maine to California,
and every place in between,
NFSA Regional Managers bring
the best of the Association
right to your doorstep.
Helping our members is Job #1.*

NEW ENGLAND REGION

After Devastating Fire, Popular Seafood Restaurant in Essex, Massachusetts to Rebuild with Fire Sprinklers

Just before midnight on May 17th, a fire erupted in Essex Seafood. Fire officials say the blaze originated in a ceiling-mounted gas heater that was left on after closing. An estimated \$250,000 worth of damages was left in the fire's wake.

"We want to rebuild just like it was, with the wood inside just like we had," the owner said. "I have a lot of friends that do construction and cement work — they've all reached out to me. We'll make it company friendly, handicap-friendly and put a sprinkler system in so nothing like this will happen again.

EMPIRE REGION

New York State Codes Reminder

As of May 12, 2020, the 2020 New York State Codes are now mandatory. The option since December 2019, has been 2015 I-Codes with 2017 NY State Supplement. That option's last day was May 11th. More information can be accessed on New York State's Government website under the Department of State, Division of Building Standards and Codes.

MID ATLANTIC REGION

Save the Date! New Jersey Golf Outing is now August 27th!

This year's event has been rescheduled and will be held Thursday, August 27, 2020 at Beaver Brook Country Club in Annandale, New Jersey. This championship-quality golf course is as challenging as it is beautiful and boasts one of the finest layouts in North Jersey.

Registration for the golf outing begins at 11:30 am, with tee-off at 1 pm. Golf attire is required. No steel spikes are allowed on the course.

The cost for this event is only \$195 (if signed up before 8/10/20), which includes entry into all events, 18 holes of golf, riding cart, lunch, dinner, 5 drink tickets and various awards. There will be an awards presentation and dinner directly after golf in the clubhouse. Numerous sponsorships are also available, so please visit NJFSAB.org to register.

Early Bird pricing is available for all who are registered before August 10, 2020.

This year all the proceeds will be split between the New Jersey Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association Foundation and the Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors.

CAPITAL REGION

Fire Sprinklers on Parade!

NFSA's new Live Fire Demonstration Fire Sprinkler Training Trailer completed 26 live burns while on the parade route in the annual Annapolis, Maryland St. Patrick's Day Parade. The parade, on March 8, 2020, was attend by thousands and the burn trailer was a huge success. We would like to thank Chief Ron Siarnicki and the National Fallen Firefighter for their long-time partnership and for letting us join them on the parade route.





SOUTHEAST REGION

Smoke Alarms, Sprinklers Credited with Saving Lives in Rainbow City, Alabama

On May 23rd, Rainbow City, Alabama firefighters responded to a fire alarm at a home where a smoke alarm and a sprinkler system had activated. Rainbow City Dispatch told firefighters a caller said grease had boiled out of a pot onto a stove, starting the fire.

When crews arrived, they found smoke exiting the home. Search and Rescue crews found that there was a bed-bound subject within the home. That person was safely brought out of the home.

Firefighting crews found a small fire on the stove in the kitchen, but thanks to the activation of the sprinkler system, there was minimal damage.

“What fire remained was still burning due to the stove hood blocking the water from the sprinkler,” said a fire department spokesperson. The fire was extinguished with a dry chemical extinguisher, and crews checked for fire extension into the walls and cabinets. They found no evidence the fire had spread further.

All occupants in the residence were accounted for and safe. Property owners and managers were looking into finding a place to move the occupants until the residence was repaired.

The spokesperson stated that the outcome of this incident can be greatly attributed to the working smoke alarms and the properly working sprinkler system.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Houston Area Theater Fire Protection

Theater Fires have a long and deadly history in the U.S. The Iroquois Theater Fire occurred on December 30, 1903, in Chicago, Illinois. It is the deadliest theater fire and the deadliest single-building fire in United States history. A total of 602 people died as a result of the fire. The theater had three audience levels.

