

National Fire Sprinkler Magazine

The Flagship Publication of The National Fire Sprinkler Association

January - February 2019
No. 212

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



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* statistics from Veterinary News Network



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SPRINKLER SAVES

Why Do Headlines Identify Water Damage, When Sprinklers Save Property and Lives?

pg. 13

Changes in the 2019 Edition of NFPA 13 Focusing on Installation Criteria

pg. 27

Don't Like How Some Sprinkler Saves are Reported? Do Something About It.

pg. 31

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FM Data Sheet 8-9 Section 2.3.6.8

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JOANNE GENADIO

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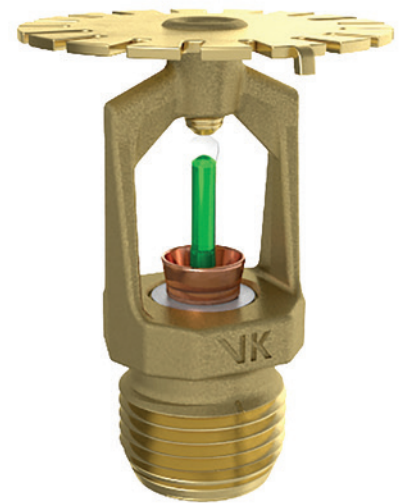
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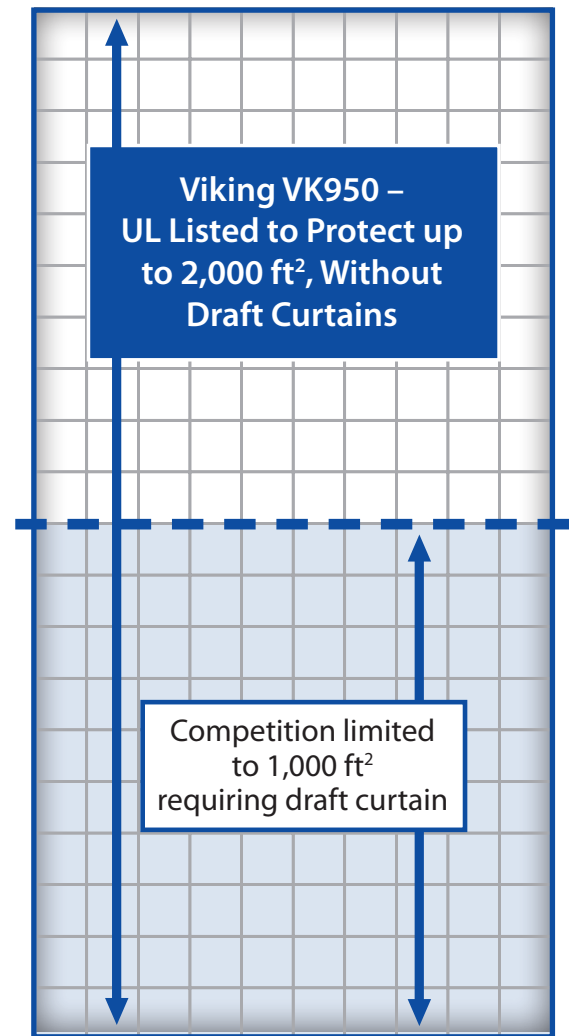
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1/16/2019

Understanding, Applying and Enforcing NFPA 25

Concord, CA

1/17/2019

Understanding, Applying and Enforcing NFPA 13D

Concord, CA

1/28/2019

Two Week Layout Technician Training

Orlando, FL

1/29/2019

Inspection and Testing for the Sprinkler Industry

Yonkers, NY

2/4/2019

Blended Learning In Class Practicum

Orlando, FL

2/5/2019

NFPA 13, 14, 20 Update 2016

Pharr, TX

02/06/19

Fire Pumps Systems

Pharr, TX

2/7/2019

Understanding, Applying and Enforcing NFPA 25

Pharr, TX

2/11/2019

NFPA 13, 13R, 13D Update 2016

Tucson, AZ

2/12/2018

Standpipe Systems

Tucson, AZ

2/19/2019

Installation Requirements

Little Rock, AR

2/20/2019

Sprinkler System Plan Review (1 day)

Little Rock, AR

2/21/2019

Rough and Final Inspections

Little Rock, AR

2/26/2019

Protection of Storage

Campbell, CA

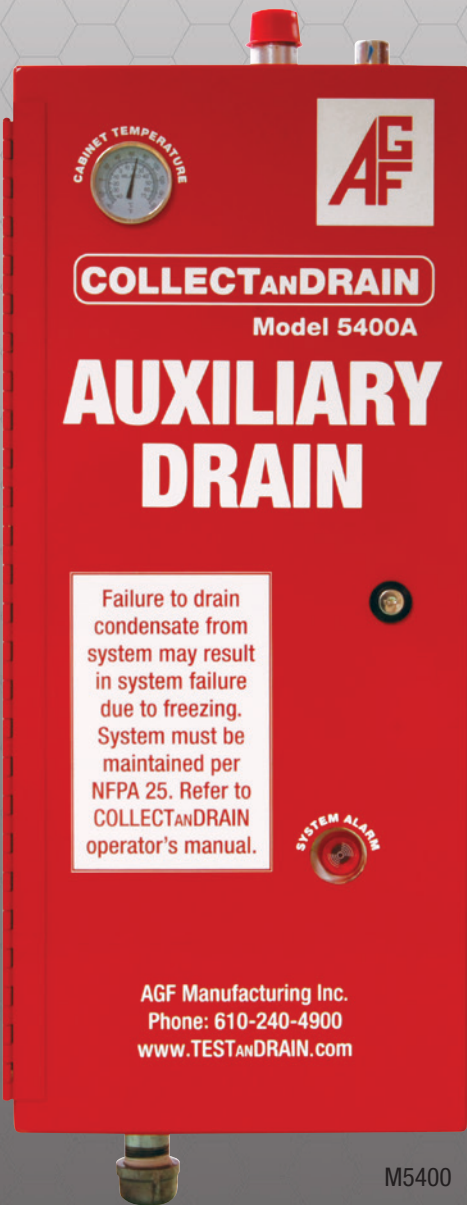
2/28/2019

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

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M5300ALBV



M5300



M5100

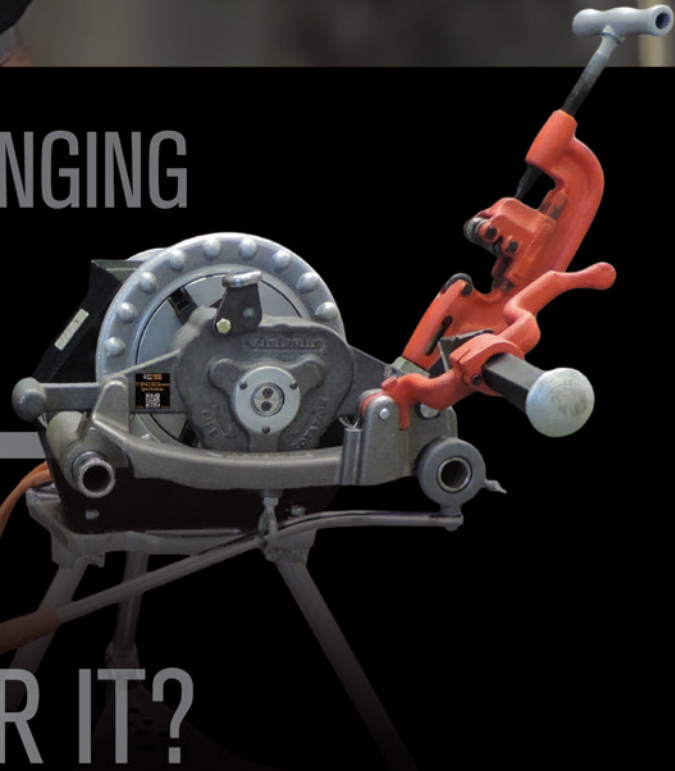


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New Year...New Data... New Info

NFSA received more media attention and reached greater audiences in 2018 than in recent history, if not ever. What an honor to support Common Voices and their media outreach, which landed us on Fox & Friends again in 2018 with our new three cell side-by-side demonstration/training unit. We also had coverage during Fire Prevention Week across the country with our Field Operations personnel and our 26 live side-by-side burn demonstration/training units. Thanks to our members for stepping up and funding these initiatives, the best personnel in the association world aren't nearly as effective without adequate resources.



We will improve upon our live demonstration/training units in 2019. Thanks to our partnership with Underwriters Laboratories (UL™) and Firefighter Safety Research Institute (FSRI), we are going to test the next multi-cell unit, as well as prepare to burn Christmas trees in our existing units. We want to follow UL's mission of "working for a safer world" since our vision is "a stronger industry a safer world," but we also want to follow an early UL philosophy of "to know by testing." This is why we want to improve our demonstration/training units by being able to repeat conditions and outcomes using known scenarios that actually exist in the built environment.

"I could share the millions of viewers we reached with the many times we made television, newspapers, and radio, and I could share the hundreds of thousands of impressions we received on social media outlets. But what I can't do is share the number of lives saved when a fire sprinkler activates where people are present, or the value of the property saved when fire sprinklers operate as designed, installed, inspected, and maintained."

I could share the millions of viewers we reached with the many times we made television, newspapers, and radio, and I could share the hundreds of thousands of impressions we received on social media outlets. But what I can't do is share the number of lives saved when a fire sprinkler activates where people are present, or the value of the property saved when fire sprinklers operate as designed, installed, inspected, and maintained. However, as the old Virginia Slims marketing campaign stated and later corrected with a Loretta Lynn song, "We've Come a Long Way, Baby." There has been a lot of progress made in promoting the industry's success and our mission of saving lives and property. We have to thank Jeff Norton of Viking for starting to capture the success of fire sprinkler saves in the media and trying to capture the data from that in sprinklersaves.com. We also have to thank Joanne Genadio for sharing sprinkler saves from fire departments, media, and members via our social media, as well as Vickie Pritchett for working with the PIOs (Public Information Officers) years ago as a part of Fire Team USA, now Fire Team NFSA, which is another whole story in and of itself. The team in Field Operations and especially our member companies are doing a great job of sharing our successes and stories.

I pledge to you to make 2019 a much stronger year than ever before with promoting this great industry. As we prepare for the potential economic downturn in 2020 leading into the elections, we are prepared to promote fire sprinkler systems like never before. We want to reach every major media market in this country and to ensure legislation and regulations continue to advance for life safety even when the slow times come.

How can we continue to advance an industry when regulations and legislation are anti-regulatory? Fire does not discriminate, and it doesn't recognize recessions. The destruction from fire is going to continue as long as men, women, children, and the environment exist.

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YOUR SAVINGS:	\$		hrs.	\$0	0 hrs.

*Reddi-Pipe may require minor touch-up after fabrication.



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Reactive Versus Proactive

All of us that have been involved in the fire sprinkler industry for a number of years have come to realize that our industry has most often moved forward reactively as opposed to proactively after one horrific fire tragedy or another.

On January 19th, 2000 a fire broke out in a freshman dormitory at Seton Hall University in my home state of New Jersey. Sadly, three young college freshmen died in that fire. Frank S. Caltabilota, Aaron C. Carol, and John C. Giunta were the students who perished in the fire that occurred in the wee hours of the morning. Their parents had sent them on their way just a few months earlier, with hopes and aspirations in hand. Having put three children through college myself, I can attest to the fact that the nervousness that occurs when dropping them off at



“NFSA has been a driving force in code change and the acceptance of fire sprinklers for many years now. We proactively try to educate, promote and support code changes in favor of fire safety and fire sprinklers. As we have pushed proactively for their requirement in our homes, high-rises and other at risk facilities, we have been readying ourselves with facts and data, and building supporters for the day that we are forced to make our case reactively to yet another fire-related tragedy.”

college for the first time is incredibly overwhelming. I still get teary eyed reminiscing about the day I left my beautiful daughter alone at her dormitory her freshman year for the first time. Luckily, that was some seven plus years ago and I knew that her dormitory was equipped with sprinklers. I knew because I had previously made sure that it was. It was equipped with sprinklers because of the fire that had occurred at Seton Hall University some 10 years earlier.

It was a senseless fire that cost those three young men their lives that night. Sean Ryan and Joseph T. LePore set fire to a couch as a prank late that evening. At the time I would imagine they didn't think of the potential consequences of their actions. Students had become accustomed to ignoring fire alarms, because they went off regularly. Unfortunately, on this night they went off for a very valid reason. Even more unfortunate was the fact that the dormitory they were residing in was built prior to fire sprinklers being required by the local building codes.

In response to that fire, New Jersey became the first state in the nation to mandate fire sprinklers in residence halls. I was a founding member of the Coalition for Safe Student Housing. Luckily, John V. Kelly was the chairman of the New Jersey State Assembly's Committee on Housing and a staunch fire safety advocate. John had the political juice to help push this across the finish line for us. If it wasn't for him, I doubt we would have been able to make it happen.

Most of you are aware the MGM Grand fire that occurred on November 21, 1980 in Las Vegas. 87 people died as a result of that fire. In less than three months after the fire, the state's building and fire codes were revised to require that all hotels taller than 55 feet were required to be retrofitted with fire sprinklers, and all future new construction equal or greater than three stories would also require fire sprinklers to be installed. A significant driving factor in the passing of these stringent requirements at the time was the devastating financial impact the fire had on Las Vegas tourism. I've often wondered if this fire had occurred in an area that was not as dependent on tourist travel if they would have moved as quickly, or even at all.

