President’s Message….

Tracey Bellamy, Telgian Corporation, made a compelling presentation on the hazards of electrical shock and arc flash when working with fire pump controllers. He spoke to the root causes and proper protocols and personal protective equipment (PPE) to use when working on and around them.

Although the recent Technical Interim Amendment (TIA) to NFPA 25 2017 Edition, which he help sponsor, defers opening the controller at all during inspection and testing, certain maintenance and repairs may require it. This lead to significant discussions on the topic. I believe this presentation was a great learning experience.

It’s not too late to sign up to sponsor and/or play the NJ-NY Metro SFPE Education Foundation ‘James Goerl Memorial Golf Outing’ on Monday, June 4th at the New York Country Club in New Hempstead, NY. To Play register at: https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ef3btvjpee26edff&oseq=&c=&ch=. To sponsor register at: https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ef3hzct7e389e6a1&oseq=&c=&ch=

As a result of the great success of the 9th Annual NJSFPE-AFAANJ Spring Symposium, our board of directors voted to donate $2,500 to the NJ-NY Metro SFPE Education Foundation. This makes us a platinum sponsor of the foundation.

The deadline, June 26th, is fast approaching for the NJSFPE Fire Prevention Week Grant Program. This year’s theme is ‘Carbon Monoxide—The Silent Killer’. The grants are intended for fire prevention bureaus to support public education and awareness of fire safety risks to the community. Up to 4 awards will be made for up to $1,000 to grant recipients, thanks to a matching grant from the NJ-NY Metro Education Foundation. Get the word out to those you know in fire prevention.

Don’t miss next month’s chapter meeting, to be held on Monday, June 18th at the Hanover Manor. Not only will we have presentation by Dave Barber, Principal Engr, Arup with the topic: “Tall Wood Buildings”; It is also our Annual Chapter meeting and election of officers.

Paul

Chapter President
Paul McGrath called the May 7th meeting to order at 6:00 with the salute to the flag and the usual introductions. There were 24 in attendance.

The minutes of the March meeting, published in the Fusible Link, were approved by the members.

The Treasurer’s reports for March and April were presented and accepted by the members. A preliminary financial report for the recent seminar was also presented, results appear very good and Jim Loftus was congratulated on a job well done.

Rich Reitberger discussed the Education Foundation. The golf outing planned for June 4 still has room for players and sponsors.

The Foundation’s 2018 Conference is planned for Oct 11 at the Tarrytown Marriott in conjunction with AIA and the NY Metro Chapter.

It was announced that the board decided for the chapter to donate $2500 to the Foundation, thus becoming a Titanium Sponsor.

We renewed the tag for njsfpe.org, dropping the njsfpe.com tag. If your browsers are set to the Chapter’s web site via the .com link its time to redirect them to .org.

We discussed the Chapter’s 2018 Fire Protection Week Grant Program, “Carbon Monoxide Detection”. Applications are available, the deadline is soon. This year we will make up to four awards of $500 with $500 matched by the Education Foundation.

Rich made the second reading of the nominations for officers for 2018-19. He pointed out some proposed differences in the positions on the Board’s organization to satisfy the state and federal governments due to our new incorporated status.

NJ Fire code updates are coming, taking effect July 1st.

Paul announced the appointment of the State’s new Director of the Division of Fire Safety, Richard Metusky. He will make contact with the Director and extend an invitation for him to visit, maybe give us some short remarks at a future meeting.

Tracey Bellamy, Telgian gave us a presentation of the hazards of electrical shock and arc flash from fire pump controllers. OSHA published regulations for personal safety involving work on electrical equipment, intended to protect workers from the hazards of electrical shock and arc flash. See also NFPA Standard 70E ‘Electrical Safety in the Workplace’. Arc flash is a phenomena where energized metals disintegrate, developing tremendous heat (35,000°F temps), vaporized metal particles, high pressures/shock waves, and projectiles. Standards set distance boundaries and prevent other than Qualified Personnel from working on energized electrical equipment, the point for us being that opening an electric fire pump controller cabinet almost always exposes energized equipment requiring Qualified Personnel. Tracey pointed out that fire codes have long advised special arrangements for pump circuits which lessen the chances of accidental pump outage. Unfortunately these arrangements often increase the available energy for shock and arc flash and prevent the easy ability to electrically disconnect them from their power supplies.

