



Editor Fusible Link:  
Brad Hart &  
Ana Crisostomo  
Tel: 646-572-3920  
Fax: 646-871-3920

# Society of Fire Protection Engineers

## New Jersey Chapter

# FUSIBLE LINK

JANUARY 2007

### Chapter Officers

#### President

Glenn Deitz - 908-298-2199

#### First V.P.

Dave Gluckman - 973-410-4635

#### Second V.P.

John Cholin - 201-337-8621

#### Past President

Rich Reitberger - 973-541-6776

#### Treasurer

Bob Murray - 732-205-9440

#### Asst. Treasurer

Richard Ravaioli - 908-272-0066

#### Secretary

Ed Armm - 212-695-6670

#### Asst. Secretary

Brad Hart - 646-572-3920

#### Director

Vinnie Fichera - 201-493-0999

#### Director

Glenn Buser - 201-891-1405

#### Director

John Warnet - 212-384-6200

#### Director

Jerry Naylis - 201-384-2059

#### Special Executive Assistant to The Board

Vicki Serafin

## President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the new year! I hope that all have a great holiday season which much enjoyment. I am especially looking forward to the next few meetings as we have some very good presentations scheduled. I look forward to seeing everyone. Happy New Year and success to all.

Best Regards  
Glenn Deitz

### January 8 Meeting Technical Presentation Industrial Post Fire Restoration

The speakers for this presentation are from area property loss mitigation, salvage and restoration companies. The presenters will show what is involved after a fire or water damage loss occurs at industrial or commercial properties. Building, contents and equipment could be damaged in a loss and must be analyzed for restoration and salvage potential. Also structure rebuilding estimates are developed and are important as the next step in the process may be to completely rebuild facilities including utilities and protection systems. The presentation and discussions will be led by FM Global Senior Adjuster Ken Muir. Speakers will be from Crystal Restoration Corp., Electronic Renaissance and Callan Salvage Company. Q&A to follow.

<http://www.sfpe.org/Chapters/NewJersey.aspx>

## NJ SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes December 4, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Dave Gluckman our Vice President; introductions followed the salute to the flag as is our custom.

The General Meeting Minutes for our September and October meetings were approved as published in the *Fusible Link*. The Treasurer's Report for November and December were read and accepted.

Dave brought a new membership to the floor for a vote, James Carroll of Metro Fire and Safety applied for associate membership a motion was made to accept his membership which carried.

Dave mentioned a position that has come open at Schering for a Fire Protection Engineer to work under Glenn Deitz.

Sarge Slicer spoke about National's SFPE Professional Development Conference and Exposition and reminded us to mark our calendars to attend next year's to be held October 15-19, 2007 at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV. Sarge attended the SFPE Chapter Senate Meeting on Sunday October 15; a number of issues were discussed including Chapter excellence awards of which our chapter won a Bronze Award. Sarge reported that the Chapters that were awarded the Gold Awards based their year's meetings and activities on the criteria published for earning the award our Board will consider this in planning next years program. There were also discussions on financing seminars, Nationals hosting of the chapters websites and ways to increase chapter membership.

The following day was the SFPE Annual Business Meeting, award lectures and a luncheon that included three presentations after which preceded a form of trade show and finally the SFPE Awards and Honors Banquet. Sarge did not stay for the seminars and symposia offered over the next four days. Once again, Sarge did a great job representing the NJ Chapter.

The speaker at tonight's meeting was Mr. Anthony Meehan, MME, EIT an associate at the New York City offices of Rolf Jensen & Associates, Tony's topic was

"Life Safety in Health Care Facilities.

Tony started off going over the building codes that affect Health Care Facilities such as NFPA 101, 2000 edition. Adopted by State of NJ for hospitals; and by CMS, JCAHO, and the IBC 2000 edition, as adopted by State of NJ. Tony went on to explain just who the AHJ's could be involved with health care, the list included local (NJ) Building Sub-code officials, Fire Sub-code officials, DCA, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and finally the Veterans Administration.

Tony introduced the "Fire and Life Safety in Health Care Facilities" handbook as a practical guide that outlines the complex compliance issues affecting hospitals, nursing homes, ambulatory care centers, clinics, and other patient care occupancies. Tony went on to define Health Care Facilities as based on NFPA 101 and the IBC. Tony explained the wide variety of facilities considered health care by the various codes as well as the construction classification requirements for them by themselves as well as part of mixed occupancies.

