



Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

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www.njsfpe.com

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sfpenjchapter>

March 2003

Message from Chapter President

I hope the February 17 storm does not repeat itself so we do not have to think about canceling our next meeting. The meeting should be very interesting and hopefully we can have the great turn out that we had at our road trip meeting on February 3rd. It was our largest attended meeting this year which leads us to think about other road trips in the future. For those that came and didn't remember to return their name badges please remember to bring them with you on March 3rd.

The Board of Directors of SFPE has asked for the Chapter's input into the strategic planning for the future direction of the Society and where they should be putting their efforts. Eleven talking points were presented. With the help of our Board and Rich Reitberger, we put together the following model – The Building of an FPE (the following is a brief summation of what I sent to National). First is the foundation were we need to bring in the brightest and smartest into our discipline. Second is building the structure where we need to lead that person to becoming an FPE and have all the other disciplines, AHJs and public recognize the FPE as an important person in all aspects of building/project design. Finally is

the maintenance of our FPE to include training and continuing education so he/she remains at the top of his game. If you are a Member of SFPE and would like to see these eleven (11) talking points you can go to the Member's Only section of www.sfpe.org. You can also make additional comments if you would like.

Remember our next meeting March 3rd and bring your name tags.

NJ SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes February 03, 2003

1. The meeting was held at the Siemens Fire Safety Factory in Florham Park. There were approximately 50 attendees. There was no call to order, introductions or general meeting.
2. Minutes and the Treasurer's Report were not read.
3. Mr. Al Spiatto Senior Director of Sales and Mr. Paul Sanfilippo the Northeast District

Manager of Siemens Fire Safety were our hosts for the evening.

4. After a dinner buffet we were divided into two groups for the evening. While one group attended a technical seminar the other was taken on a factory tour. After approximately one hour the groups switched.
5. Mr. Tony Pascale Senior Director of Manufacturing/Contracts was our factory tour guide. He brought the group through the assembly lines and explained the axial and radial insertion machinery, wave soldering and testing. Tony took special care in demonstrating all phases of quality control and assurance. Other topics Tony covered were the ISO Certification and Just-In-Time manufacturing.
6. Al Spiatto opened the technical presentation with a brief history of Pyrotronics and the time line from the introduction of the original ionization detector to their becoming first a part of Cerberus and finally Siemens. Al was very knowledgeable as he has been with the company for over thirty years. The technical presentations were made by product managers, Jim York Product Manager for Devices, Mark Pavlica Product Manager for MXL and finally Ed Sanjek Product Manager for XLS.
7. The technical presentation focused on "Fireprint" which is not only the name of the new smoke detector but the whole system including detection, control, notification and voice evacuation / firefighters phones.
8. Jim explained how the fireprint of FP-11 smoke detector has algorithms that allow it to work in eleven different environments yet still detect smoke while ignoring phenomena found in these distinctly different areas. Mark explained the MXL and MXL-V or voice panel. Ed demonstrated the newest line called the XLS and XLS-V and also showed us the NCC (Network Command Center) and spoke briefly about networking capacities and improvements.

9. When the groups completed both the technical presentation and tour packages were given to all that attended including a number of marketing items from Siemens.

10. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.

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Fighting Fire in Microgravity Water Mist Fire Suppression Experiment (MIST)

The following article was taken from the NASA website: <http://spaceresearch.nasa.gov>

Everyone knows that water will put out a fire. Turn a hose on a backyard campfire, and the fire will go

out and the ashes wash away in the runoff. It is simple enough to do, but what happens when the fire is in an office surrounded by computers, paintings, papers, and other objects that can be damaged by water from sprinklers?

For many years, the answer was to use halons, bromine-based compounds that attacked fire chemically, making it impossible for it to burn.

Halons are extremely harmful to the ozone layer — more than ten times more harmful than Freon in air conditioners — and have been banned world-wide in compliance with the Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete The Ozone Layer. This makes water once again the prime tool for fighting a fire, except when Halon replacements are practical.

So, how do you fight fire with water in such a way that the fire goes out, while damage to property is reduced or eliminated?