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From the President's Desk

Shane Ray

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The fire sprinkler industry has the answer to lessen the impact of fire. When tragedy strikes, we can't be denied.

The changes in the 116th Congress will allow us the opportunity to advance two bills in Congress, one addressing high-rise retrofit and the other removing residential from exemption in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. This will allow our most vulnerable occupancies to receive a tax credit. If the infrastructure funding goes through, there is no reason that HUD (Housing and Urban Development), VA (Veterans Administration) and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Association) disaster MHU (Mobile Housing Units) can be included in appropriations bills that fund these vital government programs.

At this time of year, and for the next several months, NFSA works the hardest for this industry. We will have all 46 out of 50 state legislatures in session with laws that impact this industry and we will have an average of 13 states taking up regulations that impact fire sprinklers. There will also be over 100 major metropolitan areas that have laws and regulations impacting our industry. This is a daunting task, but one that we will take head on with all the passion and energy we can pour into the effort to maintain and advance the market. Our opponents may say that we do this to increase sales by billions. No, that isn't in our mission, but we will never apologize for fulfilling our mission and achieving our vision.

Here's to 2019 and the progress we will make!

A grateful,



Shane Ray, President

From the Chairman's Desk

Kent Mezaros

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So, if you're reading this you most likely agree that fire is bad, and fire sprinklers are the most effective way to protect us all from the devastation of fire. NFSA has been a driving force in code change and the acceptance of fire sprinklers for many years now. We proactively try to educate, promote and support code changes in favor of fire safety and fire sprinklers. As we have pushed proactively for their requirement in our homes, high-rises and other at risk facilities, we have been readying ourselves with facts and data, and building supporters for the day that we are forced to make our case reactively to yet another fire-related tragedy. NFSA is currently prepared and will continue to remain prepared for any such occurrence. It's what we as members have come to expect from NFSA. Our hardworking president and his talented staff are working tirelessly in the trenches to insure our case is made successfully. As your chairman, I will work hard to insure that while we at NFSA continue to proactively push the acceptance of fire sprinklers, we are ready to react to whatever fire tragedy we are faced with.

Once again, I want to remind you that I'm honored to serve our members and industry. I encourage you to please reach out to me to share any thoughts and ideas you may have to better our industry.

Respectfully yours,



Kent Mezaros, Chairman



Don't miss our March/April Annual Seminar Preview Issue!

All you need to know about what's going down in Nashville!

Exhibiting? Now's your time to let attendees know where to find you!

Place an ad in the issue by contacting NFSM Editor Joanne Genadio at genadio@nfsa.org before January 15th!

Resisting and Creating Change -What Leaders Should Know

By Dominic Lombardi

We've all encountered a change in our lives at one point or another. It can take many forms, from something as minor as waking up at a different time all the way to uprooting your family to pursue a job opportunity all the way across the country. For change to be successful, you must accept it and be comfortable with it, regardless of its intensity. One environment where many of us will encounter change is at work. Business leaders are tasked with ensuring the company's operations under their purview are run efficiently and effectively. This will sometimes require a change to how a group, or the entire organization, currently operates after identifying a problem.

Whether you're a leader or a subordinate, the capability to handle change and implement change is critically important to an organization's overall success.

Resistance to Change

If change is so necessary, why do people resist it? Vast portions of the current business research literature are devoted to determining how firms mitigate risk and why these techniques work. The same holds true for individuals; they resist change because it represents uncertainty and risk. In a 2011 paper, Myungweon Choi found that readiness for change, commitment to change, openness to change, and cynicism of change are all factors that affect an individual's ability to handle change.

How do we identify if individuals in an organization are prone to resist change? Leaders can survey their employees, several inventories exist to give organizations an idea of whether a person is prone to resist change, including an instrument created by Shaul Oreg in 2003 as well as validated instruments built for the Technology Adoption Model (TAM), and the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT).

Leaders should also be able to identify individuals that may resist change from personal knowledge about the employees they work with. Leaders should also keep in mind that the concept of resistance on its own should not be construed as a mark against an individual, after all it's a perfectly natural response. What leaders do need to be cautious of, however, is letting that resistance take hold among a group.

The Importance of Followers

Burak Oc and Michael Bashur found that followers with higher personal power exert greater social influence on leaders, followers who are psychologically more immediate to their leaders exert greater social influence over them, and large groups will have more influence over leaders as a function of their within-group agreement.

This is to say followers have just as large a role in successfully enacting change, if not bigger than the leaders trying to do so. David Courpasson and colleagues studied this extensively in a paper titled *Resisters at work: Generating productive resistance in the workplace*. In this paper, it was found that resisters can influence top management, and gain concessions, through active efforts. These efforts culminated in senior leadership having little choice but to give in to the resistance as the resisters managed to form new groups possessing enough power that forced the leadership's hand. Uhl-Bien and colleagues have researched the concept of co-producing leadership, where followers still defer to a leader but with advising, challenging, or persuading behaviors that ultimately generate more effective outcomes.

One key aspect of coproduction of leadership is communication. Research shows that leaders who communicate to their followers that they have faith in their employees' abilities lead to an increase in the follower's ability to meet these expectations through an increase in their sense of competence and self-efficacy. Leveraging this can help leaders create successful change.

Creating Change

Kotter, in his 1996 book, *Leading Change*, lays out an eight-stage sequential process to ensure successful change in an organization:

1. Establish a sense of urgency;
2. Create a guiding coalition;
3. Develop a vision and strategy;
4. Communicate the change vision;
5. Empower employees for broad-based action;
6. Generate short-term wins;
7. Consolidate gains and produce more change;
8. Anchor new approaches in the culture.

Jeffrey Ford and his colleagues also noted in their 2008 research paper regarding change resistance that several management practices that have been documented to reduce resistance, include communicating extensively, inviting people to participate, providing people with needed resources and developing strong working relationships.

An individual's resistance can be exacerbated through managers who break agreements, oversee a breakdown in communication, and by ignoring resistance itself. Communicating the purpose of the change is essential but describing how the change will affect the employee is important as well. Remember, change scares people because it involves risk and uncertainty. By demonstrating

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to employees that the change efforts you're proposing will have a positive effect on them, they will be less prone to resist the change. By including these employees early on in the process, by listening and responding to their concerns, and by incorporating suggestions they may provide you engages these individuals and makes them part of this change process. By being part of the solution, they are far less likely to resist the proposed change.

Conclusion

Change is necessary for companies to survive. Leaders create the vision for this change and ensure it is executed throughout the organization. Communication is key in successfully creating and

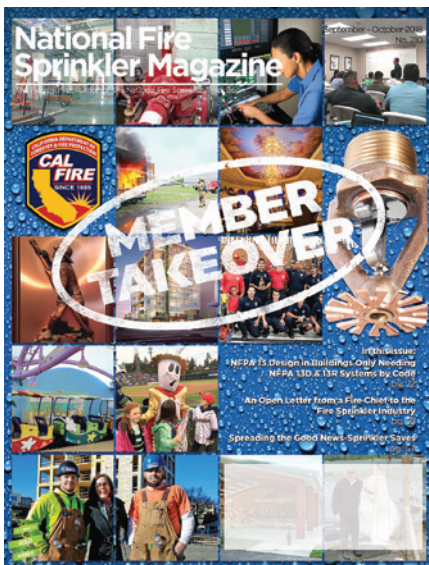
sustaining this change. Vision is critical. Figure out what you're changing and why. Make sure this change will have a positive effect on employees and communicate this early and often. One needs to ensure these advantages are actually advantages to employees, or else managers may face resistance due to a violation of trust. Communicating extensively, inviting people to participate, and developing strong working relationships are all crucial to your change management program. By incorporating these concepts when leading change in your organization, you will have maximized your chance of success.

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/expert/Dominic_Lombardi/2557969
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Mark your Calendars for the **2019 NFSM Member Takeover Issue!**

It's your time to shine!

Deadline for submissions is June 25th.



We want to hear what fuels your fire (*we already know what puts it out*). Have a project that you're working on that's unusual? Have an employee that goes above and beyond? Did your team do anything together that is noteworthy? Have a favorite recipe? How about some great photos of office staff?

Send everything to NFSA Editor Joanne Genadio at genadio@nfsa.org.

Why Do Headlines Identify Water Damage, When Sprinklers Save Property and Lives?

by Mark Hopkins P.E., NFSA's V.P. of Engineering



The theme for this issue of *National Fire Sprinkler Magazine* is Sprinkler Saves. The NFSA and others have been noting reports of small fires controlled, suppressed or extinguished by sprinklers. This is remarkable and truly shows the benefit of these systems and highlights why our industry exists in the first place. However, it is too commonplace to see an article or report focused on water damage rather than the fact that the sprinkler system prevented life loss or property loss. On the other hand, we have also begun to see articles that capture the reality of the situation by identifying that a small fire was extinguished. Some people get this, and yet others do not, or choose to ignore these facts.

The idea for this article was prompted after I looked through a series of incident summaries prepared by Laura Moreno, staff liaison for the *NFPA 45 Technical Committee on The Standard on Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals*. Two summaries mentioned sprinklers operating in chemical laboratories in chemistry buildings. Although the basic outcome of each of the incidents was very similar, a small fire being controlled by sprinklers, the reports were very different.

The first summary report documents a fire incident that occurred in McNutt Hall at the Missouri University of Science and Technology Campus on Monday, August 13, 2018. The report written by Sarah Potter of Missouri S&T stated the following:

"Crews are cleaning up today after a small fire broke out in a second-floor laboratory in McNutt Hall on the Missouri University of Science and Technology campus.

The fire started at about 8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13, and automatically triggered the building's sprinkler system. The sprinkler system suppressed the fire, and Rolla firefighters extinguished the remaining fire. The lab was not occupied at the time, and no one was injured.

Damage was confined to a desk area with no fire damage to the building. Due to the activation of the sprinkler system, there was isolated water damage.

Because of the water damage and cleanup, S&T closed the north section of the second floor of McNutt Hall until

cleanup is completed.

The cause of the fire is yet to be determined, but investigators have not found anything suspicious related to this fire."

This report highlights that the fire automatically triggered the sprinkler system which controlled (suppressed) the fire until the Rolla Fire Department extinguished it. THIS IS A SUCCESS! Without the sprinkler system, the building, or a portion of it, might have been consumed by fire. The report also acknowledges that part of the building must be closed until "cleanup is completed." The complete report can be observed by using the following link. <http://news.mst.edu/2018/08/cleanup-continues-after-minor-fire-at-sts-mcnutt-hall/>. If you visit the site, you can leave a comment for the author regarding this report. I replied to her with the following message:

"I would like to commend you on the accuracy of this report. It highlights the fact that the sprinkler system did its job by controlling the fire rather than focusing on the water damage caused by the sprinkler system. The reality is that the building might have been consumed by the fire or incurred significantly more extensive and costly damage without the sprinkler system, especially given that the building was unoccupied at the time of the incident. There are too many reports that do not capture these facts. Thank you for the succinct yet accurate report of the incident. Great job."

The second summary report does not shed such a good light on the performance of the sprinkler system as it focuses on water damage as the cause of a school shut down. In my opinion, this is inaccurate. The cause of the shutdown was the fire not the water damage. This report documents a television newscast report which aired on WLWT5 regarding a fire incident that occurred at the Wyoming High School in Cincinnati, Ohio.

"A small chemical fire prompted an early dismissal at Wyoming High School, fire officials said."

According to Fire Chief Dennis Brown, a chemical fire broke in a chemical closet between two of the school's chemistry classrooms Thursday morning.

continued on page 14

“Due to water damage from the use of the sprinkler system this morning, Wyoming High School will be closed tomorrow, Nov. 2.” Suzy Henke, school district spokeswoman, said.

Henke said the chemical reaction occurred when a chemical was being disposed of in the chemical receptacle in a small room outside the classroom. Chemicals were not being mixed at the time and did not spill, according to Henke.”

The complete story can be observed by using the following link. In addition, the website includes a longer summary than the one provided in the NFPA summary report. It is worth watching because it contains multiple inaccuracies. <https://www.wlwt.com/article/chemical-fire-prompts-early-dismissal-at-wyoming-high-school/24514137>

The story focuses on the success of fire drills leading to the successful evacuation of 650 students while overlooking the fact that the sprinkler system did what it was supposed to do. A representative of the school, Madeline Hoffman stated that “the reaction of two chemicals caused a minor, minor explosion.” Then the reporter followed up with “that caused smoke,” but neither the reporter nor the representative from the school acknowledged that the sprinkler response allowed for the successful evacuation. Rather, later in the segment the reporter states, “the fire was contained quickly but not before it sparked another problem, the sprinkler system was set off sending water everywhere requiring a major clean up...” It is great to see the positive impact that the fire drills had but I don’t understand why they would consider the operation of the sprinkler system to be “a problem.”

There is similarity between the two incidents in that the sprinkler system controlled the fire; this is the reason that both reports indicate a small fire. Without sprinkler response, the outcome would likely have been very different. The report indicates that the “small chemical fire” prompted an early dismissal of the school while “... damage from the use of the sprinkler system...” was the reason the school was closed. Wouldn’t it have been better to indicate that the school is able to reopen again thanks to the operation of the sprinkler system rather than it was closed due to water damage? I have not contacted the news station as of the time of writing this article, but I intend to.