Fire alarm detection and notification came next in the presentation. Required to have manual pull stations. We were told that pull stations may be located at Nurse's stations, and omitted from egress doorways, smoke detectors are required in spaces open to corridors. Some things we take for granted sometimes are really not allowed without a variance and AHJ's approval such as pre-signal alarms and the use of positive alarm sequence or PAS. When we discussed notification, we learned that it may be public mode or private mode, that visible alarm notification was not desirable in Operating Rooms, that visible alarm notification is, however, desirable in critical care areas. Finally, that visible rather than audible alarm notification only may be used if approved by AHJ in patient sleeping areas.

Our presentation then moved to automatic sprinkler systems which are required in all

new construction per NFPA 101; similarly required in IBC for I-2/patient sleeping rooms. They may also be required in renovations depending on the renovation. Sprinklers are not required in existing hospitals per NFPA 101 Chapter 19, however, installation of sprinkler system eliminates need to maintain 1 hour fire rated corridors so they are often used. Tony explained that the retroactive sprinkler requirement in NJ Fire Code Sec. 4.7(c). has exceptions for buildings of Type 1 and 2A construction or Type 2B not more than 1 story in height. Finally, he reminded us of a common problem, not to paint sprinklers, or they'll have to be replaced.

The next topic was corridors as they are required in all hospitals, we discussed the limitations on what can be open to corridors (e.g., Nurse's stations, waiting areas.) the need for 1/2 hour walls corridors required in unsprinklered Existing hospitals and that walls must go slab to slab, however, they may terminate at fire rated ceiling. Tony warned us that many fire rated ceilings are installed and thought the year's renovations remove that rating. Tony further explained that corridors to be 8 feet wide-new hospitals and sprinklered existing corridors are required to be "smoke resistant." He further explained the concept of "suites" defining them as a group of patient rooms effectively outside of corridor system. Suites of sleeping rooms can range from around 5,000 sq. ft. typically to up to 10,000 sq. ft. in area and that suites with sleeping rooms over 1,000 sq. ft. are required to have at least two exits as well as suites without sleeping rooms which must have two exits only if over 2,500 sq. ft.. Doors off of corridors must be positive latching, 1-3/4" solid wood or 20 minute rated. Self-closing hardware or compliance with NFPA 80 is not required and up to a 1" undercut is permitted. Roller latches are not permitted by CMS, although they are

*Continued on page 3*

*Continued from page 2*

allowed by NFPA 101, if existing. Non-rated plates up to 48" in height may be installed on all doors, however, doors to toilet rooms, and similar spaces, don't have to comply with above requirements

Tony reminded us not to paint door labels as this creates unnecessary maintenance problem which could lead to the need for field application of labels. One idea was to put a layer of masking tape on the UL labels on all new doors.

We spoke briefly about patient sleeping rooms which are either located off of a corridor or located in a suite. They must have a window to the outside per NFPA 101 which also requires a minimum sill height is 36" above the floor in new construction only.

We next covered above-ceiling firestopping in existing corridor walls which is a very big issue in existing unsprinklered facilities; however, corridor wall fire stopping is not required in sprinklered facilities.

Tony's next issue was "means of egress" he explained that a "defend in place" approach is encouraged via the permitted increased use of horizontal exits. There are penalties in both NFPA 101 and the IBC for exit capacity for unsprinklered healthcare.

Along with egress is travel distance which is limited to 200' in new and sprinklered existing facilities and 150' in unsprinklered existing per NFPA 101 and IBC. Tony stressed that the building must be fully sprinklered to get the travel distance increase. He went on to explain that there are three stages to means of egress: exit access, exit, and exit discharge. Exit access in hospitals must be through a corridor and the corridors must lead to an exit, whether vertical or horizontal. Occupant load factors were discussed as well as the need for an exit to discharge directly outside. However, up to 1/2 of exits may discharge inside of the building if the level of discharge is sprinklered and the floor slab is 2 hour rated. The IBC requires that High Rise-stairs must discharge through pressurized passageway that leads directly outside, or through passageways with no openings.

Hazardous areas were discussed next, Tony told us that NFPA 101 requires rated separations for "hazardous areas" such as boiler rooms (and similar), laboratories, storage rooms, soiled linen rooms, and trash rooms while the IBC requires separations for paint rooms, storage rooms, laundry rooms, and trash rooms typically, requiring "smoke-tight" in lieu of 1 hour construction if sprinklers are provided.