The answer to that is the focus of some out-of-this-world Industrial research being conducted on the STS-107 mission. Environmental Engineering Concepts, Inc., and Arizona Mist, Inc., have partnered with the Center for the Commercial Applications of Combustion in Space (CCACS), a NASA-sponsored Commercial Space Center (CSC), to investigate the use of fine water mists in fighting a fire. It is common knowledge that water will put out fire. However, exactly how the water interacts with the flame is not as clearly understood. On Earth, a candle flame has its well-known tear-drop shape because of gravity. As the candle burns, the hot air created by the flame rises, giving the flame its length. As this happens, fresh air is pulled in at the base, providing oxygen needed to support the combustion and causing the base to swell. The air currents created by this process make it very hard to study both combustion and how to fight it. In microgravity, which is the condition of apparent weightlessness experienced by astronauts in orbit and often called “zero gravity,” these currents are reduced or eliminated. This allows scientists to study exactly what happens in the combustion process. It also allows them to study how water droplets, like those in a fine fog, interact with the flame and extinguish it.

Background Information

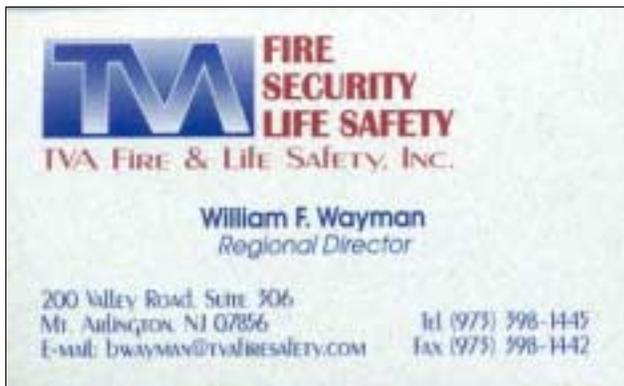
The investigations on STS-107 by Arizona Mist, Environmental Engineering Concepts and CCACS will study how different sizes and concentrations of droplets will affect a thin layer of flame, known as a laminar flame. The flame will be produced by igniting a mixture of propane and air inside a transparent tube in the Combustion Module (CM-2), a forerunner facility for combustion research on the *International Space Station (ISS)*. The CM-2 makes it possible for many different types of combustion research, both commercial and scientific, to be conducted safely on the Shuttle.

The investigations on STS-107 will create droplets of water between 20 to 40 microns in size, as opposed to droplets from conventional sprinklers that are larger than 1 millimeter in size, and study how they interact with the flame. These data will be used on the ground to improve existing computer and mathematical models. With better data to use in these models, investigators can then run detailed simulations to test theories and obtain more accurate results. These can then be further refined on the ground and on the *ISS*. Water mist investigations on the *ISS* will be able to use different water injection systems, droplet sizes, and other fire scenarios to support this important research. With halon replacements expected to become an increasingly large part of the \$2 billion-a-year fire suppression industry, the research being done on STS-107 is of great commercial interest. Of more importance, however, it is work that will help keep us safe in the years to come.

Early Results

Mist investigators believe that fine water droplets are the key to fighting many fires quickly and efficiently. Preliminary investigations were conducted in 1997 using the drop tower facility at the Colorado School of Mines. This permitted the experiment hardware to be tested, and a quick check of data and theories to be performed. Using the knowledge from the drop tube tests, the investigation was refined and then flown on NASA's KC-135 weightless training air-craft. The data from the KC-135 flights allowed further refinement of the investigation so that the maximum benefit can be obtained from the work to be performed on the STS-107 mission.

The microgravity research has also been augmented by an extensive ground-based research program. Research conducted at the Arvada Fire Training and Research Center in Arvada, Colorado on fires using ultra-fine misting heads developed by Environmental Engineering Concepts has shown that fine water mists can be extremely effective in fighting common fires. In fact, testing has shown that fires can be put out with significantly less water using mists than with conventional systems. Computer modeling by CCACS in support of the research indicates that smaller droplets are indeed more effective at extinguishing fires.



STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF SPFE

National is looking to develop a strategic plan for the society for the next five years. The following letters from Kathleen Almand and our Chapter President will give you greater insight into this subject. The 12 points mentioned in both letters are listed after Kathleen's letter.

Kathleen,

At our NJSFPE February Board of Directors meeting we reviewed the 12 items presented and I offer our comments for consideration.

We came up with the following model to help define where we felt the Society should be going, i.e. the building of the FPE. The first part in any good building is the foundation. Without a strong foundation we can not build a very big building. Once the foundation is in place we need to build the structure. Finally, we need to continually maintain that structure.