Mr. Bellamy pointed out that the owner is responsible for having an arc flash assessment conducted and safety/warning labels affixed to the equipment.

A Technical Interim Amendment (TIA) has been adopted by NFPA 25 (v2017) that eliminates the requirement to take voltage and current readings during routine fire pump tests where those displays are not provided on the outside of the control cabinet thus avoiding the need to open the cabinet. He plans to submit similar proposals for older versions of the standards which may still be effective in different jurisdictions.

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:20PM.
James Goel Memorial Golf Outing

The SFPE NJ/NY Metro Education Foundation 2018 James Goel Memorial Golf Outing


When
Monday, June 4, 2018 from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM EDT
Add to Calendar

Where
New York Country Club
163 Brick Church Rd
New Hempstead, NY 10977

Register to Play Now

Register to Sponsor Now

There are limited foursomes so register now while they are still open!

Sincerely,
Rich Reitherger
SFPE NJ / NY Metro Chapters Education Foundation
973-900-1319
nicholast522@gmail.com
In accordance with the new Incorporated Bylaws of the New Jersey Chapter, SFPE the following is the proposed slate of Officers and Trustees for the upcoming Chapter year beginning August 1, 2018. The election is scheduled to be conducted at the Chapter’s annual business meeting to be held on Monday, June 18, 2018 at the Hanover Manor, East Hanover, NJ.

OFFICERS
President, Paul McGrath
Vice President, Chris Vitale
Secretary, Joe Janiga
Treasurer, Marios Michaelides

TRUSTEES
Jim Loftus (1st year of 1 year term)
Marvin Maradiaga (1st year of 2 year term)
Ernesto Vega-Janica (1st year of 3 year term)
Dave Gluckman (1st year of 1 year term)
Glenn Buser (1st year of 2 year term)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Rich Reitberger
Jim Burge

The Chapter encourages volunteers to serve in leadership roles on the Board or on Committees. Any member who desires to run for Chapter Office or serve on a Committee is encouraged to do so by contacting Rich Reitberger at richreit522@gmail.com at least 4 weeks before our business meeting.

Regards,

Rich Reitberger
Nominations Chair
NJSFPE
Stainless Steel Cover Plate

The new stainless steel flat cover plates are available for Viking’s Mirage® Model VK462 and Model VK538 Concealed Pendent sprinklers, and the Freedom® Model VK494 Residential Concealed Pendent sprinkler. Both large (3-5/16”) and small (2-3/4”) diameter cover plates are offered in stainless steel. (Model VK538 available with large version only.) The stainless steel cover plates are UL Listed for use with Models VK462, VK538, and VK494, and are also FM Approved for use with the VK462.

The new stainless steel cover plates can be used with standard brass models, however, combining them with ENT plated concealed sprinklers creates an enhanced concealed sprinkler assembly providing an even higher level of overall resistance to corrosion. This assembly is well-suited for many applications where corrosion is a possible concern, such as food and pharmaceutical processing, food service areas, industrial wash down areas, parking garages, saunas, locker rooms, and sprinkler system installations near the ocean.

Stainless steel cover plates for Models VK462 and VK538 are available in both 135°F and 165°F temperature ratings. The VK494 stainless steel cover plate is available in 135°F only. Installers should refer to Viking’s Concealed Sprinkler Cover Plate Assemblies Technical Datasheet F_040600 for complete information on sizes, temperature ratings, and available finishes.