Fortunately, most new theaters include fire sprinkler systems and these systems save the property and occupants. Theater fires occur from a variety of causes including electrical, pyrotechnics, trash cans and popcorn machines- sprinklersaves.com/ has several popcorn and theater fire saves all occurring in the past five years.

In December 2019 and February 2020; Conroe and Fort Bend Fire Marshals have reported fire sprinkler saves from fires that

started in their movie theater popcorn machines. At the same time, Conroe Fire Department has worked proactively to help the historic downtown Crighton Theater install fire sprinklers during the theater’s recent remodeling process. The Conroe Fire Department awarded the Phoenix Award for Fire Safety to the Crighton Theater on February 21, 2020.



The City of Conroe Fire Department recognized the Crighton Theatre Foundation for investing in the long-term survival of Montgomery County’s crown jewel by adding a fire sprinkler system to the theatre during their remodel. This will not only ensure the survival of such an important icon; it will also immeasurably increase the life safety of those attending its events. The Crighton Theater and downtown Conroe were destroyed almost 100 years ago by a devastating fire on February 21, 1911.

If you know of a theater that needs a fire sprinkler retrofit; check out NFSA’s Tax Reform Incentives at nfsa.org. Assembly occupancies might qualify for a Section 179 – IRS Tax Deduction!

Fire Sprinkler Training — #1 Priority in The NFSA South Central Region!

SUMMER 2020 EVENTS

July 28-30, 2020 Houston Trainings
Plan Review
Advanced Pumps
Advanced Hydraulics

September 9-10, 2020
Dallas Training-Hands On ITM

September 10, 2020
NFSA Texas Chapter – Industry Meeting

October 22, 2020,
Austin-Texas Fire Marshals Conference
Fire Survivors and What They Want

NFSA and TX Fire Marshals work with many of the surviving family members of fires. These Survivors of Fire want the loss of their loved ones to not be in vain and to make a difference.

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ILLINOIS NEWS

New Lenox Fire Protection District Passes Ordinance Requiring All New Construction Protected with Fire Sprinklers

The New Lenox Fire Protection District passed an ordinance requiring all new construction in unincorporated areas of the fire district to be protected with fire sprinklers. The requirement includes all commercial and residential structures, including single-family homes.

According to Fire Chief Adam Riegel, not only will this requirement protect residents, visitors, and firefighters, it will also have a positive economic impact. “Fire sprinklers keep business doors open,” states Riegel. “Often, businesses that experience larger fires without fire sprinklers never reopen or end up leaving town.”

Such was the case last August when the fire district responded to a fire at an unsprinklered commercial building in unincorporated New Lenox. It required a massive response, the fire spread to another building, Interstate 80 had to be shut down, and fire crews had to deal with flare-ups for days. Now, the parcel is vacant and it's a loss of tax base for the fire district.



Members of the New Lenox Fire Protection District; (left to right) Deputy Chief Dan Turner, Fire Chief Adam Riegel, and Fire Marshal James Brown.

Deputy Chief Dan Turner notes the importance of requiring fire sprinklers in new homes and multifamily buildings as well. “We had two fatal fires in residences between 2017 and 2019, along with an unsprinklered apartment building fire in November 2018 that hospitalized two and displaced five families,” says Turner. “These deaths, injuries and displacements are preventable with fire sprinklers.”

Statistics from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) show that approximately eight out of 10 fire deaths occur in homes and most often happen at night when people are sleeping. “Smoke alarms are key to warning people there is smoke from a fire, however, fire sprinklers are the only technology that can stop a fire from becoming deadly,” says Fire Marshal James Brown.

Erik Hoffer, executive director of the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board (NIFSAB), credits the New Lenox Protection District’s administration and board for passing the ordinance. “This is a win-win for the community and firefighters alike. It addresses the growing national concern of firefighter health and safety in regard to fires and the associated carcinogens,” Hoffer said. “Thanks to the foresight of this group, all future new construction will be protected with fire sprinklers and thereby save lives for generations to come.”

According to NIFSAB, there are more than 110 municipalities and fire protection districts in Illinois that require fire sprinklers in all new construction, regardless of building type, through the adoption of ordinances and model codes provided by the International Code Council and the NFPA.

