



Tuesday e-Tech Alert
No. 60 July 18, 2006

Counterfeit Sprinklers a New Concern

Last week Underwriters Laboratories issued a press release to help make consumers, distributors and property owners aware of some counterfeit chrome-plated "Globe" fire sprinklers that have reached the marketplace. Although marked with the word "Globe," the sprinklers were not manufactured by the Globe Fire Sprinkler Corporation, and were not evaluated for safety by UL. As such, the UL Mark for the United States and Canada is also counterfeit. The information being distributed by UL:

Model of Product: GL 5651

Units: Unknown quantity

Manufacturer: Unknown

Date of Manufacture: 2005 to present

Identification: Pendent-type automatic fire sprinkler

Marking on Frame: GLOBE

Marking on the Deflector: SSP, cULus in a circle, GL 5651, 2005, 155°F/68°C

Sensing mechanism: Job F5 glass bulb

How to tell the counterfeit sprinklers:

The legitimate UL Listed sprinklers manufactured by Globe Fire Sprinkler Corporation contain a hex-head screw. The counterfeit sprinklers are manufactured with a slot-head screw.

To view the product, go to: <http://www.ul.com/media/newsrel/nr071406.html>

UL is recommending the counterfeit sprinklers be replaced by qualified service personnel and returned to the place of purchase. The UL contact person is Joe Hirschmugl (tel. +1-847-664-1508 or e-mail Joseph.F.Hirschmugl@us.ul.com).

This is one of a number of counterfeiting issues that has been brought to the attention of the NFSA. The NFSA Sprinkler Manufacturers Council met with representatives of UL last month and will be working with the listing

laboratories on this problem. In the meantime, all parties are well advised to deal only with reputable product distributors.

Use Care with In-Rack Sprinkler Diagrams in NFPA 30B on Aerosols

NFPA 30B – *Code for the Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products*, is one of three standards deferred to directly by NFPA 13. It contains the protection criteria for storage of aerosols, including requirements for in-rack sprinklers.

An NFSA member recently pointed out some apparent contradictions within the figures showing in-rack sprinkler placement in double-row racks in Figure 6.3.2.7(b)(2). NFSA passed this concern along to NFPA, noting that:

1. In Figure 6.3.2.7(c)(2) the elevation view shows face sprinklers in every transverse flue, but the corresponding plan view shows face sprinklers only in every other transverse flue.
2. In Figure 6.3.2.7(b)(3) for multiple row racks, no face sprinklers are shown at all in the elevation view, whereas the plan view shows them in every other transverse flue.
3. Figure 6.3.2.7(c)(2) appears to have the same contradiction with regard to sprinklers in transverse flues as Figure 6.3.2.7(b)(2), with the additional problem that sprinklers are missing from the bottom of the plan view.

When NFSA brought this to the attention of NFPA Committee Staff Liaison Greg Harrington, we received the following response:

“1. In Fig. 6.3.2.7(b), (2) Double Row Racks, the elevation view shows face sprinklers in every transverse flue – I believe this is correct. In the plan view shown immediately above, face sprinklers are shown in every other transverse flue because this represents a **typical tier**. In this specific case, the plan view represents the first and third levels of in-rack sprinklers. So, face sprinklers are to be provided in every transverse flue, however, they are to be staggered vertically. This figure is correct as shown in the 2002 edition.

“2. Per ROP 30B-13, Fig. 6.3.2.7(b), (3) Multiple Row Racks, elevation view, will be corrected by superimposing circles over each triangle, so it looks identical to the elevation view for (2) Double Row Racks.

“3. Same as Item 1, with the plan view to be corrected as noted in ROP 30B-13.”

Users of NFPA 30B should be careful that some transverse flue sprinklers are not inadvertently omitted.

Upcoming NFSA “Business Thursday” Online Seminar

Topic: Contract Language Pitfalls

Instructor: Buddy Dewar, NFSA Director of Regional Operations

Date: July 20, 2006

Contracts surfacing within today’s construction industry are containing an increasing number of risk transfers. Many contracts presented to subcontractors contain lien waiver, waiver of subrogation, and sole negligence indemnification clauses causing the sub to assume the risk of the owner and/or general contractor. While transferring or sharing our risk to and with others may help our insurance costs, we are seeing an increase in one-way risk transfers – the owner and general contractor are attempting to transfer their risk to the subcontractor as they attempt to reduce their insurance costs. Subcontractor insurance providers are beginning to prohibit coverage when a sub indemnifies or holds harmless the owner and general contractor even for their sole

negligence. The course explores the 10 most common contract provisions that cause concerns of long-term company stability by assuming risk for the negligence of others.

Information and registration for this seminar is available at www.nfsa.org or by calling Dawn Fitzmaurice at 845-878-4200 ext 133.

