NJ SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes January 05, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by our Vice President Rich Reitberger. All attendees introduced themselves.

Minutes and the Treasurer’s Report were read and accepted.

Our new applicant for general membership Richard Sidney was brought before the membership and accepted.

The Treasurer’s report was read by David Gluckman and accepted. The minutes from the last meeting were read by Ed Armm and accepted.

Vinny Fichera of NFSA informed the membership that NFSA was having a dinner seminar Tuesday, January 13, 2004 pertaining to licensing laws in NJ. He let us know that they had the Fire Protection Specialist from NICET as their guest speaker and all members of the NJ SFPE were invited to attend. Vinny went on to tell us about their February meeting which will focus on NFPS 25.

Ed Armm informed the membership that a joint meeting of the NY SFPE and NY Fire Safety Directors Association would be holding their joint meeting on the same day, however, as a morning meeting. Once again the meeting will be held at the New York City Fire Museum. Ed told those that have never been there that they need to, if not for the meeting then just to visit the extensive museum.

John Cholin spoke to the group about the PE Review program; Rich took this opportunity to let the membership know how much work John and the rest of the PE Review committee have been doing.

Frank Savino introduced our speaker for the night, Mr. Rob Rudolph from Wheelock.

Rob handed everyone a copy of his presentation which made it easy to follow and allowed him to cover quite a lot of information in a short time. The key to Rob’s presentation were code changes as well as changes in the way systems work and what they are capable of today. In today’s market our clients want everything to be multi-purpose and with the advances in technology an evacuation system can also provide background music as well as phone paging all within most codes.

Rob covered appliances both visual and audible in great detail; he also provided those in attendance with some useful handouts, a software program to calculate voltage drops, audibility requirements visibility requirements and configuration for voice system requirements. Two overlays for placing visual appliances on drawings, one for wall mounted and the other for ceiling and finally Rob presented us with two useful marketing sheets to add to handouts. Some of the new issues in NFPA 72 that Rob brought to our attention included rules for synchronization, corridor spacing, narrow band notification, requirements in sleeping rooms, standard user interfaces for fire alarm control equipment and finally the coming together of ADA and NFPA.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.
Engineering Program Manager - SFPE

The purpose of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers is to advance the science and practice of fire protection engineering internationally. In 1994, the Society created the position of Technical Director in order to identify, evaluate and implement into practice newly emerging fire protection technologies. The Society is now expanding the technical staff to better advance and gain recognition of the practice of fire protection engineering.

Function:
The engineering program manager will promote the competent, ethical, and professional practice of fire protection engineering.

Responsibilities:
• Gains increased recognition of the fire protection engineering profession
• Advocates the proper role of the fire protection engineer in the design process
• Encourages states to offer the professional engineering examination in fire protection engineering
• Monitors legislation, regulations and codes that could affect the practice of fire protection engineering and responds as needed
• Serves as a resource for the development and implementation of the fire protection engineering principles and practices of engineering (PE) exam
• Makes presentations and writes articles as needed to accomplish program goals
  • Responds to technical inquiries
  • Serves as staff liaison to SFPE task groups
  • Works with SFPE leaders and members to accomplish program goals
  • Performs other duties as assigned

Requirements:
Candidates should possess a degree in engineering, fire protection engineering preferred. Excellent written and oral communication skills and interpersonal skills are required. Candidate must be willing to travel approximately at a 20% level. License as a professional engineer is required.

Relationships:
Reports to the Executive Director and works closely with the Technical Director.

Salary: commensurate with experience; competitive benefit package.

Those interested should submit a detailed resume to Executive Director, Society of Fire Protection Engineers, 7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1225 Bethesda, MD 20814. Fax 301-718-2242.
NFSA - NJ Chapter  
Continuing Education Program  
Subject: Design Advantage Seminar  

As part of the NFSA - NJ Chapter continuing education program, we are pleased to invite you to a one day seminar entitled “Design Advantage.” The Design Advantage training workshop will teach how to increase the level of fire protection while controlling construction costs. It identifies over one hundred design options, which will permit design flexibility in all types of buildings, from single-family dwellings to multi-level high rise buildings. The workshop is applicable to all areas of the country and all model building codes, including the new edition of the International Building Code. Actual case studies, interactive discussions and problem based exercises will be addressed which will help to initiate a code compliant design. The workshop provides eight (8) hours of HSW continuing education credits that are acceptable by AIA and the following states for license maintenance: AL, AR, FL, IA, KA, KY, LA, MN, NE, NJ, NM, NC, OK, OR, SD, TN, TX, VT, NY and WV.

This program is sponsored by the NFSA - NJ Chapter Industry Promotion Fund and therefore there is no cost to you. In addition, you will receive a complimentary breakfast and lunch.

Wednesday, February 25, 2004
7:30 am - Registration and Breakfast
8:00 am - Seminar begins
12:00-1:00 pm - Lunch
4:00 pm - Seminar concludes

Knights of Columbus Hall
1034 Jeanette Avenue
Union, New Jersey

Do not let this opportunity pass you by. Seating is limited, so please respond as soon as possible.