Tony's presentation moved on to smoke barriers with their being required on each patient floor per NFPA 101 and IBC as well as being required in existing facilities when there are more than 30 patients. They are required to be 1-hour fire rated, extend from exterior wall to exterior wall and be of 1/2 hour rated construction in existing facilities. Firestopping-important maintenance item as work in healthcare facilities like most other occupancies is not often followed up and inspected properly. We learned that a 30 sq. ft. per patient area is required on each side of smoke barrier, this is a part of the defend in place approach. Other requirements are a means of passive smoke control and restrictions on maximum area (22,500 sq. ft.) and travel distance within smoke compartments. Tony explained the difference between a smoke compartment versus fire area. Moving on we discussed smoke dampers not being required in fully ducted HVAC system serving fully sprinklered smoke compartment and self-closing doors not being required to be latching, however, they must be 1 3/4" solid wood or 20 minute rated. From here we discussed active smoke control we learned that it was not required in hospitals per se, however, it is required in atriums per NFPA 101 & IBC. However it is often installed to score FSES points as long as the system is installed per NFPA 92A, Recommended Practice for Smoke Control Systems.

Tony moved on to required maintenance considerations as well as the requirement for SOC or Statement of Conditions (SOC) surveys which is a part of the larger JCAHO "Environment of Care" requirements. The SOC is a detailed document detailing all known deficiencies and the methods, cost and plan of correcting them. The second maintenance requirement is the Basic Building

Information (BBI) report along with a Life Safety Assessment (LSA) and plan For Improvement (PFI). Another requirement is the PFI which can be the short or long form, this document provides line items for deficiencies, unique identifiers, repair estimate costs, and must include the source and commitment of funds for repairs as well as the start and completion time of the repair project. Additional considerations are the testing and maintenance in environment of care (e.g., fire pump testing and emergency generator testing) and general testing and maintenance per the building codes which specifically requires compliance with respective NFPA documents (e.g., NFPA 25 and 72).

Finally Tony moved to NFPA 101A - *Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety* which can be used to resolve deficiencies. Typically, it is most useful to address hard-to-fix architectural deficiencies (e.g., existing non-compliant exit stairs). The guide operates on a "points" system that has four "safety" categories: Containment, Extinguishment, People Movement, and General. It provides a basis with which to perform an analysis to each smoke compartment. The guide includes a specific Health Care section that can be applied to other occupancies including Business, Detention and Correctional, and Board and Care. Alternative approaches are a function of many factors including which floor the zone is on; the ratio of patients to staff, and how mobile the patients are. "Points" are given (or taken away) based on building construction, interior finish, fire rated separations (corridors), means of egress, fire alarm, and sprinklers to make up for deficiencies, certain changes will have to be made, e.g., adding sprinklers or smoke detection. Nonetheless, a smoke compartment has to be maintained in accordance with FSES, not prescriptive code requirements and the approach requires a buy-in from AHJ: DCA, JCAHO, CMS and/or the VA.

After a Q & A period, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30.

## NJ adopts changes for Fire Protection Equipment Contractor Certification

The State of New Jersey recently adopted changes to the Standards for the Certification of Fire Protection Equipment Contractors, allowing businesses to perform in-house fire protection testing.

N.J.A.C. 5:74-2.2.a.2 The Division shall not require an in-house employee to obtain a certificate of certification for performing routine maintenance or monthly, weekly, or daily inspection or testing of fire protection equipment provided:

- i. The employer has a documented, readily-available procedure in effect governing routine maintenance and monthly, weekly or daily inspections and testing; and
- ii. The employer can provide proof the personnel performing the work have been trained on the current Uniform Fire Code provisions governing routine maintenance or monthly, weekly, and daily inspection or testing for the work they may be required to perform.

The entire rule adoption for N.J.A.C. 5:74-1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.10 can be read at <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/adoptedcontcert.pdf> on page 4 of 5.

In-house fire protection testing requirements by the NJ Uniform Fire Code are based on NFPA 25, Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems. This 107-page document outlines the minimum requirements for fire protection testing including monthly inspection of all fire protection valves, quarterly testing of any fire protection valves with electronic supervision, quarterly testing of water flow devices, weekly operation of electric and diesel fire pumps.

The NJ Uniform Fire Code still requires annual inspections by a certified sprinkler contractor. A list of certified contractors can be found on the NJ Division of Fire Safety web site at <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/dfs/contractorslisting.pdf>.



Permit# P00072  
Lic # 154182

**CITY FIRE  
EQUIPMENT CO., INC.**  
Paul J. Mc Grath  
President  
paul@cityfire.com  
733 Ridgedale Avenue • East Hanover, NJ 07936  
(973) 580-1500 Ext. 204 • Fax (973) 751-1099  
Cell (973) 478-8132

**SURVIVOR**  
**FIRE & SECURITY SYSTEMS**  
SERVICE • DESIGN • INSTALLATION

**RICHARD RAVAIOLI - SALES MANAGER**  
39A Myrtle Street • Cranford, NJ 07016-3456  
Tel. (908) 272-0066 • Fax (908) 272-8144



**Associated Consulting Engineers, P.C.**  
*A Professional Corporation*

Robert E. Murray, P.E.  
President

1910 Oak Tree Road, Suite 2B, Edison, New Jersey 08820  
(732) 205-9410 FAX (732) 205-9442 Email rmurray@ace.com  
Fire Protection/Life Safety Systems/Security/Code Consulting/Loss Control

**Associated fire Protection**

ROLAND STRATEN, P.E.