A third story reported in the Times of India identifies that a “blaze engulfs lab in biotech company.” This fire occurred at the Rise n’ Shine Biotech Private, Ltd. facility in India. The complete story can be read by using the following link. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/blaze-engulfs-lab-in-biotech-company-no-one-injured/articleshow/65814934.cms>.

While it is a different scenario, it does demonstrate the contrast in potential outcomes since this fire caused the destruction of the lab. Rather than having a “small fire,” the result is loss of the facility. This is the part of the new story that was missing from the WLWT5 broadcast regarding the Wyoming High School fire. The sprinkler system response should not be viewed as a problem but rather the reason that there was no large fire.

“Pune: A major fire gutted one of the three laboratories at a biotech company in Theur, about 28km from here, on Friday.

It took over six hours to douse the blaze. About 40 firemen from

the Pune fire brigade, seven fire tenders and water tankers were pressed into service for fire-fighting. No one sustained injuries in the fire,” Prashant Ranpise, chief fire officer of the Pune fire brigade, told TOI.

Ranpise said prima facie, short-circuit could have led to the fire. “We had deployed two fire tenders at the spot,” he added.

Ganesh Pinguwale, sub-inspector of the Lonikand police, said the company, Rise n’ Shine Biotech Private Ltd, deals in biotechnology, floriculture and horticulture. “The company has three laboratories where technicians work in three shifts. Around 8.30am on Friday, the technicians in the laboratory number 2 alerted the supervisor about a fire in one of the units,” the officer said.

He said before the supervisor could reach the laboratory number 2, all the 50 persons working there had come out. “Within seconds, fire broke out in the laboratory,” Pinguwale said, adding, “The supervisor and others tried to douse the fire by using fire extinguishers, but it had spread in the entire laboratory by then.”

Another notable difference in the report of the large fire in India versus the two incidents with small fires in the buildings with sprinkler systems is the impact on the fire service. The reports from the first two fires did not identify the number of fire fighters or fire apparatus involved since the counts were insignificant and not noteworthy. In contrast, the second paragraph of the article documenting the India fire identifies that 40 firemen, and seven tenders (engines) and water tankers were present.

The India fire also highlights that fire extinguishers are not always effective since it indicates that occupants attempted to control the fire using fire extinguishers, but it spread to the entire laboratory. The incidents where sprinklers were involved simply referred to small fires being extinguished without people having to put themselves at risk by attempting manual firefighting using fire extinguishers. It is also important to keep in mind that fire extinguishers should not be used without proper training, and that they must be properly inspected and maintained. Fire extinguishers have their place in fire protection, but they should not be viewed as a replacement or equivalent to sprinklers. It would not be fair to acknowledge that many fires have been stopped through appropriate and effective use of fire extinguishers. I say through personal experience as much as from studying other documented incidents.

Thankfully, none of these incidents resulted in fatalities or casualties. However, there have been many other fires that have resulted in large numbers of injuries or multiple lives lost.

I have heard and been a part of many conversations related to similar reports regarding the operation of sprinkler systems during fires. Even though we are doing a better job of tracking sprinkler system successes we also need to do a better job of changing the perception of sprinkler systems. Nobody can do this alone, it will take all of us making little differences in order to influence a change. Hopefully, we will be seeing more reports showing sprinkler performance in a positive light in the future and fewer articles highlighting water damage. •

Saluting the Fire Chief



Chief West started as a volunteer firefighter in 1976 and became a career firefighter in 1984. He has been a member or employed by six fire departments for the past 42 years. Chief West has worked in every city in Tennessee as a fire management consultant and served as the TN State Fire Marshal for 7+ years.

When asked about his decision to install fire sprinklers in his home, here's his response. We appreciate and salute Chief Gary West, from Ashland City, Tennessee.

I installed fire sprinklers in my home because I truly believe in today's world, it's the only way to make it out alive in the event of a fire. I believe you need to walk the walk and talk the talk. I feel better when I'm away and my family is home but also feel safe what I'm home myself. They are one of the simplest life-saving systems you can have but as technological as your home security system, camera monitors, motion detectors, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, or even thermostat. Fire sprinklers have been around much longer than any of those things. I wanted to be a state fire marshal that could say that my home had fire sprinklers. I wanted to be able to tell legislators and home builders that they work so well that I have one myself.

I know today, with my experience in fire protection, fire sprinklers save lives and property, they save firefighter lives, jobs,

the tax base, lower insurance risk and cost, and provide a satisfaction of being safe in a world of heavy fuel loads. I could go on and on with my beliefs on good fire protection, but every topic would include fire sprinklers. Feeling safe where you live, work, or visit always includes fire sprinklers.



Gary West
Former Fire Chief & State Fire Marshal
Now, NFSA Director of Field Operations

Fire sprinkler incentives are included in tax reform – visit nfsa.org for the latest info

Leading by Example ... #fastestwater in the house

We are proud to partner with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and encourage all fire departments to embrace the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives. Pay special attention to Initiative #15: "Advocacy must be strengthened for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home fire sprinklers." For more information on the NFFF, visit firehero.org and join with us!

www.nfsa.org
#fastestwater

The National Fire Sprinkler Association is proud to partner with our nation's fire service. We continue to extend our special offer to the fire service – 6 months FREE membership (Subscriber membership category). We believe that partnerships that understand how we can help each other helps us make our communities safer and keep firefighters and citizens safe, too! We want you to have the latest resources. Sign up today at nfsa.org.

Look for the Firehouse Ad icon in the bottom left hand corner on the home page.



Director of Outreach & Government Relations
Vickie Pritchett pritchett@nfsa.org
615-533-0305 @vickiep4

Using Sprinkler Saves for Positive Code Changes

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



Fire sprinkler activations, known as “sprinkler saves” reported in the media, through local code officials, and through websites like [www.sprinklersaves.com](#) are extremely beneficial for advocacy and code writing work. Sprinkler saves show how successful modern building and fire codes operate and protect the built environment. In short, the sprinkler saves show the effectiveness of modern and updated codes.

It is our duty to record and remind the public, code officials, fire chiefs, and policy makers that fire sprinklers are keeping their citizens safe all day, every day. There are numerous cases where national, state and local advocates have used past sprinkler saves to justify an ordinance or a code change. There are two instances below when the sharing of this data with the ICC voting membership made positive effects in the latest model codes.

A-2 Retrofit in the 2018 IFC

During the Public Comment Hearings, in Kansas City, MO, for the development of the 2018 IFC, the NFSM used recent A-2 sprinkler saves to advocate for retrofitting sprinklers in A-2 (nightclubs, bars, restaurants, banquet halls) occupancies (for the technical requirements of this change in the IFC, see the Mar/Apr 2018 edition of NFSM, “A-2 Retrofit in the 2018 IFC”). In a handout and during public testimony, several recent bar, nightclub and restaurant fires were highlighted and discussed.

Below are four sprinkler saves in 2016 where sprinkler systems saved almost 1,700 lives. These events made the local news online posting and sprinklers were credited in saving lives, the venue, and building. These events were highlighted during the code hearing discussion because of the diverse range of location and structure. Every building represents a broad representation of A-2 occupancies across the US, such as a small single-story bar, a nightclub on a second floor, a restaurant in a strip mall and high-density nightclub.

- **PHOENIX, AZ** – During a show in a local nightclub, band members used lighter fluid to start a fire on the stage. A single sprinkler opened, and all 300 occupants safely evacuated.

- **ANAHEIM, CA** – At a packed nightclub, where 600 patrons awaited the Snoop Dogg birthday bash, fire in the overhead chandeliers was controlled by sprinklers.
- **SEATTLE, WA** – Over 750 occupants were safely evacuated after sprinklers thwarted an arson event shortly before midnight.
- **TROY, MI** – A fire at a Korean restaurant was stopped by sprinkler system and 40 patrons evacuated.



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NFPA 13R in the 2021 IBC

During the Public Comment Hearings, in Richmond, VA, for the development of the 2021 IBC/IFC, the NFSA distributed recent NFPA 13R sprinkler saves to advocate fire protection in low-rise hotel, motel and apartment properties. Low-rise structures often utilize NFPA 13R (Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Low-Rise Residential Occupancies) systems as a cost- and life-effective solution for developments. Some recent fires have had some devastating effects for residents and developments. However, it is important to note, few lost their lives where the NFPA 13R systems was installed and maintained property. This has been true to the scope since the first NFPA 13R standard in 1987 and the 1990 editions of the model codes. Below are a sample of recent fires that occurred in four story (or less) residential occupancies protected by a NFPA 13R system. The date range is important to

note as it shows all the (reported) sprinkler saves in NFPA 13R systems from the spring code hearings in Columbus to the fall code hearings in Richmond.

A fire that is prevented saves time, money and lives. However, the downside of a sprinkler save is the un-newsworthiness of the event. As Dennis Grubb, former Orange County, California Fire Prevention Specialist, states in the 2004 OCFA Marble Mountain video, “*Why you don’t hear about them saving lives is because it is a non-event...*”. When only one or two sprinklers control a fire 94% of the time, there are thousands of fires each year that the public doesn’t know about. While countless lives are saved, the complacency of human nature can often be indifferent about life safety measures. How can you help? Report service calls where activations have occurred to your local NFSA region, chapter or to websites such as www.sprinklersaves.com. •

DATE	CITY	STATE	COMMENTS:
11-Oct-18	Morgantown	WV	<i>2nd floor apartment</i>
23-Sep-18	Greenville	SC	<i>3rd floor kitchen</i>
16-Sep-18	Westbrook	ME	<i>2nd floor kitchen</i>
14-Sep-18	Waco	TX	<i>Downstairs kitchen</i>
10-Sep-18	Gainesville	FL	<i>Kitchen</i>
5-Sep-18	Suffolk	VA	<i>Kitchen</i>
4-Sep-18	Chesapeake	VA	<i>3rd floor kitchen</i>
3-Sep-18	Las Vegas	NV	<i>No detailed information</i>
2-Sep-18	Newport	RI	<i>3rd floor kitchen</i>
28-Aug-18	Lacey	WA	<i>Kitchen fire - tenant slept right through it</i>
22-Aug-18	Port Royal	SC	<i>Electronic device on couch</i>
11-Aug-18	Vancouver	WA	<i>1st floor kitchen</i>
29-Jul-18	Spokane	WA	<i>2nd floor</i>
21-Jul-18	Charlottesville	VA	<i>2nd floor kitchen</i>
12-Jul-18	Bridgeport	CT	<i>Kitchen</i>
1-Jul-18	Hagerstown	MD	<i>2nd floor kitchen</i>
22-Jun-18	Yakima	WA	<i>3rd floor deck</i>
15-Jun-18	Prince George	VA	<i>3rd floor water heater</i>
20-Apr-18	Bakersfield	CA	<i>1st floor arson</i>
3-Apr-18	Hampton	VA	<i>3rd floor apartment</i>

NEW MEMBERS

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Alan Marshall
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Waterbury, Connecticut

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Shinn Mechanical, Inc.
Kent, Washington

Dave Edwards

Commercial Fire Protection
Irvine, California

Fire Service Member

Tracy Williams
Westview-Fairforest FD
Spartanburg, South Carolina

Professional

Nick Scolaro
Florida Fire Protection
Associates, Inc.
Boynton Beach, Florida

Eric Radke

Panacea Group
Seymour, Wisconsin

Keith Plaster

Panacea Group
Seymour, Wisconsin

Chris West

Fire Protechs, Inc.
Sanford, Florida

Dylan Reid

Fluor Federal Solutions LLC
Greenville, South Carolina

Sandra Iskander

National Fire Protection LLC
Fairfax, Virginia

Richard Dussart

CorssFire Group, Inc.
Brighton, Colorado

Daniel Haley

Down Home Sprinkler
Design Co.
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Subscriber

John Abbate Jr
Hartford, Connecticut

James Mazerat

Forensic Investigators Group
New Orleans, Louisiana

Randy Maurer

ABI LLC
Ephrata, Pennsylvania

Chris Logan

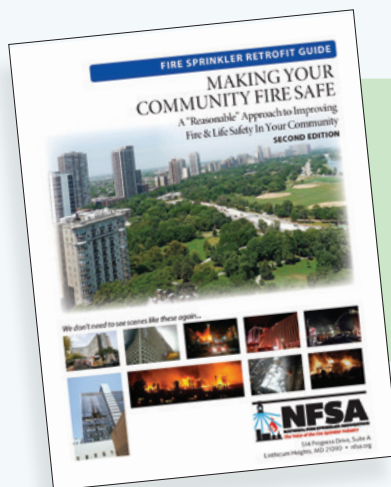
Fire Sprinkler Podcast
Corunna
Ontario, Canada

Kenny Asselin

West Bend Fire Department
West Bend, Wisconsin

SAM

Drew Slocum
Inspect Point
Troy, New York



Check out NFSA's
Fire Sprinkler Retrofit Guide
at

nfsa.org/NFSARETROFIT

New Beginnings



by Vickie Pritchett, **Director of Outreach & Government Relations**

Yes, that's my way of saying Happy New Year and I hope 2019 is off to a fabulous start for you, your family and your business! I love the focus of this issue of NFSM, because I love fire sprinkler saves!