To reserve a seat call : Vinny Fichera
Office-(201)493-0999
Cell-(201)852-8823

FPE EXAM REVIEW

The NJ Chapter continues to sponsor a customized series of classes to prepare members for the National FPE exam in the fall. Of those students that have taken the test and the Chapter’s review course, there has been a 100% pass rate. With the national level being in the 40’s, it says a lot about the course, its Chapter instructors and the Chairman of this committee, John Cholin. Being that this takes a huge commitment of time and effort on behalf of the instructors, a minimum class size of three people is needed. If you have an interest or further questions on the course, please contact John Cholin at:

jmcholin@bellatlantic.net.

In order to take the test in the fall of 2004, the applications forms should be filed no later than mid June. Thus, those considering taking the PE test need to prepare now.
ESFR Sprinklers and Heat & Smoke Vents

Chuck Gandy provides the following information regarding FM Global standards on heat and smoke venting.

Now that NJ is switching from BOCA to ICC, there are some requirements for Heat & Smoke Vents that can detrimentally impact ESFR sprinkler performance, if not properly addressed. The following information helps to answer some of the questions asked at the meeting.

This is the internet link whereby all SFPE members can download the FM Data Sheet 2-2, “INSTALLATION RULES FOR SUPPRESSION MODE AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS” at no charge (free!). http://www.fmglobal.com/scripts/store/esfr_form.asp

You can also surf to this location by going to:


The following are excerpts from DS 2-2:

2.2.4 Heat and Smoke Venting
If a fire starts beneath an automatic heat/smoke vent and that vent operates before sprinklers do, the venting could result in a critical delay in sprinkler operation.

2.2.4.1 Do not install suppression mode sprinklers in buildings with automatic heat/smoke vents unless the vents use a high temperature-rated standard response operating mechanism. This is the easiest solution.

2.2.6 Roof and Ceiling-Level Ventilation
Ventilation (both natural and powered) at the ceiling level can create problems similar to those caused by automatic heat and smoke vents. If a fire starts beneath a natural-draft vent, the vent can capture the fire plume, significantly delaying sprinkler operation. If air velocity at a sprinkler caused by a powered vent or air supply is too high, it can also result in a critical delay in sprinkler.

Then several options are presented to prevent the problems. The Data Sheet also specifies what does and does not constitute an obstruction for ESFRs, which is much more restrictive than for regular area/density control mode sprinklers. If any installers are working on properties insured by FM Global, the owners can also seek help applying the Data Sheet from their local FMG engineer. Of course, the blueprints and calculations for ESFR (or any) sprinklers at FMG insureds should be sent into our Parsippany FMG office for plan review before the fabrication stage, when mistakes are much easier to correct. I hope this helps the membership.

Chuck
The following will be a segment in a series of articles in the Fusible Link. It has been taken from The Fire Protection Research Foundation “The Sixth Fire Suppression & Detection Research Application Symposium, Tampa, FL 23-25 January 2002.”

BRIDGING THE GAP: FIRE PROTECTION FOR “IT” AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

Part II

RISK TOLERANCE

• Electronic Equipment is damaged by
  • Corrosive products of combustion
  • Fire fighting operations

• Minimum damage will be a result of
  • Early detection
  • Effective alarm processing
  • Rigorous response
    • Power Disconnect - localized as required
    • Suppression when necessary

• IT - Response to Fire
  • Sequenced equipment shut-down
  • Secure operations and space
  • Restart and reprocess data when appropriate

• Telecommunications - Response to Fire
  • Maintain service
  • Replace damaged equipment
  • Continue operations uninterrupted
  • Water on energized equipment can cause more damage than the fire
  • Eliminating a fire can be done by manual response to equipment malfunction or very small fire
  • Equipment shut-down is avoided - it requires restoring millions of line of software code.

FIRE DETECTION, NOTIFICATION AND RESPONSE

• Who should be notified of a fire signal?
  • in an IT space?
  • in a telecommunications space?
  • for a facility in which they are combined?

  • For IT equipment - persons who can sequence shut down and secure the facility
  • For Telecommunications facilities - persons who can replace equipment and selectively disconnect power, if necessary

In addition, NFPA 76 recommends fire service response if the fire progresses beyond the ALERT stage and the condition worsens to the FIRE ALARM stage.

What codes apply for combined facility?

• National Electrical Code (NEC), NFPA 70, for incoming AC power service and building service connections
• NEC & NFPA 75 for IT equipment
• NFPA 76 for telecommunications facilities

Fire detection, notification and response recommended in NFPA 76 for Telecommunications facilities

• NFPA 76 reaches beyond NFPA 72
  • The levels of detection system performance are defined in NFPA 76 and are as follows:
    (1) Very Early Warning Fire Detection (VEWFD)
    (2) Early Warning Fire Detection (EWFD)
    (3) Standard Fire Detection (SFD)

  • EWFD and VEWFD smoke detection systems should use sensors or ports with spacing that is less and “sensitivity” that is greater than that required by NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code.

