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# Society of Fire Protection Engineers

## New Jersey Chapter

# FUSIBLE LINK

APRIL 2011

### Chapter Officers

#### President

Rich Reitberger - 973-541-6776  
Richard.reitberger@affiliatedfm.com

#### First V.P.

John Cholin - 201-337-8621  
jmc@jmcholinconsultants.com

#### Second V.P.

Ed Armm - 212-695-6670  
earmm@rjagroup.com

#### Past President

Dave Gluckman - 973-829-2920  
Gluckman\_da@willis.com

#### Treasurer

Bob Murray - 908-755-5001  
rmurray@acefirepros.com

#### Asst. Treasurer

Richard Ravaoli - 908-272-0066  
rravs@verizon.net

#### Secretary

Joe Janiga—973-541-6774  
Joseph.janiga@fmglobal.com

#### Asst. Secretary

Brad Hart - 646-572-3920  
bhart@lockton.com

#### Director

Dave Kurasz—866-226-6006  
kurasz@nfsa.org

#### Director

Glenn Buser - 201-891-1405  
gbuser@gbrisk.com

#### Director

John Warnet - 973-541-6986  
John.warnet@fmglobal.com

#### Director

Jerry Naylis - 201-384-2059  
jerry.naylis@aol.com

#### Special Executive Assistant to The Board

Vicki Serafin  
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

## President's Message...

April is Technical Seminar training month and we have assembled a great program for you in addition to our annual Trade Show. John Cholin will be presenting “Designed to Fail, Installed to Fail, Accepted to Fail, Maintained to Fail” the analysis of fire protection system failures, design failures and the amazing degree of the root cause of failure – people involved in the projects. Plan Review will be presented by John Drucker, CET Fire Protection Sub code Official, Borough of Red Bank, NJ. John will take the audience through design errors and omissions that have become commonplace. The goal of the program is to “raise the bar” amongst designers and engineers by improving the quality of the work product. “International Codes and Approved Equipment” presented by Mark Juitt, Director, FM Approvals is a discussion bringing a global perspective to international codes and standards and how approved products are handled for overseas projects and installations. Finally Joe Janiga, Chief Engineering Technical Specialist, FM Global will present Skip Resistant Sprinkler Research and the phenomena of automatic sprinkler skip during a fire and the work to develop a prototype skip resistant sprinkler. This is cutting edge research and technology you don't want to miss. See you all at the seminar. Details are contained in this edition.

Rich Reitberger  
Chapter President

<http://www.njsfpe.org/>

[www.twitter.com/newjerseysfpe](http://www.twitter.com/newjerseysfpe)

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/New-Jersey-Chapter-of-the-Society-of-Fire-Protection-Engineers-SFPE/230335010430?ref=search&sid=1603495530.128212107..1>

## Minutes of the March 7, 2011 NJSFPE Meeting

President Reitberger called the meeting to order at 6:00PM with a salute to the flag. There were 23 people in attendance.

The membership accepted the minutes of the February meeting. The Treasurer's Report for March 7 was read and accepted.

The Annual Technical Seminar was announced. It will be held on April 15<sup>th</sup> at the Ramada, Newark. Details were sent this week.

Rich and Todd Vazquez gave us a

preview of the redesigned Chapter web site at [www.njsfpe.org](http://www.njsfpe.org).

Robert Boyer of Edwards/UTC talked to us about "Off Premises Notification".

As copper telephone lines go away, Bob mentioned we have to realize alarm transmission telephone service and computer communications are not equal. Just as DACTS does not equal VoIP. On the new services the communications provider does not provide the energy, it is provided at the protected premises and standby power (batteries) is not provided or is significantly shorter than

required for the conventional technology. In the new arrangements the protected property and the central station are regulated but the communications network/provider in between is not. The concept of 'mesh' as a communications network was discussed. The concept/definition of reliability seems to be changing around the new technology. NFPA 72 is being rewritten to cover these and numerous other associated issues. The noteworthy goal is to ultimately transmit signals within 90 seconds with 99.999% throughput probability.

### 2011-2012 New Jersey SFPE Nomination for Officers and Directors

In compliance with the Nomination Section of the Constitution and By-Laws of the New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, the Nominating Committee submits the following slate of Officers and Directors. The election will be conducted at the Annual Business Meeting, scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2011 at the Hanover Manor.

President	Ed Armm
First VP	John Cholin
Second VP	Joe Janiga
Secretary	David Gluckman
Asst. Secretary	Brad Hart
Treasurer	Bob Murray
Asst. Treasurer	Glenn Buser
Board of Directors (2-year term)	Chandra Patel (first year of first term)
	Nathan Gorey (first year of first term)
	Paul McGrath (first year of first term)

Chapter member Dave Kurasz is also running for the first year of his second term as Board of Directors member-at-large.

Rich Reitberger will be Immediate Past President, a voting member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors welcomes volunteers to serve in leadership capacities within the organization including Committee activities and the Board itself. No other members made their interests and willingness to serve known to the Nominating Committee prior to this report. Any member with a desire to run as a candidate for Chapter Officer or Director is encouraged to do so. They must contact the Chapter Secretary, Joe Janiga (973-541-6774) at least four weeks prior to the Annual Business Meeting. In accordance with the New Jersey Chapter By-Laws, candidates must submit the signatures of five voting members of the New Jersey Chapter SFPE along with their letter of intention to run for any of the above positions. According to the calendar, the deadline is Friday, May 6, 2011.