When you think about it, sprinkler saves are also new beginnings. When you speak to those who have had their family, pets, and/or property saved, you realize that their appreciation for fire sprinklers is different from those that have never experienced a sprinkler save first-hand.

Thinking about this, it's important for us to realize the importance of sharing those stories. There is power in fire sprinkler save stories; the power to influence, power to change the minds of those who may doubt fire sprinklers, and power to spread the good news! Let's vow that we will work harder in 2019 to share our stories of fire sprinklers working.

Common Voices is working to continue keeping our stories alive, by adding the "story" to their side-by-side burn demonstrations, by testifying at local, state and national events where policy makers are considering fire sprinkler requirements, and by creating new resources to support their existing library.

We would love to have your help! NFSA is working on the development of a fire sprinkler save app that will make reporting fire sprinkler saves easier. A big thank you to our Future Leadership Committee for their vision on this one, we look forward to its implementation because we believe that we will have even more stories to share!

Speaking of new beginnings, have you been able to see our new commercial? Hopefully you've caught it on your local television stations, if you haven't then be sure to visit www.nfsa.org and check it out! We believe that "What Used to Be" will help people understand what can be lost in a fire, while also being reminded that fire sprinklers are the solution. A big thank you to our NFSA Board of Directors for their support and vision with this project. Let's create the conversation about fire sprinklers and the value of installing them in your home from homes to high rises!

Looking forward, may we embrace 2019 with a happy heart and welcoming spirit!

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. A year from now, you're gonna weigh more or less than what you do right now. Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering, "It will be better." Stay committed to your decisions, but stay flexible in your approach. Let's tell the world that "Fire Sprinklers Save Lives!"

Till next time, stay safe,

Vickie Pritchett

Happy
New
Year

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

Thanks to you, we said yes to Fox & Friends!

Common Voices is an advocates' coalition determined to create a Fire-Safe America, and your support allows us to realize this mission. We hope you saw us on Fox & Friends during National Fire Prevention Week! Your support allowed us to say yes to this request, including the super side by side fire sprinkler trailer which allowed us to also share the value of a closed door, based upon research from our friends at Underwriters Laboratories.

If you missed it, [watch the coverage!](#)

DONATE TODAY

Visit www.fireadvocates.org for the latest fire safety tips and make sure you look up for fire sprinklers!

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fireadvocates.org
Fire Sprinklers Save Lives



Did you see us on Fox & Friends?



If you would like to make a donation to Common Voices during this holiday season, we would again like to say, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

As advocates for fire safety, we could not continue our work without support from great people like you.

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We hope you'll join us for the 17th Annual Truman Legacy Symposium - May 5-7, 2019

*Little White House
Key West, Florida*



Are you interested in President Harry S. Truman's legacy work on fire prevention? Would you like to be motivated and challenged by the work set forth by President Truman in current day? We hope so, and we hope you'll join us for this very important national fire service event. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is proud to partner with the Key West Harry S. Truman Foundation and the Little White House to see this vision realized. Clifton Truman Daniels, grandson of President Truman will be participating in the event.

To register, visit www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com and then click on the Symposium icon on the home page. To learn more, contact Amy Tippet at atippet@firehero.org and she will be happy to assist!

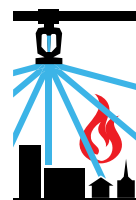
This symposium is for fire chiefs, fire marshals, association leaders, and all who want to shape the future of fire protection in America.



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Sprinklers Save When Properly Maintained

by Vince Powers, *NFSA's ITM Specialist*



The results of poor fire protection system maintenance can be catastrophic, and the impact will range anywhere from a costly repair to loss of life. Lack of following NFPA 25, the Standard for Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems, can have several repercussions, such as; a building flooding, dry systems valves that will not trip, fire pumps not meeting the demand of the system or a system not delivering any water at all. In many cases, all these situations can be avoided with proper inspection, testing, and maintenance (ITM).

A fire sprinkler system is a highly effective and reliable part of a building's fire protection system. According to national estimates of reported fires derived from the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), NFPA's annual fire department experience survey and U.S. Experience with Sprinklers:

- In 2010-2014 sprinklers were present in 10% of reported U.S. fires.
- The death rate per 1,000 reported fires was 87% lower in properties with sprinklers than in properties without automatic extinguishing systems.
- The civilian injury rate was 27% lower and the firefighter fireground injury rate per 1,000 fires was 67% lower in sprinklered properties than in fires in properties without automatic extinguishing systems.
- In fires considered large enough to activate the sprinkler, sprinklers operated 92% of the time. Sprinklers were effective in controlling the fire in 96% of the fires in which they operated.
- In three-fifths of the fires in which the sprinkler failed to operate, the system had been shut off.

In my experience as a former contractor, I have inspected numerous properties and sold inspection contracts for fire protection systems of all types. Several times, upon entering a new contract inspection of a building, it was discovered that the system was deficient, sometimes impaired. Many of these deficiencies were noted for years with no corrective action by the owner or enforcement by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Two examples

come to mind:

An annual ITM inspection of an entire college campus, including dormitories, several thousand recalled sprinklers among several other deficiencies were noted. On the same campus more than fourteen years later, the same recalled sprinklers and other noted deficiencies were still not corrected. Every past ITM report identified the same recalled sprinklers and deficiencies and the report was delivered to the same facilities manager in both cases.



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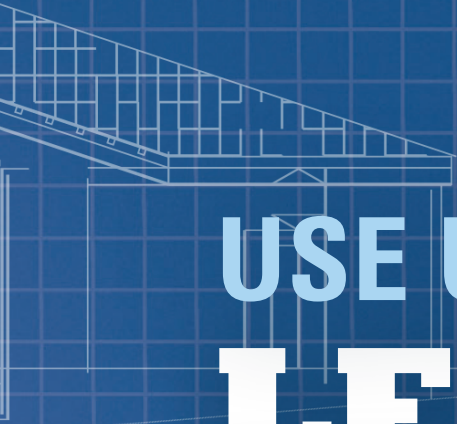
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Wet System	150 gpm – 250 gpm	250 gpm – 300 gpm	100 – 120+ gpm

Anticipated system demands consider non-maximum sprinkler spacing due to construction and estimated over-discharge of piping system.

MULTIPLE PATENTS PENDING

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GlobeSprinkler.com/attic



continued from page 23

A fully-sprinklered three-year old mercantile building burned to the ground due to an arsonist. After the fire, it was discovered that a valve had been shut off and paved over in the street. The initial main drain acceptance test was never completed and annual ITM main drain tests had never been completed due to the possibility of causing the parking lot to freeze over. Upon conclusion of the investigation, it was found that three separate contractors had conducted the inspections and more than twenty companies were named in a lawsuit.

Neither of these examples caused a loss of life, but that is not always the case. Following is an example where loss of life did occur:

A fire started in the machinery room of a recycling plant and rapidly spread, activating 75 sprinklers. The fire killed one civilian and caused \$7.5 million in damages. After the investigation was complete, it was determined that the reason the fire sprinklers proved ineffective was because the sprinkler system was not maintained and had not followed the minimum requirements outlined in NFPA 25. Deficiencies included improper sprinkler clearance, valves that were not fully opened and several other issues.

A fire sprinkler can be the difference between life and death. NFPA has no record of multiple fatalities (more than two people) in a completely sprinklered building where the system was properly installed and inspected, except in an explosion or flash fire. The fire protection industry and NFSA are making great strides in passing laws to require installation of fire sprinklers. Unfortunately, in many cases, once sprinklers are installed, they are not properly maintained. NFPA 25 is widely adopted throughout the U.S., however it is not widely enforced. When sprinklers are properly installed and maintained, they have proven to be the most effective means for protecting life and property against fire.

Top five reasons for sprinkler system failure according to NFPA.

1. System control valve was closed.
2. Manual Intervention.
3. Damaged Components.
4. Lack of maintenance.
5. Inappropriate systems for hazard •

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Changes in the 2019 Edition of NFPA 13 Focusing on Installation Criteria

by Roland Asp, *NFA's Manager of Installation/Standards*

The 2019 edition of NFPA 13 has recently been published by the NFPA. This edition of the standard has been significantly reorganized and restructured. Those of us familiar with the structure of previous editions of the standard will face a learning curve in navigating the new edition. The purpose of this reorganization was to make the document more intuitive and user friendly. The revised format seeks to follow the process of the design, layout and installation of a fire sprinkler system from the beginning stages to completion.

The various technical committees responsible for this standard (as well as NFPA staff) spent a tremendous amount of time and effort in ensuring that this new reorganized standard maintains the high level of life safety and property protection provided by previous editions of the standard and that technical requirements of the standard were not lost in this effort. As a result, this new edition does not have a tremendous amount of technical changes, however this edition does contain a number of new requirements that are important to everyone in the fire sprinkler industry. As a member of the Technical Committee on Sprinkler System Installation Criteria, this article will focus on the changes to the installation criteria rules of NFPA 13.

Publications from the NFSA have and will highlight changes to the discharge and the hanging and bracing requirements of the standard. One aspect of the 2019 edition that was significantly revised was the storage chapters of the standard. Mark Hopkins, Vice President of Engineering, wrote an article published in the November – December 2018 edition of National Fire Sprinkler Magazine titled, “*Navigating the General Requirements for Storage in the 2019 Edition of NFPA 13*”. This article will help users to understand the new process in determining sprinkler protection for storage occupancies.

That article will highlight technical changes that are most important in the opinion of the author. This will not be a list of every change to the standard but is intended to help everyone understand the major items with respect to the installation requirements for sprinkler systems. The number in parenthesis is the section number from the 2019 edition of NFPA 13.

Units of Measure (A.1.6.1.4).

NFPA 13 states required dimensions in both SI (metric) and Imperial units (U.S. Customary Units). An annex note was added

advising users to apply one set of units of measure consistently. This annex note reads: *Where both units of measure are presented (SI and Imperial), users of this standard should apply one set of units consistently and should not alternate between units.*

Automated Inspection and Testing.

New definitions and requirements were added to NFPA 13 highlighting the concept of automated inspection and testing and recognizes the use of new technology that would allow inspection and testing of sprinkler systems at a distance from the system and through the use of electronic devices or equipment such as automated valves. New definitions and requirements related to this concept include:

Automated Inspection and Testing (3.3.9). A new definition was added for Automated Inspection and Testing which read: *The performance of inspections and tests at a distance from the system or component being inspected or tested through the use of electronic devices or equipment installed for the purpose.*

Distance Monitoring (3.3.56). Related to Automated Inspection and Testing is the concept of Distance Monitoring. A new definition was added which reads: *The monitoring of various conditions of a system or component from a location distant from the component through the use of electronic devices, meters, or equipment installed for the purpose.*

Automated Valves (16.9.4). Related to the concept of Automated Inspection and Testing, a new section on Automated Valves was added. This section states that listed automated indicating valves are permitted. This section also permits the use of a listed automated water control valve assembly with a reliable position indication connected to a remote supervisory station. Finally, this section states that an automated water control valve must be able to be operated manually as well as automatically.

Acceptance Testing and Automated Inspection and Testing (28.3). A new section highlighting acceptance testing requirements with Automated Inspection and Testing components was added. This new section ensures that this

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type of testing is at least as reliable as the more traditional manual methods of acceptance testing

Water Columns above Dry Valves (8.2.5.4.2).

Previous editions of NFPA 13 mandated protection against accumulation of water above the clapper shall be provided for low differential dry pipe valves. During this revision cycle there were lengthy discussions on exactly what constitutes a low differential dry pipe valve. The conclusion was that water columns adversely affect all differential dry pipe valves and not just low differential valves. The 2019 edition of NFPA 13 extended the requirement to provide protection against the accumulation of water above the clapper of all differential dry valves and not just low differential valves as stated in earlier editions. Related to this concept, two new definitions were added which outline the two types of dry pipe valves used in the industry. Another conclusion was that the term low differential dry pipe valve is confusing. These definitions are considered to better align with terminology used by testing laboratories and manufacturers.

Differential Dry Pipe Valve (3.3.206.4.1). A new definition of differential dry pipe valve was added that reads: A valve that is held in the closed position by the system gas pressure exposed to the larger surface area on the air/nitrogen side of the clapper where it is at least 5 times that of the surface area on the water supply side.

Mechanical Dry Pipe Valve. (3.3.206.4.2). A new definition of mechanical dry Pipe valve was added that reads: A valve that uses a series of mechanical devices such as levers, springs, diaphragms, and latches to hold the valve in the closed position with air/nitrogen pressure and without using the clapper surface areas to provide a differential between air/nitrogen and water pressures.

Cloud Ceiling Definition (3.3.32).

The definition of a cloud ceiling was revised to state that a cloud ceiling is a ceiling system with horizontal openings (gaps) to the structure above on two or more sides. The 2016 edition required a cloud ceiling to have openings on all sides.

Cloud Ceiling (9.2.7). The installation requirements were rewritten to clarify that the spaces above cloud ceilings must be of noncombustible or limited combustible construction with minimal combustible loading. This was assumed in many cases but left a loophole in the standard regarding permitted unprotected combustible spaces.

Air Supply Connections (8.2.6.4.1).