Technical Details

Manufacturer: Viking

What happens when an IBC without protection with just 10 gallons of Kerosene catches on fire

SafeSpill Systems conducted a series of fire tests on a plastic IBC one high with just 10 gallons of Kerosene in it and another with a two high IBC array. The link to the YouTube video below is quite spectacular.

SafeSpill 10 gal IBC Flare up Fire Test Video 1
Trump Tower fire is second 2018 blaze in sprinkler-free residential tower

By CAROLINE LINTON CBS NEWS April 8, 2018, 12:06 AM

Last Updated Apr 8, 2018 7:30 AM EDT

The fire on the 50th floor New York City's Trump Tower that left 67-year-old Todd Brassner dead and six firefighters injured was the second fire in the building in 2018. President Trump's centerpiece Manhattan skyscraper opened in 1984, but does not have sprinklers on its residential floors, a measure required in new buildings since 1999. President Trump, then a private citizen and property developer, lobbied to try and prevent the mandate at the time.

New York City in 1999 became last big city in the nation to require sprinklers, according to the New York Daily News. Under the 1999 legislation, buildings constructed before then were only required to have sprinklers if they underwent gut renovations.

According to The New York Times, Mr. Trump was one of the developers in the late 1990s who lobbied against sprinklers in buildings. He then recanted once the legislation passed with grandfathering provisions that meant existing buildings did not need to install them, saying that he understood they made residents "feel safer." FDNY Commissioner Daniel Nigro said on Saturday that there is extra fire protection at Trump Tower when Mr. Trump is there.

Then-New York city mayor and now staunch Trump ally Rudy Giuliani signed the bill requiring sprinklers into force on March 24, 1999, having opposed it when it was first proposed in 1997. The legislation was spurred on by a major fire in a so-called "fireproof" apartment block with no sprinklers on New York's Upper West Side the previous December, and another in a Brooklyn housing project the same month in which hallway sprinklers failed. Survivors wanted all buildings to have sprinklers, but the legislation that was passed was not retroactive, much to the delight of existing property owners who cited cost as a major reason not to be compelled to retrofit their buildings. At the time the legislation was being discussed, Mr. Trump had just started construction on a 72-story tower near the United Nations, and he subsequently said he would install sprinklers there at a cost of $3 million.

Saturday's fire is the second fire in Mr. Trump's Fifth Avenue building this year: Two civilians suffered minor injuries and a firefighter was hurt by debris in a fire on Jan. 8 on the top of the building. That blaze was sparked by an electrical issue, Mr. Trump's son, Eric, said at the time. Eric Trump said the fire had been in a cooling tower.

Nigro said in a press conference that the cause of Saturday's fire is still unclear.

Mr. Trump tweeted shortly after the fire broke out that his building is "well-built." Nigro agreed at the press conference that it's a "well-built building."
Meridian Magnesium explosion aftermath slows investigation, official says- Ford to stop production of F-150 trucks

Eric Lacy, Lansing State Journal Published 5:34 p.m. ET May 7, 2018 | Updated 5:48 p.m. ET May 7, 2018

EATON RAPIDS - A portion of an automotive supply company's factory that was severely damaged by a fire and series of explosions last week could reopen Tuesday.

Eaton Rapids Fire Chief Roger McNutt said that's the day Meridian Magnesium Products of America hopes to reopen the south end of its main plant within the 208,000-square-foot complex.

Meanwhile, crews continue to remove debris in the main plant's north end so they can clear a path to where McNutt, who has not been in that portion of the building, suspects the fire and explosions started at about 1:30 a.m. Wednesday.

"I can get in the building," McNutt said. "I just can't get into where I believe the fire started."

Meridian Magnesium's Plant 4 and Plant 5 at its complex, 2001 Industrial Drive, weren't damaged and remain open, McNutt said.

The company is the city's largest employer and has more than 400 workers. It's unclear how many worked in the main plant's north end before it caught fire.

