

SQ

JULY/AUG 2013 / No. 179

Journal of the
National Fire Sprinkler
Association



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- Nursing Home Retrofit Now a Reality
- Suspended Ceiling Reference Standard
- Retrofitting in the International Fire Code
 - Best EOD Questions of 2012
 - Support the Illinois Initiative

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ON THE COVER

NFSA President Russell Fleming with this year's Golden Sprinkler Award recipient Richard Ackley of Dalmatian Fire. The award was presented during this year's Annual Seminar and North American Fire Sprinkler Expo held in Las Vegas.



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Sprinkler Retrofit of All Nursing Homes Now a Reality

Russell P. Fleming, P.E.



The final drive is on for full sprinkler retrofit of all skilled nursing facilities. August 13, 2013, is the deadline for installation of sprinkler systems in all new and existing nursing homes in the U.S. if they wish to continue to qualify for participation in the Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement program, without waivers or exceptions. The requirement was enacted through federal rulemaking by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the agency that contracts with states to ensure that nursing homes comply with federal standards. The rule was issued on August 13, 2008, with a 5-year compliance deadline, and although it mimics the 2006 edition of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code in its call for sprinklers in all new and existing nursing homes, it officially calls for installation of the systems in accordance with the 1999 edition of NFPA 13 per the 2000 edition of NFPA 101.

This marks the conclusion of an effort that began over half a century ago when, in 1960, the NFPA declared nursing homes "the number one unsafe place in which to live." That distinction was helped in part by the 1957 Katie Jane Nursing Home fire in Warrenton, Missouri, which resulted in 72 deaths, the worst in U.S. history. The new rule takes effect 50 years after the 1963 Golden Age Nursing Home fire in Fitchville, Ohio, that killed 63 residents.

In 1966 the Congress enacted Medicare as the Social Security Amendment of 1965, which gave unprecedented growth to the nursing home industry. The 1968 and 1971 amendments to the Medicaid and Medicare programs required institutions furnishing medical care to comply with the 1967 edition of the NFPA Life Safety Code. That edition required complete sprinkler systems in any facilities which were not constructed of fire resistive or protected noncombustible construction.

One of the strangest chapters in the history of this effort took place following the January 1970 fire in the single-story Harmer House Convalescent Home in Marietta, Ohio. Although the facility was less than five years old and equipped with a heat detection

system, 21 patients died. The NFPA report on the fire indicated it was extinguished with less than 1,000 gallons of water and that all 21 lives could have been saved if the building had been equipped with a sprinkler system. This led the NFPA membership, at their 1970 Annual Meeting, to amend the Report of the Committee on Safety to Life to require that complete detection and sprinkler systems be installed throughout all new and existing nursing homes, regardless of construction type. The NFPA Board of Directors, however, released the 1970 edition of the Life Safety Code without the amendment made at the Annual Meeting. The resulting uproar had consequences on the governance of the NFPA, leading to the formation of a Standards Council with primary responsibility for ensuring due process in the issuance of NFPA codes and standards.

The 1991 edition of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code was the first to require sprinklers in all new healthcare facilities, regardless of construction type, but existing facilities remained a potential problem. The tipping point from the Federal government's perspective took place with two deadly fires in 2003. One of these was a 16-death fire at the Greenwood Health Center in Hartford, CT, a fire-resistive building that met all applicable state code requirements. The other was a 15-death fire at the NHC Healthcare Center in Nashville, TN, a noncombustible building that likewise was not required to have sprinklers.

By the time this new rule was adopted in 2008, the American Health Care Association believed that 95% of all nursing homes were already sprinklered. However, there were still some stragglers, and the only nursing home in the town where I live is finally being sprinklered as I write this column, with the work being done by an NFSA member contractor.

It's been a long struggle, but the common sense of fire sprinkler systems has prevailed. 🕒

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russell P. Fleming". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray background.

Russell P. Fleming, President

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EVENTS OF INTEREST TO NFSA MEMBERS

calendar

July 9, 2013	What Materials Can You Use in NFPA 13D?	ONLINE
July 16-18, 2013	Inspection & Testing for the Fire Sprinkler Industry	Boston, Massachusetts
July 22, 2013	Pumps for Fire Protection	Westbury, New York
July 23, 2013	NFPA 13D Layout & Detailing	ONLINE
July 24, 2013	Pumps for Fire Protection	Windsor Locks, Connecticut
July 25, 2013	Pumps for Fire Protection	Stow, Massachusetts
August 6, 2013	NFPA 13D Discharge & Calculations	ONLINE
August 6-8, 2013	Inspection & Testing for the Fire Sprinkler Industry	Chicago, Illinois
August 14, 2013	Understanding, Applying and Enforcing NFPA 25	Blaine, Minnesota
August 15-16, 2013	Sprinkler Plan Review Hydraulics & Acceptance Testing	Blaine, Minnesota
August 19, 2013	Understanding, Applying and Enforcing NFPA 25	Louisville, Kentucky
August 20, 2013	NFPA 14 Update	ONLINE
August 20, 2013	Fire Sprinkler Design Options in the IBC	Louisville, Kentucky
September 10, 2013	Hydraulics for Fire Sprinkler Systems	Dayton, Ohio
September 10, 2013	NFPA 25 Update	ONLINE
September 11, 2013	Plan Review Procedures & Policies	Dayton, Ohio
September 12, 2013	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance for the AHJ	Dayton, Ohio
September 24, 2013	Signs & Certificates	ONLINE
September 30-October 9, 2013	Two Week Layout Technician Training	Orlando, Florida
October 8, 2013	Foam-water Sprinkler Systems	ONLINE
October 22, 2013	Common Mistakes	ONLINE
November 5, 2013	Protection of Aircraft Hangers	ONLINE
November 19, 2013	Exposure Systems	ONLINE
December 3, 2013	Sprinklers on Glass	ONLINE
December 17, 2013	Ask the Experts	ONLINE

These seminars qualify for continuing education as required by NICET. Meet mandatory Continuing Education Requirements for Businesses and Authorities Having Jurisdiction. To register or for more information, contact: Michael Repko at (845) 878-4207, E-Mail: seminars@nfsa.org. Or register ONLINE at www.nfsa.org.

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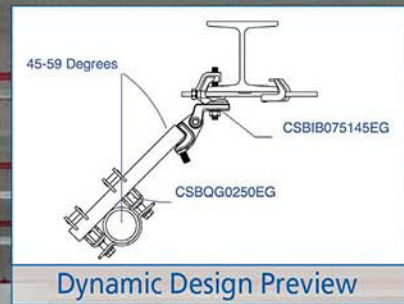
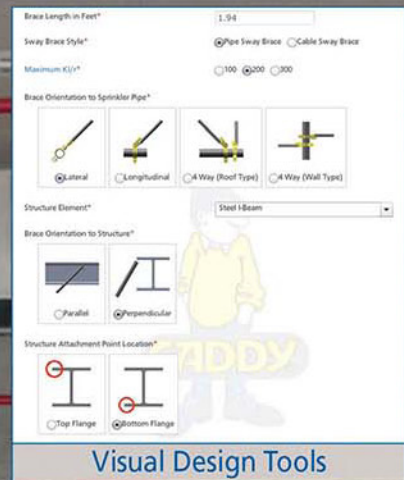
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Now it's easier than ever to select the correct CADDY® bracing products for use in fire protection applications. ERICO has unveiled the CADDY® Bracing Systems Calculator, a new web-based calculator which allows users to create and save designs for multiple projects while providing the necessary submittal forms. This time-saving calculator simplifies the selection of products and provides the necessary engineering calculations – providing a complete solution to support rigid bracing, cable bracing and branch line restraints.

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- Supports NFPA® 13 including 2013 ed., IBC® and other building codes



CADDY® Seismic Materials List

Design Type	Description	Quantity
Sway Braces	Sway Brace Design 2	1
Branch Line Restraints	Restraint Design 1	1

Part Number	Description	Quantity
CSBAA-65	Bar Joint Attachment, 1/2" Max Range Thickness, 65	4
CSBQG0250EG	Quick Grip Lateral Sway Brace, 4" Pipe	1
CSBQC0150EG	Quick Grip Lateral Sway Brace, 1 1/2" Pipe	1
CSBAA-V500EG	Universal Structure Attachment, 5/8" Hole, 65	4

Part Number	Description	Quantity
1 1/2" Diameter Pipe	1 1/2" Diameter Pipe	1
4" Diameter Pipe	4" Diameter Pipe	1

Materials List

Branch Line Restraint Calculations

Project Name: NFA
Address: 123 Main Street
City, State, Zip: Any Town, OH 12345
Prepared By: Jones, Tom
Date: 28-Mar-2013

Restraint Design: Restraint 1
Contractor Name: ERICO
Address: 345 Maple Street
City, State, Zip: Any City, OH 44329
Phone: (223) 456-7891
Fax: (223) 456-7892

Code Information
Project Code: NFPA 13 2010
Sprinkler Code: NFPA 13 2010
Building Code: 2009-IBC
Op: 9-65

Branch Information
Branch ID: R1
Branch Size(s): 1 1/2"
Branch Material: Steel
Branch Length (ft): 100
Angle Range: 45-59 Degrees

Restraint Information
Structure: I-Beam (12 in x 12" thickness)
Restraint Length (in): 35
Max. Restraint Spacing (ft): 30
Number of Restraints Required: 4
Restraint Type: Restraint
Restraint Member: 1/2" Threaded Rod

Restraint Attachment Parts

Part Number	Description
CSBAA-65	Branch Line Restraint Pipe Attachment, 1 1/2" P
CSBAA-11EG	Branch Line Restraint Structure Attachment to 3 1/2" x 1/2" Rod

Hardware: n/a

Fastener Qty: n/a
Fastener Size: n/a
Fastener Type: n/a

Fastener Embedment: n/a
Fastener Min. Load (lb): 2545

Brace Orientation: Lateral
Brace I.D. (on plan): 1.2345

Branch Line Restraint Submittal

NFPA 13 2013 Seismic Bracing Calculations

Project Name: My Seismic Project
Address: 123 Main Street
City, State, Zip: Any Town, OH 12345
Prepared By: Jones, Tom
Date: 28-Mar-2013

Brace Design: Sway Brace Design 2
Contractor Name: Any Company
Address: 345 Maple Street
City, State, Zip: Any City, OH 44329
Phone: (223) 456-7891
Fax: (223) 456-7892

Brace Information for this report

Maximum Length of Brace (ft)	Structure Attachment Fitting	Universal Structure Attachment, 5/8" Hole, 65
7-0"	Model: CSBAA-65	Model: CSBAA-65
Size of Brace (in.)	Model: CSBAA-65	Model: CSBAA-65
Type of Brace: 45-59 Degree	UL Listed Rating (lb): 3000	Adjusted For 9.3, 10.2 (lb): 2122
Structure Attachment Adapter: Bar Joint Attachment, 1/2" Max Range Thickness, 65	UL Listed Rating (lb): 3000	Adjusted For 9.3, 10.2 (lb): 2122
Angle Range: 45-59 Degrees	Model: CSBAA-65	Model: CSBAA-65
Least Radius of Curvature (ft): 0.421	UL Listed Rating (lb): 3740	Adjusted For 9.3, 10.2 (lb): 2645
Min. Spacing: 200	Model: CSBQG0250EG	Model: CSBQG0250EG
Maximum Horizontal Load (lb): 1323	UL Listed Rating (lb): 2025	Adjusted For 9.3, 10.2 (lb): 1423
UL Listed Rating (lb): 2025	Model: CSBAA-65	Model: CSBAA-65

Fastener Information for this report

NFPA Fastener Orientation: S
Structure: Steel I-Beam

Fastener Qty: n/a
Fastener Size: n/a
Fastener Type: n/a

Fastener Embedment: n/a
Fastener Min. Load (lb): 2545

Brace Orientation: Lateral
Brace I.D. (on plan): 1.2345

Sprinkler System Zone of Influence (ZOI) based Calculations (Zone = 10 x 10)

Zone Size	Pipe Description	in/ft	10% for 100% Fringe	10% for 100% Fringe	Length	Weight	Total
4'	3/4"	18.42	2.48	18.88	18.00	471.00	CG = 0.85 per NFPA 13 2013 2009-IBC
2 1/2"	3/4"	7.98	1.03	8.01	75.00	85.00	
2 1/2"	3/4"	7.98	1.03	8.01	82.00	90.00	Horizontal Earthquake Load
2'	3/4"	5.13	0.77	5.90	85.00	90.00	

Zone = 10 x 10
Fringe = 0.50 x 2.20 x 0.50
Fringe = 0.7500 in

Sway Braces Attached to: 3/4" x 4" x 8"
Min. SDV Pipe: 2585 lbs

Weight of Misc. 20' Vents and Fittings = 0.00
Total Zone of Influence (ZOI) Weight (W_Z) = 2,218.00

Seismic Brace Submittal



ERICO is trusted for developing innovative and time-saving products for the fire and sprinkler bracing market. To request access to the CADDY Bracing Systems Calculator, contact your local ERICO representative or visit www.erico.com.





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Support the Illinois Initiative!

Dennis C. Coleman



wanted to talk about an opportunity that our industry has in Illinois right now. The Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board and other stakeholders are attempting to make a change in Illinois that will have Illinois adopt the 2012 edition of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code® over the currently used 2000 Edition. This would impact the entire state of Illinois in 3 major areas:

1. Fire sprinklers in all new single-family homes
2. Sprinklers in Assembly Occupancies (this changes the threshold from the old 300 occupant load level to a 100 occupant load level, which would include several hundred existing occupancies across the entire state)
3. Fire sprinklers in all new and existing high-rise buildings

As you are probably aware, the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board (NIFSAB) has had tremendous success in the past in getting 91 municipalities in the greater Chicago area to pass fire sprinkler ordinances for single-family homes as well as many other communities passing zero square foot ordinances for all types of commercial buildings. They have aided in increasing the fire safety of homeowners, building owners, and occupants in a dramatic way. The NIFSAB has been exemplary in its use of Industry Promotion Funds to promote fire safety in its area. The NIFSAB now have an opportunity to make this happen on a statewide basis through the adoption of the Life Safety Code. The people of the NIFSAB know how to get things done and have had many victories in the past.

We should not stand idly by and watch what happens. We should get all of our collective resources and support behind this

effort because it will have a major impact on our long-term goals for fire safety throughout our nation. Only California and Maryland have adopted the new International Residential Code without removing the requirement for fire sprinklers in single-family homes. If this could be accomplished in a large, Midwestern state like Illinois, it would be of tremendous worth to our goals for life safety in America.

I think the impact would be tremendous in bordering states like my state of Missouri. Our area in St. Louis, Missouri, which borders Illinois, would see an immediate impact on our market. It would facilitate our fights to accomplish the same thing throughout the Midwest. We should realize that this is the bandwagon to jump on and we should do everything in our power to support, fund, participate, and help the cause in Illinois.

I believe the fight will continue on from state to state as we try to bring the safety to life and property to the single-family home. This is an important battle that we have a chance to win right now. It will be a BIG win! We need to get behind their efforts. We need to look through our long range binoculars and visualize the lasting influence that a victory like this will have on every future battle that we engage in every state. Why not join the fight and help in Illinois? Why not support those who have led us by example in these kinds of efforts in the past? Why not lend a helping to their potential success? It will reap great dividends to everyone, and especially to those of us who believe in the fire sprinkler concept and know the true value of fire protection. It will save lives and property in Illinois in the immediate future, and it may save lives and property for an entire nation in the long run. ①

Dennis C. Coleman, Chairman of the Board

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Just What Does Additional Insured Mean?

Editor's Note: Stuart Zisholtz
comments on New York State Law

We all know the pecking order of obtaining insurance in a construction project. The owner demands that the general contractor gets liability insurance and name the owner as an additional insured. The general contractor, in turn, passes the responsibility on to the subcontractor. The subcontractor, in turn, passes it on to the sub-subcontractor, if there is one. Each party has to name the entity above it as an additional insured on the policy.

Sometimes if a general contractor has a subcontractor, he might sit back and let his policy lapse, either willfully or accidentally, but with the comfort that he has insurance. This can have serious implications.

In the first place, the general contractor might have a contractual obligation

to hold the owner free and harmless. If, therefore, the general contractor lets the policy lapse, he is in breach of his contract with the owner. The same applies to a subcontractor and his relationship to the general contractor.

More importantly, however, the "additional insured" provisions of the contract might have very substantial limitations. A general contractor cannot contract away his responsibility in the event of negligence. If a general contractor is negligent, his subcontractor's policy would not cover him. Similarly, if the owner, for some reason, is negligent, and that could be hard to visualize, then the "additional insured" provisions of the general contractor's policy will not cover the owner.

In addition, the insurance policy might carry lower limits for the additional insured. If the subcontractor has \$2,000,000 in coverage, the additional insured might be half that. It is incumbent upon a general contractor, therefore, to check out what "additional insured"

means. The additional insured can also have limitations of a contractual responsibility. Thus, the insurance company for a subcontractor might cover the general contractor, but will not cover the owner because there is no contractual relationship between the owner and the sub.

There may be additional exclusions such as; completed operations, limitation on indemnification, limitation on third party claims, etc.