The word “pipe” was removed from the air supply connection requirement from the compressor to the dry pipe valve. This change was made to recognize that the manufactures often supply a flexible

hose as the air supply connection. A related annex note was added that states that the connection from an air compressor to the dry pipe valve must be of a material recommended by the manufacturer and be capable of withstanding the expected pressures, vibration and temperatures. This note also stated that flexible hose may be suitable where it can withstand the expected vibration and 175 psi at a temperature of 150°F(66°C) or greater.

Air Compressor (8.2.6.6.5 & 8.2.6.6.5.1).

Requirements were added that states when an air compressor is the dedicated air supply it shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 70, article 40 and that the disconnecting means cannot be a light switch or plug and cord.

Electric Actuator for Preaction and Deluge Systems (8.3.1.2.1).

A new requirement was added requiring an audible and visual signal at the releasing panel when the actuator is removed from preaction and deluge valves. This new requirement will go into effect on January 1, 2021.

Grease Extractors (8.9.2.1).

In the commercial cooking equipment section, past editions of NFPA 13 allowed the omission of sprinklers in ducts and related components where a listed grease extractor is present. This allowance was found to be inconsistent with the requirements of NFPA 96 because Listed grease extractors are nothing more than baffles, and will not prevent all grease laden vapors from entering the exhaust ducts. The baffles may capture some of the grease but not enough to prevent a significant fire risk.

Vertical Pipe Chases (9.2.1.15).

The section allowing the omission of sprinklers in vertical ducts under 10 sq. ft. was rewritten for clarity and the requirement that the pipe be waterfilled or noncombustible was removed.

Electrical Rooms (9.2.6).

Liquid-type Electrical Equipment with listed K-class fluid was added to the conditions that allow sprinklers to be omitted.

Electric Rooms Annex Note (A.9.2.6).

A new annex note was added that clarifies that sprinklers and sprinkler piping are allowed to be in and to pass through an electrical room as long as the piping is not within the dedicated electrical space as defined by NFPA 70. This annex note goes on to outline NFPA 70 requirements and includes a diagram to illustrate the dedicated electrical space where piping and sprinklers cannot be located. This was added to clear up the misconception that sprinklers and sprinkler piping are not permitted to be located in

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electrical rooms.

Skylights that Open (9.2.17.1).

A new requirement was added for sprinklers to be provided in skylights that allow venting. However, there is an exception for roof vents in storage occupancies. (Note that there is an incorrect reference in this section – Section 12.1.1 relates to the 2016 edition and should read section 20.6.6.2 to align with the relocated requirements in the 2019 edition.)

Exterior Projection Support Beam (A.9.3.19.1).

A new annex note, and figure were added to state that sprinkler protection under exterior projections is not required to extend beyond the support beam on the exterior edge of the projection as long as the distance from the inside edge of the beam to the exterior edge of the projection does not exceed 4 ft.

Radiant Heaters (9.4.2.5(a)).

Radiant heaters were added to table 9.4.2.5(a) Temperature Ratings of Sprinklers Based on Distance from Heat Sources. This addition will clarify the prescriptive minimum distances for locating ordinary temperature and intermediate temperature rated sprinklers adjacent to radiant heaters.

Fireplace Diagrams (A.9.4.2.5).

New Annex figures were added to clarify the requirements for locating ordinary temperature and intermediate temperature rated sprinklers adjacent to fireplaces.

Insulation Uplift Force (9.5.4.1.3.1).

A new requirement was added to state that when insulation is used to measure the sprinkler deflector distance, the insulation must be batt insulation or insulation that can withstand an uplift force of 3 lb/ft².

Sidewall Sprinkler - Permitted Locations (10.3.2).

The 2016 edition of NFPA 13 limited the use of sidewall sprinklers to: Light hazard occupancies with smooth horizontal or sloped flat ceilings, Ordinary hazard occupancies with smooth flat ceiling where list for such use and under overhead doors. The 2019 edition extends these locations to include: elevator shafts (top and bottom), to protect steel columns, and under obstructions that require sprinklers.

Sidewall Sprinkler Obstructions (10.3.6.1.2, 11.3.6.1.2 and 12.1.11.1.2.1).

The 2016 edition stated that sidewall sprinklers cannot be installed

closer than 4 ft from a light fixture or similar obstruction (8 ft for Extended Coverage and Residential Sidewall Sprinklers). A new allowance was added to the 2019 edition that states that if the obstruction is less than 2 ft (greatest dimension) then the sprinklers are permitted to be installed at a minimum dimension of three times the greatest dimension of the obstruction (four times for EC and residential sidewall sprinklers)

Residential Sprinkler Permitted Ceiling Configurations (12.1.1).

The five permitted ceiling configurations found in NFPA 13R and NFPA 13D have been added to the 2019 edition of NFPA 13 for residential sprinklers. These configurations are as follows:

1. Smooth Flat Ceilings with no beams and a maximum ceiling height of 24 ft.
2. Flat horizontal beamed ceiling where:
 - a. Maximum beam depth is 14 inches
 - b. Pendent sprinklers under beams
 - c. 600 sq ft maximum compartment size
 - d. Highest sprinkler above openings
3. Smooth Flat slope ceiling with no beams where:
 - a. Maximum slope of 8 in 12
 - b. Maximum ceiling height (highest portion) of 24 ft
 - c. Highest sprinkler above openings
4. Slope ceiling with beams where:
 - a. Maximum beam depth is 14 inches
 - b. Pendent sprinklers under beams
 - c. 600 sq ft maximum compartment size
 - d. Highest sprinkler above opening
 - e. Slope between 2 in 12 and 8 in 12
5. Slope ceiling with beams of any depth where:
 - a. Pendent or sidewall sprinkler in every beam pocket
 - b. 600 sq ft maximum compartment size
 - c. Maximum ceiling height (highest portion) of 24 ft
 - d. Slope between 2 in 12 and 8 in 12

Residential Sprinklers and Beams (12.1.8.1.1).

A new section was added that allows pendent and upright sprinklers to be installed under beamed and sloped, and beam ceilings where: Maximum beam depth is 14 in., Maximum ceiling height is 24 ft., Maximum ceiling slope is 8 in 12, and the maximum compartment size is 600 sq. ft.

Residential Pendent Sprinkler Location Under or Adjacent to Beams (12.1.8.1.2).

Guidance and figures were added to locate residential pendent sprinklers under or adjacent to beams. This guidance is limited

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to residential pendent, recessed pendent and flush-type pendent sprinklers. Beam depth is limited to 14 inches. For sprinklers installed directly under the beam, the deflector must be 1 to 2 inches below the beam or per manufacturers instructions. For sprinklers installed adjacent to the beam, the sprinkler is permitted to be up to 2 inches from the outside edge of the beam and the deflector must be 1 to 2 inches below the beam or per manufacturer's instructions.

Residential Concealed Sprinklers under beams (12.1.8.1.3).

Residential concealed sprinklers are permitted to be installed in beams no more than 4 inches in depth.

Shadow Areas for Residential Sprinklers (12.1.10.2.3).

The shadow area allowances from NFPA 13R and NFPA 13D were added to the 2019 edition of NFPA 13 for residential sprinklers only. This will permit a cumulative dry area of no more than 15 sq ft in the protection area of a residential sprinkler.

ESFR Sprinklers - Permitted Construction (14.2.4).

The 2016 edition of NFPA 13 limited the use of ESFR sprinklers to unobstructed and noncombustible obstructed construction. In the 2019 edition the noncombustible obstructed limitation was removed. ESFR sprinklers are permitted for use in both obstructed and unobstructed construction regardless of the combustibility of the materials used for construction.

Nonmetallic Pipe in Dwelling Unit Garages (16.3.9.6.2).

The 2016 edition of NFPA 13 allows the use of nonmetallic pipe listed for light hazard occupancies to be used in ordinary hazard rooms of an otherwise light hazard occupancy where the room does not exceed 400 sq. ft. This allowance remains in the 2019 edition and a new section was added that allows the use of nonmetallic pipe listed for light hazard occupancies to be installed in private garages within a dwelling unit where the garage does not exceed 1,000 sq ft and the pipe is protected by wall or ceiling sheathing as required by the applicable building code.

Acceptance Testing of Waterflow Devices (28.2.3.1.1).

The 2016 edition stated that waterflow devices shall be tested and sound an alarm within 5 minutes of waterflow. A new section was added that states that where a fire alarm system is monitoring the waterflow the alarm signal shall activate in accordance with the applicable fire alarm code.

As stated earlier in this article, due to the reorganization of NFPA 13 it may be difficult to compare the 2019 edition to earlier editions. To help with this transition, NFPA 13 includes a 2016-2019 Cross Reference Roadmap. This table shows the section numbers from the 2016 edition along with the corresponding section numbers in the 2019 edition.

The publication of the 2019 edition was the result of a lot of hard work and commitment of many stakeholders throughout a three-year process. NFSA played an important role in this entire process. NFSA Engineering staff are members on all five of the NFPA technical committees that are responsible for NFPA 13. In addition, NFSA members are very active on these committees. All members representing NFSA on the technical committees are overseen by the NFSA Engineering and Standards Committee who work diligently to ensure that NFPA 13 continues to be a relevant installation standard that is technically sound and continues to meet its purpose which is as stated in section 1.2.1 of NFPA 13:

“...to provide a reasonable degree of protection for life and property from fire through standardization of design, installation, and testing requirements for sprinkler systems, including private fire service mains, based on sound engineering principles, test data, and field experience.”

Although the use of the 2019 edition will provide a challenge for all of us, I hope that this article helps to lessen the effort involved with understanding installation related changes. •

#fastestwater
Fire Sprinklers Save Lives!



Don't Like How Some Sprinkler Saves are Reported? Do Something About It.

NFSA has been active on social media for about ten years now. In that time, we have made a daily effort to post news articles regarding sprinkler saves around the country. That task has gotten a lot easier through the years, as local fire departments and safety advocates have joined the mission to promote the life- and property-saving benefits of fire sprinkler systems. There isn't a day I don't get at least one sprinkler save in my Google Alerts. Being the prudent social media maven that I am, and realizing I carry great responsibility representing NFSA when posting, I always take the time to review each article before I share it.

Although the change I see in the positive portrayal of a sprinkler save is definitely on the upswing, there is much work to be done. Recently, I was thrilled to be alerted to a sprinkler save at a high school in Cincinnati, Ohio. When I clicked on the link, I was taken to a video of the news anchor reporting on location. "Great," I thought, "Videos always get the most shares!" Not this time! The report focused heavily on water damage. Not good. The coup de grace? The anchor stated that the use of fire extinguishers by school staff set off the fire sprinklers. Cringeworthy to say the least! Now, this wasn't some fledgling cub reporter just out of journalism school, this was the anchor of the news program! This news segment wins the prize for the most outrageously incorrect reporting of a fire sprinkler save that I've ever seen. I just couldn't let this one go.

Luckily, most of the time a news article is posted on the internet, the reporter's email information is listed at the bottom of the story. If not, the article is almost always attributed to a reporter, and it is easy to find their contact information through the news media they are affiliated with. So, when your blood boils, as mine surely did, take the time to respond to the offending article with a short, but to the point email. Writing not your forte? No problem. Just a few sentences explaining your position and why the reporting was incorrect and ending with an offer to discuss further will suffice. Remember to educate and not berate. As your mother always said, you'll catch more flies with honey than you will with vinegar.

Following is the email I sent to the news anchor. Feel free to use it as a kicking off point for your email the next time a report of a sprinkler save gets you hot under the collar! •

Dear _____,

I am writing regarding your news segment about a recent fire in _____ that was extinguished by the building's fire sprinkler system. As a representative of the National Fire Sprinkler Association, I was heartened to learn that the fire sprinkler system activated as it should, and no injuries to staff, students or firefighters occurred. That is why we do what we do.

In your report, you focused heavily on the resulting water damage. You did not mention that the school was still standing and able to open for classes two days later. You did not mention that all students and staff evacuated safely. You did not mention that no injuries to either the building's occupants or firefighters occurred.

We at the National Fire Sprinkler Association, and the Fire Sprinkler Industry as a whole, work diligently to assure that the public is aware of the life- and property-saving benefits of fire sprinklers. We encourage them to look for fire sprinklers where they live, work, play and go to school. Fire sprinklers are the best line of defense when it comes to fire and increase survivability by 80%. I shudder to think what might have occurred if the high school was not equipped with this lifesaving technology.

We are here to help. We encourage you to contact us to learn more about fire sprinklers. One of our staff will be more than happy to speak with you and to be interviewed for a follow-up story. Thank you for your consideration. I'm sure after speaking with us, you will agree that the focus of a news story regarding a "sprinkler save" should be on the positive, especially when considering what might have been had the fire sprinkler system not been in place.

Respectfully,
Joanne Genadio

CHAPTERS in ACTION

Los Angeles Area NFSA Chapter Honors Area Director Jack Thacker

The Los Angeles Area NFSA Chapter held a very special, secret and surprise dinner meeting on October 11th honoring Area Director **Jack Thacker** for his 12-years of service as the West Region's Area Director. The event, organized by the Chapter's Board of Directors, Don Becka of Qualco Fire Protection, President, Stuart Cook of Potter Roemer, Treasurer, Bruce Lecair, Secretary, and Robert Rowe, Southern California Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board and hosted by Sharon Thacker at the Thacker's home, was a tremendous occasion. By the way, it was also a huge surprise for Jack who had no idea of what the Chapter was up to!