GREAT PLAINS REGION

Colorado Chapter of ICC Educational Institute

In the first week of March-- final week before our communities started to shut down for COVID19 – NFSA was proud to be represented at the Annual CCICC Educational Institute. Great Plains Regional Field Service Coordinator Rob Geislinger, and Gary West, NFSA Director of Field Operations & Government Relations, were pleased to exhibit at the 35th Annual Colorado Chapter of ICC (CCICC) Educational Institute. The event draws building, fire, plumbing and mechanical officials in addition to permit technicians, contractors, architects, and engineers.

The 2020 Institute, at its new Loveland location, drew well over 1,700 attendees with an average of about 900 attendees for each of the five days. The exhibit hall was open from Monday through Wednesday. While participating as vendors, Gary and Rob were able to interact with hundreds of individuals. At least 18 of these took advantage of NFSA’s complementary AHJ membership. Many more indicated that they had, or would be renewing their memberships, some of whom had received complementary memberships during last year’s Institute.

In addition to participating as a vendor, NFSA also provided its Fire Services Mains and their Appurtenances seminar. This proved to be a very popular program, drawing almost 80 attendees. The program was offered through a partnership with the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control, which sponsored the seminar.

Who Thought Home Schooling was Just for Kids?

The current situation has left many of us working out of our homes or driving directly from home to our jobsites. Since in-person training and education is no longer available, some of our members have expressed concerns about acquiring enough CEU’s to renew their registrations, licenses or certifications. Fortunately, several organizations have stepped up to fill in the gap. The recently concluded NFSA Virtual Conference was a prime example, providing topnotch offerings and free CEU’s for over 1,500 participants.

Several of our local organizations have also expanded into the virtual arena, for training as well as meetings. Both the Colorado and Utah Home Fire Sprinkler Coalitions hosted meetings using online technology. The Rocky Mountain Chapter of SFPE and

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Fire Marshals Association of Colorado will also hold their May meetings virtually.

Other Associations in the Region will probably follow suit. The Colorado Fire Protection Association, for example, has recently become an ICC Preferred Provider in order to offer accredited CEU's for online or in-person training.

Please reach out to your Field Service Coordinator if you need assistance finding necessary training.

MISSOURI NEWS

St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance Delivers Training

The St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance continues to provide economical fire sprinkler training and other valuable benefits to local fire department and building code officials. The group of 15 union sprinkler contractors, with continued support from Fire Sprinkler Fitters Local 268 in St. Louis, provided an ITM Training Seminar in January and has scheduled a future two-day Fire Sprinkler System Plan Review Course at no charge for fire and building officials.



Bob Stuart, Business Manager of Local 268, provides the meeting facilities and both organizations pitch in to provide a catered lunch. The Sprinkler Fitters maintain a complete hands-on training center open to fire department personnel for specialized training as well. "We welcome all fire and building officials to our facility. Fire sprinklers save lives and property and are often part of the building's life safety systems. The fire marshal and inspector's roles are crucial to effective and fair enforcement of the codes to make sure that these systems are operating as designed. Training is the foundation for all of that," Bob stated.

The St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance is led by Richard Boyer of Boyer Fire Protection, Lou Grasse of Grasse and Associates, and Matt Coleman of Engineered Fire Protection. Recently, the Alliance voted to provide NFSA subscriber membership stipends for

up to three members of any fire department in the St. Louis area.

WISCONSIN REGION

Madison

An automatic fire sprinkler system extinguished a fire that started when cooking oil ignited on a stove top. When firefighters arrived, they were approached by the tenant of a fourth floor apartment who said she was warming cooking oil on the stove top and the oil started on fire.

When they entered the apartment, they found the fire sprinkler system had activated and extinguished the fire. Fire damage was minimal. There were no injuries.