The bottom line is, if you are relying upon being an "additional insured" on your subcontractor's policy, make sure you have a copy of that policy and you see what it says, especially what is included and excluded. The exclusions are often more important than the inclusions.

Never let your lien time run out!

For a free copy of a pamphlet pertaining to payment bond claims and mechanic's liens, please contact Stuart Zisholtz at Zisholtz & Zisholtz, LLP, 170 Old Country Rd. Suite 300, Mineola, NY 11501 tel: 516.741.2200 fax: 516.746.1024

How the Recession Has Changed Retirement Planning

by Philip Rousseaux

The economy may be recovering, but some of the changes wrought by the Great Recession may be long-lasting. Anyone planning for retirement, no matter what their age, needs to take those changes into account, says financial advisor Philip Rousseaux, a member of the esteemed Million Dollar Round Table association's exclusive Top of the Table forum for the world's most successful financial services professionals.

"People in their 40s and younger have some time to retool their plan, but Baby Boomers need to think with more urgency," says Rousseaux, founder and president of Everest Wealth Management, Inc.

"A lot of boomers had all of their retirement investments in the stock market and, if they didn't lose their principal, it

will take some time for them to recoup their gains. Others moved their money to short-term savings, like CDs. But with interest rates so low, they're actually losing money when you factor in inflation."

Those are the two most common mistakes people make in retirement planning - having everything in either stocks or short-term savings is a bad idea, he says.

"Space your investments so they'll come due as they're needed," Rousseaux says. "Plan some that can be available in the short term, for emergencies, and others that will be available as you age."

Only 14 percent of Americans are very confident they'll have the money to live comfortably in retirement, according to a 2012 survey by the Employee Benefit Research Institute.

Here are Rousseaux's suggestions for ensuring you're part of that 14 percent.

- Don't take risks you can't afford. This is another common mistake. "Don't put the bulk of your assets into anything

that makes your principal vulnerable. Gambling that you're going to win big on the market, or any other investment, means you also risk losing big." A portion of your investment should have a guaranteed return.

- Seek any guidance from independent financial advisors. This has two benefits: Advisors who aren't marketing their own products have no conflicts of interest. "You wouldn't go to a commissioned salesman for advice on buying a high-tech product. Instead, you'd probably turn to a trusted friend or an independent expert source, like Consumer Reports. Take the same care with something as important as your retirement." The second benefit is that independent advisors can devise creative, innovative solutions to meet the needs of individual clients. Those working for companies like MetLife are not free to think outside the box. And that's especially important in this new, post-recession economy.

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■ Consider alternatives to the stock market. One of the effects of the recession is that the public realizes Wall Street is not a safe retirement plan. Even if it can get you there, it's not necessarily going to keep you there. "There are a number of great, safer alternatives," Rousseau says. One of those is fixed, indexed annuities. "You loan an insurance company money and it guarantees you payments over a specified length of time. It's a contract between you and the company," he explains. Fixed-rate indexed annuities have a minimum and maximum interest payment that's linked to a common index, such as the Dow. When the Dow goes up or down, so does the interest rate, but it never


goes below the guaranteed minimum or above the guaranteed maximum. "Your principal is safe and you can ride an up market without the risk," he says.

With pension plans a luxury of the past and Social Security not a guarantee for the future, Rousseau says whatever your age, it's important to start planning now for retirement by creating your own private pension.

"The good news is, our life expectancy grows every year," he notes. "It's up to you to ensure that you have a great quality of life when you decide you no longer want to work."

ABOUT PHILIP ROUSSEAU

Philip Rousseau is the founder and

president of Everest Wealth Management and Everest Investment Advisors money management firm. A staunch advocate of objectivity in investment advice, he's a member of the Million Dollar Round Table, the international association of independent advisors whose members are held to a rigid code of ethics. He is the co-author of "Climbing the Mountain to Financial Success." Philip received his bachelor's in economics from Towson University and completed the Wharton School of Business's Investment Strategies and Portfolio Management Executive Education Program. For more information, visit <http://www.everestwm.com>. 



Congratulations, Richard A. Ackley, Golden Sprinkler Award recipient.

As a business partner for nearly 25 years, Travelers is pleased to offer our sincere congratulations to Richard A. Ackley, founder and President of Dalmatian Fire, Inc. on receiving this year's Golden Sprinkler Award. We wish you continued success in all your endeavors.



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By Don Pamplin

I saw a sign that said

“Never, Never, Never, Never Give-Up”

This quote was on a bumper sticker. It was one of Vince Lombardi's many famous quotes during his incredible years as a very successful football player, head coach and football executive. Another one of his quotes that was equally famous was; “winners never quit and quitters never win,” simple words with explosive meaning.

It's worthwhile to “google” all of them and to read his life story because he was a person who instilled enormous motivation which resulted in five NFL championships, six conference titles and two Super Bowl victories in 1996 and 1997. Prior to that, he was enshrined in the NFL's Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1971. In addition, the entire football world thought so much of him that the NFL Super Bowl Trophy was renamed the “*Vince Lombardi Trophy*,” which still remains to this day.

In the world of fire protection, there are also many who deserve to be recognized and praised for their efforts to make communities safer from an uncontrolled fire.

This is the kind of fire like one that recently occurred in single story wood-framed home in North Carolina. An 83 year-old great-grandmother saved two children from the burning structure but died from severe burns while trying to rescue a third child who also died in that fire. There were no fire sprinklers in the home and it is unknown if the smoke alarms in the structure had operated. The death toll could have been higher if it wasn't for the heroic efforts of the great-

grandmother!

Smoke alarm protection is definitely an improvement in residential fire safety but unfortunately, they are not always the total solution!

While concerned and knowledgeable people work extremely hard to get fire prevention advances and improvements established, they do not get anywhere near the news coverage and attention of more brighter stars in other fields of endeavor such as science, education, business achievements, entertainment, the sports world and the military. The achievements of thousands of dedicated workers who persevere and toil for years trying to make fire a lesser threat to those who are so vulnerable are equally commendable and deserving of recognition for what they do.

I could list on numerous pages the names of individuals, companies and organizations that have done this very thing over the past 50 years. Whenever I can, I make an effort to properly recognize those fire protection warriors who are rightfully deserving of that recognition. Sometimes, their achievements are small and they are totally missed at the state and national level. Sometimes their achievements are much larger and they get little or no recognition. These types of stories are only minimally reported at best.

Here is an achievement that should have made the front page of national media all across North America but it didn't. It also is an achievement that personifies Vince

Lombardi's encouragement of never give up!

By August 13th of 2013, all new and existing nursing homes in the United States will be required to install automatic fire sprinkler systems in those specific occupancies without waivers or exceptions.

The requirement is a direct result of two nursing home fires that happened in 2003. The consequences of those fires drew the proper attention by the right people involved in the nursing and home care industry about the horrific fire safety record that has existed for the past 62 years and beyond.

Look at the horrendous fire fatality record in care facilities for older adults since 1951:

- Convalescent Home, Hoquiam, Washington State, January 30, 1951: 21 killed out of 29 patients;
- Nursing Home Hillsboro, Missouri October 31, 1952: 20 killed out of 70 patients;
- Nursing Home, Largo Florida,

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Don Pamplin

As an NFSA Leadership in Public Safety Award recipient, Don is recognized throughout North America as a fire sprinkler advocate.

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March 29, 1953: 33 killed, including 32 out of 45 patients;

- Katie Jane Nursing Home Fire, Warrenton, Missouri, February 17, 1957: 72 killed out of 149 patients;
- Golden Age Nursing Home Fire, Fitchville, Ohio, November 23, 1963: 63 killed out of 84 patients;
- Convalescent Home, Marietta, Ohio January 9, 1970: 31 killed out of 46 patients;
- Nursing Home, Chicago, Illinois January 30, 1976: 24 killed out of 83 patients;
- Boarding Home, Bradley Beach, New Jersey, July 26, 1980: 24 killed out of 36 residents;
- Rest Home, Keansburg, New Jersey January 9, 1981: 31 killed out of an unreported total number of residents;
- Hill Haven Rehabilitation and Convalescent Home, Norfolk, Virginia, October 5, 1989: 2 killed out of 161 residents;
- Greenwood Health Center, Hartford, Connecticut, February 26, 2003: 16 killed out of 148 patients;
- NHC Healthcare Centre, Nashville, Tennessee, September 25, 2003: 15 killed out of 148 patients

There have been other hospital and nursing home fire deaths that have occurred both before and after the above-noted listings, which further emphasized the absolute need for better and enforceable fire protection standards, including automatic fire sprinkler protection. Prior to 1970, there was no national enforcement of fire and life safety in nursing homes and hospitals. If it was done, it was by individual state requirements and legislation, which was very sparse. Here is where the fire safety warriors never gave up and quit. They kept pushing for better enforceable

standards not only at that state level but also at the national level. They were many times ignored, pushed back, undermined by self-interested lobbying and delayed by political interference. But the warriors never gave up.

An important factor that was always missing was the requirement of "complete coverage fire sprinklers," as was the situation in the September, 2003 fire in Nashville, Tennessee that killed 15 residents. Because that care facility was within a brick and steel structure, the State Health Department required fire sprinklers only if it was extensively renovated. Like so many other wrong conclusions about fire spread and toxic smoke, people are badly misinformed about how devastating a fire can be in facilities such as these, regardless of how the outer structure is constructed. The only fire sprinkler in this Nashville facility was over the grill in the kitchen. After the fire, Nashville Assistant Fire Chief Lee Bergeron said, "fire sprinklers would have definitely made a difference."

Usually, those who oppose fire sprinkler protection ignore these kind of statements and nothing ever changes. This time, what happened was very different.

In 2004, the Federal Government Accountability Office (GAO) commissioned a study that would look at their entire oversight program dealing with nursing home fire safety and that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) explore the feasibility of requiring fire sprinklers in nursing homes. The draft report issued in May, 2004 was reviewed by NFPA who confirmed and reinforced the results.

IN BRIEF, HERE ARE SOME OF THE IMPORTANT CONCLUSIONS OF THE GAO REPORT:

- The 31 deaths that occurred in the Hartford and Nashville fires identified systemic problems with the adequacy and enforcement of federal fire safety standards that go well beyond these two tragic events;
- Given industry concerns about the cost and the need for a transition period to come into compliance, older (nursing) homes will likely continue to operate

without sprinklers for several years;

- Because of the uncertainty concerning whether or when fire safety standards will be revised and implemented, GAO believes that certain actions are needed now to better protect residents in the event of a fire in an unsprinklered nursing home;
- Federal oversight of state fire safety activities is currently inadequate to ensure that existing standards are being enforced. CMS does not routinely include the fire safety component as part of its statutory mandate to conduct annual monitoring surveys;

AND GET THIS ONE:

- While common sense features such as smoke detectors in resident rooms have shown to be effective in alerting staff to a fire while it is still manageable, smoke detectors are not required in unsprinklered nursing homes.

THE REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE ACTION WERE:

- Ensure that CMS regional offices fully comply with the statutory requirement to conduct annual federal monitoring surveys by including an assessment of the fire safety component of states' standard surveys, with an emphasis on unsprinklered nursing homes;
- Ensure that data on sprinkler coverage in nursing homes are consistently obtained and reflected in the CMS database;
- Until sprinkler coverage data are routinely available in CMS's database, work with state survey agencies to identify the extent to which each nursing home is sprinklered or not sprinklered;
- On an expedited basis, review all waivers and FSES assessments for homes that are not fully sprinklered to

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determine their appropriateness;

- Make information on fire safety deficiencies available to the public via the Nursing Home Compare Website, including information on whether a nursing home has automatic fire sprinklers;
- Work with NFPA to strengthen fire safety standards for unsprinklered nursing homes, such as requiring smoke detectors in resident rooms, exploring the feasibility of requiring sprinklers in all nursing homes and developing a strategy for financing such requirements;
- Ensure that thorough investigations are conducted following multiple-death nursing home fires so that fire safety

standards can be re-evaluated and modified where appropriate.

As a result of this game changing report and other inputs and considerations, the Federal Government Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued its' final rule on August 13, 2008, requiring nursing homes across the United States to install automatic fire sprinklers without waivers or exceptions by August 13, 2013.

If the nursing home does not comply with the sprinkler installation requirement by that date, they face financial penalties or even loss of their ability to participate in the Medicare/Medicaid Reimbursement Program.

To all the hard working fire prevention warriors who never gave up trying to so solve this totally embarrassing nursing home fire safety problem, your eternal reward is knowing that what you have

done will make a huge difference in saving lives that had a great chance of being lost to fire. Winners never do quit! Thank you all. ☺

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AUGUST 6, 2013

NFPA 13D Discharge and Calculations

BASIC

Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.

Anyone planning a sprinkler system for a one or two family home will need to know how many sprinklers might open if there was a fire, the flow needed for those sprinklers, the pressure needed at the water supply to push that flow through the system piping, and the duration that the flow needs to last. This seminar will cover the various methods that NFPA 13D and IPC P2904 use to make those determinations and size the piping in the system to prove that it will work with the water supply.

AUGUST 20, 2013

NFPA 14 Update

BASIC/INTERMEDIATE

John Corso

Standpipe systems play a key role in the fire protection of many buildings. NFPA 14 has released a 2013 Edition. This program will focus on the changes and updates that have been made to this new version of the standard. Updates include the addition of definitions to clarify the standard along with new figures to help understand the intent.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

NFPA 25 Update

BASIC/INTERMEDIATE

Jason Webb

In order for fire protection systems to function properly over the life of the building, the inspection, testing and maintenance must be done on a regular basis. NFPA 25 is the standard that provides inspection, testing and maintenance guidelines. A new version will be published for 2014. Attend this program to learn what changes and updates have been made to the standard.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

Signs & Certificates

BASIC

Jeffery M. Hugo, CBO

NFPA 13 has numerous requirements for the installation of signage for fire sprinkler systems. NFPA 13 also has three certificates that are required for each fire sprinkler system: Owner's Certificate, Underground Piping Certificate and the Aboveground Piping Certificate. This seminar will discuss all the requirements for types and locations of signs along with the installation details that are needed to complete the certificates. Every contractor, building manager, and AHJ will not want to miss this seminar.

OCTOBER 8, 2013

Foam-water Sprinkler Systems

INTERMEDIATE

Victoria B. Valentine, P.E.

Although water is a great agent for controlling and extinguishing fires, some hazards benefit from the use of low expansion foam as the agent discharging from the sprinklers to achieve the desired level of control. These foam-water systems have similarities to standard sprinkler systems but are installed according to NFPA 16. This seminar will review the use and installation requirements of these systems.

OCTOBER 22, 2013

Common Mistakes

INTERMEDIATE

Roland Asp

Fire sprinklers have a long and successful history of protecting lives and properties. The key to this success is a properly designed, installed and maintained sprinkler system. This presentation will focus on commonly encountered mistakes in fire sprinkler industry. The role of the layout technicians is to produce clear plans that will result in cost effective fire sprinkler systems while meeting the project specifications and the applicable requirements of the codes and standards. By highlighting common errors, the layout technician will learn to avoid the errors, saving time and money, yet helping to ensure the effectiveness of fire sprinkler systems will continue and improve.

NOVEMBER 5, 2013

Protection of Aircraft Hangars

INTERMEDIATE

Kenneth E. Isman, P.E. and Scott Enides

Fire protection system requirements for aircraft hangars are found in their own document, NFPA 409. The rules in this standard are very different from NFPA 13 or NFPA 16 regarding discharge criteria and water supply requirements. During the program, the differences between these standards will be compared and contrasted and the participant will be able to avoid the pitfalls often encountered in laying out, detailing and calculating a sprinkler system or foam/water system for an aircraft hangar.

NOVEMBER 19, 2013

Exposure Systems

INTERMEDIATE

James D. Lake

Exposure protection systems have different goals than water curtains or window/glass protection, yet they are often confused with these

other types of systems. This program will cover the goals and objectives of exposure protection systems and show how their requirements differ from those of water curtains or window/glass protection systems. Information for this program will be taken from both NFPA 13 and NFPA 80A.

DECEMBER 3, 2013

Sprinklers on Glass

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

Jeffery M. Hugo, CBO

A window sprinkler is a special sprinkler according to NFPA 13 and this type of special sprinkler is intended for the protection of glazing in fire resistance rated walls for many types of applications. There are also times when standard spray sprinklers are used to protect glazing, such as in atriums. This seminar will cover how all these sprinklers comply with the requirements of NFPA 13, the building code, where and when to use specific sprinklers and the installation criteria for these products. This seminar will also discuss the recent changes in the International Building Code concerning using fire sprinklers in fire resistance walls.

DECEMBER 17, 2013

Ask the Experts

BASIC/INTERMEDIATE

James D. Lake, Moderator

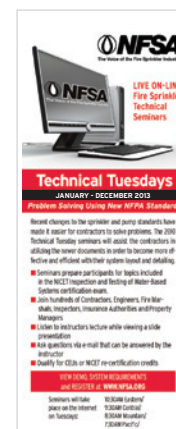
The NFSA Engineering Department Staff have developed expertise in a wide range of fire protection activities including pumps, hydraulics, sprinkler spacing issues, seismic protection of systems, backflow, residential systems, and water supplies. Ask any question that you want of our experts on these or other topics. They will either answer the question live on the program or research the answer and get back to you and everyone that takes the seminar after the program is over. Reference standards for this session are NFPA 13, NFPA 13R, NFPA 13D, NFPA 20, and NFPA 25.