Also attending were Vice President of Engineering Mark Hopkins who presented Jack Thacker with a shirt from the NFSA E & S Committee, San Francisco Bay Area outgoing President Peter Hulin and newly elected President Dave Scherson, both of Superior Fire Protection in Fremont, California. Jack was also presented with a plaque from the Chapter and the NFSA, honoring his service and dedication as an Area Director. The evening was a lot of fun as some great stories and tributes were shared by many of those in attendance.

Jack started his tenure as Area Director in 2006 and has been an honored member of NFSA, having received both the Russell P. Fleming Technical Service Award and the Golden Sprinkler Award while serving as a board member and chair of the Engineering and Systems committee as well as other committees throughout the NFSA. In California, Jack has served on the California OSFM Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Committee, NFPA 25 Work Group, the AES Fitter Certification Committee and the Water Discharge for Water-based Fire Protection Systems Advisory Committee.

Thanks for all you have done for us Jack!



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FFSA at Patrick Air Force Base

On October 23, 2018 the **Florida Fire Sprinkler Association**, a chapter of NFSA, had the privilege to sponsor and serve the families of our deployed servicemen and women at Patrick Air Force Base. This event was a great way for us to give back to those families who sacrifice so much.



The event included both families of those overseas serving our country and families from Tyndall Air Force Base that had recently lost everything when a hurricane hit that area. Nearly 150 people were served that night with an Italian feast. After dinner the kids were allowed to climb on the fire trucks, paint pumpkins, have their face painted and eat ice cream from an ice cream truck. It was so rewarding to give back to these families that the FFSA Board of Directors has decided to sponsor and serve for years to come.

Southwest Chapter News

The **Arizona State Chapter** met at the Phoenix Fire Department Headquarters on September 11th for a meeting where members

enjoyed a lunch sponsored by Mark Solomon from Ferguson Fire and Fabrication and received a report from Suzanne Grandahl, Water Quality Director at the Water Department at the City of Scottsdale on the new code changes for backflow requirements for their city. Chapter President Fred Graves then gave a presentation on *“Calculating and Reviewing Calculations of Standpipe Systems.”* Those in attendance also received reports on NFSA news and events from Regional Manager Bruce Lecair.



The **Arizona State Chapter** met on November 13th at the Phoenix Fire Department Headquarters from for a lunch meeting where members discussed regional fire sprinkler issues and topics affecting the Valley of the Sun and the State of Arizona. This was the final meeting of the year, with the next Chapter scheduled on January 8th.

The **San Francisco Bay Area Chapter** met on September 27th for a special meeting at Saki’s Spin A Yarn Restaurant in Fremont, California. Members were invited to attend and vote for their new Chapter Board of Directors. The new board members are, Chapter President, David Scherson, Superior Automatic Sprinkler Company, Chapter Vice President, Brandan Day, Walschon Fire Protection Inc., Chapter Treasurer, Nigel Cowan, Westates Mechanical Corporation, and Chapter Secretary, Jon Zang, Battalion One Fire Protection. Members in attendance discussed a wide range of topics and exchanged information as well as receiving NFSA and statewide updates on the Office of the State Fire Marshal, fire prevention officers and national events affecting the fire sprinkler industry by Regional Manager Bruce Lecair.

The **Los Angeles Area NFSA Chapter** held a very special, secret and surprise dinner meeting on October 11th honoring Area Director Jack Thacker for his 12-years of service as the West Region’s Area Director.

The San Francisco Bay Area and the Los Angeles Area Chapters have concluded their 2018 schedule with meeting to resume in Fremont on January 24th and in Downey on February 21st.

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NFSA Illinois Chapter Meeting

A recognition plaque presented to Brian Conway from Great Lakes for his service and many roles on behalf of the Illinois Chapter. Following is wording from the plaque:

We hereby express our thanks and appreciation to Brian Conway for his contributions and dedication representing the fire sprinkler industry in the many roles he has served. Brian has been an active and contributing committee member in the following: NFPA 14 Committee, NFSA Labor Negotiating Committee, Joint Apprentice & Training Committee, Chicago Fire Prevention Contractor Liaison Committee, and the NFSA Engineering & Standards Committee. Brian is an Illinois Institute of Technology Fire Protection Engineering graduate who has been involved in our industry for over 35 years.

Brian has devoted a tremendous amount of time and effort on behalf of the fire sprinkler industry. His calm and professional demeanor have greatly contributed to the committees he has represented, most notably, the NFSA Labor and Negotiating Committee. Aside from being one of the brightest fire protection engineers and managers in the Chicagoland area, if not the country, he has been entirely selfless with his time and energy to promote the sprinkler industry. We have been incredibly fortunate to have him and continue to benefit with his involvement in the National Fire Sprinkler Association! •

*NFSA President
Shane Ray as
our featured
speaker.*



*IP & Chapter
officials pictured
left to right:*

- Travis Glime,*
- Chad Huennekens,*
- Bill Ball,*
- Jamie Reap,*
- Brian Conway,*
- Gregg Huennekens,*
- Don Smith,*
- Ed Kadlec,*
- Matt Treutelaar*





"It was great to visit our Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board team at their office in Orland Park, IL. We had a great IP Committee meeting and Illinois Chapter of NFSA. A special thanks to our team for promoting fire sprinklers every day and for supporting our efforts at a local, state, and national level," –President Shane Ray.

NFSM Wins MarCom Gold Award for Excellence for Fifth Consecutive Year

National Fire Sprinkler Magazine has once again been awarded the MarCom Gold Award for Excellence for the fifth consecutive year. We would like to take the opportunity to thank our editor, Joanne Genadio, our designer, John Sullivan, our printer, Mike Lotrecchiano and all contributors and advertisers. The member support for this publication has been outstanding. The issue submitted for consideration was our September/October Member Takeover issue. With contributions from so many members, it was a sure thing! Thanks to all.

MarCom Awards is an international creative competition that recognizes outstanding achievement by marketing and communication professionals. Entries come from corporate marketing and communication departments, advertising agencies, PR firms, design shops, production companies and freelancers.

MarCom Awards is administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals. The international organization consists of several thousand creative professionals. The Association oversees awards and recognition programs, provides judges and sets standards for excellence.

Judges are industry professionals who look for companies and individuals whose talents exceed a high standard of excellence and whose work serves as a benchmark for the industry. There were over 6,500 entries from 20 countries in the MarCom Awards 2018 competition.

The Gold Award is presented to those entries judged to exceed the high standards of the industry norm.



International Association of Fire Chiefs Volunteer Combination Officers Section Symposium

718 fire service leaders have gathered in Clearwater, Florida for their 21st annual conference. NFSA's Vickie Pritchett is serving as master of ceremonies for the four-day conference that concludes Sunday with a keynote address from NFSA President Shane Ray. Vickie will host an elected officials roundtable on Saturday that will spotlight the fire sprinkler incentives included in tax reform.



"This conference provides us so many opportunities to connect with fire chiefs, fire marshals, and company officers. We are spreading the #fastestwater story in a way that helps our allies better understand the latest on fire sprinklers. They leave here motivated to include them in their communities." –Vickie Pritchett

High-Rise Fire & Life Safety Summit in Philadelphia

The High-Rise Fire & Life Safety Summit took place on October 31st through November 2nd, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Summit serves to bring together members of the fire service to discuss high-rise fire and life safety of the past and where we need to be in the future. We are grateful to Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute for joining us as a partner, and our non-profit sponsors, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and Common Voices.

Thank you also to the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and IAFC President Chief Dan Eggleston, who helped us officially kick off the event with specific examples of how IAFC supports fire sprinklers and their inclusion in new construction and high-rise retrofit.

A highlight of the day was a Chief-to-Chief Panel that featured Fire Chiefs from San Antonio, Honolulu and Pittsburgh. These Chiefs made the issue real and shared insight into how tragic fires

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were driving their passion to accomplish high-rise retrofit.

Another panel spotlighted a case study in Philadelphia that included David Oliver, NFSA Board Member, along with the building owner and general contractor. The success of the Saligman House retrofit proves that it can be done and be a win-win situation for all stakeholders.

NFSA Presence at ICC Expo

Team NFSA had a booth at the ICC Building & Design Expo in Richmond, Virginia in October. The prize wheel, as always, was a hit and we had many code officials and voting members stopping by to spin the wheel that then stayed at the booth to discuss our voting stances, training, etc. Hot topics at the show were state adoption of IRC and High-Rise Retrofit. Notably, this is the first year not one naysayer came to the booth to argue, quite a change from previous years!



To gauge the activity at the booth, we had 500 lapel pins made for the event, we gave away 400. Pretty good traffic! We had an excellent booth space right next to the ICC stage and on a corner that afforded a steady flow of traffic. The giveaways were all well received. Hopefully, the #fastestwater bumper stickers will be gracing many fire trucks and vehicles across the country!

NFSA Field Ops and the Fire Service-Partners in Life-Safety

It's great to see the efforts of our Field Operations Team being very active and supportive of our fire service partners. These efforts are promoting the life- and property-saving benefits of fire sprinklers to the public and to our firefighters. These efforts are also heightening awareness to elected officials who will face the decision about fire sprinklers in their next adoption of the latest code. These pictures are provided by Lorrell Bush, Regional Manager in Florida and Puerto Rico and Marty King, State Coordinator in Wisconsin.



Lorrell is very active with the Florida Fire Marshals and Fire Inspectors Association, which are a major part of the Fire Sprinkler Coalition in partnership with the Florida Fire Chiefs Association. A special thanks to Assistant Fire Marshal Tommy Demopoulos for sharing the picture from their initiative.



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Marty has been working with area fire departments and the Wisconsin Chapter. The Local IP Committee purchased a side-by-side trailer for local fire departments to use. As a result of Marty's efforts, the fire departments are utilizing the water drop logo of *Fire Sprinklers Buy Time... Time Buys Life*.

A special thank you to all our members who provide the resources for us to partner with our state and local stakeholders. With these resources and a great team, we are making a lot of progress. These efforts are greatly increasing awareness and helping drive the discussion in the code adoption hearings.

Two NFSA Alumni Received Prestigious Awards at the 2018 SFPE Annual Conference & Expo

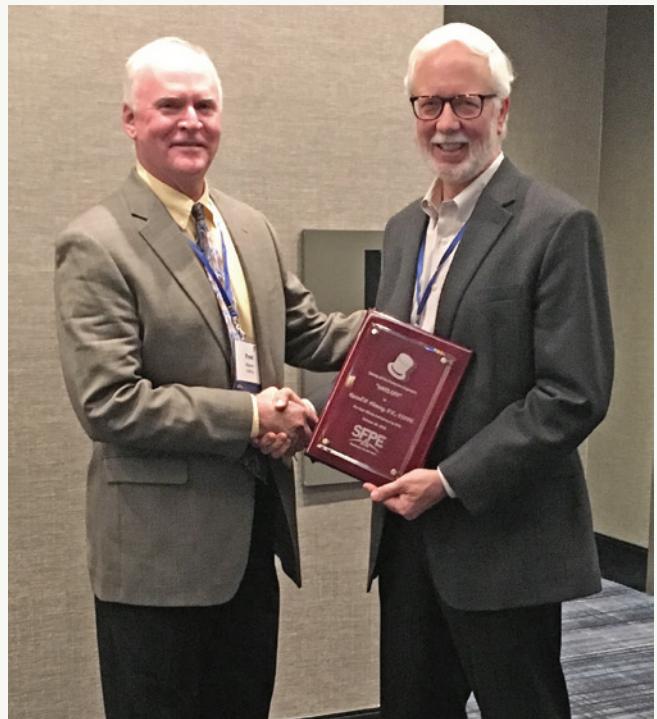
Kenneth E. Isman, P.E., FSFPE was awarded the Harold E. Nelson Service Award for his dedication to fire protection engineering. The SFPE Board of Directors created the Harold E. Nelson Award to recognize dedicated and inspired service to the ideals and goals of the SFPE. This award acknowledges all of Ken's contributions to the fire protection community, including his career at the NFSA, his involvement in numerous NFPA technical committees, his involvement with SFPE, his many contributions as an author and speaker, as well as Ken's current position as Clinical Professor at the University of Maryland.



J.C. Harrington presenting the Harold E. Nelson Award to Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.

Russel P. Fleming, P.E., FSFPE was awarded the Hats Off Award for his continued contributions to the SFPE.

The Hats Off Award is given to SFPE members who have contributed exemplary service to the SFPE. Through his efforts in updating of Harold S. Wass, Jr.'s book titled, *Sprinkler Hydraulics and What It's All About*, Russ' peers at the SFPE considered him worthy of this award. Russ edited the third edition of this book, which is now available through the SFPE.



Frederick W. Mowrer, P.E. presenting the Hats Off Award to Russel P. Fleming, P.E.



Mark your calendars now!



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Chad Williams Mike Snider

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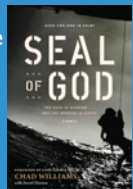
Keynote Speaker Chad Williams, Special Appearance and Music City Welcome by Grand Ole Opry Star Mike Snider

Experience Broadway like never before!

Registration is underway: nfsa.org/annual-seminar/

We look forward to seeing you there!

Former U.S. Navy SEAL **Chad Williams** draws from his experience in the SEAL Teams to communicate an instructive perspective on teamwork, resilience, leadership and self-motivation. He is a bestselling author of SEAL of God.