100 Jackson Street  
Paterson, NJ 07501  
(973) 684-7250 Ext. 150  
Fax: (973) 684-4511  
rstraten@afpfire.com



www.afpfire.com



**UNITED**

FRANK SAVINO

United Fire Protection Corporation  
403 Lehigh Ave., Union, NJ 07083  
(908) 688-0300 Ext. 223 • FAX (908) 688-0218



**RISK  
CONSULTING**

Glenn D. Buser, P.E.  
201-891-1405  
201-394-4266 (Cell)

**GB Risk Consulting, LLC**  
155 Moramarco Court  
Mahwah, NJ 07430  
Email: gbriskconsulting@aol.com

# Career Opportunities

## Position Description:

Company Description: Schirmer Engineering is internationally recognized as one of the premier fire protection engineering, life safety and security consulting firms in the world. Founded in 1939, we are one of the oldest and most trusted names in fire protection engineering, with offices located throughout the United States.

Position Location: Schirmer Engineering is currently looking for engineers to fill new positions in our New York Metropolitan area office located in White Plains, NY, with additional positions also available throughout the United States.

Minimum Education: B.S. or Associates Degree in Fire Protection, Mechanical, or Electrical Engineering, Architecture, or Architectural Engineering. Individuals having a degree and/or P.E. in Fire Protection Engineering or related field are preferred.

Minimum Work Experience: Schirmer Engineering welcomes inquiries from individuals from all levels of experience, although individuals having 3 to 7 years of related engineering experience are preferred for the position in the New York Regional Office. Work experience should demonstrate growth and a proportional increase in technical, project management, and related responsibilities.

Special Skills: Applicants should be technically oriented, with good analytical and organizational skills. Excellent communication skills (written and oral) required. Individuals should have a broad knowledge of general building construction methods, familiarity with building and life safety codes, and experience in working with contractors, architects, and/or engineers. Knowledge and background with computer fire modeling techniques and performance-based design is a plus. The selected individual must have the ability to work both independently and in a team environment. Persons with the desire for career growth and interested in participating in the development of a rapidly growing, dynamic office are encouraged to apply.

Duties and Responsibilities: Technical responsibilities will include fire protection system design, specification development, construction period services, building surveys, building code consulting, computer fire, smoke and egress modeling, plan review, accessibility consulting, and related fire protection, life safety and building code consulting services. The selected individual will also assist in the development of project proposals and participate in business development. Candidates with appropriate experience will participate in, and direct financial and technical management of assigned projects.

Contact Information: For additional information regarding Schirmer Engineering, please see our website at [www.schirmereng.com](http://www.schirmereng.com). Confidential resumes and inquiries should be forwarded to:

Michael J. Rzeznik, P.E.  
Manager - New York Regional Office  
1 Barker Avenue, Third Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601  
(9 14) 949-0555  
Mike Rzeznik - [schirmereng.com](http://schirmereng.com)

# Meeting Dates/Programs 2006-2007

DATE	TOPIC
January 8, 2007	Industrial Post Fire Restoration - Rich Reitberger will be moderating a number of speakers
February 5, 2007	NIST Station Night Club Fire Analysis - Dan Madrowski, Chuck Gandy
March 5, 2007	Commodity Classification Changes - Joe Janiga, FM Global
April Meeting/Seminar Day	Homeland Security/Disaster Protection of gas and chemical plants
May 7, 2007	Insurance Industry Update - Bob Baker, FM Global, Mike Newman, Johnson & Johnson; Brad Hart, Lockton
June 11, 2007	J&J Explosion - Mike Newman, Johnson & Johnson
June 25, 2007	Golf Outing - West Point

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES...cont'd

Schering Plough is looking for someone with about 10 years experience with a good rounded loss prevention background and having worked on construction projects. Experience in the pharmaceutical industry and/or chemical industry a plus, but not essential. Working in Kenilworth, NJ with the ability to travel to SP sites through out the world. Will work on providing property loss prevention advice and criteria to SP sites and projects. Risk Assessment surveys of locations and dealing with insurance company recommendations. Will interact with all levels of management and divisions in SP and outside. Involvement in the insurance placements.

