



Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

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FUSIBLE LINK

www.njsfpe.com

December 2001

NJ-SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes 11/5/01

1. Chuck Gandy passed around various recalled sprinkler heads with the associated O-rings removed.
2. The secretary read the minutes from the general membership meeting from the October 1, meeting. The minutes were accepted.
3. The Treasurer gave his report as of November 5, 2001, which was accepted.
4. Joe Janiga discussed the topic of next month's presentation titled "A Tour of Fire Protection Web Sites." If anyone has the capability of accessing the Internet via a cell phone, please let Joe know if you would like to volunteer your equipment. Also, let Joe know of any web sites you use on a regular basis (e.g., NIST, NFPA, etc.) that can be shared with everyone.

5. Approximately half our members are receiving the Fusible Link by e-mail. Please submit your e-mail address with you dues notice. If you have any technical articles you would like to have in the Fusible Link, send them to Brad Hart.
6. A motion was made and carried to accept the application of Matt Drewello as a member of the SFPE NJ Chapter.
7. Various job openings were announced at Chubb and TVA. TVA has an immediate need for personnel with expertise in industrial safety.

Due to increases in business, Chubb is looking for two additional loss control people with a strong property loss control background; one for their NYC office and one for their NJ operation.

Interested parties should contact Elliot Nir at enir@chubb.com or call him at (212) 612-4104.

Engineer Alert Regarding Unusual Requests for Plans

A number of firms from the design and engineering community have reported recent or past requests for building plans that, in light of the attacks of September 11, 2001, appear unusual due to the structures identified in the requests or the type of information solicited. The American Institute of Architects and the National Society of Professional Engineers, in conjunction with the U.S. General Services Administration, are coordinating with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to provide design firms with information on this situation.

Please follow this link:

<http://www.nspe.org/buildingletter.asp> for details and for guidance on contacting the FBI if you or anyone in your firm has received unusual or suspicious requests for information.

INTERNATIONAL CODES -- CODES CHANGES IN 2001 CYCLE

Code change hearings on the International Code Council (ICC) family of codes were completed during the week of October 29-November 1, 2001 during the joint meeting of the Southern Building Code Congress International (SBCI) and the International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) in Greensboro, North Carolina.

These codes will replace the codes of the Building Officials and Code Administrators International (BOCA), ICBO and SBCCI. There are presently ten (10) codes being processed through the code development system, Building, Mechanical, Plumbing, Private Sewage Disposal, Fuel Gas, Energy, Fire, Electrical, Residential and Performance. Two additional codes are being developed -- Existing Buildings Code and Urban -Wildland Interface Code. These two are scheduled to be adopted in 2003.

The Code Change Hearings began with Committee Hearings of all proposals submitted before the November 2000 deadline. Balanced Committees of Experts representing all interests were assigned to each code. There were four separate committees for the

International Building Code, (Fire Safety, Means of Egress, Structural and General). The hearings were conducted in Portland, Oregon, March 19 through 29.

Committee recommendations were published in May with a July 6 deadline for public comment. The final hearing agenda included comments and recommendations from any person who disagreed with the committee's decisions or who challenged the Committee during the March hearings. Additional items were included when necessary to correlate any differences between the several codes. All unchallenged recommendations were also on the agenda for adoption as a group without further debate. Proponents of all comments and challenges were permitted to argue their positions during the recent BOCA conference September 17-20 in Cincinnati, Ohio. They will also argue their case before ICBO and SBCCI in Greensboro, NC. The combined votes of all three model code groups will determine the final disposition of the proposals. The only changes must be decided by the ICC on appeal based on procedural criteria ONLY, not technical matters.