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Suspended Ceiling Reference Standards

By Victoria B. Valentine, P.E.

Understanding the reference standards of a document can often make or break the comprehension of the requirements.

For a few cycles of NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, it has referenced ASTM C635, Standard Specification for the Manufacture, Performance, and Testing of Metal Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-In Panel Ceilings, and ASTM C636, Standard Practice for Installation of Metal Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-In Panels. The style ceiling in a building can affect sprinkler locations as well as how the system is supported. These two standards work together for quality installation of suspended ceilings. However, the question remains about how these standards impact the sprinkler system.

The actual reference in NFPA 13 is with supporting flexible sprinkler hose. A suspended ceiling needs to meet ASTM C635 and ASTM C636 so that it adequately carries the load of the flexible hose and sprinkler back to the building structure via its own supports. In most cases, this is a minimal amount of weight. Yet it should be known that a ceiling in accordance with ASTM C635 could be a light-duty system, an intermediate-duty system, or a heavy-duty system. As NFPA 13 only requires the ceiling to meet ASTM C635, even light-duty systems are adequate for the small gravity load of these flexible connections. It should also be noted that most ordinary commercial structures use

TABLE 1 - LOAD CAPABILITIES FOR MAIN RUNNERS

SUSPENSION SYSTEM	DUTY	APPLIED LOAD	EQUIVALENT LOAD
DIRECT HUNG	Light	5 lb (22.7 N)	5 lb/ft (75.7 N/m)
	Intermediate	12 lb (54.3 N)	12 lb/ft (181 N/m)
	Heavy	16 lb (72.5 N)	16 lb/ft (241.7 N/m)
INDIRECT HUNG	Light	2 lb (9.1 N)	2 lb/ft (30.3 N/m)
	Intermediate	3.5 lb (15.9 N)	3.5 lb (53 N/m)
	Heavy	8 lb (36.3 N)	8 lb (121 N/m)
FURRING BAR	Light	4.5 lb (20.4 N)	4.5 lb/ft (68 N/m)
	Intermediate	6.5 (29.4 N)	6.5 lb/ft (98 N/m)
	Heavy	--	--

intermediate-duty systems, as it is typical for the ceiling to support light fixtures and/or air diffusers in addition to lay-in tiles. Heavy-duty types are used when there are many fixtures or the weight recommendations of the intermediate-duty type are exceeded.

The suspended ceiling could have one of three suspension systems. The first is direct hung. The second is indirect hung. The third is furring bars. The type of system and its load classification determine the minimum loads carried by the main runners of the system. In Table 1, which follows, the loads are presented. When the loads are applied, deflection of the member is limited to 0.133 inches (3.33 mm). As the table presents minimum loads, the manufacturer's data will need to be reviewed for maximum acceptable loads. As always, the authority having

jurisdiction (AHJ) is the responsible party for determining that panels, light fixtures, etc. are within the load recommendations for the installed product.

What happens if a pipe or a flexible hose touches or lightly rests on the ceiling grid of the suspended ceiling? Although this is not recommended, the question has arisen if this scenario is a problem for the ceiling system if they touch. The

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NFSA's Director of Product Standards

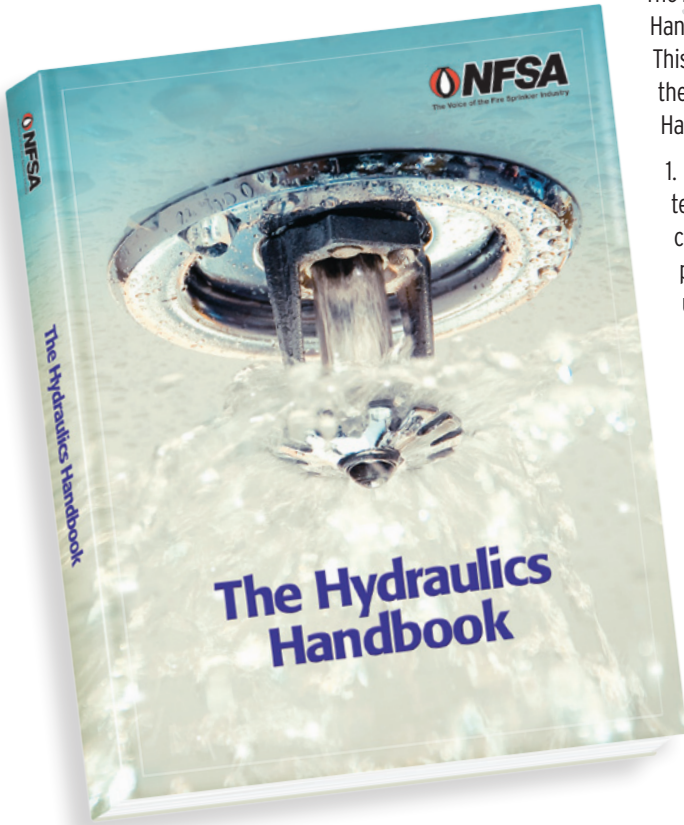
Victoria B. Valentine, P.E.

NFSA's New Hydraulics Handbook is Here!

The National Fire Sprinkler Association is proud to announce the release of The Hydraulics Handbook, an overhaul and update of a publication originally put out in the early 1990's. This new updated edition is a comprehensive discussion of everything having to do with the hydraulic calculation of sprinkler systems. There are three distinct parts to the new Handbook:

1. Excerpts from the NFSA textbook Layout, Detail, and Calculation of Fire Sprinkler Systems that deal with hydraulics. These comprehensive chapters cover the methods and concepts involved with calculating a fire sprinkler system by hand or with a computer program. Each chapter ends with a series of questions to make sure that the user understood the concepts in the chapter.
2. A brief discussion of conducting hydraulic calculations from the perspective of a code enforcement official. This discussion is helpful for the plan review of calculations that have been submitted. A sprinkler technician can also use this information in spot checking the output from a computer program.
3. Friction loss tables. There are many different types of pipe and tube used in sprinkler systems. For each type of pipe, this book has a page with the friction loss per foot of pipe at a variety of different flows. Each page also contains the equivalent length of the fittings (tees, elbows, control valves, and check valves). These pages substitute for performing the Hazen-Williams friction loss calculation on a calculator and save time for people performing hydraulic calculations by hand or for people wanting to spot check calculations performed by a computer.

With almost 400 pages of text, this book is a "must have" for anybody that performs hydraulic calculations of fire sprinkler systems or performs plan review and approval of hydraulic calculations. **Order your copy at www.nfsa.org at the Resource Center or fill out and return the order form below.**



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>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

loads of the sprinkler system are accounted for in the hangers that support that system. However, if the flexible hose or other piping were to rest/touch on the ceiling then that section would need to be part of the load consideration with the manufacturer's maximum capacity data. Depending on which duty type the ceiling is along with what other components are supported by the system, it may or may not be acceptable. In a situation where a single flexible sprinkler hose is longer than needed based on a field situation and that hose touches the ceiling grid, it is unlikely that the load will be enough to reach the unacceptable level, but it should be confirmed based on the specifics of the scenario. It should be noted though that the ceiling in no way permits a reduction in the spacing or need of hangers/supports for the sprinkler system.

According to ASTM C636, when fixtures or items are supported by the ceiling, if large amounts of deflection are expected, supplemental hangers on the ceiling system need to be installed. The installation requirements also indicate that care should be used to make sure eccentric loading does not cause torsion or twisting of the ceiling system runners. Significant rotation could decrease the load capacities of the ceiling system grid.

Another point where suspended ceilings are discussed in NFPA 13 is a concern of interaction between the suspended ceiling and the sprinklers during seismic motion. Therefore, the annex of Section 9.3.4 cautions users that in high seismic design categories larger clearances may be needed as required by ASTM E580, Standard Practice for Installation of Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panels in Areas Subject to Earthquake Ground Motions. This is another reference standard to NFPA 13. It requires larger annular spaces when the sprinklers of the system could be damaged from the movement of ceiling and the sprinkler system during the earthquake as seen in seismic events like the Northridge earthquake in 1994.

With the focus on running businesses and an emphasis on cost and efficiency, it is important to take the time to know the installation rules along with the refer-

ences standards of those rules. Proper installation of systems involves understanding the information in the reference standards along with NFPA 13. 

REFERENCES:

ASTM C635, *Standard Specification for the Manufacture, Performance, and Testing of Metal Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-In Panel Ceilings*, ASTM International, West Conshohocken, PA, 2012.

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ASTM E580, *Standard Practice for Installation of Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panels in Areas Subject to Earthquake Ground Motions*, ASTM International, West Conshohocken, PA, 2010.

NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, 2013 Edition*. National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA, 2012.

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The Fire Sprinkler Guide - 2009 Codes Edition is Now Available!



Produced by NFSA, this second edition of The Fire Sprinkler Guide defines those sections of the three model building codes, the Life Safety Code (NFPA 101) and International Building Code where fire sprinkler systems are required, including partial requirements and construction incentives. The guide includes comparison tables to clarify many of the code requirements. The guide is a valuable tool for architects and engineers, plan reviewers, fire and building inspectors, as well as sprinkler contractors, and serves well as a workbook for students at the NFSA's Design Advantage Seminar. With almost 400 pages of text, this book is a "must have" for anybody that performs hydraulic calculations of fire sprinkler systems or performs plan review and approval of hydraulic calculations.

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Retrofitting in the International Fire Code

By Jeff Hugo, CBO

Recently, at the ICC Code Development Hearings in Dallas, the Fire Code Committee heard and approved several code change proposals to require a higher level of fire sprinkler retrofit in existing buildings. Granted, these changes need to be approved by the governmental membership in Atlantic City at the Final Action Hearings for the 2015 International Fire Code. However, with the committee's backing, the proposals have a greater chance of being approved by the membership in Atlantic City.

Retrofitting A-2 Occupancies

A-2 occupancies are designated as bars, nightclubs, and restaurants. These occupancies have the potential for moderate to significant fuel loading, high noise levels, low lighting, confusing egress paths with high occupant loads and with occupants who may be intoxicated.

The deaths and injuries in the tragic fires at the Station Nightclub, Beverly Hills Supper Club and Coconut Grove, among others, have all contributed to how these occupancies are regulated in today's fire code. For example, in the 2006 IBC, the occupant load that triggered fire sprinklers was lowered to 100 occupants because of the Station Nightclub fire (fourth deadliest fire in the U.S.) that killed 100 people.

In this cycle that is developing the 2015 IFC, the Fire Code Committee

(Proposal F222-13) has approved a proposal that states all A-2 occupancies be retrofitted with fire sprinklers. This adds new text to Chapter 11 of the IFC, which would read: *An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 throughout existing buildings or portions thereof used as Group A-2 occupancies with an occupant load of 300 or more.*

This proposal, if approved by the membership, would require a fire sprinkler system installed in the A-2 occupancy only when the occupant load is 300 or more. Unlike some other sprinkler requirements where the entire fire area, entire floor, or the A-2 portion of the means of egress are sprinklered, this change only requires sprinklers in the A-2 portion of the building.

While this would be welcomed in the IFC, it falls short of what is already in NFPA 101 and the NIST recommendation for nightclubs and like occupancies. The NIST study of the Station Nightclub recommended the threshold at 100 occupants (as it is in new construction), of which is required in NFPA 101 for existing nightclubs, dance halls, discotheques and assembly occupancies with festival seating. However, the A-2 occupancy designation of the IFC does extend into restaurants and dining facilities, (NFPA 101 does not), which is part of the reason for the raised 300 occupant load threshold.

Retrofitting I-2, Condition 2 Occupancies

An I-2, Condition 2 occupancy is a hospital. The "condition" (Condition 1 and Condition 2 is a change in the upcoming 2015 IBC) refers to how the occupants can respond to an emergency, such as a Condition 1 occupant is capable of hearing, listening and responding to evacuation instructions, whereas the Condition 2 occupant will need some sort of assistance to evacuate.

New I-2 occupancies have been required to be fully sprinklered in the IBC since 2000. Since 2009, the IFC has some partial sprinklering requirements, but this proposal (F225-13, submitted by the healthcare industry) will require fire sprinklers throughout, according to NFPA 13.

The proposed wording reads: *In addition to the requirements of Section 1103.5.2, existing buildings of Group I-2, Condition 2 occupancy shall be equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Sec-*

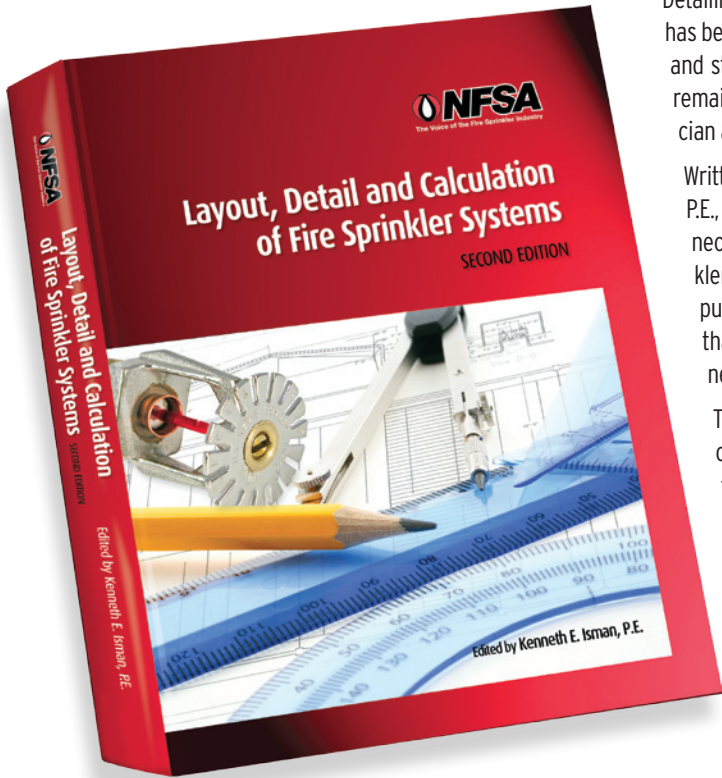
>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



NFSA's Manager
of Codes

Jeff Hugo, CBO

2nd Edition of Layout, Detailing and Calculation of Fire Sprinkler Systems



The NFSA announces the publication of the 2nd Edition of its popular textbook, Layout, Detailing and Calculation of Fire Sprinkler Systems. This newly revised hardcover textbook has been updated to reference the 2007 and 2010 editions of NFPA 13 with more examples and student exercises and new chapters on contract issues and stocklisting. This text remains the most complete book ever written for the fire sprinkler engineering technician and it's available now!

Written by the NFSA Engineering Department staff and edited by Kenneth E. Isman, P.E., Vice President of Engineering, this text covers every aspect of determining the necessary details for a fire sprinkler system including: hazard classifications, sprinkler spacing, hanger and brace requirements, hydraulic calculations, water supplies, pumps and tanks. The text also contains a review of basic math and physical science that is helpful in understanding the scientific principles behind the requirements that need to be followed.

This text makes an excellent self-study guide for the NICET Automatic Sprinkler Layout and Detail certification program and covers all of the work elements necessary to achieve Level 2 certification and many of the elements needed to achieve Level 3 and Level 4 certification. Even if you are not studying for a NICET exam, this text makes an excellent self-study guide for anyone wanting to know more about fire sprinkler systems.

The text retails for \$95 (plus S&H) to members of the NFSA and \$145 for non-members (plus S&H). **However, as an extra added bonus, to reward the people that purchased the first edition of the book, if you clip Ken Isman's picture out of the 1st Edition back cover flap and send it back to us with your order (mail orders only, no fax orders for this offer), then you can take another \$10 off the price of a single book (\$70 + S&H for members and \$120 for non-members).** To get your book, fill out the following form and return it with your payment.

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tion 903.3.1.1. *The automatic sprinkler system shall be installed by [date to be inserted by the jurisdiction].*

This proposal will affect all unsprinklered and partially-sprinklered hospitals and give the local jurisdiction and hospital owners a time frame that is negotiated locally for compliance. The proponents of this proposal state that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services may require retrofitting hospitals by 2021. This proposal would make the IFC more consistent with the direction that federal standards are taking to maintain hospitals.

Retrofitting High-Rises

This proposal is not new to the IFC process, and is one of the major differences between the ICC codes and the NFPA codes. NFPA has had, for several cycles, retrofit requirements for high rises. In the IFC, the proposal always was rejected for a myriad of reasons throughout

the years. However, the IFC committee has settled on a proposal that they like.

This proposal (F347-13) will be in the Appendix of the IFC. This Appendix item will have to be adopted by the local jurisdiction in order to be enforced. This is a benefit to both sides of the community. Where no high-rises exist, then the adoption of the IFC is smooth, however, where there are high-rises, the debate on adopting the Appendix becomes an issue that doesn't affect the remaining text of the IFC. Any text on retrofitting high-rises will be a local debate and modifications to an Appendix are more manageable than removing or modifying text within the document.