Messages left Monday afternoon with Meridian Magnesium's corporate office in Plymouth weren't returned.

Eaton Rapids Mayor Paul Malewski said he's not concerned about his fire department's lack of access to Meridian Magnesium's facility and how it could affect McNutt's investigation.

"I'm sure when Meridian is able to get as much debris out of there as they can, they will let Roger get in there," Malewski said. "There's no indication of foul play."

"I'm sure that if Roger feels there is anything other than an accidental type of cause, he will notify the state fire marshal."

McNutt suspects the fire started "down in a scrap chute," at the north end of the main plant where scrap metal is stored, near a series of conveyor belts.

About 150 people were forced to evacuate the complex when the fire and explosions started last week; two were hospitalized with minor injuries, officials said.

The fire and explosions damaged a portion of the main plant's roof and prompted Meridian Magnesium to hire independent contractors to remove debris, McNutt said.

Employees were told by a company official Thursday they should expect layoffs. Officials told employees they would be paid through last Thursday, and could use paid time off for Friday.

Malewski said late Thursday afternoon he wasn't aware of any layoffs and had not spoken with Meridian Magnesium officials since the day of the fire.

When a State Journal reporter called the company's employee hotline late Monday afternoon for job information, a message says the recording will be updated every day at 4 p.m. "to provide accurate and up-to-date information" for employees. There were no details about layoffs.
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Company Background

Code Consultants, Inc. (CCI), a privately held and internationally recognized fire protection engineering and life safety consulting firm, is seeking experienced professionals to join our New York City office.

Founded in 1973, CCI is an industry leader, providing a diverse range of crucial fire protection and life safety consultation and design services including but not limited to:

- building and fire code consulting
- life safety consulting
- hazardous materials analysis
- accessibility consulting
- fire sprinkler design
- fire alarm design
- mass notification design
- fire and egress modeling

CCI’s experienced and trained team of over 80 professionals consist of fire protection engineers, architects, civil/mechanical/electrical engineers, code officials and members of the fire service. At CCI we value our team members and continuously strive to provide a great culture, career and personal development opportunities.

As a privately held firm, CCI’s management team is fully responsible for the strategic direction of the firm and successfully manages growth by maintaining a stable organizational structure, consistent professional service products across our offices, and applying objective performance-based compensation.

Role

As a member of the CCI team your responsibilities will include:

- Fire protection and life safety code consultation for a wide variety of projects and clients.
- Fire and egress modeling and developing alternate method concepts.
- Collaborating with CCI team members and clients, and interfacing with Building/Fire Officials.
- Participating in business development initiatives to expand and develop CCI services.
- Participating in the growth and development of your office, and CCI as a whole.

Qualifications

Ideal candidates will possess the following:

- A degree in fire protection engineering or related engineering discipline.
- Knowledge of Building/Fire/NFPA Codes and Standards related to fire protection and life safety.
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills.
- Be motivated by growth opportunities for themselves and CCI.
- Passion for providing the highest level of services to CCI clients.
- Sufficient experience to work autonomously on project related tasks.
- Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) or Professional Engineering (PE) licensure is desirable, but not required.

Compensation

CCI offers an excellent compensation package with an objective performance-based bonus program and benefits (including 401(k) with matching contributions, health, dental, vision, life and disability plans).

Contact

Interested and qualified candidates may send resumes to CCI’s Human Resources Department at HR@CodeConsultants.com.

Code Consultants, Inc. is EOE/Minorities/Females/Vet/Disabled
Meeting Dates/Programs 2017-2018

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Fire Tech Productions—Nicet Training (FTP)  http://www.firetech.com/
Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition  http://www.homefiresprinkler.org/
AFAA-NJ  http://www.afaanj.org/
The Joint Commission (JCAHO)  http://www.jointcommission.org/
National of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED)  http://www.nafed.org/index.cfm

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Thank you for your continued support!