The number of original code change proposals and those challenged or on the final code change agenda are shown below:

ICC CODE	Proposed Changes	Challenged
Int. Plumbing Code	92	20
Int. Mechanical Code	42	3
Int. Fuel Gas Code	15	3
Residential Mechanical	13	1
Residential Plumbing	9	2
Int. Residential Building and Energy	105	28
Int. Energy Conservation Code	58	3
Int. Fire Code	132	13
Int. Performance Code	50	1
Int. Electrical Code	4	4
Int. Building Code Fire Safety	74	15
Int. Building Code General	74	12
Int. Building Code - Means of Egress	100	17
Int. Building Code Structural	85	6
	853	128

*Three proposals related to the use of non-metallic electrical cable (wiring). One concerned the use of Arc-Fault Interrupter Protection. All opponents and proponents of challenges were permitted unlimited time to present their views except when repetition was obvious. These changes required over one hour and fifteen minutes. The average time for most challenges was approximately five (5) minutes or less.

The final resolution of all proposals will be published after the hearings in Greensboro.

Division of Fire Safety.

CONNECTICUT CELEBRATES TWO ANNIVERSARIES

One hundred years ago....In 1901 John Rusling was appointed as the first State Fire Marshal. This historical event was celebrated by friends, members, fellow professionals and associates of the Office of State Fire Marshal and the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association on October 9, 2001.

On September 1, 1971 Connecticut's Statewide Uniform Building Code became effective, authorized by Public Act 69-443. Connecticut became the FIRST STATE in the nation to have a uniform statewide building code mandatory) and a complete code administrative system. Prior to this adoption Connecticut maintained a recommended building code which could be adopted by the local community. In 1970, over 30 legislative bills were filed to repeal the public act. In 1970 fifteen were refiled. However the opposition faded after the Board finally completed the administrative section.

NEW JERSEY IS READY-- In March of 1999, at the direction of then-governor Whitman a select task group was assembled to prepare a coordinated plan for incidents of *Terrorism*, including the use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The New Jersey Domestic Preparedness Planning/Coordinating Group (NFDPP/CG) was created to oversee this work. The Mission Statement and Goals of the NFDPP/CG were included in a July 29, 1999 memo from the NJ State Adjutant General.

The group has been meeting monthly. For more recent information contact John Brasko, NJ

MICHAEL NELSON
ENGINEERING'S MANAGER



ROLF JENSEN & ASSOCIATES
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, P.C.
FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS

130 WEST 30TH STREET
13TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10001-4092

(212) 695-6670
FAX (212) 695-6671

Technical Presentation Summary From November 5 Meeting

Rich Reitberger and Joe Janiga gave a technical presentation titled "Hot Work - The Danger from Within."

Hot Work is the third leading cause of fire behind incendiarism and electrical and is defined as any temporary operation involving open flames or producing heat or spark including brazing, cutting, grinding, soldering, arc welding and torch applied roof. Over the last 10-years, FM Global has incurred approximately \$750,000,000 in hot work related losses. In addition to the history of numerous multi-million dollar losses due to employee and contractor related hot work fires, several loss prevention guidelines were given. These include:

- If possible choose another alternative to hot work such as bolting versus welding and hand filing instead of grinding.
- Provide a hot work policy, communicate it and firmly enforce it.
- Strictly supervise all who perform hot work.
- Train and certify employees and contractors.
- Enforce the **35-foot** rule.
- Utilize and **use properly** a hot work permit system. You cannot eliminate a single step. One weak link compromises the entire work safety effort.

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SFPE's Newest Chapter

The Southern Nevada chapter joins SFPE as our 50th Chapter, chartered on July 10, 2001 by the SFPE Board of Directors. Allyn Vaughn, P.E., Chapter President, welcomes your participation. Contact him at avaughn@rjagroup.com

Job openings for HPR, Risk Control and FPE's seem to be on the increase. Rather than turn the Fusible Link into a want ad press, we will limit space for this purpose to a reasonable degree. Current job openings will be published in full on the New Jersey Chapter's web site: www.njsfpe.com

Highly Protected Risk (HPR) Property Specialist

TVA Fire & Life Safety is looking for several HPR engineers to work out of our NJ office. Other positions throughout the US are also available. The candidate will advise customers for the purposes of safeguarding property against fire, explosion, and related hazards by performing the following duties:

- ◆ Conducts detailed surveys of industrial and commercial properties to obtain construction, occupancy, protection and exposure details.
- ◆ Evaluates adequacy of protection.
- ◆ Reviews plant conditions to determine largest potential catastrophic loss (Maximum Foreseeable Loss).
- ◆ Prepares detailed engineering reports in a timely fashion to confirm survey findings and outline recommendations.
- ◆ Analyzes exposures, prioritizes needed improvements and provides loss prevention/control advice to existing and prospective customers.
- ◆ Develops protection requirements for new construction projects and evaluates proposed safeguards through review of plans and on-site inspections.
- ◆ Prepares correspondence to communicate engineering findings and recommends priorities.
- ◆ Maintains regular contact with customers to resolve loss prevention/control issues; suggests alternative solutions to recommendations.

QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor's degree (B. S.) in an applicable engineering discipline or equivalent combination of education and experience is required. Three years experience with an HPR firm is preferable. Working knowledge of Factory Mutual and NFPA Standards.

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Ability to respond to inquiries from customers. Must possess the ability to read, analyze, and interpret full sets of blueprints, professional journals, technical procedures, or governmental regulations. Must possess the ability to write reports, business



correspondence, and to effectively present information and respond to questions from customers.

Please contact Chuck Gandy, TVA Fire & Life Safety, 200 Valley Road Suite 306, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856-(973) 398-1445 x4514, fax (973) 398-1442, e-mail cgandy@tvafiresafety.com.

****HPR Loss Control Consultant Needed****

Zurich North America has an exciting, new opportunity for an HPR Loss Control Consultant in the NJ area. This individual will provide consultative Risk Engineering Services to customers, business partners and Claim Specialists within an assigned territory and will be responsible for risk identification and reduction for assigned locations/accounts. This person will be accountable for acting as an owner and working to improve the organization. Candidate must be proficient in insurance coverage and working knowledge of the Highly Protected Risk (HPR) Property Business segment. Further information on this position is contained in the September and October issues of the *Fusible Link*.

Qualified candidates can contact Mandy Kelleghan at:
 Phone Number: 877-847-6593 x7416
 Fax Number 847-413-5206
 Email mandy.kelleghan@zurichna.com

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FM GLOBAL JOB OPENINGS

FM Global's Parsippany, NJ office has several job openings for engineers and underwriters in their HPR and Commercial Properties divisions. If you are interested in applying for any of the following you can e-mail your resume to joseph.janiga@fmglobal.com or call Joe at 973-402-2200x6774.

Account Engineer- In this position, you will work directly with the underwriters to evaluate and assess the nature, probability, and magnitude of loss potential and communicate this to the customer and account team. You'll prioritize exposures, ensure the customer understands the hazards and risk to their facilities, find agreeable solutions, and you'll implement needed changes. Through teamwork with FM Global field engineering, underwriting, claims and new business development, you'll provide leadership and responsive service with innovative solutions to challenges that will foster long-term customer relationships.

The candidate should have an engineering Degree and at least 3 years F&EC field engineering experience. Must have excellent communication, analytical, presentation, sales, time management, and teamwork skills. Strong leadership, risk identification, quantification, and assessment skills are required. Effective problem solving and computer skills are needed. About 20% overnight travel is anticipated.

F&EC Loss Prevention Consultant - The person(s) in this position will be responsible for loss prevention evaluations and risk improvement for a wide range of occupancies in the NJ/NY metropolitan region.

The candidate should have a B. S. degree in an engineering discipline. The candidate should have excellent written and verbal communication skills along with strong interpersonal skills. Additional skills include computer competency in current

technology and software, excellent time management skills and the ability to work independently from a home office. Expected overnight travel is approximately 10-25%.

GEORGE KOUTSOUBIS PE

SENIOR ENGINEER

ALPHA-OMEGA ENGINEERING PA

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Tel 732.826.6162 • Fax 732.324.0057

For More Info: www.AOServices.Net

"Fire Protection Engineering," Published quarterly by the SFPE has a mission to advance the practice of Fire Protection Engineering and for providing practice oriented information to Fire Protection Engineers and to our allied professionals. *This publication is a must for the reading list of any serious FPE or anyone interested in Fire Protection. **It is also free.*** **Fire Protection Engineering** can be obtained by request to Fire Protection Engineering, Penton Media, Inc., 1300 E. 9th Street, Cleveland, OH 44197-8124. Alert your friends.