The proposed Appendix scope reads: *An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all existing buildings in accordance with the installation requirements and compliance schedule of this appendix. Further in the Appendix the compliance schedule states: Building owners shall file a compliance schedule*

with the fire code official no later than 365 days after the first effective date of this code. The compliance schedule shall not exceed 12 years for an automatic sprinkler system retrofit.

The proponents use many facts in their reason statements that show the safety record of sprinklered high-rises, the dangers of non-sprinklered high-rises, the challenges that face fire departments in high-rise fires and the amount of resources and time it takes to fight a high-rise fire such as the One Meridian Plaza fire in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Hopefully these changes remain and are approved by the Membership in Atlantic City later this year. If passed, the 2015 IFC will have a significant effect on the life safety of citizens of the municipalities where the IFC is adopted. Fire sprinklers have saved countless lives and countless dollars in nightclubs, hospitals and high-rises. Stay tuned to NFSA for further developments in the upcoming final action hearings in Atlantic City.

Retrofitting A-2 Occupancies

"An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 throughout existing buildings or portions thereof used as Group A-2 occupancies with an occupant load of 300 or more."

Retrofitting I-2, Condition 2 Occupancies

"In addition to the requirements of Section 1103.5.2, existing buildings of Group I-2, Condition 2 occupancy shall be equipped throughout with an approve automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. The automatic sprinkler system shall be installed by [date to be inserted by the jurisdiction]."

Retrofitting High-Rises

"An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in all existing buildings in accordance with the installation requirements and compliance schedule of this appendix. Further in the Appendix the compliance schedule states: Building owners shall file a compliance schedule with the fire code official no later than 365 days after the first effective date of this code. The compliance schedule shall not exceed 12 years for an automatic sprinkler system retrofit."

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“IT WAS A GREAT IDEA TO COMBINE THE NFSA SHOW WITH CASA AND AMRACI. I BELIEVE THAT ALMOST HALF OF OUR BOOTH TRAFFIC WAS CANADIAN. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT THIS FORMULA WILL BE WHAT WE SEE IN FUTURE NFSA EVENTS!”

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—CHUCK SUTTON, PRESIDENT/CEO, GLOBAL VISION INC.

WHAT HAPPENED IN VEGAS...

If you were not at this year's Annual Seminar and North American Fire Sprinkler Expo® held April 4 - 6th at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, you missed out on what many suppliers, manufacturers and contractors in attendance are calling the best fire sprinkler industry conference and exhibition ever, with rave reviews coming in from all corners of the continent. The partnership that was two years in the making between the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA), Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association (CASA) and Mexican Fire Sprinkler Association (AMRACI), the three North American fire sprinkler associations, proved to be a formula for success. In fact, in keeping with this year's theme, "Dealing the Competitive Advantage for Success," to put it in the vernacular, the over 1,000 registrants in attendance were dealt the winning hand.

New to the conference format this year were member meetings conducted by each of the three associations, which allowed for their respective memberships to hear speaker presentations on topics unique to each country and association. From there it was on to a joint fire sprinkler contractors forum, a meeting of only senior contractor management, where they are able to share ideas and address issues of common interest. This open forum, conducted in town-meeting style moderated by an NFSA contractor board member, is felt by many contractors to be the most valuable time spent over the course of the entire conference.

Anticipation was high and the spirit light as the general session officially opened the conference. Emcee Bruce LaRue donned St. Louis Cardinals



This year's Master of Ceremonies, Bruce LaRue, donned St. Louis regalia in recognition of the Association's founding roots.

NFSA's Chair of the Board, Dennis Coleman, welcomes one of the largest opening session crowds ever at an NFSA Annual Seminar



NFSA's Northwest Area Director, Jim Boulanger, presents a Caesars representative with the "Rest Assured" award

Awards Committee Chair Kevin Ortyl recognizes Steve Hart as this year's Leadership in Public Safety Award recipient





This year's inductees into the Fire Sprinkler Hall of Fame included Ed Corcoran, Carl Cutrell, Jr., Rex Miller, Ed Reilly, John Viniello and Verne Wiseman. Family and friends were in attendance to accept on their behalf



NFSA's Ken Isman presents the Technical Service Award to this year's recipient, Jim Retzlaff



Awards Committee Chair Kevin Ortyl had the privilege of presenting the Golden Sprinkler Award to this year's recipient, Richard Ackley



Rich Ackley is congratulated by his wife Renee

regalia, not to pay homage to his hometown team - or so he said, but to recognize the founding of the Association back in 1905 St. Louis. As has been tradition, Jim Boulanger, NFSA's Northwest Area Director, presented the "Rest Assured" Award to a Caesars' representative, signifying that the hotel is protected with an automatic fire sprinkler system and that all guests are safe from fire. NFSA's Awards Committee Chairman, Kevin Ortyl, introduced this year's class inducted into the Fire Sprinkler Hall of Fame and Steve Hart as this year's Leadership in Public Safety Award recipient. Following presentation of the Technical Service Award to Jim Retzlaff, it was on to what is always a conference highlight, the presentation of the Golden Sprinkler Award. This year's recipient was Richard Ackley of Dalmatian Fire.

"On with the show," another Vegas vernacular, was fitting for the opening of the first North American Fire Sprinkler Expo®. With fire sprinkler contractors from all over the U.S., Canada and Mexico in attendance for this inaugural trade show, it was truly a world-class event. Over 110 booths were taken by the broadest range of fire sprinkler industry suppliers and manufacturers who displayed the latest in products available to the fire sprinkler contractor. Leading technical experts were on hand to provide answers to the most difficult installation challenges. Interwoven into the exhibition fiber was the Top Tech Competition. In a game-show format, this competition pits the best fire sprinkler layout technicians in the industry against each other for cash prizes and two years worth of bragging rights as the industry's top technicians. This year's competition came down to two teams; one from the Great Lakes region, the other, defending champs from the Northeast region. In a highly



The Presidents of the three host Association's, Mike McDaniel of AMRACI, John Galt of CASA and Russ Fleming of NFSA, address the conference



The opening of the first North American Fire Sprinkler Expo® included a ceremonial ribbon-cutting



> One of NFSA's newest SAM members, W.S. Darley, talks with customers during the show



< An AMRACI supplier member supports the expo



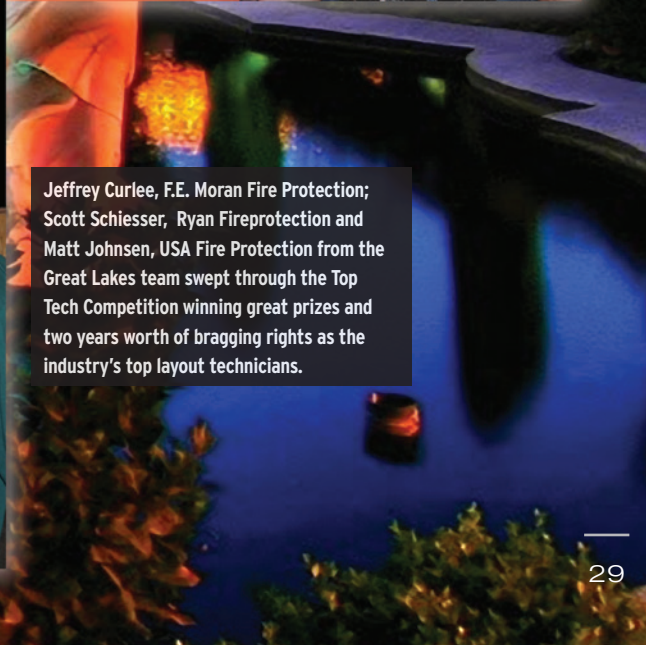
< Tom Colangelo from team Sammy demonstrates his enthusiasm



A large crowd gathers in the exhibition hall in anticipation of the Top Tech Competition



Christopher Crivello, Truvue Inspection Technologies; Michael Miller, SRI Fire Sprinkler LLC and Matt Austin, Code Consultants, PC of Team Northeast battled through the preliminary rounds of the Top Tech Competition



Jeffrey Curlee, F.E. Moran Fire Protection; Scott Schiesser, Ryan Fireprotection and Matt Johnsen, USA Fire Protection from the Great Lakes team swept through the Top Tech Competition winning great prizes and two years worth of bragging rights as the industry's top layout technicians.



contested match that came down to the final question, Team Great Lakes emerged triumphant.

This year, 18 workshop topics were featured on the program. They were divided into six targeted tracks with each presentation being delivered by an expert in their respective areas of practice. Sessions such as Changes to NFPA 25, NFPA 13: The 2013 Update and NFPA 20 Update were so popular they were scheduled to be presented twice, each to standing room only crowds. In addition to great take away value, attendees also received valuable CEUs for their participation.

As the conference concluded with a closing banquet and awards were presented to those who excelled in the golf tournament, there was a sense that something very special had been accomplished. That a bond had been created between the three sponsoring organizations, one that will move the fire sprinkler industry in North America forward, laying the groundwork for future collaborations.

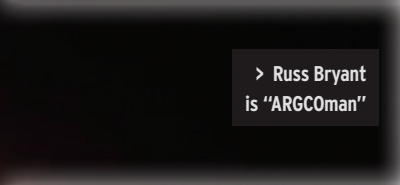
Plans for the 2015 NFSA Annual Seminar and North American Fire Sprinkler Expo® scheduled for April 30 - May 2 at Hilton Bonnet Creek Resort in Orlando are already underway. Booth space is being made available through NFSA's show management firm, Exhibit Promotions Plus. SAM and Manufacturer members interested in reserving space should contact Harve Horowitz at exhibit@epponline.com.

As a reminder, next year's NFSA Annual Seminar will be held May 8 - 10, 2014 at Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas. Plan on bringing the family. The aquarium and water park are world-class and alone are worth the trip. Look for registration materials at the NFSA website by year's end. ①

SEE YOU THERE!



< Rick Dobbs, Dave Weinrich and Mark Abernathy from Bull Moose Tube



> Russ Bryant is "ARGCOman"



< Grundfos, another new NFSA SAM member, displays Peerless Pumps



> Visitors to the Global Vision booth received warm greetings from Diane, Kasey, and Terri



"Building Connections That Last," the theme at the Anvil booth could also be said about the three sponsoring Associations, AMRACI, CASA and NFSA, who have agreed to a repeat performance for the 2015 Annual Seminar and what will be the second North American Fire Sprinkler Expo® being held April 30 - May 2 at Hilton Bonnet Creek Resort in Orlando



< Fire sprinkler industry metrics expert, Greg Coggiano, talks economics during an exclusive member meeting



> Internationally renowned fire protection consultant, Bill Koffel, seeks input from workshop attendees



"Hot-topic" workshop sessions were filled to capacity. Here, Matt Klaus, NFPA sprinkler documents staff liaison, provides an NFPA 13 update.



NFSA's newly appointed Director of ITM, Jason Webb, delivers and presentation in the Health Care track.



GSA recipient Rich Ackley arrives at the banquet with his entourage

LAS VEGAS 2013



New to NFSA's engineering department, Roland Asp with his wife Lisa



AMRACI President with his wife Kimberly. That's Alan Brinson, European Fire Sprinkler Network Executive Director with them



Newly appointed Labor Relations Manager, Carla Gunther



CASA members Tim and Denise Voronoff



NFSA's Marketing Manager and social media maven, Joanne Genadio



Mike Repko, NFSA's database guru



< David Asplund, Bobby Eagle, Mike Puumalainen and Dennis Sekermestrovich took 1st place in the golf scramble



The "Clark Cup" tournament was closely contested with Canada pulling off the upset over the U.S. team. David Vandeyar of the U.S. team makes a symbolic award presentation to John Galt, President of the Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association.



< As the banquet draws to a close signaling an end to the first NFSA Annual Seminar and North American Fire Sprinkler Expo®, South Central Regional Manager, Cindy Giedraitis, "rocks the house" with who appears to be James Bond.

Let's stay in touch!

Are you aware that NFSA is very active on today's social networks? We feel that if you want to change public opinion, you've got to be a part of it. Join us, visit us, email us, facebook us and you'll get updates on what's going on in our industry, breaking news from across the country and, best of all, the chance to network with not only your industry peers, but the American public as well.



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Join us

search: National Fire Sprinkler Association in "Groups"



Facebook us

search: Nat Firesprinkler



Visit us

www.nfsa.org



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<http://twitter.com/NFSAorg>

Okay...Everybody in the Pool!

By Joanne Genadio

Social Media is no longer the “wave of the future.” It is here, it is now, it is relevant and it is thriving. If your company does not have a social media presence, you are missing out on some wonderful advantages. There’s free publicity, brand recognition, industry advancement and potential customers out there. What’s holding you back?

I started the NFSA Social Network back in 2009, not really knowing what I was doing, just knowing I liked to write, to communicate and to see what others in the industry were up to. Okay, I’m nosy! So, I googled, I researched, I attended webinars and I learned as much as I could to give us a good start. Since the Social Network is only one component of my job responsibilities, I chose three venues to get us involved with; LinkedIn™, Facebook™ and Twitter™. Each one has specific merits and different audiences. I’ve mentioned each of their attributes in previous **SQ** articles. If interested, you can access back issues of **SQ** on the NFSA website. This article is to tell you what I’ve learned over the past 4 years. Believe me, I’ve learned a lot more by doing than anything I’ve googled or researched or read.

LinkedIn

As was reported earlier this year, NFSA’s LinkedIn profile was among the top 1% most-viewed profiles on the site. LinkedIn has over two million profiles. Since I see this as one of my greatest successes, let me tell you how I did it.

First let me say that I spend, on average, about 30 to 45 minutes a day on LinkedIn. That’s not a big investment, so don’t use the “I don’t have time” excuse! It may take you a while to set up and expand your LinkedIn Group and connections, but once established, about 30 minutes a day should be all the attention it requires to thrive.

I started by forming the National Fire Sprinkler Association Group. I sent out invitations, gained some group members and waited... and waited and waited. Although I had a group, although I posted something new to the group every day, I was not getting much of a response from group members. What was I doing wrong? Also, I realized I didn’t want to just reach connections in the NFSA group. I wanted to be able to bring the fire sprinkler initiative to others as well. So, I joined other groups; BOMA, IAFF, ICC, NICET, HFSC, SFPE, and many other relevant groups, for a total of 41. Should you want the complete list, please email me. I’d love to have some compadres to help me spread the word. I am continually searching for more groups to add to our LinkedIn Network. Once in the groups, I see which members start the most discussions and participate by commenting, then I invite them to join the NFSA group. Over time, this has helped in making our group more active. To date, with all the groups that I’ve joined, when I post a story or start a discussion, it is seen by approximately 123,000. Not too shabby. The best thing is, this number grows every day!

I’m not going to tell you that all the comments on the discussions that I post are positive. Some LinkedIn groups, particularly one that shall remain unnamed (*Thanks, Jeff Hugo, for telling me to join it*) are close to downright hostile. It used to infuriate me that the comments my discussions were receiving were so anti-sprinkler until I realized, hey, at least they’re talking about it. I harkened back to my Public Relations 101 class and Professor Simon telling us “The only bad publicity is no publicity.” Some of the comments would go on for weeks, and ultimately some pro-sprinkler comments would work themselves into the fray (more often than not, blowing the anti-sprinkler comments right out of the water!) People were talking about sprinklers, and they were keeping the discussions in the public eye for weeks! Not bad, not bad at all.

Facebook

Our Nat Firesprinkler Page on Facebook has over 5,000 “likes.” Looking at the demographics, the majority of our followers on Facebook are in the fire

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 36



NFSA's
Marketing Manager

Joanne Genadio

service. My biggest tip for Facebook users; don't be too serious! Facebook vs. LinkedIn is like Dr. Jekyll vs. Mr. Hyde. I find I can let my hair down more on Facebook, and our followers appreciate it. When I post, I use informal language when it warrants. I will wish people happy birthday if I catch that it's their special day. I also infrequently post a joke or two. Doing this has definitely led to more people reading my more serious posts and commenting, sharing or "liking" them. If all you do is post news articles or business related news, don't waste your time on Facebook. While those types of posts are highly prized and will lead to lively discussions on LinkedIn, they are a big yawn on Facebook, unless of course you throw some entertainment in between your educational pieces, or write an attention getting headline when you post a news story to attract your audience. If a member of the fire service has a great quote in an article you're posting, mention it in your headline! Give kudos to the fire service! I guarantee you'll not only get people to read and like the news story, they'll share it also, increasing your viewership by many fold.

While most people go on LinkedIn to

be informed, educated or connected, people tend to go on Facebook to catch up with friends, take a casual glance at what's going on, and be entertained. Knowing the differences between social media sites and the purpose that people use them will greatly enhance your success and ability to grow your network.