Now how do the 12 items you presented fit into the above model so as to set priorities going forward?

Item 4 would be part of the foundation. We need the best and the brightest in our field as we are multi-dimensional within the major engineering disciplines.

The Summit meeting in January was a good start as to how to get people interested in our unique field.

Items 5, 1, 2, 3 & 11 would all be part of the structure. After graduation the engineer needs his PE in Fire Protection. This defines who he is and what he can do. The outside world needs to know who and what we are and the fact we are needed in all aspects of building design. We need to get the general public, AHJ's and our professional counterparts, the Electrical, Mechanical and Structural PEs, to recognize us an integral part of the design team, and not think of us as some fly by night group that has to be brought in as an after thought.

Items 8, 9 & 10 would be the maintaining of the FPE, providing the education and training to keep the FPE at the top of his game with the most sophisticated knowledge possible.

We did not feel that having the Society get involved in methods research (Item 7) was beneficial as we are not equipped to do this. We should let UL and FM continue this effort.

We also felt that we did not need another means of recognition (Item 6). Becoming an FPE was it.

One final item was the NJSFPE Board felt that the Society should go back to NFPA and say "wait a minute" we are your professional arm and we do not like being cut off or out of the NFPA. With the restructure of this year's NFPA Conference I realized you had to move the SFPE Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet, but as I said in my other email on the subject I and the Board feel strongly that we should be part of the Conference.

If you have any question on the above, please let me know.

Sarge

Kathleen Almand wrote:

As you know, SFPE is developing a new strategic plan to guide us for the next five years. We would like all chapters to take five minutes out of their February (or late January) meeting to provide the Board of Directors with input on where we should be headed.

Attached is a list of 12 strategic issues for the profession that have been identified through planning efforts to date. Through some type of a voting process, either by handing this list out at your meeting or taking a hand vote, please provide us, BY THE END OF FEBRUARY, with your chapter's views on what are the key issues SFPE should be addressing in the future. Individual members can also fill in the survey on the website and provide their individual views in that way. However, the chapter perspective is key.

Thank you for providing feedback on the location of the Senate meeting. Although we had mixed views, the majority of chapter presidents prefer to have the Senate meeting in Dallas this year. Accordingly, we will be holding the Senate meeting, which we will be terming a leadership conference, on Tuesday, May 20 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m, in Dallas, location TBD. Please provide suggestions for the agenda - areas where you would like input from other chapters, ways that headquarters can better support you, etc.

In addition, because many chapter representatives will not be able to attend the Dallas meeting, and to try to involve our international chapters more fully in the Senate process, we will be piloting an electronic Senate this year, after the May meeting, to ensure that all our chapter presidents have the opportunity to learn from each other and contribute to the direction of the Society. We are working on the most cost effective way to make this happen and will be back to you with details in the future. If anyone has any suggestions, please let me know. Thank you for working with us on this.

Chapter websites - please forward your input on the proposed format for web pages for chapters as soon as possible. Thanks.

Here is a list of the original 12 Points:

1. Gaining more recognition for FPE with the general public
2. Gaining more recognition for FPE with the design team/allied professionals
3. Improving communications with AHJ's
4. Recruitment into the profession including FPE schools
5. Maintaining the PE license
6. Developing other means to recognize FPE credentials – e.g., certification
7. Developing and validating engineering methods through research
8. Providing recognized guidance documents/standards for FPE methods
9. Providing continuing education and training
10. Providing technical information through publications/on-line methods
11. Supporting grass roots growth of SFPE and the profession through chapters and internationally
12. Other _____

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

More detailed information is contained in previous Fusible Link issues and on www.njsfpe.com

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HSB Professional Loss Control has possible part time opportunities for retired, semi-retired and underemployed loss control and fire protection engineers. Anyone that is interested can contact:

Maurice Marvi
HSB Professional Loss Control
(800) 222- 0483 x8020

=====
Link Technologies is looking for Fire Safety Engineers. Anyone interested should contact:

Lindsay Banko
Link Technologies
Office: 702.233.8703

lindsayb@linktechconsulting.com

Project Manager – New Jersey

The individual will work in the Building and Fire Systems area on various projects in an environment of electronics and sensors. The position is located in Pine Brook, NJ and is a full time direct hire position (formerly known as a permanent position). The company offers a competitive salary and benefits.

