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Tolco Issues Advice on 2-Hole Strap Hangers for CPVC

In response to the statement recently released by Tyco dealing with the possibility of environmental stress cracking (ESC) of CPVC pipe installed downstream of Allied's ABF® II steel pipe coating (attached to NFSA's *eTechAlert* No. 146 on May 5, 2009), the Tolco company has issued suggestions relative to the proper use of two-hole type strap hangers for CPVC pipe. The Tyco statement had mentioned that mechanical stresses resulting from improper use of these types of hangers could be a contributing factor to ESC in the presence of the antimicrobial coating.

Basically, Tolco is advising that the two-hole strap hanger is designed to hold the piping flush against a surface. In the event fittings or other variations in the surface of the pipe or structure prevent a flush fit, efforts to tighten the two-hole strap hanger can produce the unwanted mechanical stresses. For such situations, they suggest several alternatives:

- use of a larger size strap hanger
- use of wood blocking
- use of offset hangers
- use of one-hole strap hangers

The attached bulletin from Tolco clarifies that while they are not the only producer of the two-hole strap hangers, the guidance should apply to the hangers produced by other manufacturers as well.

It should be noted that NFSA is not aware of any reports of ESC or similar problems involving the use of two-hole strap hangers on CPVC piping systems other than in the presence of upstream antimicrobial coatings suspected of being incompatible with the CPVC. The CPVC piping appears to be more vulnerable to incompatibility issues in the presence of mechanical stresses.

Upcoming "Technical Tuesday" Online Seminar – June 2nd

Topic: Hydraulics for Non-Uniform Layouts

Instructor: Victoria B. Valentine, P.E., NFSA Director of Product Standards

Date: June 2, 2009

There are many scenarios that do not exactly fit in the hydraulic calculation guidelines provided by NFPA 13. First the rules of the density/area hydraulic calculation method will be reviewed. Then the variations of non-

uniform layouts will be discussed. These will include how to calculate non-rectangular rooms, small rooms, sprinklers under obstructions, stepped ceilings and more.

Upcoming "Business Thursday" Online Seminar – June 18th

Topic: Strategic Planning for Contractors

Instructor: Don Pamplin, NFSA Northwest Regional Manager

Date: June 18, 2009

The majority of public and private sector organizations do not perform effective strategic planning. They think they do and in many situations, they even call it "strategic planning" but the planning model that they use is not really strategic. In the business world, the bottom line is to make profit and the more profit you consistently make, the better insulated you are from the disastrous effects of economic and/or social change. By practicing effective and efficient strategic planning, you can be better prepared to change direction to meet new market demands and technology shifts. All business organizations within the Fire Sprinkler Industry need to use effective strategic planning to create a realistic and achievable road-map to lead them to where they want to be in the next three to five years.

Additional training opportunities available through the NFSA engineering department include...

Two-Week Layout Technician Training

September 14-25, 2009

Baltimore, MD

October 12-23, 2009

Phoenix, AZ

Inspection and Testing for the Sprinkler Industry

June 16-18, 2009

Leominster, MA

Advanced Technician Training

June 23-25, 2009

Denver, CO

For more information on the above classes, contact Nicole Sprague using Sprague@nfsa.org or by calling 845-878-4200 ext. 149.

In-Class Training Seminars

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

Introduction to Sprinkler Systems (1/2 Day)	Hillsboro, OR	June 15
Sprinkler Protection for General Storage	Hillsboro, OR	June 16
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Hillsboro, OR	June 17
Basic Seismic (1/2 Day)	Hillsboro, OR	June 18
Advanced Seismic (1/2 Day)	Hillsboro, OR	June 18
Residential Sprinklers: Homes to High Rise	Albany, NY	June 23