Twitter

I use the NFSA Twitter account to post news I want to get out quickly. Please note that your tweets will only go to your followers. So, how to get them? Send out invitations to those you know that have a Twitter account (and to those that should) and start tweeting. You'll pick up some random followers here and there as Twitter suggests to its members what Tweeters may interest them and who they should follow. You will get the same suggestions, so, follow, follow, follow. Follow any people, groups or companies that have anything to do with the subject you are trying to promote. Most times, when you follow a Tweeter, they will follow you in return. Get your followers to tag you in their tweets. When our followers insert @nfsaorg or #nfsaorg, I receive email notification that we were mentioned

in a tweet and I have the opportunity to view or retweet it. Being tagged in others' tweets is also a great way to get your name around and increase brand awareness. If your tag is clicked on, it will link to your Twitter account, where who you are and what you're all about can be viewed, another way to get more followers!

Twitter is also a great vehicle to drive people to your website. Include a link to your website every time you tweet. You also can upload photos to Twitter. I use this feature often to show where we are and what we're doing.

As you can see, each of these social media sites had its distinct advantages. Knowing your audience, knowing what each is good for, knowing what to post, when to post and how to post to each of these sites will definitely ensure your growth and success on social media networks.

I would be more than happy to help any member who would like some advice or guidance setting up their social networks. Please take advantage of the 4 years of hits, misses and successes that I've had with the NFSA social networks. Contact me at genadio@nfsa.org or 845.878.4200 ext. 118. *Come on, it's time to get your feet wet!* 🏊

NEW MEMBERS

CONTRACTOR

Marcus Aguilar
S&A Fire and Safety
Farmers Branch, Texas

Steve Carroll
KJ Funke & Associates
Indianapolis, Indiana

Rick De Artola
CO CAL LLC
Centennial, Colorado

Jamie Duque Diaz
Active Fire Sprinkler, Inc.
Miami, Florida

Benjamin McCurley
Thorpe Design, LLC.
Nashville, Tennessee

Jenalee Nichols
Dal-Fire Sprinklers Inc.
Royse City, Texas

SUBSCRIBER

Robert Bartels
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
Marinette, Wisconsin

David Garces
State of Wisconsin
Greenfield, Wisconsin

Greg Holmes
Capron, Illinois

Marius Laursen
Mitchell Fire Department
Mitchell, South Dakota

J.P. Penet
Belleville Fire Department
Belleville, Illinois

Robert Reichert
Village of Skokie Fire Department
Skokie, Illinois

Mike Sheets
City of Traverse City Fire Department
Traverse City, Michigan

Michael Vaughan
Vail Fire & Emergency Services
Vail, Colorado

Kent Wise
LDS Church
Salt Lake City, Utah

Sheldon Zell
Beverly Hills Fire Department
Beverly Hills, California

Go to www.nfsa.org now and select the "Why Join" tab to see all NFSA membership has to offer.

By Karl Wiegand, P.E.

Best EOD Questions of 2012

Editor's Note: Karl Wiegand left the NFSA at the end of April to go to work for Globe Sprinkler. We turned his presentation on the Best EOD Questions of 2012 at the NFSA Annual Seminar in April 2013 into his final article for SQ magazine.

What is EOD?

The NFSA offers an Expert of the Day (EOD) service as a free benefit of membership to all classes of members in the association. Every business day (Monday through Friday, except holidays) during regular business hours in the Eastern time zone, a member of the NFSA Engineering staff is assigned the duty of standing by and answering the questions that come from our members by phone, fax or e-mail. In the last few years, about half of the questions come by phone and about half of the questions come by e-mail. We haven't seen a question come in by fax in a long time.

To get to the EOD, you can call our main switchboard at (845)878-4200 and press "5" when you start to hear the voice give you options. An assistant will take your name and company, verify that you are a member, and transfer you to the person answering questions that day. To get to the EOD via e-mail, send your request to EOD@nfsa.org and it will be forwarded to the person that has the duty that day. If you really want to send your request by fax, you can send it to us at (845) 878-4215.

We get between 2,000 and 2,500 questions per year. The average response time to a question is less than a single business day. Some questions take a little bit of time to research and answer correctly, but we pride ourselves on the fact that we respond very quickly.

The following questions represent a cross section of the type of questions that we get each year and are among Karl's favorite to answer:

Question 1 - Sprinklers of Different Orifice Sizes *Can two sprinklers with different size orifices be installed in the same compartment?*

Answer to Question 1 - Yes, but you need to be careful that the sprinklers have the same response type link (can't mix standard response links with fast response links in the same compartment) and you are not allowed to use a smaller orifice sprinkler just to balance the flow on a branch line or main.

A common example of an acceptable mix of different orifice sprinklers occurs in typical hotel guest rooms. The sidewall sprinkler that sprays across the room is typically a k-5.6 or k-8 sidewall sprinkler while the pendent sprinkler in the area near the door to the hall is usually a smaller orifice. This is fine because the purpose of the smaller orifice sprinkler is not to balance the system. It is a pendent sprinkler covering a smaller area than the sidewall.

Question 2 - Sprinkler Temperature Classification *We are confused by Table 8.3.2.5(a), especially for downward discharge diffusers where it says, "Any distance except as shown under Intermediate-Temperature Rating column." Can you help explain how to use the table?*

Answer to Question 2 - The table is sometimes easier to read from right to left. In

the case of downward discharging diffusers, intermediate temperature sprinklers are required close to the diffuser as shown in the intermediate temperature column (a cylinder 1 ft away from the diffuser continuing down 1 ft below the diffuser and 2.5 ft above the diffuser if the diffuser is on a duct below the ceiling). If the sprinkler falls anywhere outside of this cylinder, it is far enough away that you can use an ordinary temperature sprinkler.

Question 3 - Sprinklers and their Effective Height *Is there a height (a ceiling above a floor) at which standard spray sprinklers will become ineffective?*

Answer to Question 3 - No. NFPA 13 does not have an effective height limitation. Tests have been conducted at ceiling heights up to 100 ft and found that sprinklers are effective. Not only do you need to worry about water getting down to the fire, but sprinklers are also effective at cooling the structural members up near the ceiling.

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 38



Former NFSA
Manager of
Installation
Standards

Karl Wiegand, P.E.

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

For more information on this topic, see the articles: High on Sprinklers, High on Sprinklers 2, and Still High on Sprinklers in the SQ magazine archives. These articles were written by Russ Fleming and Ken Isman and they document the fire tests and other arguments surrounding the issue of using sprinklers in high ceiling spaces.

Question 4 - Sprinklers: After Fire Replacement

After a fire what sprinklers should be replaced? Should we replace only those sprinklers that opened during the fire or are there others that should be replaced?

Answer to Question 4 - The sprinklers that opened during the fire obviously need to be replaced. Other sprinklers that were near the fire that did not open might have been subjected to enough heat to weaken the sprinkler, but there is no specific rule that says they need to be replaced. Solder

link sprinklers are generally better than glass bulb sprinklers at being heated close to their operating temperature, but there is no specific requirement to replace any sprinklers that did not open. Many people will replace all of the sprinklers in the fire compartment or at least the sprinklers surrounding those that opened since the cost is minimal given that the system is already drained in order to replace the sprinklers that opened in the fire.

NFPA 25 says that sprinklers that are loaded or missing fluid from the bulb should be replaced. During a fire, soot can build up on sprinklers. This soot should be considered "loading" of the sprinkler and if it cannot be removed by a vacuum (that does not touch the sprinkler), the sprinkler will need to be replaced.

Question 5 - Reusing Sprinklers

Sprinklers are frequently taken out of their fittings for a variety of reasons (to release air while filling a system or to per-

form an internal inspection in accordance with NFPA 25 to name two). If a sprinkler is taken out of its fitting, can it be reinserted?

Answer to Question 5 - In the 2010 and previous editions of NFPA 13, the standard only addressed the use of sprinklers for new installations. The re-use of a sprinkler was not directly addressed. The contractor could re-use sprinklers at their own risk. One of the concerns was how the sprinkler was treated while it is out of the fitting. Was it subjected to higher temperatures? Was it damaged as it was carried around?

For the 2013 edition of NFPA 13, the committee chose to directly address this subject. The standard now requires that a sprinkler removed from its fitting be replaced with a new sprinkler. Note that this does not cover the situation of a drop being removed from a system. A sprinkler on a drop, where the whole drop has been removed, has not been removed from its fitting. As such, the drop with the sprinkler on it could be re-inserted into the system, assuming that the sprinkler was

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not damaged or exposed to high temperature while it was out of the system. The contractor is still taking the risk with such a re-insertion, but it is permitted.

Question 6 - New Sprinklers

NFPA 13 requires the use of new sprinklers. We recently received a shipment of sprinklers from a manufacturer that were made three years ago, but never installed in a system. Are these still new sprinklers?

Answer to Question 6 - Yes. The definition of a "new sprinkler" is a sprinkler that has never been installed in a system. It is common for sprinklers to sit in a spare sprinkler cabinet for years and then be installed after a sprinkler has opened in the system (hopefully to control a fire). The same timeframe is allowed for sprinklers being delivered from a warehouse. It does not matter how old the sprinklers are, just that they have not been installed in a system before.

The manufacturer, supplier and contractor do need to make sure that older sprinklers have not been exposed to high temperature while they have been in storage. This can be done by managing the delivery and storage chain.

Question 7 - Obstruction Rules: Three Times Rule in Light and Ordinary Hazard

If a 2 ft wide cable tray or light fixture is directly under sprinklers in an ordinary hazard occupancy with less than 18 in. vertically between the sprinklers and the cable tray or light fixtures. Is this a problem?

Answer to Question 7 - No, as long as the object in question is not a structural member and the space is not considered extra hazard. Also, the sprinklers must be spray sprinklers (quick response or standard response) being used at their standard spacing. The rule is in section 8.6, which means that it applies to spray sprinklers at standard spacing, not extended coverage sprinklers.

The rule being discussed here

(8.6.5.2.1.4) assumes that the top of the obstruction is below the plane of the deflector. Watch out for situations where the obstruction is above the plane of the deflector, which creates other obstruction issues that need to be solved by one of the variations of the beam rule (8.6.5.1.2).

Question 8 - Obstruction Rules: Large Soffits

Are sprinklers required under all soffits more than 30 in. wide since NFPA 13 Section 8.6.5.1.2(3) and Figure 8.6.5.1.2(b) are only applicable to soffits up to 30 in. wide?

Answer to Question 8 - No. The intent of section 8.6.5.1.2 is to offer options. If the soffit is more than 30 inches wide, you cannot use the option of Figure 8.6.5.1.2(b), but you can use other options like Figure 8.6.5.1.2(a) rather than put a sprinkler under the soffit.

Question 9 - Obstructed Construction More Than 22 in. Deep

We have a situation with upright standard spray sprinklers where steel structural members are 28 in. deep and approximately 40 percent open with an 8 in wide flange being installed 4 ft on center. Where can we put the sprinkler in relation to the deck and/or the bottom of the structural members?

Answer to Question 9 - There are at least three options for how to handle this protection of obstructed construction. The first option is to put sprinklers in every bay created by the structural members [see section 8.6.4.1.2(3)]. In this case, the deflectors would need to be within 1 to 12 inches of the deck above the structural members. The sprinklers won't be able to be in the center of each bay due to the minimum distance requirement of 6 ft. Since the structural members are open, you can't count on them serving as a baffle. If you don't want to install baffles near the sprinklers, you'll have to spread the sprinklers out so that they are at least 6 ft apart in each bay.

The second option would be to install

insulation 6 inches deep at the top of each bay created by the structural members. This would lower the effective deck and allow the sprinklers to be installed within the bay flush with the bottom flange (22 inches below the bottom of the insulation, which is effectively the deck of the space). If sprinklers and insulation were installed in this manner, sprinklers would not be needed in each bay. Sprinklers could be spaced perpendicular to the run of the structural members using any spacing appropriate for the hazard classification.

The third option would be to install insulation 3 inches deep at the top of each bay created by the structural members. This would lower the effective deck and allow the sprinklers to be installed within the bay 3 inches above the bottom flange (22 inches below the bottom of the insulation, which is effectively the deck of the space). If sprinklers and insulation were installed in this manner, sprinklers would not be needed in each bay. Sprinklers could be spaced perpendicular to the run of the structural members using any spacing appropriate for the hazard classification as long as the sprinklers were approximately centered in the bay. This would be permitted because Table 8.6.5.1.2 allows the sprinkler to be as much as 3.5 inches above the bottom of the structural member as long as it is at least 18 inches away from the structural member. Since our sprinkler is only 3 inches above the bottom of the member, this location will work. A sprinkler centered in the bay would be 20 inches from the near edge of the flange and therefore would meet this rule for spraying under the structural member.

Question 10 - Standpipes and NFPA 13R Are standpipes required for NFPA 13R systems?

Answer to Question 10 - The requirement for standpipe systems comes from the building code, fire code or other code documents, not NFPA 13R. The International Building Code (IBC) requires standpipes in all buildings (except R-3) where the floor of the top story is more than 30 feet above the lowest level of fire department

vehicle access. Many buildings that are protected in accordance with NFPA 13R meet this distance requirement and need standpipe systems. Other codes have similar rules to the IBC. When a standpipe system is required in a building also being protected with sprinklers under NFPA 13R, the supply pipes can be combined and the standpipe system is permitted to be a manual-wet system, which can frequently be done without a fire pump as long as the NFPA 13R system demand is met.

Question 11 - Residential Systems and Dry System Water Delivery Time

We are protecting a dwelling unit in accordance with NFPA 13 using quick response sprinklers in a dry pipe system. We believe that our water delivery time is permitted to be 60 seconds. The AHJ insists that the water delivery time is 15 seconds. Who is correct?

Answer to Question 11 - The AHJ is correct for 2010 and 2013 editions of NFPA 13. Back in the 2007 edition of NFPA 13, the 60 second rule applied to dwelling units. Prior to that, the water delivery time was not required to be any specific time if the dry system was under 500 gallons or if the dry system was under 750 gallons with a quick opening device (accelerator or exhauster). Note that this summary of rules only applies to dwelling units protected with dry systems. Other rules apply to other occupancies.

Question 12 - Hose Stream Requirements for NFPA 13R

Is there a requirement to include hose stream demand for an NFPA 13R system?

Answer to Question 12 - No. NFPA 13R systems do not have any requirements for hose stream demand.

Question 13 - What is Required During an Inspection?

If portions of a system are not installed in accordance with NFPA 13 is it a violation of NFPA 25? For example what if we find the following during an inspection:

- A 6 ft wide duct has no sprinkler under it
- A room with no sprinkler
- Garage door with no sprinkler under it

Answer to Question 13 - NFPA 25 is not intended to make sure systems are installed in complete compliance with NFPA 13. The purpose of NFPA 25 is to make sure that systems work as they were originally installed. These systems went through an acceptance procedure and were permitted to go into service as they were installed.

Providing an evaluation of the system would greatly increase liability on the inspector and would violate engineering licensing laws in most states since engineering judgment would be required to completely evaluate the compliance of an existing system to NFPA 13.

When you are conducting an inspection and you do notice a design issue, you should point it out to the building owner, but do it on a separate form from the regular inspection form and make sure that the separate form has a disclaimer that mentions that you did not perform a full investigation of the whole system. You need to make it clear that you noticed some things that need further action or investigation on the owner's part, but that you did not completely look at the whole system.

Question 14 - Internal Inspections vs. Obstruction Investigations

What is the difference between an internal inspection and an obstruction investigation?

Answer to Question 14 - Internal inspections are required to be performed once every 5 years in metallic pipe systems. This is simply removing one flushing connection and one sprinkler and looking into the pipe to see if you can see anything wrong. It is intended to be coordinated with the internal inspection of the check

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valves so that it does not require additional draining of the system. In buildings with multiple systems, every other system needs to be inspected every 5 years.

An obstruction investigation is more involved, but it does not need to be done on any regular interval. Instead, an obstruction investigation only needs to be performed when one of the 14 conditions occurs that suggests there is an obstruction in the system. If the condition is one that could reoccur, then the obstruction investigations must be done every 5 years. The 14 conditions that suggest that there might be an obstruction in the system are:

1. Defective intake of fire pumps taking suction from open bodies of water
2. Discharge of obstructive material
3. Foreign material in fire pumps, dry pipe valve, or check valves
4. Foreign material in water during tests
5. Plugged sprinklers
6. Plugged piping
7. Failure to flush yard piping after installation or repairs
8. Broken main in the vicinity
9. Abnormally frequent false tripping of dry pipe valve
10. System return to service after a shutdown of more than a year
11. Sodium silicate or corrosive fluxes in copper systems
12. Raw water
13. Pinhole leaks
14. 50 percent increase in full flow trip test time

**Question 15 -
Testing of Manual Standpipe Systems**
Does NFPA 25 require manual standpipe systems to be flow tested every 5 years?

Answer to Question 15 - Using the 2011 and previous editions of NFPA 25, the answer to this question is no. Only automatic standpipe systems must be tested. The way that the NFPA committee processed the 2014 edition of NFPA 25, all standpipe systems will be required to be fully flow tested every 5 years. However, there is some debate over this issue and the NFPA membership will be discussing it at their meeting in June with appeals to the Stan-

dards Council in August of 2013.

**Question 16 -
Adjacent Bathrooms**
NFPA 13, NFPA 13R, and NFPA 13D allow sprinklers to be omitted from bathrooms that are 55 sq ft in area or less. Can a bathroom be divided into multiple compartments so that each compartment is less than 55 sq ft and none of the compartments is sprinklered?