Please forward all resumes to John Palmer at jpalmer111@intelegra.com.

John Palmer
Intelegra, Inc.
P.O. Box 505
Far Hills, NJ 07931-0505
jpalmer111@intelegra.com
908-876-5900
908-876-1788 Fax

=====
Loss Control Consultant
New York City

P&C carrier in NYC is seeking a Loss Control Consultant to service accounts in the NYC area. Candidate will provide comprehensive risk assessment and technical risk control services. Conduct extensive research, data collection, evaluation and analysis in order to make recommendations to control customer's source of risk. Maintains effective partnerships with Underwriting and Claims teams by providing quality risk consultative services. Ensures accurate, concise communication and completes negotiated services and all customer requirements in a timely manner. The successful candidate must possess a minimum of 5 years experience with a national Property and Casualty insurance company. Knowledge and expertise in property with an emphasis on fire protection evaluation is essential. Excellent marketing, communication and analytical skills are a must. A proficiency in the Microsoft Office Suite software and Lotus Notes is desirable. Applicant should possess a Bachelor's degree,

technical/engineering degree is preferred, and professional designations (CSP, CFPS, PE) are a plus. Candidates may contact the Regent Group at opportunity@theregentgroup.com and use reference #TRG6322. or write to

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Fax: 702.892.3741

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All interested parties please send your resumes to:
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Aerotek Engineering is currently seeking a Fire Protection and Sprinkler Designer. The opportunity is located in the Philadelphia Region. This individual needs at least 5 years experience and will be responsible for the design and layout of Fire Alarm systems, Fire Protection Design, and fire detection system layout. They will be using Autocad 2000. The projects range from Pharmaceutical plants to commercial buildings.

Anyone who may be interested should call:
Sarah Scarlata
800-813-2353 x4754
Aerotek Engineering
www.aerotek.com

=====
Allianz, an insurance company with premium income in excess of one billion dollars is currently actively and aggressively pursuing hiring an experienced (minimum 2 years) HPR (Highly Protected Risk) Property Loss Control Account Consultant for their Chicago Office. Salary is negotiable dependent upon experience level. Anyone interested can contact:

Kevin Morris
Engineering Manager
Allianz Risk Consultants
PO Box 747
Warrington, PA 18976-0747
Phone 215-491-4272
Email kmorris@aic-allianz.com



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FPE IN NEW JERSEY

In a continuing effort to push the need of the state of New Jersey to recognize the FPE, a number of the Chapter's Board members (Rich Reitberger, Sarge Slicer, Bob Murray and Chuck Gandy) attended attending a reception on February 4 hosted by:

- American Society of Civil Engineers
- New Jersey Consulting Engineers Council
- New Jersey Society of Municipal Engineers
- New Jersey Society of Professional Engineers

They met the president of the NJ Society of Professional Engineers who didn't even know that our organization existed. He agreed to bring this issue up at an upcoming meeting and saw no reason why NJ could not administer its own FPE exam!

MEETING DATES/PROGRAM

(Programs Subject to Change)

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

- Mar. 3 "Setting Sail on the PBD Ship: Navigating the Morass of Design Liability" - Christopher B. Wood, Senior Fire Specialist from ARUP
- April 7 Seminar
- April Officer Nominations due to Secretary – Ed Armm
Chapter Anniversary 4/4/77
- May 5 Malden Mills Loss, John Cholin, PE
- June 2 Gaseous Suppression Systems Update (NFPA 2001 – Phil DiNenno, PE, Hughes Associates
Annual/Election

***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 2002-2003

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 Crisostomo, Publishing
Vicky Serafin, Mailing/Automation

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

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

Michael T. Newman, P.E.
Manager
Property Loss Prevention
Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933
Phone: (732) 524-3224
Fax: (732) 524-2196

MEETING NOTICE

Date: Monday, March 3, 2003

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: Christopher B. Wood, ARUP

Topic: Setting Sail on the PBD Ship: Navigating the Morass of Design
Liability - Christopher B. Wood, Senior Fire Specialist from ARUP

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:**

Michael Newman
Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933

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NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____ TELEPHONE _____

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY **FRIDAY, February 28, 2003**. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF THE MEETING DAY.

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