Next NFSA "Technical Tuesday" Online Seminar

Topic: Where Codes Override Installation Standards

Instructor: Kevin J. Kelly, P.E, NFSA Manager of Codes

Date: August 1, 2006

This seminar will discuss sections in the model codes that override the requirements of the installation standards, or are not specifically covered in the installation standards. The *International Building Code*, NFPA 5000 *Building Construction and Safety Code* and NFPA 101 *Life Safety Code* all have requirements for fire protection systems that are in addition to NFPA 13, 13R or 14. Some of the specific topics will include: sprinkler zones, sprinklers on balconies, sprinklers in chutes, atriums, closets, standpipes, concealed spaces, the storage of fuel for generators, and requirements for high rise buildings.

Information and registration for this seminar is available at www.nfsa.org or by calling Dawn Fitzmaurice at 845-878-4200 ext 133.

2006 Basic and Advanced Technician Training, NICET Inspection Seminars

The NFSA is the only organization that offers two-week basic technician training seminars, 3-day advanced technician training seminars, and NICET-oriented inspection and testing review seminars at various locations across the United States. The 2006 schedule still includes the following dates and locations:

2-week Basic Technician Training

August 14-25, 2006 – Seattle, WA

October 16-27, 2006 – Philadelphia, PA

3-day Advanced Technician Training

October 3-5, 2006 – Minneapolis, MN

3-day NICET Inspection and Testing Certification Review

September 6-8, 2006 – Dallas, TX

November 14-16, 2006 – Anchorage, AK

For more information, contact Nicole Sprague using Sprague@nfsa.org

NFSA In-Class Training Opportunities

NFSA also offers in-class training on a variety of subjects at locations across the country. Here are some upcoming seminars:

July 25 Sprinkler Protection for General Storage

Centerville, OH

July 26	Sprinkler Protection for Rack Storage	Colorado Springs, CO
July 26	Sprinkler Protection for Rack Storage	Centerville, OH
July 27	Plan Review Procedures & Policies (1/2 day)	Colorado Springs, CO
July 27	Sprinkler Protection for Special Storage	Centerville, OH
Aug 8	Sprinkler Protection for Special Storage	Indianapolis, IN
Aug 9	Basic Seismic Protection (1/2 day)(AM)	Indianapolis, IN
Aug 9	Advanced Seismic Protection (1/2 day)(PM)	Indianapolis, IN
Aug 10	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Indianapolis, IN
Aug 15	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Rogers, AR
Aug 15	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Temecula, CA
Aug 16	Sprinkler Protection for General Storage	Rogers, AR
Aug 16	Residential: Homes to High-Rise	Temecula, CA
Aug 17	Underground Piping (1/2 day) (AM)	Rogers, AR
Aug 17	Underground Piping (1/2 day)	Temecula, CA
Aug 17	Standpipe Systems (1/2 day) (PM)	Rogers, AR
Aug 22	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Pharr, TX
Aug 23	Residential Sprinklers for Single Family Homes	Pharr, TX
Aug 24	Pumps for Fire Protection	Pharr, TX
Aug 30-31	Two-day NFPA 13 Overview & Intro to Plan Review	Carol Stream, IL
Sept 1	Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Carol Stream, IL
Sept 11-12	Two-day NFPA 13 Overview & Intro to Plan Review	Eugene, OR
Sept 13	Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Eugene, OR
Sept 14	Basic Seismic Protection (1/2 day)(AM)	Eugene, OR
Sept 14	Underground Piping (1/2 day) (PM)	Eugene, OR
Sept 19	Introduction to Sprinkler Systems (1/2 day) (AM)	Dublin, OH
Sept 19	Basic Seismic Protection (1/2 day) (PM)	Dublin, OH
Sept 20-21	Two-day NFPA 13 Overview & Intro to Plan Review	Dublin, OH
Sept 26-27	Two-day NFPA 13 Overview & Intro to Plan Review	Seattle, WA
Sept 28	Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Seattle, WA
Oct 3	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	North Las Vegas, NV
Oct 4	Residential: Homes to High-Rise	North Las Vegas, NV
Oct 5	Standpipe Systems (1/2 day) (AM)	North Las Vegas, NV
Oct 5	Underground Piping (1/2 day) (PM)	North Las Vegas, NV

For more information or to register, visit www.nfsa.org or call Mike Repko at 845-878-4207.

NFSA Tuesday e-Tech Alert is c. 2006 National Fire Sprinkler Association, and is distributed to NFSA members on Tuesdays for which no NFSA Technical Tuesday Online Seminar is scheduled. Statements and conclusions are based on the best judgment of the NFSA Engineering staff, and are not the official position of the NFPA or its technical committees or those of other organizations except as noted. Opinions expressed herein are not intended, and should not be relied upon, to provide professional consultation or services. Please send comments to Russell P. Fleming, P.E. (fleming@nfsa.org).

In the promotion of the fire sprinkler concept, the National Fire Sprinkler Association represents all fire sprinkler industry interests including fire sprinkler contractors, manufacturers and suppliers of fire sprinklers and related equipment and fire protection professionals. Established in 1905, the National Fire Sprinkler Association provides publications, nationally accredited seminars, representation in codes and standards-making, market development, labor relations and other services to its membership. Headquartered in Patterson, New York, the National Fire Sprinkler Association has regional operations offices throughout the country.