Answer to Question 16 - Yes. It is possible to subdivide a bathroom with walls and/or lintels so that different areas of the bathroom each meet the rules for a compartment and each would be evaluated separately as to whether they exceeded 55 sq ft.

**Question 17 -
Quick Response Reduction**
Can the quick response sprinkler reduction for design area be used on dry systems?

Answer to Question 17 - No. In order for the quick response sprinkler reduction to be used the system is required to be a wet pipe system. See section 11.2.3.2.3.1(1).

**Question 18 -
Abandoned Equipment**
If a new sprinkler system is installed does the old equipment need to be removed?

Answer to Question 18 - Per section 27.2 of NFPA 13, sprinklers, hose valves, hoses, and alarm devices need to be removed. Control valves must have their operating mechanisms removed. Piping and other valves can remain as long as they are identified to differentiate them from working equipment.

The International Fire Code (IFC) requires that no device be allowed that looks like a fire protection device that does not perform the function of a fire protection device. This means that devices that look like fire protection devices need to be removed. In some cases, the AHJ might permit removing the equipment from sight by covering it up rather than pulling it out. ①



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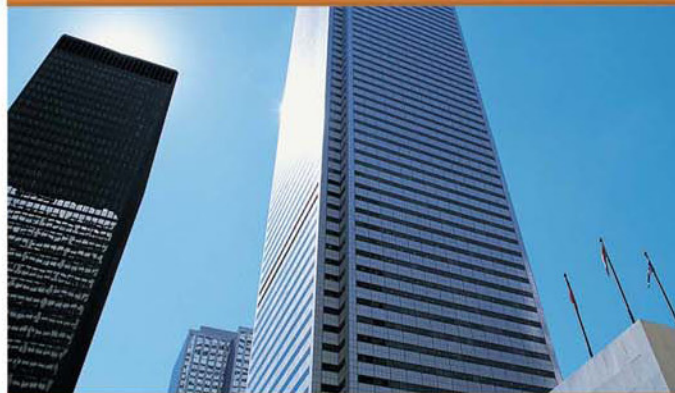
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Which Edition Applies

By Jason Webb

A common question about NFPA 25 is which edition of the standard applies to the system on which the inspection, testing and maintenance (ITM) is being conducted?

Some people think the answer is the edition of the standard that was in place when the system was installed. Others contend it would be the current edition. The answer, however, is that it depends.

NFPA 25 is intended to address a wide variety of ITM issues on systems both new and old. It is applicable to those systems covered by the scope of the edition that is in place when that particular edition is adopted by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). In other words, whichever edition of NFPA 25 the jurisdiction references is the applicable standard. This reference is typically found in the fire code. Certain facilities can fall under multiple jurisdictions and therefore may have differing references to NFPA 25. See *Table 1* for a partial list of commonly adopted codes and their reference to NFPA 25.

Sometimes a particular edition is referenced by a state-wide building or fire code and is therefore applicable throughout that state. But in many cases, the individual jurisdictions within the state are authorized to adopt whatever is deemed suitable by them. So simply by crossing the street into another jurisdiction, the contractor may find a different edition of the standard adopted. Systems in build-

ings regulated by state or federal agencies may be covered by an edition that is not consistent with what the local jurisdiction enforces. In that case, generally the most stringent rule applies.

Code Adopted by AHJ	Referenced Edition of NFPA 25
2006 IBC/IFC	2002
2009 IBC/IFC	2008
2012 IBC/IFC	2011
2006 NFPA 1	2002
2012 NFPA 1	2011
2000 NFPA 101*	1998
2006 NFPA 101	2002
2009 NFPA 101	2008
2012 NFPA 101	2011

Table 1- Current federal health care (CMS) reference

You may ask yourself, does it matter? The answer to that question is yes. Changes from one edition to another can range from as simple as cleaning up minor typographical errors to as impactful as changes to who is responsible and for what. Removal or addition of a single word can represent major changes in what the inspector is responsible for confirming. Likewise, changes to the required frequency of inspections or tests can be significant.

For example, when inspecting pipe, the term "misalignment" is included in a list of things the inspector is to check for in the 2002 edition but was removed in the

2008 edition (section 5.2.2.1). In the 2008 edition, electric fire pumps were required to be tested weekly. That changed to monthly in the 2011 edition (section 8.3.1). There have also been changes and additions to definitions over these cycles that have given guidance and clarification to certain terms used in the course of ITM reporting.

In order to be sure which standard applies, the AHJ should be consulted to determine which edition is adopted. Everyone involved in the ITM process should know and understand these differences. The contractor or maintenance person engaged in ITM work has to be sure the work they are performing is within the scope of NFPA 25. The importance to the AHJ and building owner is in knowing what to expect from the ITM work being done. For a more in-depth review of changes that have taken place over the last three editions of NFPA 25, visit www.nfsa.tv and navigate to the ITM channel.📺



Director of
Inspection, Testing
& Maintenance

Jason Webb

David A. LaFond Appointed NFSA New England Regional Manager

NFSA is pleased to announce that effective June 16, 2013, **David A. LaFond** has accepted the position of New England Regional Manager. In this new position, LaFond will be responsible for bringing NFSA services to members in the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

David A. LaFond began his fire service career with the City of Holyoke Fire Department, Massachusetts, in 1979. He progressed through the ranks of leadership culminating with being promoted to Chief of the Department in 1995.



As Fire Chief, he delivered operational leadership to a Department of 140 personnel, supporting safety and security for an urban community of 40,000. He established and maintained a comprehensive emergency planning and preparedness program, including training drills and continuing education. Chief LaFond orchestrated city wide emergency response covering state and local agencies. He spearheaded strategic and financial planning, allocating an annual \$9 million budget toward supplies, equipment, repairs, maintenance and upgrades. He handled media relations, follow-up reports, and court testimony and introduced safety and security standards throughout the City.

Under Chief LaFond's leadership, he controlled a city wide arson problem, dramatically improving the safety of Holyoke's citizens. This was accomplished through responsible education, enforcement and engineering standards with

State mandated and local adoption of progressive fire codes.

Over time, this improvement to fire safety was recognized by not only the Massachusetts Fire Chief's Leadership in Fire Education Award to Chief LaFond, but also to key members of the Fire Department who received highest honors from the Massachusetts Governor for fire prevention and the NFPA's Annual Award for fire and life safety education.

Chief LaFond has served in various leadership positions throughout his profession includ-

ing President of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts. He was appointed by four different Governors to work in the Massachusetts Fire Service Commission, resulting in serving as Chairman.

He served as President of the County-wide Mutual Aid Association and was also appointed to serve on the Western Regional Homeland Security Council. He is past Chairman of Holyoke's Board of Public Safety. He retired from the Holyoke Fire Department in 2010 and was then recruited to work as the interim Fire Chief, Chelsea, Massachusetts, until the end of 2011.

Currently, Chief LaFond is the Chairman of Holyoke's Emergency Planning and Preparedness Committee and Executive Director of the Western Massachusetts Fire Chiefs Association. He has been working as a Public Safety consultant in the private sector and is a Certified Mentor for the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts.

NFSA President Russ Fleming stated that "David LaFond is committed to the fire sprinkler concept, as evidenced by the major role he played following the Station Nightclub fire, helping to make Massachusetts one of the three states to adopt a retrofit requirement for sprinklers in existing nightclubs. He will be a tremendous asset to the NFSA going forward."

David will be working out of his home office at 2 Burns Way, Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040 and his email address is Lafond@nfsa.org.

NFSA Social Media Post Picked Up by National Blogger

The recent tragic motel fire in Houston has had a strong reaction on our social media sites. A simple factual discussion that was posted on the NFSA LinkedIn Group page was picked up by a pro-sprinkler blogger and used for an excellent blog post entitled "Unsprinklered Buildings are Unprotected Buildings-and so are Those Who Occupy Them."

The author, Robert Avsec, is one of our most vocal supporters in the NFSA Group. Chief Avsec served with the



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Chesterfield, Virginia Fire & EMS Department for 26 years. His post-retirement career has included staff instructor and course developer with the Georgia Fire Academy and private sector consulting with Department of Defense and federal agencies that included the U.S. Army's Installation Management Command, Fire & Emergency Services Branch.

Following is the blog discussion:

Unsprinklered Buildings are Unprotected Buildings – And So Are Those Who Occupy Them

BY: ROBERT AVSEC

Joanne Genadio, Marketing Manager at National Fire Sprinkler Association, is one of my LinkedIn colleagues. Joanne is a "Superstar" Promoter of Fire Sprinkler Systems and she recently posted the following discussion topic on the National Fire Sprinkler Association Group at LinkedIn (Knowing her zeal for the topic, I'm going to reproduce Joanne's entire text from the post, so those of you who are not on LinkedIn and a member of the group can see her message).

Houston Motel Not Protected with Fire Sprinklers, 4 Firefighters Dead, 5 injured

A fire in an unsprinklered Houston motel on Friday, May 31st led to the death of four firefighters. Three others are still

hospitalized. In the wake of this tragedy NFSA has provided factual information to Congressman Jim Langevin, sponsor of the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act. Since the building was constructed in 1966, prior to modern building codes requiring fire sprinkler protection in this type of occupancy, tax incentives, such as those made available in the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act, are viewed as the best approach to getting these types of buildings retrofit with automatic fire sprinkler protection.

I'm strongly of the opinion that a fire sprinkler-based fire suppression system is the only way to prevent loss of life when fire decides to attack a building. Civilians and firefighters alike are put at a totally unnecessary level risk when a fire happens in a building without such a system. I recently wrote about this topic in an earlier post on this site.

Unfortunately, policy makers only pay attention following a tragedy---which in many cases was of their making (or not)---so once again we must sound the refrain, "They (our 4 departed Houston brother & sister firefighters) must not have died in vain." We must get sprinklers in all new construction, both residential and commercial. And while we're at it, make it mandatory that all hotels, motels, dormitories and other commercial occupancies where the owners take money in

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 46

IN MEMORIAM

Anthony Aven, Aven Fire Protection, New Castle, PA

Longtime NFSA member Anthony Aven, Owner and President of Aven Fire Protection in New Castle, Pennsylvania passed away on February 9th, 2012.

Anthony, 62, graduated from New Castle High School in 1968 and attended Youngstown State University where he played baseball as a pitcher and a shortstop. He was a tight end on the New Castle Hurricanes 1967 Championship team. Anthony was the chairman and cofounder of the New Castle Hurricane Club and secretary/treasurer of Cray Youth and Family Services. He was one of New Castle's most generous philanthropists, known for his endless support of local organizations and charities, including the New Castle Playhouse, United Way, YMCA, Lawrence County Historical Society and the Union Township Annual Balloon Quest. Our condolences go out to his family, employees and friends. Memorial contributions may be made to the Red Hurricane Club, 10 E. Clayton St., New Castle, PA 16102-1823. •

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exchange for providing people a place to stay, must prominently post signs on the property, information on their websites, etc., that says:

"WARNING: You are about to stay in a building that is not protected by a fire sprinkler-based fire suppression system. The owner of this building knows that fire sprinkler-based fire suppression system is the only way to prevent loss of life when fire decides to attack a building."

Civilians and firefighters alike are put at a totally unnecessary level risk when a fire happens in a building without such a system. The owner has made an informed decision to accept that risk and all consequences of that decision, which may include the loss of life in the event of a fire."

I've got a huge sign under the lid on my washer machine that tells me at least 10 things that I should not do when using the machine, e.g., don't put gasoline or

oil soaked clothing in the machine as this can create an explosion hazard. Shouldn't we at least require such labeling on occupancies not protected with fire sprinkler-based suppression systems?

I think that would get people's attention. What do you think?

.....

If you are not part of the NFSA Social Network, you are truly missing out on some great pro-sprinkler discussions! Take a moment to join now, links are available on the NFSA website.

Roland Asp Passes NICET Level II Exam

NFSA congratulates Manager of Technical Services **Roland Asp** for passing his NICET Level II exam in Layout and Detail of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems. Roland is immediately starting toward

Level III certification. We all wish him well as he works toward that goal. Roland works out of NFSA's headquarters in Patterson, New York.

Winners of Annual Seminar Giveaways Announced

Congratulations to Darrell McGee of NFSA Contractor Member Higgins Fire Protection of Hillside New Jersey. Darrell was the winner of a free registration to our 2014 Annual Seminar at Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas.

Also, in what has become a "Jersey Sweep," Rich Myszka of NFSA Member Contractor Quick Respons Fire Protection in Allentown, won a free round of golf for a foursome at Caesar's owned Cascata Golf Course in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thanks to all who entered and congratulations to our winners! Enjoy! 🎉

PEOPLE

Four SFPE Scholarships Awarded

The Society of Fire Protection Engineers-Northern California/Nevada Chapter awarded four scholarships for 2012. These annual Scholarships are available to encourage new interest in study leading to a career as an FPE, at the undergraduate level or above. This year's recipients

are Daniel Blanchat, Connor McGill, Laura Radle, and David Ridley. All participate in the FPE Program at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, working toward Masters Degrees.

The award was presented by Mr. Gene Childs, Scholarship Chairman at the joint SFPE/NorCal Fire Prevention Officers meeting in San Francisco. Local monthly SFPE meetings are open to all, and alternate between San Francisco and the East Bay.

For more information about the Society, meeting locations and dates, membership, or to apply for this year's SFPE Scholarship visit: <http://www.ncnsfpe.org/membership.html>.



During a meeting held in conjunction with the NFSA Annual Seminar and North American Fire Sprinkler Expo™ in Las Vegas, International Fire Sprinkler Association (IFSA) Executive Director Russ Fleming along with incoming IFSA Board chair Bruce LaRue present outgoing Board chair Nick Groos with a token of the Association's appreciation.

New Territory Sales Manager Added to Viking SupplyNet's East Region

Viking SupplyNet welcomes **Seth Pendleton** as a new Territory Sales Manager to the South region sales team. Pendleton, who joined the company effective January 21, 2013, will be responsible for developing and enhancing the company's relationships with fire sprinkler contractors throughout the Carolina's and Eastern Tennessee.

Prior to joining Viking, Pendleton worked for the Fastenal Company, where served as the General Manager of the Charlotte, North Carolina location.

Seth Pendleton's new contact information, as well as contact information for the entire Viking SupplyNet sales team, can be found online at www.vikinggroupinc.com/en/worldwide.

Reliable Announces Promotion of Matt Squirell

Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co. is pleased to announce the promotion of **Matt Squirell** to Director of Sales for Canada. Matt started with Reliable in January of 2002 as a Sales Representative and was promoted to Regional Manager in November of 2004. In this new role, Matt will be responsible for operations, business development and sales initiatives within Canada, reporting directly to John McNamara, Vice-President of Sales. With 22 years of experience within the fire protection industry, Matt is well positioned to understand customer needs along with the promotion and enhancement of Reliable's products and services. 🎉

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

NORTHEAST REGION



DOMINICK KASMAUSKAS
Associate Director of Regional Operations - North

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

Sprinkler Save at Tire Warehouse in Bridgeport, Connecticut

On April 24th, Firefighters responded to a blaze at a Bridgeport, Connecticut warehouse that melts down tires.

Fire officials said the vat machine that melts the tires caught on fire. The sprinkler system extinguished the fire extending from the machine. When firefighters arrived, they put out a blaze within the machine itself.

Damage was minimal and no injuries were reported.

Dominick Kasmauskas is the NFSA's Associate Director of Regional Operations-North and Regional Manager for the New York Region. He can be reached at Kasmauskas@nfsa.org or 1436 Altamont Ave. Suite 147 Rotterdam, New York 12303, Phone 518.937.6589, Fax 518.836.0210.

MID-ATLANTIC REGION



RAYMOND W. LONABAUGH
Regional Manager

DELAWARE, MARYLAND, NEW JERSEY,
PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA, WASHINGTON D.C.

Montgomery County, Maryland Fire & Rescue Services - Sprinkler Activation Reporting

The Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Services (MCFRS), Fire Code Enforcement Division has a Sprinkler Activation Information Form that they would like all Maryland fire service and Maryland fire sprinkler contractors to complete for sprinkler activations, regardless of where in the state of Maryland the sprinkler activation occurs. The purpose of the report is to establish a sprinkler save data base that can be used to answer opponents

of sprinkler systems and to support fire sprinkler ordinances and requirements. The MCFRS is asking sprinkler contractors to also report sprinkler saves because there are occasions when the fire sprinklers extinguished a fire but, for whatever reason, the public fire department was never called to respond. The form can be accessed on line at: <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/fire/rescue/crrs/firecode/sprinkact.asp>

Raymond W. Lonabaugh is the NFSA Regional Manager for the Mid Atlantic Region. He can be reached at: lonabaugh@nfsa.org or P.O. Box 126, Ridley Park, Pennsylvania, 19078. Phone: 610.521.4768

SOUTHEAST REGION



WAYNE WAGGONER
Associate Director of Regional Operations - South

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

Chattanooga, Tennessee Fire Officials Show Benefits of Fire Sprinkler Systems

Chattanooga fire officials conducted a fiery demonstration this spring showing the value of fire sprinkler systems. At the Fire Training Center on Amnicola Highway, Fire Marshal James Whitmire showed an audience of about 50 people two demonstration rooms, one sprinklered, one not. Both rooms had furniture and related items one might find in a nightclub or other business. New city council members Chris Anderson, Larry Grohn and Jerry Mitchell were in attendance.