West Bend

The West Bend Fire Department was dispatched to a multi-family condominium, on Saturday, April 11th, 2020, at 8:28 p.m., for a grease fire on the stove in one of the second-floor units. The owner of the condo met firefighters outside and stated that the fire was out. He stated that he was cooking on the stove and the oil in the pan flared up when he pulled the cover off. He attempted to use a fire extinguisher, but the fire grew, with flames from the stove reaching the bottom of the microwave. The sprinkler system activated and suppressed the fire.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Bloomington Looks to Upgrade Sprinkler System

The City of Bloomington Minnesota has a long proud history of fire sprinkler advocacy. They have working sprinkler riser assemblies that they moved in 1992 to their new fire station. Some of the parts are beginning to fail and others represent systems that are no longer being installed today. They are looking to upgrade the sprinkler system, the sprinkler room and an associated fire alarm display.

Johnson Controls Fire Protection is helping this worthwhile program and the Fire Department will do the demolition. Minnesota Chapter President Sean Flaherty is very supportive of what is being proposed and would like to be involved and help. For many years, the Bloomington Fire Department has allowed other fire departments to use the facility, as well as other fire organizations such as The Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota. They are looking to raise approximately \$6000 to accomplish this worthwhile project.

NORTHWEST REGION

Anderson Appointed to NFPA Committee

Captain Jeff Anderson, Fire Code Official at Central Mat-Su Fire Department, recently was appointed principle on the National Fire Protection Association's Hanging and Bracing for Fire Protection Committee. Jeff will bring his many years of experience in both the fire sprinkler industry as a sprinkler fitter and as an AHJ. As a captain with the second largest fire department in Alaska, Jeff not only performs fire

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We hope you'll choose to support our Advocates' Coalition as we work to create Fire Safe Homes

Working together, we can create resources to educate those who make the decisions regarding community fire protection.

Our goal is to be a go-to resource for community leaders who need a first-person account of the devastating impact fire can have on a community and a family. We can prevent future tragedies, and we believe that our stories help everyone understand in a way that makes a difference. Visit our website for additional resources and information. Order our Media Kit for a complete package of PSAs, media information, talking points, statistics and actual examples of resources used in communities. Your support is greatly appreciated, and as a non-profit 501(c)3 we are now ready to grow our mission and expand our efforts. We hope you'll support our team as an Advocate, Supporter or Corporate member (details on reverse side, along with form).

 CommonVoices1

 CommonVoices1

fireadvocates.org
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sprinkler plan review and inspections, but also responds to emergencies. After sharing first-hand knowledge of how existing fire sprinkler systems performed during the 2018 earthquake with NFSA staff, Jeff was encouraged to apply to the NFPA Committee.

Thank you to all of the NFSA members and their employers who

contribute time and expertise to improving the fire sprinkler industry standards and codes!

COVID-19 Impacts Around the Northwest Region

Throughout the recent COVID-19 restrictions, Northwest fire sprinkler trainings and meetings went virtual. Both the Puget Sound and Columbia-Willamette NFSA chapters held on-line meetings to bring members together.

Washington Governor Jay Inslee delayed the effective dates of the newly updated state building codes until November 1, 2020. The Washington Association of Building Officials had requested the delay, citing that a delay would provide both builders and code enforcement officials the time necessary to make-up the education needed before the new regulations take effect. One of the codes that will go into effect is a new requirement for all townhomes of more than four units be built with fire sprinklers. The new codes books and links to on-line codes are now available on the ICC website.

Because of the uncertainties surrounding the impact of the COVID-19 restrictions, the annual Sprinklerman Shootout golf tournament with Local 699 Sprinkler Fitters and contractors set for August has been canceled. The tournament should be back better than ever in 2021.

As of press time, NFSA will be bringing three days of in-class training to Missoula in mid-September. Thanks to the efforts of Western State Fire Protection's Missoula office and AHJ partner Missoula Rural Fire District, this training is aimed at attendees in western Montana, northern Idaho and eastern Washington. Classes include: Standpipe Systems for Fire Protection (Sept. 15), Pumps for Fire Protection (Sept. 16) and Hydraulics for Fire Protection (Sept. 17). Register at www.nfsa.org.

