



Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

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FUSIBLE LINK

www.njsfpe.com

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

January 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you get this last Fusible Link for 2003 I hope you all have your shopping done and your holiday events planned. I personally will be leaving for Florida on 12/23 and returning very late on 01/05/2004 so I will not be able to welcome you at our first meeting of 2004. In my absence at the December meeting Rich did a great job so I will give him a little more practice at the Jan 5th meeting.

At last month's meeting I took several pictures of our award presentation and of the group as a whole. You will find only one picture in this issue and that was not taken by me. The ones I took did not come out. I apologize but I am still mastering my digital camera. I also want to thank Joe Janiga for his presentation on Pressure Relieving Valves.

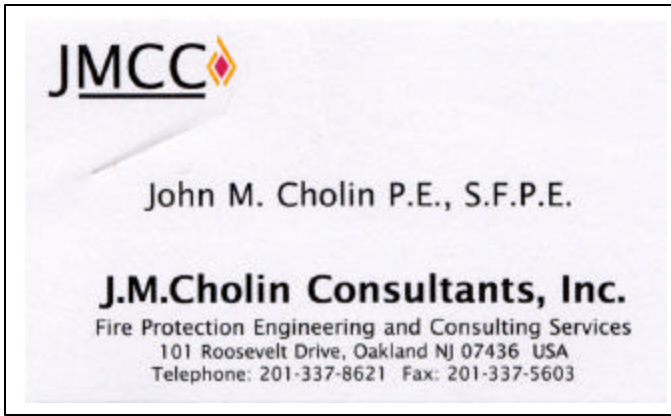
Remember, don't forget to pay your dues and the SFPE Referral Rewards Program.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Sarge



Sarge Slicer SFPE Chapter President (Left) and Rich Reitberger, Chapter First VP present the Chapter's 2003 "John V. Kelly Excellence in Government Award" to Glenn A. Kasper.



NJ SFPE Membership Meeting Minutes December 1, 2003

1. First VP Richard Reitberger called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM.
2. There were approximately 40 attendees. Rich introduced special guests for the evening as well as Guest of Honor Glenn Kasper 2003 recipient of the John V. Kelly Excellence in Government Award.
3. Rich brought a new member for vote and a motion was made and carried for Bill Wiman's membership.
4. Rich read the minutes from the December meeting. A motion was made and carried to accept them.
5. Rich read the Treasurer's Report and a motion was made and carried to accept it.
6. Rich introduced George Murphy formerly of the NJ Division of Fire Safety who spoke about Glenn Kasper many accomplishments.
7. Rich introduced award recipient Mr. Kasper who accepted the award and thanked NJ SFPE for the award and for acknowledging his many accomplishments.

Rich introduced Mr. Joe Janiga who gave the Chapter a very detailed briefing on fire suppression system pressure reducing valves used on high rise building sprinkler systems and the requirements for adequate testing and maintenance.

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

NOTIFIER Voluntarily Provides In-Field Software Upgrades For AM2020 and AFP-1010 Fire Alarm Panels

NORTHFORD, Conn. - Notifier, the largest manufacturer of engineered fire systems, is voluntarily providing software upgrades at no charge for all AM2020 and AFP-1010 fire alarm panels purchased from January 2000 through May 19, 2003.

The software upgrade will eliminate an anomalous condition that may cause device Type ID conversions during periods of high system communications traffic.

While the problem does not appear to be widespread (.002% of units manufactured during this time have reported problems), Notifier is nonetheless proactively updating all systems to eliminate the potential for a false alarm situation that has been observed in this small percentage of installations. In addition, Notifier voluntarily notified the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), and a Technical Bulletin outlining the upgrade has been sent to all U.S. and international purchasers of the units.

No other Notifier products are affected by the upgrade.

Media with questions should contact Leslie Craddock, company media representative, at (203) 484-7161. Consumers with questions about the software upgrade may contact their local Authorized NOTIFIER Engineered Systems Distributor.

SFPE NJ Chapter Meeting Program for Jan 5, 2003

Rob Rudolph the Eastern Regional Sales Manager of Wheelock, Inc., a leading manufacturer of high quality fire notification alarms, Card Access and Mass Notification Systems for Commercial and Military use, will discuss the changes/updates to

the NFPA 72 code from 1999 to 2002. Specific areas that will be covered are the Narrow Band Signaling method used to overcome high noise ambient sound conditions, the benefits & requirements of using a fire listed voice evacuation system to provide facility communications i.e.,: Fire/OSHA emergency annunciation using pre-recorded messages, live microphone announcements, general paging from a telephone system and background music, the use of high candela strobes to meet the new NFPA strobe table requirements and the new requirements for synchronization. He will also review how the ADA law and NFPA code will become consistent in 2004.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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

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Associated Fire Protection is seeking a person with a degree in engineering to design fire protection systems for all types of commercial facilities and be involved in technical sales activities. More detailed information is contained in previous *Fusible Link* issues and on www.njsfpe.com.

Candidates please contact:

100 Jackson Street
 Paterson, NJ 07501
 Tel. (973) 684-4500 Ext. 140
 Fax (973) 684-4511
sstraten@afpfire.com



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 President

1910 Oak Tree Road, Suite 2B, Edison, New Jersey 08820
 (732) 205-9440 FAX (732) 205-9442 Email rmurrayace@cs.com
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Todd Abrams
 President & CEO
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 973.887.9494 phone • 973.887.0332 fax

Alarm Panels Sales
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 Industrial Suppression Systems Inspection
 Sprinkler Testing Installation
 Monitoring

On behalf of the *New Jersey Chapter of the NFSA*, I would like to extend an invitation to the *NJ SFPE* membership to attend our January 2004 Chapter meeting.