LICENSING OF FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS

The Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) has reacted positively in the pending debate on the future of Group II examinations for the title of Professional Engineer, the national category for title exams, of which Fire Protection is the larger group. SFPE President Wayne Moore, P.E. FSFPE has been appointed to the special task force in the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) on the future of examinations in the Group II list. A record number of candidates for tests this year has begun studying for the exam. SFPE Chapters and Corporate 100 members have agreed to support the SFPE Engineering Licensing Committee activities. Walter Maybee, P.E. FSFPE has agreed to work with the Licensing Committee to help coordinate the tremendous effort involved in the ongoing activity to support NCEES in providing

a Quality PE examination in FIRE PROTECTION EACH YEAR.

The NCEES is composed of the 50 State Licensing/Registration Boards. If any Chapter member knows of the New Jersey or New York Board appointees please let them know how important the Fire Protection Engineer is in the process of protecting the public.



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Charles L. Gandy, P.E.
Chief Fire Protection Engineer

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MT. OLIVE, NJ 07828 FAX (975) 448-1290

Meeting Dates/Program for 2001-2002

(Programs Subject to Change)

Watch web page concerning cancellation In case of possible inclement weather conditions

Dec. 3	Surf the FP Web - Internet Resources - Demonstration by Joe Janiga & Chuck Gandy
Jan. 7	Fly Ash Silo Explosion - John Cholin
Feb. 4	Business Continuity Planning - Larry Wenzel
March 4	HID Lighting Dangers, GE Ed Yandek
April 5	NJ Chapter Seminar - Engineering Ethics Panel Discussion, Legal Consideration in FP Design, Modeling Performance of Detectors for PBD - to be held at the Hanover Manor, Hanover, NJ
May 6	Sprinkler Fitters Union 696 Sprinkler Economics, Field Trip @ Milburn
June 3	Viking Upright ESFR

***Watch Web Page for Weather Announcement**

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 1/2 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.

COMMITTEES 2001-2002

Standing Committees

Program:

Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chairs, with input from all members
Consulting – Nick Chergotis

NY Chapter Liaison:

Rich Reitberger (Pat Egan back-up liaison)

Arrangements:

Mike Newman, Peter Rullo, Co-Chair

Membership:

Sarge Slicer, Chairman

Nominating:

Joe Janiga, Chairman
Glenn Deitz
Bob Murray

Scholarship Fund:

Rich Reitberger, Chairman
Robert Hall
Two NY Chapter members to be assigned

Auditing:

Jim Tolos
Joe Janiga

Archivist/Historian:

Jim Tolos

Communications:

Fusible Link: Brad Hart, Interim Editor

Dave Gluckman, Asst. Editor
Ana Crisostomo, Publishing

Mailing/Automation:

To be determined

Special Committees

Bylaws: Jim Tolos, Chairman

Joe Janiga – Co-Chairman

Career Recruitment:

Al Dopart, Chairman
Tom Brereton
Joe Stavish
Glenn Deitz
Dave Gluckman

Golf Outing:

Richard Reitberger, Chairman
Bob Murray

Awards:

John Ed Ryan
Frank Savino

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
Jerry Naylis
Bob Murray
Nick Chergotis

Peter Rullo
Global Risk Consultants
100 Walnut Avenue – 5th Floor
Clark, NJ 07066
Phone: 732-827-4454

MEETING NOTICE

Date: Monday, December 3, 2001
Place: Hanover Manor
16 Eagle Rock Avenue
East Hanover, NJ

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

Dinner: Prime Rib or Fish

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

Speaker: Chuck Gandy/Joe Janiga
TVA/FM Global

Topic: Surf the Fire Protection Web - Internet Resources

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:**

Peter Rullo
Global Risk Consultants
100 Walnut Avenue – 5th Floor
Clark, NJ 07066
Phone: 732-827-4454

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____ TELEPHONE _____

Prime Rib

Fish

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY **FRIDAY, November 30, 2001**. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF THE MEETING DAY.