**Send/fax/email resume to:**

Glenn Deitz, Manager, Property Loss Prevention and Control  
 2000 Galloping Hill Road, K-6-2, D440  
 Kenilworth, NJ 07033  
 email - glenn.deitz@spcorp.com  
 Phone - 908-298-2199  
 Fax - 908-298-07033

\*\*\*\*\*

The City of North Las Vegas, Nevada, is currently accepting applications for the position of Fire Protection Engineer in the Fire Department. The current opening closes at 5pm on 12/21/06. For detailed information regarding this position and the application process, please visit our website at [www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com](http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com) and click on the "Employment" link.

While this ad came in to late for the Dec Issue of The Fusible Link, there is a chance that it will remain open beyond the stated deadline.

**The request came from:**

James Frater, PE, CFM  
 Fire Marshal  
 North Las Vegas Fire Department  
 2626 E. Carey  
 North Las Vegas, NV 89030  
 (702) 633-1107  
 (702) 399-8730 Fax

**SLICER & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C.**  
 Fire Protection and Loss  
 Prevention Consulting

**J. Sargent "Sarge" Slicer**

22 Laurel Street Office 973-993-5947  
 Morris Plains, NJ 07950 Mobile 973-493-0369  
 VM & Fax 866-395-6172  
 Member - SFPE & NFPA [sargeslicer1@myitocs.com](mailto:sargeslicer1@myitocs.com)

**JMCC**

John M. Cholin P.E., S.F.P.E.

**J.M.Cholin Consultants, Inc.**  
 Fire Protection Engineering and Consulting Services  
 101 Roosevelt Drive, Oakland NJ 07436 USA  
 Telephone: 201-337-8621 Fax: 201-337-5603

Robert Volinski  
 National Account Manager

**tyco**  
 Fire & Security

**ADT**

ADT Security Services, Inc.  
 695 Route 46 West  
 Suite 200  
 Fairfield, NJ 07004

Tel: 973 438 6477  
 Fax: 801 327 0768  
[emv@tycofire.com](mailto:emv@tycofire.com)

EDWARD B. ARMM, SET

**RJA**

**ROLF JENSEN & ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
 FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS

360 WEST 31ST STREET SUITE 1104 NEW YORK, NY 10001-4082 USA +1 212 695-6670 FAX +1 212 695-8671 [eammm@rjagroup.com](mailto:eammm@rjagroup.com)

A SUBSIDIARY OF THE RJA GROUP, INC.

Vicki Serafin  
Affiliated FM  
400 Interpace Parkway, Bldg C  
3rd Floor  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196  
Phone: (973) 541-6771  
Fax: (973) 541-6909

## MEETING NOTICE

- Date:** January 8, 2007
- 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):** Rich Reitberger will be moderating a number of speakers
- Topic:** Industrial Post Fire Restoration

**Please note for this meeting:**

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

---

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "SFPE NJ CHAPTER" TO:

Vicki Serafin  
Affiliated FM  
400 Interpace Parkway, Bldg C - 3rd Floor  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196  
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2007. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF THE MEETING DAY.



## 2006-2007 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### **Program**

John Cholin, Chairman  
Consulting - Nick Chergotis & Peter Rullo

#### **Arrangements**

Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

#### **Membership**

Dave Gluckman, Chairman

#### **Nominating**

Rick Reitberger, Chairman  
Chuck Gandy  
Glenn Buser

#### **Scholarship Fund**

Chuck Gandy, Chairman  
Robert Hall  
Mike Machette  
Dave Gluckman

#### **Auditing**

Joe Janiga, Chairman  
John Warnet

#### **Archivist**

Rich Reitberger, Chairman  
Nicole Davidowitch

#### **Historian**

Jim Tolos

#### **Communications**

Fusible Link—Brad Hart  
Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator  
Mailing/Automation/e-mail—Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

#### **Bylaws**

Jim Tolos, Chairman  
Joe Janiga - Co-Chairman

#### **Career Recruitment**

Al Dopart, Chairman  
Glenn Deitz  
Dave Gluckman

#### **Golf Outing**

Richard Reitberger, Chairman  
Joe Janiga

#### **Awards**

Frank Savino, Chairman  
Rich Reitberger

#### **PE Examination**

John Cholin, Chairman  
Joe Janiga  
Mike Newman  
Chuck Gandy

#### **Chapter Seminar/Field Trip**

Richard Reitberger, Chairman  
Dave Gluckman  
Joe Janiga

#### **Legislative**

Rich Reitberger, Chairman  
Vinnie Fichera  
Jerry Naylis

#### **Finance**

Rich Reitberger - Chairman  
John Cholin  
Bob Murray