At this meeting, our guest speaker will be Mr. Paul Stockman. Mr. Stockman is the Fire Protection Programs Administrator for NICET. With the recent enactment, by the State of NJ, of fire equipment contractor license and certification regulations, which include NICET requirements, we felt that some of your membership might be interested in learning more about NICET certification. The pertinent information for this meeting is as follows:

When: Tuesday January 13, 2004
 6:00 pm - Open bar and appetizers
 7:00 pm - Dinner and Meeting

Where: Trattoria Venezia
 112 Main Street
 Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095
 (732) 855-8995

Cost: \$40 per person

The restaurant is relatively small and we would like to accommodate all SFPE members who wish to attend. Therefore, it is important that anyone interested in attending this event, respond to me by January 7th. They can RSVP by phone, fax or e-mail.

If you or any of your membership has any questions, please feel free to call me. Thank you

Vinny Fichera
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Member – SFPE & NFPA

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

INTRODUCTION

NFPA 75 defines Information Technology (IT) equipment as that in

- Electronic data processing systems
- Digital industrial process control systems

Telecommunications equipment is that which supports

- Public switched telephone network
- Internet access facilities

Business Interruption - what does it mean?

- To an IT equipment facility?
- To the telecommunication network?

The answer is – Different things.

When IT equipment is down, data processing stops, controlled processes cease, production machinery stops or malfunctions.

When a telecommunications central office fails, emergency communications circuits are not available, government and medical communications services cease, digital data in transit is lost, financial transactions stop, voice services cease.

Are the consequences different from shut-down of IT and telecommunications equipment?

Yes! In an IT failure, most data and production can be recovered with adequate time and effort. In a telecommunications failure, signals in process are lost forever. Most IT equipment failures affect and are concentrated in a finite user group. A major telecommunications service loss affects many people, businesses and community services.

What else is different?

- Power Supplies
- Fire Resistance of Equipment
- Staffing
- Operations
- Locations
- Buildings

How does this affect fire detection and notification systems when the electronic equipment looks similar and the air conditioning that cools the equipment is similar? Why should fire protection approaches be any different? Many of the rooms that support the equipment have raised floors and look alike. Very early warning fire detection or early warning fire detection systems are usually installed in both types of rooms. Some of both types include automatic suppression systems.

The answers to the detection and notification question are found in an understanding of the associated.

- People
- Equipment
- Electrical Systems
- Risk Tolerance

PEOPLE

People may be very different in the two types of facilities.

The people who are often present in an IT room have a wide variety of expertise and duties. They may vary from clerical to executive. Most may not have any focus on the equipment in the event of an emergency.

Telecommunications people, when they are present, are focused on the equipment.

Maintenance, operation and installation of equipment are their reasons for being in the facility.

Where IT room occupants are office workers with varying capabilities, telecommunications facility occupants are generally craft workers, able-bodied, few in number and responsible for equipment installation or maintenance.

Some of the Code requirements for IT equipment are written to protect the wide variety of people who may be in the equipment room. Conversely, many telecommunications rooms, and whole facilities, are not occupied for long periods of time by anyone.

EQUIPMENT

Telecommunications and IT equipment is very different in characteristics and the functions performed, despite similar appearances.

In the U.S. and Canada, the large majority of telecommunications equipment is designed and manufactured to be fire resistant. The applicable NFPA document, NFPA 76, recognizes in its recommendations the benefits that result from this important characteristic of telecommunications equipment.

Telecommunications equipment is usually located in dedicated facilities, designed and built for the purpose.

On the other hand, IT equipment does not benefit from the same fire resistive characteristics and is located in a room which is often just a small part of a larger facility.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

The means by which the two types of equipment are provided with electrical power is another distinguishing difference. Both rely upon utility power and automatic backup power systems, but with significant differences.

Telecommunications power systems also include large capacity centralized battery reserve power. The goal for continuity of telecommunications service is to maintain power to the equipment. Three sources of power are poised to take the load

at all times. Complete power shut-down, without damaging the equipment and interrupting service for an extended period, can be accomplished only by people with proper training.

Conversely, when batteries are provided for IT equipment, the UPS/battery systems are generally smaller, and are more distributed; less centralized.

The National Electrical Code (NEC) and (NFPA 75 require EPO "Emergency Power Off" switches at main egress points of IT space for safety. NFPA 75 is the fire protection Standard on Electronic Data Processing Equipment.

Telecommunications utilities are exempt from the NEC for telecommunications equipment, including power equipment that is associated with the switching and transport equipment.

NFPA 76 recognizes that a means of power disconnect necessary for damage control and is recommended but does not recommend EPO switches.



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MEETING DATES/PROGRAM 2003-2004

(Programs Subject to Change)

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

Jan. 5	Voice Evacuation and Response Systems – What’s New – Rob Rudolph, Wheelock, Inc.
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
April 5	Engineering Ethics
April	NJ Chapter Seminar
May 4 -Tues.	Plant Facility Tour, Numerous Types of Fire Protection System Applications Will Be Reviewed
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

***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 2003-2004

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

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

MEETING NOTICE

Date: Monday, December 5, 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: Rob Rudolph, Eastern Regional Sales Manager – Wheelock, Inc.

Topic: “Voice Evacuation and Response Systems – What’s New”

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

Prime Rib

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NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____ TELEPHONE _____

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY **FRIDAY, January 2, 2004**. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY NOON OF THE MEETING DAY.