After describing the setup, Lieutenant Chuck Hartung began the demonstration, starting the fire in the unsprinklered room. A large clock on display showed just how quickly the fire engulfed the room. Though firefighters would be on the way, Lt. Hartung pointed out that no one would be able to survive in such a hostile environment. Simulating an actual response, firefighters with Quint 10 quickly extinguished the flames.

It was then time to light the fire in the

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 48

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REGIONAL ROUNDUP

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 47

sprinklered room. The clock was restarted, but this time, long before the flames could engulf the room, the sprinkler head activated and the fire was extinguished. This incident, Lt. Hartung pointed out, was survivable.

Chief Whitmire acknowledged the new sprinkler ordinance is controversial, but when lives are at stake, the answer is clear. "Sprinklers save lives and property," said Chief Whitmire, "and when you see how devastating these fires can be, they just make good sense."

"Many people are aware of the nightclub fire in Brazil earlier this year that killed more than 200 people, or The Station Nightclub fire in Rhode Island in 2003 that killed 100 people," said Chief Whitmire. "The same questions are asked after each event: How could this happen and how can we make sure it never happens again? This sprinkler ordinance goes a long way toward answering those important questions."

The Chattanooga City Council approved the upgrade to the fire codes on June 28, 2012 that requires legally-defined nightclubs -- businesses with live entertainment that serve alcohol after 11 p.m. to 100 or more people - to install fire sprinkler systems by Dec. 31. Similar ordinances have already been implemented in Nashville, Knoxville and Memphis.

Others in attendance included safety

and security personnel with Cleveland State Community College, Southern Adventist University, Tennessee Temple University and UTC.

Wayne Waggoner is the NFSA Associate Director of Regional Operations South. He can be reached at Waggoner@nfsa.org or PO Box 9, Andersonville, Tennessee 27705, Phone 865.755.2956, Fax 865.381.0597.

FLORIDA & PUERTO RICO



LORELL BUSH
Regional Manager

FLORIDA, PUERTO RICO

Cape Coral Residential Effort

After a valiant effort and two years of preparation in Cape Coral, an ordinance to require residential fire sprinklers was voted down on April 8, 2013. Over the past two years, numerous committee meetings have been attended and an economic impact study completed for the city to show how fire sprinklers could not only save lives and property, but help the water infrastructure in the City of Cape Coral.

Originally, the bill was co-sponsored by Councilman Chris Chulakes Leetz and Councilman Lenny Nesta. However, during the final hours, Councilman Nesta

pulled his name from the bill.

The homebuilders fought hard to stop this ordinance and were in full force at the council meeting vote on April 8th. A good effort was put forth by Chief Alan Carter and Chief Phil Green as well as representatives from the sprinkler industry and by NFSA Vice President of Regional Operations Buddy Dewar. Additionally, two demonstrations were held by Fire Team USA to show the benefits of fire sprinklers for the homebuilder, home owner, and city tax payers.

We will continue to educate and encourage further discussion with municipalities regarding the benefits of residential fire sprinklers, as well as homebuilders, homeowners, city and county officials, and tax payers.

Lorrell Bush is the NFSA Regional Manager for the Florida Region. She can be reached at bush@nfsa.org or 2025 Droylsden Lane, Eustis, FL 32726. Phone: 352.589.8402 Cell: 954.275.8487 Fax: 561.327.6366.

GREAT LAKES REGION



RON BROWN
Regional Manager

INDIANA, MICHIGAN, OHIO,
WEST VIRGINIA, KENTUCKY

Michigan May Offer Fire Sprinkler Waivers To Certain Long-Term Care Facilities

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has proposed a waiver for certain long-term care facilities that are undergoing construction and cannot meet an August deadline for becoming fully sprinklered.

Under current rules, all buildings containing long-term care facilities are required to have automatic sprinkler systems installed throughout the building by August 13, 2013. CMS says some facilities have plans to replace an old structure with a new replacement facility, but have found that it is taking more time than anticipated to complete the construction--leaving the old structure in danger

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FUTURE NFSA ANNUAL SEMINAR SCHEDULE



NFSA Annual Seminar
Atlantis, Bahamas
May 8 - 10, 2014

NFSA Annual Seminar & Exhibition
Hilton Bonnet
Creek Resort
Orlando, Florida
April 30 -
May 2, 2015

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 48

of missing the August deadline. Instead of wasting money on fully sprinklering a facility that will soon become obsolete or demolished, CMS has proposed a narrowly defined exemption.

Under the proposed rule, CMS would provide deadline extensions if: the facility is replacing its current building or undergoing major modifications in all unsprinklered living areas; the facility demonstrates that it has the necessary finances to complete the project; the facility has submitted construction plans to state and local authorities for approval prior to applying for the extension; and the facility agrees to additional interim fire safety measures as determined by CMS, such as a fire watch or more fire safety inspections.

The waiver would allow long-term care facilities to apply for a deadline extension not to exceed two years. An additional extension could be granted for up to one year, depending on the circumstances.

Ron Brown is the NFSA Regional Manager for the Great Lakes Region. He can be reached at Brown@nfsa.org or 1615 Cypress Spring Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46814, Phone 845.661.6534; Fax 260.625.4478.

ILLINOIS REGION



TOM LIA
Regional Manager

ILLINOIS

NFSA Call to Action!

The Illinois State Fire Marshal has submitted his fire sprinkler mandate to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rule. Opponents have until August 12 to respond to the proposal that will require fire sprinklers in all new residential construction and will require sprinkler systems in many existing multi-family and commercial structures. After the 45 day public response period, the agency has 30 days to re-submit their original language, amend and submit new language, or withdraw the language altogether. As noted below, the opposition

has launched a massive campaign to get the mandate withdrawn.

It is imperative that you contact the following Committee members and ask that the mandate be submitted with the original language. Let's do what's right for the citizens of Illinois! We haven't come this far to be shot down by self-interest groups. Please take a moment now to voice your support! The deadline to submit public response is August 8, 2013. Thank you.

CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

Ken Wood

Division of Technical Services
Office of State Fire Marshal
100 W. Randolph St.
Suite 4-600
Chicago, IL 60601

Brad Taylor

JCAR Staff
700 Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Vicki Thomas

Executive Director
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
700 Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Tom Lia is the acting NFSA Regional Manager for the Illinois Region. He can be reached at lia@nfsa.org or 62 Orland Square Dr Ste 201, Orland Park, IL 60462. Phone: (708) 403-4468, Fax: (708) 403-4771.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION



BOB KLEINHEINZ
Regional Manager

MINNESOTA, WISCONSIN, NORTH DAKOTA,
SOUTH DAKOTA

Minnesota Legislative Alert

A legislative alert from the Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) was sent out to their members requesting they contact their legislators and ask them to include an anti-sprinkler amendment pro-

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 50

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REGIONAL ROUNDUP

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hibiting the mandate for fire sprinklers in new homes.

The anti-sprinkler amendment language passed, and is currently included in the Senate Omnibus bill - but is not currently included in the House bill which will be up for discussion very soon.

Please consider contacting your respective legislators listed below and let them know you do not support the anti-sprinkler legislative amendment and want the language removed from the Senate Omnibus bill and not included in the House bill.

Thanks to Sean Flaherty with Viking Automatic Sprinkler Co. for bringing this BAM alert to our attention.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Senator David Tomassoni
651-296-8107
sen.david.tomassoni@senate.mn

Senator Tom Saxhaug
651-296-4136
sen.tom.saxhaug@senate.mn

Senator Dan Sparks
651-296-9248
sen.dan.sparks@senate.mn

Senator James Metzen
651-296-4370
sen.james.metzen@senate.mn

Senator Torrey Westrom
651-296-3826
sen.torrey.westrom@senate.mn

Rep. Tim Mahoney
651-296-4277
rep.tim.mahoney@house.mn

Rep. Joe Atkins
651-296-4192
rep.joe.atkins@house.mn

Rep. Karen Clark
651-296-0294
rep.karen.clark@house.mn

Rep. Sheldon Johnson
651-296-4201
rep.sheldon.johnson@house.mn

Rep. Bob Gunther
651-296-3240
rep.bob.gunther@house.mn

Bob Kleinheinz is the NFSA Regional Manager for the North Central Region. He

can be reached at Kleinheinz@nfsa.org or 509 Dawes Street, Libertyville, Illinois 60048, Phone 914.671.1975.

CENTRAL REGION



CHRIS GAUT
Regional Manager

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI

Residents to File Lawsuit over Columbia, Missouri Apartment Fire

A group of former Ash Street Apartment residents in Columbia, Missouri plan to join a lawsuit against Mills Properties in the aftermath of a fire that tore through the building this spring.

Ashland attorney Matt Uhrig said he is representing a total of 11 of the clients who were involved in the apartment fire. Uhrig expects ten more tenants to join the suit soon.

The lawsuit states that residents are upset with the property manager for allegedly not disclosing existence of asbestos in the building and for not having proper fire sprinkler systems installed.

Chris Gaut is the NFSA Regional Manager for the Central Region. He can be reached at gaut@nfsa.org or NFSA Central Region Office, 237 E. Fifth St. #135, Eureka, MO 63025, Phone 845.803.6426, Fax 636.410.7700.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION



CYNTHIA GIEDRAITIS
Regional Manager

ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA,
OKLAHOMA, TEXAS

NFSA Assists Texas Sprinkler Contractors with Legislation

A proposed bill - HB 2179 calls for the removal of Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester (BPAT) licensing programs from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and places it under the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners (TSBPE). Additionally, the proposed

bill appears to have the force and effect of prohibiting anyone other than a master plumber from testing a backflow prevention device on fire suppression lines. This results in a shift of work away from the experienced and certified fire protection contractor bringing significant financial impact and expanded liability exposure to your constituents.

NFSA has partnered with the Fire Sprinkler Contractors of Texas and Landscape Irrigation companies to oppose this bill. NFSA has been told that this bill will probably not progress out of the Texas House Committee on Licensing & Administrative Procedure due to extensive opposition.

Cindy Giedraitis is the NFSA Regional Manager for the South Central Region. She can be contacted at giedraitis@nfsa.org or PO Box 10403, College Station, Texas 77842. Phone: 979.324.8934.

GREAT PLAINS REGION



ERIC GLEASON
Regional Manager

Colorado, Nebraska, Utah, Wyoming

Utah Legislative Turmoil

Democrats won a legal battle in court against the Republican party in Utah for an ongoing re-districting battle.

This could indicate further challenges and opportunities on both sides for the fire sprinkler industry to craft our life

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REGIONAL ROUNDUP

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safety message.

Eric Gleason is the NFSA Regional Manager for the Great Plains Region. He can be contacted at gleason@nfsa.org or P.O. Box 62157, Littleton, CO. 80162. Tel: 720.470.4894.

SOUTHWEST REGION



BRUCE LECAIR
Regional Manager

ARIZONA, NEVADA, NEW MEXICO,
CALIFORNIA, HAWAII

Los Angeles Chapter of the American Construction Inspectors Association Host Bruce Lecair

NFSA Regional Manager Bruce Lecair was the guest of the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Construction Inspectors Association on March 19th. The Association met for a presentation on NFPA 25 entitled, "Bruce's Top 15 Changes to NFPA 25 2011 California Edition."

The class was attended by construction inspectors from throughout Southern California and featured some of the most significant revisions to the current 2006 California Edition of NFPA 25 Standard for the Water-Based Fire Protection Systems.

Bruce is currently a member of the California OSFM Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Board, NFPA 25 Work Group and was interim co-chair on the Water Discharge for Fire Protection Systems Task Force and co-wrote the Cal Fire Water-Based Fire Protection Systems Discharge Best Management Practices Manual. During the current adoption process, he chaired the subcommittee that studied and made recommendations on Chapters 1-4, 14 and 15.

Bruce Lecair is the NFSA Regional Manager for the Southwest Region. He can be reached at lecair@nfsa.org or Phone: 951.277.3517, Fax: 951.277.3199.

NORTHWEST REGION



SUZANNE MAYR
Regional Manager

ALASKA, IDAHO, MONTANA, OREGON,
WASHINGTON

Oregon College Fraternity and Sorority House Managers Attend Fire Sprinkler Retrofit Event

College fraternities and sororities have long been encouraged to retrofit their houses, with much of the credit given to MJ Insurance, Inc. – Sorority Division founder Cindy Stellhorn, winner of the 2012 NFSA Leadership in Public Safety Award. Lacking this insurance industry nudge, fraternities have been slower to follow suit.

In Oregon, Corvallis Fire Prevention Officer Jim Patton has launched an all-out effort to get the last remaining Greek houses to start the process of a fire sprinkler retrofit. NFSA, Common Voices, and area fire sprinkler contractors joined forces at a June 12th event at Oregon State University.

All Chapter Advisors and housing corps presidents from unsprinklered houses were invited to attend to learn the whys and hows of starting the retrofit process. Donna Henson, whose son Dominic perished in a fraternity house fire at the University of Missouri, and NFSA Vice President of Operations Buddy Dewar, provided advice gleaned from his many years of working with Greek organizations in Florida and across the country. The event also featured a live burn demonstration.

Event sponsors included Cosco Fire Protection, Patriot Fire Protection, Viking Fire Protection and Tyco, who were on hand to answer questions about the retrofit process.

Suzanne Mayr is the NFSA Regional Manager for the Northwest Region. She can be contacted at mayr@nfsa.org or 3411 North 19th St. Tacoma, Washington 98466, phone: 253.208.8467.

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Home Fire Sprinklers Requirements in California Yield No Negative Impact on Construction

The Modesto Bee reports that home building permits were up nearly 55% in the Sacramento area of California this year compared to the same period last year. The article explains that the Sacramento results mirror a statewide increase in building permits for single family homes; proving that fire sprinkler requirements do not thwart home building.

California is one of two states that adopted fire sprinkler requirements in all new one- and two-family homes, effective January 1, 2011. Maryland also adopted the requirement statewide.

In other states, opponents of home fire sprinkler requirements – which are included in all national model codes representing minimum standards to achieve a reasonable level of safety - have lobbied extensively against the requirement on the claim that adoption of fire sprinklers in new home construction will negatively impact home building. This claim is refuted by a study by the Fire Protection Research Foundation that found there is no negative impact in housing supply or cost in communities adopting the requirement, as compared to communities without the requirement.

The National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) website contains permit data showing an overall average increase of 26% in single family home permits in the U.S., while California has experienced a 51% increase in permits issued for the same period. In contrast, South Carolina – included among the states rejecting statewide adoption of one- and two-family home fire sprinkler requirements - has experienced a 24% increase in permits; below the national average.



Building Fires Reported to the Office of the State Fire Marshal 2007 - 2011

Report Date: 3/28/2013

2007	INCIDENT COUNT	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	FIRE SERVICE INJURIES	FIRE SERVICE FATALITIES	CIVILIAN INJURIES	CIVILIAN FATALITIES
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	3,499	\$403,885,389	\$231,458,947	37	0	50	10
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	11,967	\$946,582,552	\$330,864,424	193	2	428	89
DETECTOR TYPE - SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	114	\$6,413,508	\$11,867,114	0	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	64	\$1,157,500	\$452,131	1	0	2	0
DETECTOR TYPE - NON SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	690	\$32,603,542	\$17,497,656	7	0	15	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	4,501	\$170,455,641	\$48,713,910	63	2	196	33

2008	INCIDENT COUNT	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	FIRE SERVICE INJURIES	FIRE SERVICE FATALITIES	CIVILIAN INJURIES	CIVILIAN FATALITIES
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	3,052	\$260,534,032	\$130,282,550	45	0	53	7
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	11,180	\$550,555,646	\$169,581,886	152	0	363	68
DETECTOR TYPE - SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	127	\$4,362,700	\$3,115,901	2	0	3	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	67	\$1,499,350	\$823,811	2	0	0	1
DETECTOR TYPE - NON SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	643	\$36,224,409	\$15,642,650	14	0	15	2
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	4,300	\$204,347,366	\$67,701,216	68	0	203	27

2009	INCIDENT COUNT	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	FIRE SERVICE INJURIES	FIRE SERVICE FATALITIES	CIVILIAN INJURIES	CIVILIAN FATALITIES
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	2,692	\$145,126,462	\$96,806,090	28	0	60	8
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	9,686	\$367,652,868	\$110,976,753	155	0	386	70
DETECTOR TYPE - SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	124	\$6,405,501	\$4,319,351	4	0	1	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	58	\$2,220,140	\$2,517,038	0	0	1	0
DETECTOR TYPE - NON SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	533	\$32,100,953	\$16,884,735	10	0	24	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	3,848	\$146,344,006	\$46,942,720	66	0	178	23

2010	INCIDENT COUNT	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	FIRE SERVICE INJURIES	FIRE SERVICE FATALITIES	CIVILIAN INJURIES	CIVILIAN FATALITIES
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	2,198	\$147,007,091	\$66,632,832	26	0	36	8
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	8,516	\$302,571,296	\$83,478,772	159	0	329	83
DETECTOR TYPE - SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	91	\$1,762,000	\$1,844,310	0	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	56	\$1,090,100	\$428,350	0	0	1	0
DETECTOR TYPE - NON SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	450	\$63,820,105	\$12,013,558	4	0	6	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	3,473	\$114,208,969	\$36,277,535	47	0	162	30

2011	INCIDENT COUNT	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	FIRE SERVICE INJURIES	FIRE SERVICE FATALITIES	CIVILIAN INJURIES	CIVILIAN FATALITIES
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	2,122	\$95,570,624	\$103,733,949	44	0	25	8
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	8,207	\$360,404,518	\$98,027,544	159	0	415	82
DETECTOR TYPE - SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	95	\$1,558,650	\$22,622,001	1	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	38	\$306,055	\$134,060	0	0	3	0
DETECTOR TYPE - NON SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	442	\$18,976,682	\$12,979,723	5	0	6	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	3,390	\$184,719,820	\$50,740,041	73	0	229	27

Detectors were present an average of 37% of all reported building fires for 2007-2011.