When **Mike Snider** and his old-time string band take the stage of the Grand Ole Opry, they bring a combination of musical excellence and rural comedy that always leaves a delighted audience cheering. Mike's blend of irreverent humor and utter reverence for the old-time music tradition makes him a perennial favorite of Opry audiences.



@NFSAorg - engage in our #fastestwater conversation!



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NFSA
NATIONAL FIRE SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION
The Voice of the Fire Sprinkler Industry

514 Progress Drive, Suite A
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090
(443) 863-4464 • nfsa.org

Fire is fast. Fire sprinklers are faster.

Engineered Corrosion Solutions, LLC Officially Launches New Ecommerce Store

ECS has revolutionized fire sprinkler system corrosion management with the development of industry-leading dry and wet pipe corrosion control products. Fire sprinkler contractors now have a direct channel to purchase ECS products through the new ecommerce store.

The web offering <https://shop.ecscorrosion.com> was developed to enhance the direct buying experience that ECS offers to fire sprinkler contractors. The new capability provides pricing to contractors ready to purchase corrosion control solutions for their projects.

The initial phase roll-out includes the ECS Ejector Automatic Air Vent (PAV-W) and the ECS Protector Nitrogen Inerting Vent (PAW-WN) part of the industry preferred ECS wet pipe fire sprinkler system product family. The ecommerce store will grow and eventually include all ECS nitrogen-based corrosion control and monitoring solutions.

When a fire sprinkler contractor navigates to <https://shop.ecscorrosion.com> a simple sign-up process is completed to create an account. Once the account is created and verified, contractors will receive access to Engineered Corrosion Solutions automatic air vents, gas composition monitoring, and nitrogen generator filter kits. Volume discounts will be available for select products. All major credit cards will be accepted and multiple shipping options will be available.

To learn more please visit <https://www.ecscorrosion.com> or call 314.432.1377.

Viking Unveils “Next Generation” XT1 Sprinkler Platform

The Viking Corporation has introduced a new sprinkler platform – The XT1. With XT1, Viking engineers have re-thought and re-invented the fire sprinkler from the ground up. This new platform represents a true advancement of fire sprinkler technology, and integrates several key features providing for easier installation and an overall “best-in-class” level of fire protection.

XT1 sprinklers feature a smaller, more compact design for easier installation in tight spaces and a more aesthetically pleasing installed appearance. The XT1 sprinklers are also designed to provide enhanced protection against corrosion. All XT1 sprinklers incorporate a stainless steel deflector and an integrated spring and seal assembly that is Teflon® sealed and fully encapsulated to protect the Bellville spring against corrosion. The XT1 spring and seal assembly includes an innovative hinge feature to help prevent the sprinkler components from lodging in the deflector upon activa-



tion. Finally, XT1 deflectors are laser etched and easy to read for fast model identification.

In conjunction with the XT1 launch, Viking has developed a new ergonomic-grip sprinkler wrench. A rubber coated grip and 6-sided contact with the sprinkler boss limits slipping and eliminates the need for socket-type wrenches. The new XT1 wrench is designed for exposed and recessed pendent and upright XT1 sprinkler styles. Viking has also developed a new, significantly smaller guard for XT1 sprinklers, to protect the sprinkler when installed in areas where there is risk of external damage.

Moving forward, XT1 will serve as Viking’s design-basis for most of its commercial sprinkler models. The first XT1 sprinkler models introduced include Viking’s Quick Response and Standard Response, 5.6 (81) and 8.0 (115) K-factor upright and pendent commercial sprinklers. In total, 12 new XT1 sprinklers are now available.

Please visit <http://www.vikinggroupinc.com/XT1> for additional information on Viking’s “next generation” XT1 sprinkler platform.

Johnson Controls Announces New Tyco® Series TY-B and TY-FRB Poly-Stainless Sprinklers

Johnson Controls announces its new Tyco® Series TY-B and TY-FRB Poly-Stainless Sprinklers intended for commercial applications where corrosive conditions may exist. The TY-B has a 5 mm diameter heat-sensitive glass bulb rated standard response, while the TY-FRB has a 3 mm diameter heated-sensitive glass bulb rated quick response.

The corrosion-resistant Poly-Stainless Sprinklers are standard coverage sprinklers and available in in both upright and pendent orientations in either 5.6 or 8.0 K-factor.

All Poly-Stainless Sprinkler models have passed the standard corrosion tests of the applicable approval agencies; however, the effects of ambient temperature, concentration of chemicals and gas/chemical velocity should be considered, at a minimum, along with the corrosive nature of the chemical(s) to which the sprinklers will be exposed.

For more information, visit <http://www.tyco-fire.com>. For questions or support, contact technical services at 1-800-381-9312.





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

MICHAEL YOUNG
Regional Manager

CONNECTICUT, MAINE, MASSACHUSETTS,
NEW HAMPSHIRE, RHODE ISLAND, VERMONT

Second Annual Golf Tournament Raises \$20,000.00 for Shriner's Hospital

The Second Annual NFSA Boston Chapter Charity Golf Tournament was held on October 11, 2018 at Plymouth Country Club, Plymouth, Massachusetts, to benefit Shriner's Hospital for Children in Boston.

Boston Chapter Officers presented a check for \$20,000 to the Board of Governors at the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Shriners Hospital held at the Wyndham Boston Beacon Hill Hotel on November 5th.

A Boston Chapter Meeting was held on November 14th, 2018, at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel and Conference Center in Norwood. Guest speakers were Vincent Quintero, Training Officer with the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal's Office and Gina Russo, Burn Survivor and Author of "From the Ashes, Surviving the Station Nightclub Fire", which documents her experiences on the evening of the fire and aftermath as well as through her treatment and recovery.

The Station nightclub fire occurred on Thursday, February 20, 2003, in West Warwick, Rhode Island, killing 100 people and injuring 230. The fire was caused by pyrotechnics set off by the tour manager of the evening's headlining band Great White, which ignited plastic foam used as sound insulation in the walls and ceilings surrounding the stage. The structure was not equipped with fire sprinkler protection.

Rhode Island Legislation

Rhode Island passed legislation giving developers of sub-divisions the option to install residential fire sprinklers in lieu of the requirement to install cisterns for fire protection in new developments.

Rhode Island is adopting the 2015 ICC Codes with amendments that omit fire sprinkler requirements in 1 & 2 family dwellings.

Regional Notes:

- Fire Sprinkler Coalition Meetings in each State are being organized with efforts toward expanding participation and outreach to stakeholders.
- Legislative planning meetings with industry, fire service, code enforcement and standards development officials are scheduled in anticipation of the January State Legislative Sessions.

Michael Young
NFSA's Regional Manager / New England
email: young@nfsa.org
phone: 443.743.3870



New York Region

DOMINICK KASMAUSKAS
Regional Manager

NEW YORK

NY State Code Council Moving Forward with 2018 I-Codes

The 2018 I-Codes and NY State 2018 Supplement book are continuing forward for New York State. It is hoped that formal adoption by the Codes Council will pass in early 2019 for adoption/enactment by Oct 2019.

New Local Law: Westchester County Businesses Will Pay for Sick Days

Source: Lower Hudson News

Most people who work in Westchester County will be guaranteed 40 hours of paid sick time a year under a new law the Board of County Legislators passed. It requires companies with five or more employees to provide at least an hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked.

Dominick Kasmauskas CFPS
NFSA's Regional Manager / New York & Pennsylvania
email: kasmauskas@nfsa.org
1971 Western Av. #223, Albany, NY 12203
Phone: 518.937.6589

Mid-Atlantic Region

DELAWARE, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA,

2018 Burn Demos

The New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board and the NFSA PenJerDel Chapter are proud to report on another successful burn trailer and side-by-side season. This season saw both chapters covering more area, as far north as Sussex County, New Jersey, as far south as Wilmington, Delaware, and as far west as Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

In total, both chapters attended 68 events and conducted 200 burns, a 45% increase from last year. The Chapters were able to educate over 8,000 people in the states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware on the benefits of home fire sprinklers. NJFSAB and the PenJerDel Chapter also provided nine grants for side-by-side burns to fire departments and brought their own side-by-side burn trailer out to eight events.

Both the New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board and the

NFSA PenJerDel Chapter would like to thank the numerous fire departments, schools, and communities throughout the tri-state area that hosted them. The support from these departments and communities is invaluable.

With the 2018 burn season coming to a close, members of both Chapters are beginning to brainstorm and plan new and innovative ways in which they can reach out to the public and professionals.

Sprinkler Save at Commercial Building in Chattanooga, Tennessee

Chattanooga firefighters responded to a reported commercial fire shortly after midnight on November 15th at Woodbridge Foam Fabricating.

Battalion Chief David Thompson Jr. said that when firefighters arrived on the scene and confirmed they had a fire at the rear of the building, a second alarm was requested to bring in additional firefighters and equipment.

Chief Thompson said the fire was located in a stack of foam blocks. The building's sprinkler system activated and helped to contain the spread of the flames. The fire was declared under control in about 45 minutes. No injuries were reported.

Chief Thompson reported that the commercial business was spared any serious fire damage.

Brian Biggs
 NFSA'S Regional Manager / Southeast
 email: biggs@nfsa.org
 Phone: 615.642.9717



Maryland Region

TERIN HOPKINS
 Field Service Coordinator

MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, WASHINGTON D.C.

Two Adjoining Aberdeen Townhouses Set on Fire

Fires were set in basements of two townhomes in the Holly Woods development in Aberdeen, Maryland.

Firefighters from the Abingdon Volunteer Fire Company and surrounding companies were dispatched at 12:16 p.m. for a dwelling fire after a passerby observed smoke.

When they arrived, firefighters encountered a fire that had been contained to the basement because the fire sprinklers activated, according to the release.

While investigating the fire, firefighters noticed that one or more people had also forced their way into the townhome next door, where they found multiple points of origin of a fire within the home.

Investigators determined the fire within the second townhome was intentionally set and was contained to the basement after fire sprinklers activated.

The fires in the first townhome had self-extinguished and did not produce the required heat to activate the fire sprinkler system. No injuries were reported.

Terin Hopkins
 NFSA'S Regional Manager / Maryland
 email: thopkins@nfsa.org
 (cell) 443.745.4142 (office) 443.7433858



Florida & Puerto Rico

LORRELL BUSH
 Regional Manager

FLORIDA, PUERTO RICO

FFSA Board of Directors Meeting

The Florida Fire Sprinkler Association Board of Directors (BOD) joined together for dinner on Sunday, October 7, 2018 and then held their quarterly board meeting in Panama City Beach, Florida on October 8, 2018. CFO Jimmy Patronis stopped in to say hi to our group on Sunday night during dinner. He greeted each of our tables and was gracious enough to allow us a group picture.

Director Julius Halas kicked off the meeting on Monday morning by presenting the FFSA with a framed print of the Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Tallahassee for the Association's support of the memorial. It was a beautiful tribute which will proudly be on display at NFSA National Office in Baltimore, Maryland.



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Southeast Region

BRIAN BIGGS
 Regional Manager

ALABAMA, GEORGIA, MISSISSIPPI,
 NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE

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The BOD discussed many issues that will affect our industry over the next year with a focus on High Rise Retrofit. The board focused on the safety and well-being of the high-rise owners and how we help associations comply with the quickly approaching deadline of December 31, 2019.

Members of Meenan Law Firm, the new lobby firm hired by FFSA to represent the best interest of the sprinkler industry, was at the board meeting and presented a short presentation on where we need to focus our attention in this political climate. They are already working hard to promote our industry and life-safety through the fire sprinkler concept.

Due to Hurricane Michael quickly approaching, the meeting was forced to be cut short as the town was evacuated.



L to R - FFSA Executive Committee - Greg Toledo, Lorrell Bush, Director Julius Halas, Buddy Dewar, Joey Hatfield, Clark Gey and Brad Kinsell



Director Julius Halas and President Joey Hatfield



FFSA Board of Directors and CFO Jimmy Patronis

Lorrell Bush
NFSA's Regional Manager / Florida & Puerto Rico
email: bush@nfsa.org
2025 Droylsden Lane, Eustis, FL 32726
Phone: 352.589.8402
Cell: 954.275.8487, Fax: 561.327.6366

Great Lakes Region



RON RITCHEY
Field Service Coordinator

INDIANA, MICHIGAN, OHIO, WEST VIRGINIA,
KENTUCKY

NFSA Indiana Chapter Inaugural Golf Outing

On October 4, 2018, the newly formed NFSA Indiana Chapter held their inaugural golf outing and dinner at the Country Club of Indianapolis golf course as a kick-off event and celebration of the new chapter formation. The event was well attended by representatives from many of our valued members and stakeholders throughout the Great Lakes Region and provided us an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and enjoy great comradery. We wish to thank all who participated and contributed to make this event a great success!

Ron Ritchey
Regional Manager, Great Lakes Region
3311 Dover Court, Lafayette, IN 47909
Phone: 765.412.6707
email: ritchey@nfsa.org

Illinois Region



BOB TINUCCI
State Coordinator

ILLINOIS

Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board Reports Phenomenal Fire Safety Week

Total outreach for the year included 59 live side-by-side burn demos, which is a new record, plus 41 trailer demos for a new total number of 100 different demos and communities!

