


Editor-Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.
November 27, 2012

Issue No. 254

Revisions to NFPA 25, Your Vote Counts!



A number of revisions are being proposed for NFPA 25 that are extremely important to the fire sprinkler industry. A full report will be provided to NFSA members when the document gets published, but prior to the document being finalized, the NFPA membership has a chance to vote on whether they agree with the changes proposed by the committee or not. A number of changes proposed by the committee were somewhat controversial. These include:

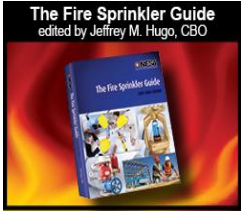
- Changes to how we run flow tests of hydrants
- Changes to how we run flow tests of fire pumps and interpret the data
- Changes to the requirements for internal inspection of systems
- New requirements to find and report recalled sprinklers
- Clarifications as to whether missing cover plates on concealed and recessed sprinklers need to be noted on the inspection forms
- Changes to the rules on flow testing of standpipe systems

The NFPA membership will have an opportunity to vote on these issues at the NFPA meeting on June 12-13, 2013 in Chicago. All members of the fire sprinkler industry are encouraged to come to this meeting and vote, however, you can only vote at the meeting if you are a member of the NFPA FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS. This means that if you want to exercise your right to vote, you need to be an NFPA member as of December 12, 2012.

We encourage everyone in the fire sprinkler industry to be members of the NFPA. There are tremendous benefits to membership and we hope that you have joined prior to reading this issue of e-TechNotes. But if you want to support your industry and have a say in what NFPA 25 is going to require you to do as a part of inspection, testing and maintenance of fire protection systems, you need to JOIN BEFORE DECEMBER 12, 2012!

We hope that there will be a good turnout for the fire sprinkler industry in Chicago on June 12-13 to vote on the NFPA standards. If you can fit this important meeting into your schedule it will be well worth your time. If you are available for the three days before the 12th, the educational sessions put on by the NFPA on June 9-11, 2013 are expected to be excellent and well worth the registration fees. You can sign up for a single day of registration if there are just a few items that you are interested in, or you can sign up for the full conference. The schedule for all of the topics that will be offered has not been released yet, but it will be soon. We have been involved in some of the planning for some of the programs and we are excited at what will be offered.

If you plan on coming to vote at the technical report session for NFPA 25 (and the other documents that are reporting in this cycle), be advised that you do need to register for the event and you do need to pay a one-day registration fee. Many people get upset at the fact that they have to pay a fee just to come and vote, but the NFPA counters with the statement that the room to hold the vote is very expensive and they need to offset the cost by charging people who are coming to vote. If you have purchased a registration for the educational sessions, you are not required to pay any additional fee to come and vote.



The actual costs for full registrations and single day registrations have not yet been announced by the NFPA. But we expect that their website will be updated with this information soon. You can check periodically at www.nfpa.org to see if they have posting information on what will be taught at the educational sessions and what the costs of registration will be.

In the coming months, the NFSA will be publishing editions of this newsletter with information on exactly what will be voted on at the NFPA meeting and how the NFSA Engineering and Standards Committee suggests people vote on each item. Members of the NFSA are not required to vote in concert with the Engineering and Standards Committee, but we figure that you'll probably want to know what they are thinking.

For now, it's not important exactly what will be on the agenda. We know that the agenda will be items that are very important to us as an industry and we'll want to have a say in how the final document will read. We encourage everyone to become members of the NFPA by the December 12th deadline so that they can exercise their rights to vote in June.

To join the NFPA, go to their website at www.nfpa.org and click on "Membership", then click on "Join NFPA". Finally, click on "Join or renew your membership now". This takes you to a screen where you can click on the type of membership (U.S., Canadian or International) and you can take it from there. Membership is \$165 per person per year. Once you join, we highly encourage you to maintain your membership because voting on other NFPA standards that are also important to our industry happens every year.

Upcoming NFSA "Technical Tuesday" Seminar – December 4

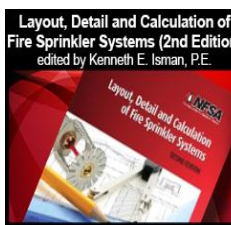
Topic: *Hanging and Bracing of In-Rack Sprinkler Systems*

Instructors: *TBD*

Date: *Tuesday, December 4 2012- 10:30 am EST*

In-rack sprinkler systems must be supported by the rack they are protecting. This support requirement applies to both gravitational and seismic loads. As the purpose of the racks is to store product, the physical space remaining in-rack flue and face sprinklers to fit is limited. This can affect the type and location of hangers for the in-rack systems. The seismic protection, in addition to the limited physical space, also faces the challenge of the rack movement during a seismic event. The application of the seismic guidelines will also be examined.

To register or for more information, click [HERE](#) or contact Michael Repko at (845) 878-4207 or e-mail to seminars@nfsa.org.



Upcoming In-Class Training Seminars

The NFSA training department also offers in-class training on a variety of subjects at locations across the country, and in recognition of the current recession has adopted a new reduced fee structure. Here are some upcoming seminars:

Nov 29	Liverpool, NY	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance for the AHJ
Jan 8-10	Westbury, NY	3-Day Inspection & Testing for the Sprinkler Industry
Jan 15	Brea, CA	Commissioning & Acceptance Testing/Basic Seismic
Jan 16-17	Brea, CA	2-Day Protection of Storage

These seminars qualify for continuing education as required by NICET, and meet mandatory Continuing Education Requirements for Businesses and Authorities Having Jurisdiction.

To register for these in-class seminars, click [HERE](#). Or contact Michael Repko at (845) 878-4207 or e-mail to seminars@nfsa.org for more information.

NFSA Tuesday eTechNotes is c. 2012 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 Kenneth E. Isman, P.E. isman@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.

You are receiving this message because you are subscribed to the NFSA email list. To remove yourself from this service and stop receiving email messages from NFSA, Please reply to this message with “remove” in the subject