Non Residential Building Fire = NFIRS Incident Type codes; 111, 120-123 Building Fire, Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure. NFIRS Property Use Codes; all codes except for 400-464 Residential.

Residential Building Fire = NFIRS Incident Type codes; 111, 120-123 Building Fire, Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure. NFIRS Property Use Codes; 400-464 Residential.

Incidents when mutual or automatic aid was given to a neighboring fire department were not included in counts.

The data contained in this report provided by the California Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is from the California All Incident Reporting System (CAIRS) database. Property and contents loss figures, if included, are estimates only. These emergency incident statistics, including injury and death counts, are based only upon information submitted to the OSFM by participating California fire departments. Please note that apparent variations in incident counts and associated losses shown in this report may be solely due to fluctuation in the amount of data submitted to the OSFM. Incoming data is validated according to logical data rules; however, individual data elements are not always verified for accuracy.

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Building Fires Reported to the Office of the State Fire Marshal 2010 - 2011

Report Date: 3/21/2013

2010	INCIDENT COUNT	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	FIRE SERVICE INJURIES	FIRE SERVICE FATALITIES	CIVILIAN INJURIES	CIVILIAN FATALITIES
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	2,198	\$147,007,091	\$66,632,832	26	0	36	8
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	8,516	\$302,571,296	\$83,478,772	159	0	329	83
DETECTOR TYPE - SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	91	\$1,762,000	\$1,844,310	0	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	56	\$1,090,100	\$428,350	0	0	1	0
DETECTOR TYPE - NON SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	450	\$63,820,105	\$12,013,558	4	0	6	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	3,473	\$114,208,969	\$36,277,535	47	0	182	30

2011	INCIDENT COUNT	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	FIRE SERVICE INJURIES	FIRE SERVICE FATALITIES	CIVILIAN INJURIES	CIVILIAN FATALITIES
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	2,122	\$95,570,624	\$103,733,949	44	0	25	8
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	8,207	\$360,404,518	\$98,027,544	159	0	415	82
DETECTOR TYPE - SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	95	\$1,558,850	\$22,622,001	1	0	0	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	38	\$306,055	\$134,060	0	0	3	0
DETECTOR TYPE - NON SPRINKLER (when detector was present)							
NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	442	\$16,976,682	\$12,979,723	5	0	6	0
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FIRES	3,390	\$184,719,820	\$50,740,041	73	0	229	27

Detectors were Present in 38% of all reported building fires.

Non Residential Building Fire = NFIRS Incident Type codes; 111, 120-123 Building Fire, Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure. Property Use Codes; all codes except for 400-464 Residential.

Residential Building Fire = NFIRS Incident Type codes; 111, 120-123 Building Fire, Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure. NFIRS Property Use Codes; 400-464 Residential.

Incidents when mutual or automatic aid was given to a neighboring fire department were not included in counts.

The data contained in this report provided by the California Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is from the California All Incident Reporting System (CAIRS) database. Property and contents loss figures, if included, are estimates only. These emergency incident statistics, including injury and death counts, are based only upon information submitted to the OSFM by participating California fire departments. Please note that apparent variations in incident counts and associated losses shown in this report may be solely due to fluctuation in the amount of data submitted to the OSFM. Incoming data is validated according to logical data rules, however, individual data elements are not always verified for accuracy.



NFPA Issues New Report on Home Fires

The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA's) new report on home fires shows that U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 366,600 home structure fires from 2007-2011. Seven people died each day in U.S. home fires, on average, and older adults were the age group most likely to die in a home fire. Cooking equipment remains the leading cause of home structure fires and home fire injuries; however, smoking materials persist as the leading cause of home fire deaths, according to the report.

Roughly one in every 320 households per year had a reported home fire during this five-year period. These fires caused an estimated average of 2,570 civilian deaths, 13,210 civilian injuries, and \$7.2 billion in direct property damage per year.

One-quarter (25 percent) of the home fire deaths resulted from fires that originated in the bedroom, another quarter (24 percent) from fires in the family

room, living room, or den, and 16 percent from fires starting in the kitchen. Half of home fire deaths were caused by incidents reported between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

Home fire deaths from fires in which



no smoke alarms were present, or in which smoke alarms were present but did not operate, accounted for 60 percent of all home fire deaths. Smoke alarms were lacking in 37 percent of home fire deaths, and at least one alarm was present but non-operational in 23 percent.

"Three out of five home fire deaths

occurred in homes without working smoke alarms, which emphasizes the importance of taking personal responsibility when it comes to protecting yourself and your family from fire," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of communications for NFPA. "Installing and maintaining these alarms could save a majority of the lives lost in home fires, especially if they work in conjunction with home sprinklers."

Fire sprinklers were present in only 6 percent of reported home fires between 2006-2010, according to a 2012 report - U.S. Experience with Sprinklers. That report, referenced in the home fires report, also noted that the death rate was 83 percent lower when wet pipe sprinkler systems were present, compared to reported home fires without any automatic extinguishing systems.

The report is based on data from the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and the NFPA's annual fire department experience survey.

For more information, visit www.nfpa.org/homefires.

SPRINKLING OF NEWS

■ Viking Offers New Residential 3.0 K Factor Flat Plate Concealed Sprinkler

Viking Corporation has extended its Freedom® residential fire sprinkler line to include a “small orifice,” flat-plate concealed pendent sprinkler. The new model VK488 has a K Factor of 3.0 (43) and is cULus Listed with a flow rate of only 8 GPM (30 L/min), and a pressure requirement of only 7.1 PSI (0.49 bar), in a 12 x 12 ft (3,7 x, 3,7 m) room size. This new sprinkler is offered in addition to the model VK470, 3.0 K factor residential pendent sprinkler, which Viking introduced in 2012.

With its smaller K Factor and lower listed flow rates, the VK488 is well-suited for 13D residential systems where the available water supply is a concern. In these systems, the VK488 could allow for reduced pipe sizes, a smaller water meter, and/or the elimination of a tank and pump. In addition to the 12 x 12 ft (3.7 x

3.7 m) room size indicated above, the new sprinkler is also cULus Listed for 14 x 14 ft (4.3 x 4.3 m) and 16 x 16 ft (4.9 x 4.9 m) coverage areas.

The new VK488 sprinkler has a 1/2” (15 mm) NPT thread size and is available with a temperature rating of 165°F (74°C). The cover plate for the VK488 is offered in three different options including standard/small diameter, large diameter, and Viking’s exclusive square cover plate. All three cover plate options have a temperature rating of 135°F (57°C). Like all concealed sprinklers from Viking, flat cover plates are available in several standard finishes and a nearly unlimited number of custom colors.

For more information please visit www.vikinggroupinc.com or call 800-968-9501.

■ Anvil Introduces New H-Block Rooftop Support Systems

Anvil International is pleased to intro-

duce Haydon® H-Block Rooftop Support Systems – delivering long-lasting support and cost savings. While traditional systems like wood blocking deteriorate over time, rubber H-Block Supports offer a higher load capacity and decades of durability. Plus, they arrive pre-assembled and custom-fabricated for your application, allowing for more efficient installation.

H-Block Rooftop Supports feature:


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- Resistance to freeze and thaw
- Vibration dampening
- Customizable support assemblies

For more information, go to www.anvilintl.com.

■ Potter Electric Offers Free Water Test Kit For Corrosion Testing

Potter Electric Signal Company announces the offering of a free water test kit to those interested in seeing if Microbiologically Influenced Corrosion (MIC) is damaging their fire sprinkler system. Potter will provide one free water test kit to new customers to help educate them on how corrosion affects a fire sprinkler system.

The free water test kit includes a 120 cc bottle for gathering a sample of water from a fire sprinkler system. Potter thoroughly tests the water sample for common MIC bacteria. After careful analysis, the customer receives a detailed report of the levels of bacteria and the associated risks they may have in their fire sprinkler system. Appropriate actions are subsequently taken to reduce current corrosion and prevent future corrosion.

For more information, visit www.potter-signal.com. 

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To **Suzanne Mayr:**

Hey Suzanne,
The class was (Pumps for Fire Protection and Pump Layout and Sizing) very informative and the instructor did a bang up job. Looking forward to the next one.

Thanks for your efforts to keep the continuing ed. going.

Sincerely,

Eugene Lathan

Project Manager, Wyatt Fire Protection

To **Russ Fleming:**

Dear Mr. Fleming:

I would like to thank you and your NFSA Team for the outstanding conference and for presenting me with the 2013 Leadership in Public Safety Award. My association with the NFSA goes back to October 25, 1983, when I attended my first NFSA Annual Seminar at the Hyatt Embarcadero in San Francisco, California and presented "An Overview of the Ordinance Adoption Process" to the membership.

Working with Regional Managers like William "Bill" Goss, Gerald Duarte, Larry Larson, Sam Husoe and Bruce Lecair here in California, and my roles with the FSABSC and NAS-IP, as well as the NFSA Staff and IP-Funds Leadership help me as I worked to promote the "Fire Sprinkler Technology from Single-Family Dwellings to High-Rise Buildings, Warehouses and Other Uses."

Respectfully,

Stephen D. Hart

Consultant to the NASIP

To **Russ Fleming:**

Mr. Fleming,

It was wonderful to finally meet you last week. I have been lucky to attend quite a few NFSA conventions and I thought this one was spectacular. Yes, Daddy being named the Golden Sprinkler Award winner truly made this a once-in-a-lifetime experience for myself and my son. But, I also wanted to pass on how well run/ organized you and your staff made this year's event. It could not have been better.

I love the direction in which NFSA is heading and see a bright future ahead for the industry. I was able to spend quality time with quite a few staff members (nice to see new young members) and their enthusiasm concerning the industry's future was catching. I look forward to following all ahead and wish you and your staff the best.

Please pass on my dearest thanks to all involved. Everyone made my son and I feel quite special. It goes without saying how proud I am of my father. The love and respect I have for him is immeasurable. My son, Grant, learned a lot about his "PaPa Rich" over the past 5 days and I can only hope he, too, will one day be respected among his peers as much as my father is respected among his.

Again, thank you so much for all the planning and hard work that went into this year's NFSA convention. It was truly wonderful.

With fondness,

Amber Ackley

To **Russ Fleming:**

Dear Russ:

I wanted to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to you and the Board of Directors for the "Hall of Fame" award recently bestowed on me during your recent Las Vegas convention.

Beverly and I were very disappointed that we were in the process of a move and unable to personally attend your event

I have always considered it a great honor to have served the NFSA, and in some small way helped to further this industry that I have been a part of for over 40 years.

Sincerely,

Rex Miller



A Comment from a LinkedIn Connection:

We Americans are silly - we would gladly add a few dollars a month to a mortgage payment on a new house if the builder had called us to say that he was a little low on his cost estimate and that he needed to lower the spec on the wall to wall carpeting from premium to spec grade to save \$1.50 sq. ft. In a heartbeat the average silly American would say "No!! We want the premium rugs - we'll add it to the mortgage" Change the scenario - the builder calls and says that he can add a 13D sprinkler system for an additional \$1.50 sq. ft. and we could just add it to the mortgage amount. Most of us silly Americans would reject such a stupid idea and tell the builder he is all wet (pun intended) to propose such an intrusion into our personal finances.

The resistance to automatic fire sprinklers in the U.K. astounds me. I often stayed at the Christopher Wren hotel when on business in Windsor, England and was often given one of the few rooms on the fourth floor at the top of a narrow staircase. This "luxury" hotel did not have sprinklers and I often mumbled to myself as I trudged up that last, creaky, centuries old, wooden staircase that this might be the night I am consumed by fire and smoke as I lay sound asleep. Then news came that over by the old train station, the ancient car park was to be torn down and a new multi story hotel was to be built on that space. A much shorter walk to my company's office and for sure, it would be sprinklered. Nope!!

I cannot recall the last time I stayed in a motel/hotel in America that did not have fire sprinklers. (Along with additional multiple layers of active and passive fire prevention/protection features, many of which are unnecessary, as Richard Schulte so eloquently expounds on, to his credit.)

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John Sharland

Fellow, SFPE

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NO.	DES	P/N
20	1"	CH
21	1"	CH
22	1/2" Union	CH

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39	3/4" x Close Nipple	2	CH

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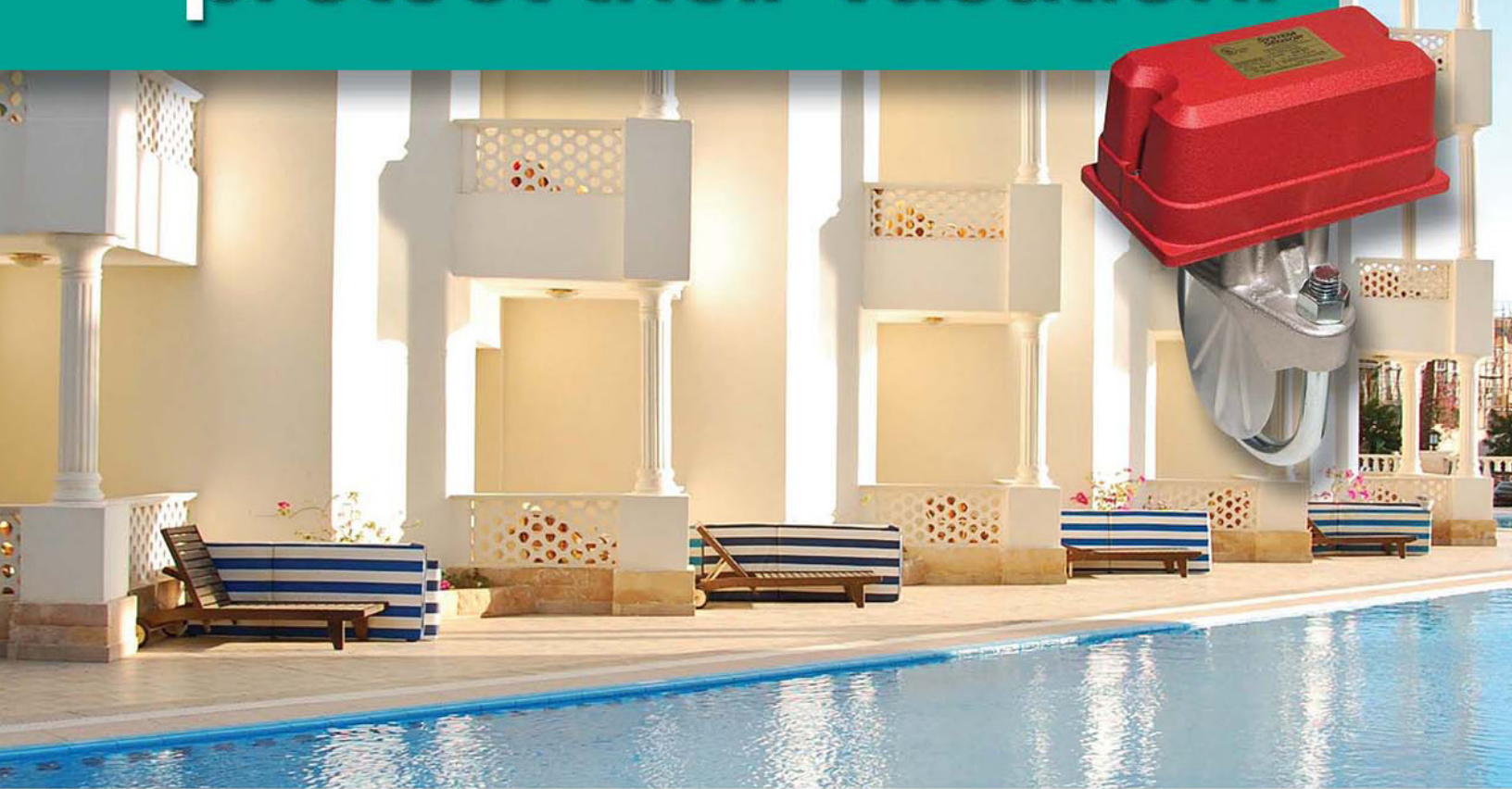
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