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National Fire Sprinkler Magazine

The Flagship Publication of The National Fire Sprinkler Association

NFSM Article Submission Guidelines

National Fire Sprinkler Magazine (*NFSM*), a members-only publication of the National Fire Sprinkler Association, is published six times a year. It offers Fire Sprinkler Industry news and articles of interest to Association members.

Query

Send an e-mail or letter briefly describing your article proposal, why the topic is important, and how it is relevant to our audience. Say something about the sources of your information (*personal involvement? interviews?*) and about your present position and background. Tell us what types of photographs and graphics are available to illustrate your story. Be sure to include an email address and a daytime phone number.

NFSM runs full-length feature articles of approximately 800-1200 words.

Feature Articles

Articles for *NFSM* should be on a topic of significant interest to the industry. Articles promoting a specific product or service will not be published. We have advertising opportunities available to boost your sales.

Writing Guidelines

NFSM tries to maintain a straightforward style. Accuracy is vital. All facts should be double-checked before a manuscript is submitted. All manuscripts must be submitted as Word docs, single-spacing between sentences. Images must be submitted as separate hi-res jpegs. Charts and tables must be submitted as separate pdfs.

Each manuscript should be accompanied by a list of resources on the topic at hand: relevant books and reports, conferences, and/or contact people and their phone numbers. To settle points of style, use *The Chicago Manual of Style* (University of Chicago Press).

Illustrations

NFSM uses a variety of photographs, line art, charts, and maps.

We prefer to receive artwork electronically, and all illustrations should include credit and caption information.

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Payment

NFSM does not pay for articles; we do recognize an author with a byline and credit. NFSM reserves the right to reject any submission at its own discretion.

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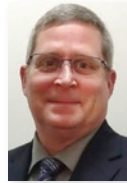
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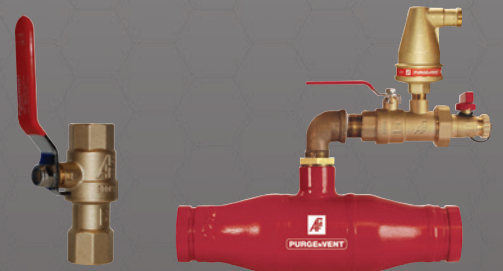
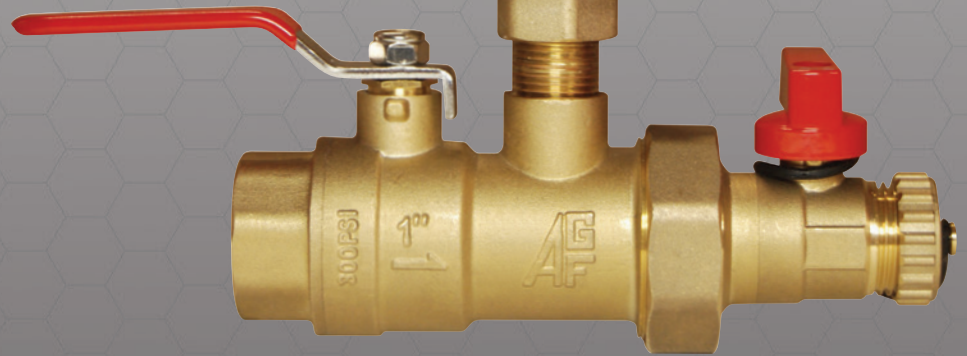
NFPA 13 standard requires the venting of excess air from wet fire sprinkler systems to help prevent internal pipe corrosion.

The PURGENVENT™ Model 7900AAV is a automatic air venting valve. It includes an isolation valve and a purge valve with an internal 20 mesh strainer screen. The 7900AAV automatic air venting valve has the smallest footprint among similar venting valves and it can be purchased with an end cap and close nipple (Model 7930ECA) for direct installation onto the end of sprinkler system branch lines.

AGF also offers a manual air venting valve option, the Model 7910MAV, and an automatic inline version, the Model 7950ILV, for systems with unique installation requirements.



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