Introduction to Sprinkler Systems (1/2 Day)	Albany, NY	June 24
Commissioning & Acceptance Testing (1/2 Day)	Albany, NY	June 24
Sprinkler Protection for Special Storage	Albany, NY	June 25
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	New Lenox, IL	July 7
NFPA 13 Overview	New Lenox, IL	July 8-9
Fire Pumps for Fire Protection	Denver, CO	July 7
Fire Pump Layout & Sizing (1/2 Day)	Denver, CO	July 8
Underground Piping for Fire Protection (1/2 Day)	Denver, CO	July 8
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Denver, CO	July 9
CPVC Piping Installation Requirements (1/2 Day)	Denver, CO	July 21
Sprinkler Protection for Flammable & Combustible Liquids	Denver, CO	July 21
Residential Sprinklers: Homes to High Rise	Denver, CO	July 22
Sprinkler Protection for Dwellings	Denver, CO	July 23
Commissioning and Acceptance Testing (1/2 Day)	Apple Valley, CA	July 28
CPVC Piping Installation Requirements (1/2 Day)	Apple Valley, CA	July 28
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Apple Valley, CA	July 29
Sprinkler Protection for Rack Storage	Apple Valley, CA	July 30
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Lake Jackson, TX	Aug 4
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Lake Jackson, TX	Aug 5
NFPA 13 Update 2002	Lake Jackson, TX	Aug 6
Residential Sprinklers: Homes to High Rise	Rogers, AR	Aug 11
Sprinklers for Dwellings	Rogers, AR	Aug 12
Sprinkler Prot. for Flam. & Comb. Liquid Storage (1/2 Day)	Rogers, AR	Aug 13
CPVC Piping (1/2 Day)	Rogers, AR	Aug 13
NFPA 13 Overview	Kahului, HI	Aug 12-23
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Kahului, HI	Aug 14
NFPA 13 Overview	Brighton, MI	Aug 19-20
Sprinklers for Dwellings	Brighton, MI	Aug 21
NFPA 13 Update 2007	Aurora, IL	Aug 26
NFPA 13 Overview	Aurora, IL	Aug 27-28
Introduction to Sprinkler Systems (1/2 Day AM)	Alexandria, MN	Sept 8
NFPA 13 2002 Update (1/2 Day PM)	Alexandria, MN	Sept 8
Plan Review Policies & Procedures	Alexandria, MN	Sept 9
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Alexandria, MN	Sept 10
NFPA 13 2007 Update	Dayton, OH	Sept 16
Sprinkles for Dwellings	Dayton, OH	Sept 17
CPVC Piping Installation Requirements (1/2 Day)	Dayton, OH	Sept 18
Commissioning and Acceptance Testing (1/2 Day)	Dayton, OH	Sept 18
NFPA 13, 13R, 13D 2007 Update	Anaheim, CA	Sept. 22
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Anaheim, CA	Sept. 23
Underground Piping (1/2 Day)	Anaheim, CA	Sept 24
Basic Seismic (1/2 Day)	Anaheim, CA	Sept 24
Plan Review Policies & Procedures	Berlin, VT	Sept 22
Sprinkler Protection for Rack Storage	Berlin, VT	Sept 23
CPVC Piping (1/2 Day)	Berlin, VT	Sept 24
Basic Seismic (1/2 Day)	Berlin, VT	Sept 24
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Concord, NH	Oct 13
Residential Sprinklers: Homes to High Rise	Concord, NH	Oct 14
Sprinklers for Dwellings	Concord, NH	Oct 15
Underground Piping (1/2 Day)	Woodland, CA	Oct 20
Commissioning & Acceptance Testing (1/2 Day)	Woodland, CA	Oct 20

Sprinkler Protection for General Storage	Woodland, CA	Oct 21
Sprinkler Protection for Special Storage	Woodland, CA	Oct. 22
Pumps for Fire Protection	Edwardsville, IL	Oct 27
Sprinkler Protection for General Storage	Edwardsville, IL	Oct 28
Sprinkler Protection for Rack Storage	Edwardsville, IL	Oct 29
NFPA 13 Overview	Pembroke, MA	Oct 27-28
Plan Review Policies & Procedures	Pembroke, MA	Oct 29
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance	Irving, TX	Oct 27
Hydraulics for Fire Protection	Irving, TX	Oct 28
NFPA 13, 13R, 13D 2007 Update	Irving, TX	Oct 29

These seminars qualify for continuing education as required by NICET.

To register or for more information, contact: Dawn Fitzmaurice at (845) 878-4207, E-Mail: seminars@nfsa.org

NFSA Tuesday eTechAlert is c. 2009 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.

About the National Fire Sprinkler Association

Established in 1905, the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) is the voice of the fire sprinkler industry. NFSA leads the drive to get life-saving and property protecting fire sprinklers into all buildings; provides support and resources for its members – fire sprinkler contractors, manufacturers and suppliers; and educates authorities having jurisdiction on fire protection issues. Headquartered in Patterson, N.Y., NFSA has regional operations offices throughout the country. www.nfsa.org.

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