NFPA 76 recommends Alarm Processing for Telecommunications facilities that is significantly more rigorous than that required by NFPA 75 for IT equipment.

• “Use of very early warning fire detection systems with an alert (pre-alarm) condition should provide for an initial response by authorized personnel prior to fire department notification.

  • The initial response should be by owner designated personnel such as a telecommunications facilities person or technician.”

AUTOMATIC SUPPRESSION

Suppression in NFPA 76 for Telecommunications Equipment Areas

• Telecommunications equipment should be industry-standard compliant and should be installed and used in configurations and uses for which it has been tested.

  • Where major equipment, wire, or cable do NOT comply... then automatic fire suppression should be provided.

Suppression in NFPA 76 (Telecom) for Non-equipment Areas

• Automatic Suppression is recommended in:
  • Administrative areas
  • Building services and support areas

Automatic Fire Detection & Suppression is required in NFPA 75 for IT Equipment.
MEETING DATES/PROGRAM 2003-2004

(Programs Subject to Change)
Watch web page concerning cancellation In case of possible inclement weather conditions

Feb. 2 Ramifications of 9/11 to Industry - Panel Discussion/Presentation - Bob Baker, FM Global, Mike Newman, Johnson & Johnson, Brad Hart, Willis of NY

March 1 Gas Agents: Which Ones Are Best - A Review of the Latest Agents - Michelle Herdman, Dupont

April 5 Engineering Ethics

April 21 NJ Chapter Seminar

May 4, Tues. Plant Facility Tour, Numerous Types of Fire Protection System Applications Will Be Reviewed at Merck in Rahway, NJ

June 7 Annual Meeting - Election of Chapter Officers
Jahn Foundry Loss Analysis & Discussion - John Cholin

June 28 Joint NY/NJ chapter Golf Outing to Support the Scholarship Fund - to be held at West Point

POSITIONS TAKEN BY SPEAKERS ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE POSITION OF THE NJ S.F.P.E.

All meetings are held at the Hanover Manor, Eagle Rock Road, Hanover, NJ (approximately 1 1/2 miles west of Eisenhower Parkway). Get Acquainted Hour 5:00-6:00 p.m. Adjournment is usually before 8:30 p.m. The Executive Committee meets at 4:00 p.m.

Editors Note--If you would like to advertise your company and help offset the cost of this publication, as well as having your business card in front of over 150 Fire Protection Professionals please call John Cholin at (201) 337-8621 for further information. The cost is $100 for 10 issues.
MEETING NOTICE

Date: Monday, February 2, 2004

Place: Hanover Manor
16 Eagle Rock Avenue
East Hanover, NJ

Price: In Advance - $22 At Door - $25

Dinner: 5:00-6:00 (Cash bar for mixed drinks)
Dinner at 6 PM

Speaker(s): Bob Baker, FM Global, Mike Newman, Johnson & Johnson, Brad Hart, Willis

Topic: Ramifications of 9/11 to Industry - Panel Discussion/Presentation

All officers, directors, and committee chairman are requested to attend a meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the Hanover Manor.

Please note for this meeting:

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO
“SFPE N.J. CHAPTER” TO:
Vicki Serafin
Affiliated FM
400 Interpace Parkway, Bldg C - 3rd Floor
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196

NAME: ________________________________
COMPANY: ___________________ TELEPHONE __________________

Prime Rib
Fish

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, January 30, 2004. TELEPHONE RESER-
VATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF THE MEETING DAY.
STANDING COMMITTEES

Program:
Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chairs, with input from all members
Consulting - Nick Chergotis & Chuck Gandy

Arrangements:
Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chair

Membership:
Rich Reitberger, Chairman

Nominating:
Chuck Gandy, Chairman
Glenn Deitz
Bob Murray

Scholarship Fund:
Rich Reitberger, Chairman
Robert Hall
Mike Machette

Auditing:
Joe Janiga

Archivist:
Rich Reitberger (FM Global Library)

Historian:
Jim Tolos

Communications:
Fusible Link:
Brad Hart, Editor
Dave Gluckman, Asst. Editor
Ana Cosodomo, Publishing
Vicki Serafin, Mailing/Automation

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Bylaws:
Jim Tolos, Chairman
Joe Janiga - Co-Chairman

Career Recruitment:
Al Dopart, Chairman
Tom Breton
Joe Stavish
Glenn Deitz
Dave Gluckman

Golf Outing:
Richard Reitberger, Chairman

Awards:
John Ed Ryan
Jim Tolos
Frank Savino

NY Chapter Liaison:
Rich Reitberger (Pat Egan back-up liaison)

PE Examination:
John Cholin, Chairman
Joe Janiga
Mike Newman
Chuck Gandy

Joint Seminar/Chapter Seminar:
Richard Reitberger, Chairman
Nick Chergotis
Pat Egan
Dave Gluckman

Legislative:
Rich Reitberger, Chairman
Special Executive Assistant to the Board:
Vicki Serafin

Visit us on the Web: www.njsfpe.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sfpenjchapter