During Fire Prevention Week, The Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board assisted local fire departments in conducting

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live burn demonstrations to educate the public about how quickly fires can become deadly, as well as the important life- and property-saving benefits of fire sprinklers.

Audiences were able to feel the extreme heat and view the quick growth of fire in the unprotected room and compare it with the quick response and cooling action of the fire sprinkler in the other room.

Fire departments also talked to attendees about pre-fire planning, smoke alarms, and escape plans.

Great job Chiefs, Fire Marshals and Inspectors!

Recognition Plaque to Chris Hull Presented at the Illinois Fire Inspectors' Association Seminar

A recognition plaque was presented to Fire Marshal Chris Hull of the Downers Grove, Illinois Fire Department for furthering the goals of fire safety through the adoption and enforcement of NFPA 25/Standard for the Inspection, Testing & Maintenance of Water-based Fire Protection Systems. In addition, for the enforcing of the 5-years internal inspection as required by the standard.



Pictured left to right: Fire Marshal Dan Riordan / President IFIA, Fire Marshal James Brown / Treasurer IFIA, Fire Marshal Chris Hull, NFSA IL. State Coordinator Bob Tinucci.

FROM CHIEF HULL:

Thank you, Chief for this fantastic award. It is an honor for our Department to be recognize by the NFSA for what we do in our community. Thank you for taking the time to present u with this recognition, it really means a lot to us. We appreciate what the NFSA does for the fire sprinkler industry and for fire safe

Chris Hull
Division Chief
Fire Prevention Division
Downers Grove Fire Department

Bob Tinucci
 NFSA's Regional Manager / Illinois
 email: tinucci@nfsa.org
 6401 Richmond Avenue, Willowbrook, IL 60527
 phone/fax: 630.655.1875 / cell: 630.514.1601

Wisconsin Region



MARTY KING
 State Coordinator

WISCONSIN

Fire Sprinkler Save - Janesville, Wisconsin

According to a news release, the Janesville Fire Department responded to the Texas Roadhouse in the 3200 block of Deerfield Drive for a report of a commercial fire. Responding units said they found an active fire and smoke visible in the front of the building when they arrived at the scene. According to fire officials, the first engine to arrive was able to confine the fire to the exterior of the building's front. A sprinkler was able to contain the fire inside the building until firefighters were able to extinguish it. Crews were on scene for about two hours. No injuries were reported in the incident.

Mobile Side-by-Side Trailer a Hit in Green Bay Area

The Green Bay area fire departments have been busy with many side-by-side burn demonstrations this fall. The DePere Fire and Rescue Department has coordinated and maintained the trailer for use in this area. They were able to get the trailer and demonstrations during the five-day Brown County Fair in August, delivering six demos aided by five neighboring departments. From this event, the trailer was provided to three fire departments in September and two in October at their Open Houses. The trailer is being tucked away for the winter, but there are already requests for next year from these events, as well as some from insurance companies in the region. We appreciate these fire departments in assisting with getting the word out on #fastestwater.

Marty King
 NFSA's State Coordinator
 email: king@nfsa.org
 3317 South 113th Street, West Allis, WI 53227
 Phone: 414.531.9542

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Minnesota Region

TOM BRACE
State Coordinator

MINNESOTA

Of interest to NFSA's Minnesota members:

- Participated in Membership meeting which included Jeff Hugo, MN State Fire Marshal and his chief code official, National Board Member assigned to our Region and a good turnout of members.
- Attended Fire Museum Board which included discussion of recent maintenance of the Sprinkler System that I advocated for the facility soon after purchase of building.
- Made final arrangements for inside storage of side by-side trailer. Trailer will be stored at the State Fair in a pre-determined location for the winter.
- Participated in a Code Development Conference Call and reported on the various changes in the political landscape. New Governor and a Democratic House with a Senate held by the Republicans by one vote. Pressure on anti-rule making and anti-sprinkler legislation will be reduced if past indicators continue.
- Discussed with a number of knowledgeable people about the election shifts in Minnesota and what they may mean for our industry and the fire service in the near future.

Tom Brace
NFSA's Regional Manager / Minnesota
email: brace@nfsa.org
1433 Idaho Ave West, St. Paul, MN 55108,
Phone: 651.644.7800



Missouri Region

LOU HECHT
Area Coordinator

MISSOURI

Fire Sprinkler System Controls Suspicious Fire in Raytown, Missouri

The Raytown Fire Department responded to a fire at Dirty Don's Bargain Center in Raytown.

Raytown firefighters, along with crews responding from the Kansas City, Missouri, Fire Department, discovered smoke inside

two storage buildings connected by a breezeway behind the main retail building.

There are four buildings on the property, which had been inspected Friday by the city's health and fire departments.

"We found numerous violations, but we hadn't even had time to write them all up yet," Raytown Fire Protection District Dep. Chief and Fire Marshal Mike Hunley said.

Hunley said there were high stacks of pallets precariously perched in an unsprinklered storage building that created a substantial risk of falling over, potentially trapping or injuring a firefighter.

After a brief mayday call from three firefighters running low on oxygen, all personnel were ordered out of the building, and the blaze was battled from the exterior after several doors were removed.

After firefighters were on scene for a few minutes, smoke was detected in the main retail building. That fire was controlled by the sprinkler system, but it also raised suspicion as it does anytime there are multiple fires in multiple buildings on the same property.

The Missouri State Fire Marshal and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives have been contacted to investigate the more than 90,000 square feet of space in the affected buildings.

No injuries were reported.

Lou Hecht
NFSA's Area Manager / Missouri
email: hecht@nfsa.org
Phone: 443.312.2207

Central Region

IOWA, KANSAS

Sprinkler Save in Clear Lake, Iowa

Now, THIS is how to report a sprinkler save! Thanks to KIMT3-News out of Iowa for this great story:

A stove top grease fire at a condominium complex was put out before firefighters could arrive.

The Clear Lake Fire Department was called to The Harborage Pilot House on North Shore Drive around 8:44 pm. Three engine companies, 18 firefighters, and one ambulance responded, with another engine company and five firefighters from Ventura being sent for mutual aid.

When they arrived at the scene, fire department officials determined a pot of grease on a stove had ignited. The heat activated the sprinkler system and extinguished the flames.

An estimated \$5,000 in water, smoke, and heat damage was done to one condo, with some water damaged to that floor and the floors below. All residents were able to evacuate and no one was injured.

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South Central Region

CYNTHIA GIEDRAITIS
Regional Manager

ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS

TEXAS FIRE SPRINKLER COALITION - 2018 LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Chief Chris Connealy

Chief Chris Connealy served the Citizens of Texas and all of us in Fire Protection as State Fire Marshal from 2012 to 2018. During his leadership; Chief Connealy conquered many challenges including the Todd Willingham Arson Case and the West Texas Ammonium Nitrate Explosion. Chris was the powerful voice for firefighter safety and took to the road, visiting each of the 68 Texas counties who have fertilizer plants.



Next, Chief Connealy and his team began Discussion Meetings throughout Texas to educate fire protection partners including the Alarm and Sprinkler Industry. Chief Connealy has been a large advocate of Fire Sprinklers in homes and all occupancies.

Assistant Fire Chief Roland Garcia (Co-chair of the Texas Fire Sprinkler Coalition) and NFPA Regional Manager Bob Sullivan presented the 2018 Fire Sprinkler Leadership Award to Chief Connealy on October 18 at the Texas Fire Marshals Association Annual Conference and Award Luncheon.

Harris County Fire Marshal's Office

From October 2017 – September 2018; The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office has published 14 Fire Sprinkler Saves! Rachel Moreno; under the supervision of Chief Laurie Christensen, Harris County Fire Marshal has produced excellent press releases with each sprinkler save that were published by Houston/Harris County local media.



Harris County Fire Marshal Laurie Christensen and Public Information Officer Rachel Moreno accepted the Texas Fire Sprinkler Coalition - Fire Sprinkler Saves award presented by Assistant Chief Roland Garcia (Co-Chair of the TX Fire Sprinkler Coalition) and NFPA Regional Manager Bob Sullivan on October 18, 2018 at the Texas Fire Marshals Association Annual Conference and Award Luncheon.

Cindy Giedraitis
NFSA's Regional Manager / South Central
email: giedraitis@nfsa.org
PO Box 10403, College Station, Texas 77842.
Phone: 979.324.8934



Great Plains Region

ROBERT GEISLINGER
Field Service Coordinator

COLORADO, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA,
SOUTH DAKOTA, UTAH, WYOMING

Side-by-Side Demonstration at Colorado State Capitol

NFSA was privileged to hold a Side-by-Side Sprinkler Demonstration at the Colorado State Capitol as part of a larger Fire Prevention Week activity by the Division of Fire Prevention and Control. This was a high-profile event that drew quite a media presence. Participants were excited at the possibility that it would turn into an annual event.



Side-by-Side Burn Trailer

As the nights get shorter and the days get colder, requests for the NFSA burn trailer fall off. This doesn't have to be. While we need to be aware of freezing concerns, the trailer is still available during winter months for presentations. One particular arena, often overlooked, is the use before legislators, regulators, city councils, or county commissions that may be considering sprinkler legislation,

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regulation, or code adoptions.

It is never too early to request the trailer for an event. Unfortunately, in 2018, we had to disappoint some event organizers when the trailer had already been booked. If you are interested, please contact your regional manager as soon as possible.

Mountain Marshals Association—Affiliate of Fire Marshals Association of Colorado

The Mountain Marshals held an event on Friday, December 14th at the Glenwood Springs Library. The event provided 4.0 CEUs applicable to certifications and registrations held under the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control.

It is hoped that this will be the first of regular semi-annual meetings, as offered in previous years, to provide training to fire inspectors and sprinkler fitters located away from the front range. If you are interested in hearing more about these, please contact your regional field services coordinator.

Rob Geislinger
Field Service Coordinator / Great Plains Region
Office: 845.878.4200
Direct: 443.312.2206
Cell: 720.457.9292



Southwest Region

BRUCE LECAIR
Regional Manager

CALIFORNIA, HAWAII, NEW MEXICO,
NEVADA, ARIZONA

Office of the California State Fire Marshal Establishes New AES Advisory Committee

Letters of Appointment were delivered to the new members of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Office of the State Fire Marshal Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Committee from State Fire Marshal Dennis Mathisen.

This committee chaired by Jeff Schwartz, Automatic Extinguishing Systems Program Coordinator, Fire engineering and Investigations Division, will serve the people of the State of California and the CAL FIRE OSFM to address issues related to fire extinguishing systems throughout the state. NFSA members serving on the committee are Area Director Jack Thacker, Regional Manager Bruce Lecair and Jason Hudgins of Walschon Fire Protection. The first meeting was held on December 12th at the Office of the State Fire Marshal in Sacramento.

New 2019 Rulemaking Package is in Play! New standards are expected to be in Regulation on January 1st

As previously announced, the California Office of the State Fire Marshal posted in July to advise that the SFM 2019 Title 24 rulemaking package had been posted to the Building Standards Commission website. The 45-day comment period has come and gone, and it looks like California will be entering the next code cycle on January 1st. Regional Manager Bruce Lecair will be watching for the final notice and advising when the information is posted by the California Building Standards Council and the California State Fire Marshals websites.

Bruce Lecair
NFSA's Associate Director of
Regional Operations / West
email: lecair@nfsa.org
25417 West Hyacinth Street, Corona, CA 92883
Phone: 951.277.3517, Fax: 951.277.3199



Northwest Region

SUZANNE MAYR
Regional Manager

ALASKA, IDAHO, MONTANA, OREGON,
WASHINGTON

As 2018 came to a close, several fire sprinkler saves were noted across the Northwest. From a steakhouse in Boise, Idaho to a post office in Battle Ground, Washington, sprinklers helped reduced damage and protect property and lives. Sprinklers provided time for a mother and her baby to escape a fire started by a candle in a Spokane apartment.

Puget Sound and Columbia-Willamette NFSA Chapters

NFSA suppliers and manufacturers were the focus of the December chapter meetings. The 2019 schedule of meetings is out so members should watch their email inboxes or log onto the NFSA website for more information.

Suzanne Mayr
NFSA's Regional Manager / Northwest
email: mayr@nfsa.org
P.O. Box 7328, Tacoma, WA 98417
phone: 253.208.8467



2018 NFSA Annual Staff Meeting



FROM NFSA PRESIDENT SHANE RAY:

During the week of November 26th, NFSA staff members, as well as some CASA staff members, assembled in Maryland for our annual staff meeting. Team NFSA spent three days team building and learning about the strategies for 2019 and beyond that best promote the fire sprinkler industry. The team is motivated to achieve the vision of a **“Stronger Industry... A Safer World”** and to fulfill our mission of saving lives and protecting property from fire through the widespread acceptance of the fire sprinkler concept. NFSA Chair of the Board Kent Mezaros kicked off the staff meeting by welcoming everyone, including all the new teammates that were hired over the past few years. It was a great session that will lead to the successful execution of the 2019 Operations Plan. Please reach out to our team anytime and thank you all for being NFSA members.





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-rez 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.

Copyrights

Articles must be exclusive to *NFSM* magazine and not submitted to any other industry publication, unless prior agreement has been reached. Author is responsible for the accuracy of article and that it does not infringe on any other copyright. All published submissions become the property of NFSA.

Payment

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

NFSM EDITOR:

Joanne Genadio
genadio@nfsa.org
443.863.4399

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