U.S. CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD

*An independent federal agency investigating chemical accidents to protect workers, the public, and the environment.*

## CSB Releases New Safety Video on One Year Anniversary of Kleen Energy; “Deadly Practices” Focuses on ConAgra and Kleen Energy Explosions to Show Hazards of Gas Releases

Washington, DC, February 4, 2011 – The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) today released a new [safety video](#) depicting two major accidents caused by the intentional release of flammable fuel gas near work areas, one year after the Kleen Energy explosion. The fifteen-minute long video focuses on two accidents investigated by the CSB. A June 9, 2009, explosion at the [ConAgra](#) Slim Jim plant near Garner, North Carolina, that fatally injured four workers and injured 67 others; and a February 7, 2010, explosion at the Kleen Energy natural gas powered electric generating plant under construction in Middletown, Connecticut, that killed six workers and injured at least 50 others.

The two incidents involved the intentional release of flammable natural gas into work areas, putting workers and nearby communities at risk of fires and explosions. At the Kleen Energy facility workers were conducting a "gas blow," a procedure that forced natural gas at high volume and pressure through newly-installed piping to remove debris. The gas was vented to the atmosphere, where it accumulated, came in contact with an ignition source and exploded. At the ConAgra facility workers were purging a pipe feeding gas to an industrial heater. During the purging operation, gas was allowed to flow through the pipe and exit through an open valve inside the utility room where the water heater was located. Flammable gas accumulated inside the building and eventually found an ignition source.



Entitled “Deadly Practices,” the video includes animations that show the hazards of releasing gas into areas where it can accumulate, ignite, and kill or injure workers or members of the public. The video is available online at [www.CSB.gov](http://www.CSB.gov) and on the CSB’s YouTube channel.

In the video CSB Chairperson Rafael Moure-Eraso says, “The deadly accidents at Kleen Energy and ConAgra were entirely preventable. At the Chemical Safety Board, it is our hope that standards will be put in place that will require these safer practices, which we believe will save lives.”

As a result of the CSB’s investigation the board released [urgent recommendations](#) aimed at preventing future tragedies. The CSB recommended that OSHA promulgate regulations that address fuel gas safety for both construction and general industry.

In the video, Don Holmstrom, the CSB’s Lead Investigator into both of these incidents, speaks to a key recommendation on cleaning piping at power plants: “The CSB believes that the use of flammable natural gas in gas blows is inherently unsafe and alternate methods should be used.”

In September 2010 the Governor of Connecticut issued an executive order banning the use of natural gas blows during power plant construction in the state. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the International Code Council are taking action to ban the use of natural gas for cleaning and purging pipes.

The CSB’s safety videos are provided free of charge and can be requested at [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov).

The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating serious chemical accidents. The agency’s board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry standards, and safety management systems.

The Board does not issue citations or fines but does make safety recommendations to plants, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. Visit our website, [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov).

For more information, contact Public Affairs Specialist Hillary Cohen at 202.261.3601, cell 202.446.8094, or Sandy Gilmour, 202.261.7614, cell 202.251.5496.



**SFPE, New Jersey Chapter & AFAA - NJ  
Proudly Announce**

## **SPRING TECHNICAL SEMINAR 2011**

**Friday April 15, 2011**

**Ramada Plaza (formerly the Holiday Inn)**

**160 Frontage Road**

**Newark, NJ 07114**

**973-589-1000**

**Coffee & Danish – 7:30 am**

### **Morning - 8:30 am**

#### ***Designed to Fail, Installed to Fail, Accepted to Fail, Maintained to Fail***

John Cholin, The analysis of fire protection system failures shows that we are the problem. This presentation reviews a number of fire loss investigations to expose the root cause of the loss. Whether it's a fire alarm system or a fire extinguishing system, whether it is the design, installation, maintenance or acceptance by the relevant AHJ, to an amazing degree the root cause of the failure is the people performing the work.

#### ***Plan Review***

John Drucker, Fire Protection Subcode Official, Borough of Red Bank, NJ will share his insights and experience as a plan reviewer. John will take the audience through design errors and omissions that have become commonplace. The goal of the program is to "raise the bar" amongst designers and engineers improving the quality of the work product.

#### **Vendor Show**

**Lunch – Buffet**

### **Afternoon**

#### ***International Codes and Approved Equipment***

Mark Juitt, Director, FM Approvals will discuss and bring a global perspective to international codes and standards and how approved products are handled for overseas projects and installations.

#### ***Skip Resistant Sprinkler Research***

Joe Janiga, Chief Engineering Technical Specialist, FM Global will discuss the phenomena of automatic sprinkler skip during a fire and the work to develop a prototype skip resistant sprinkler. This is cutting edge research and technology you don't want to miss.



REGISTRATION FORM  
**SPRING TECHNICAL SEMINAR 2011**

Friday April 15, 2011

**Ramada Plaza (formally the Holiday Inn)**

**160 Frontage Road**

**Newark, NJ 07114**

**973-589-1000**

**Price for the Seminar is \$100**

(Make checks payable to "NJ Chapter SFPE")

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: NJSFPE Spring Seminar 2011  
 c/o Vicki Serafin  
 P.O. Box 8268  
 Parsippany, NJ 07054

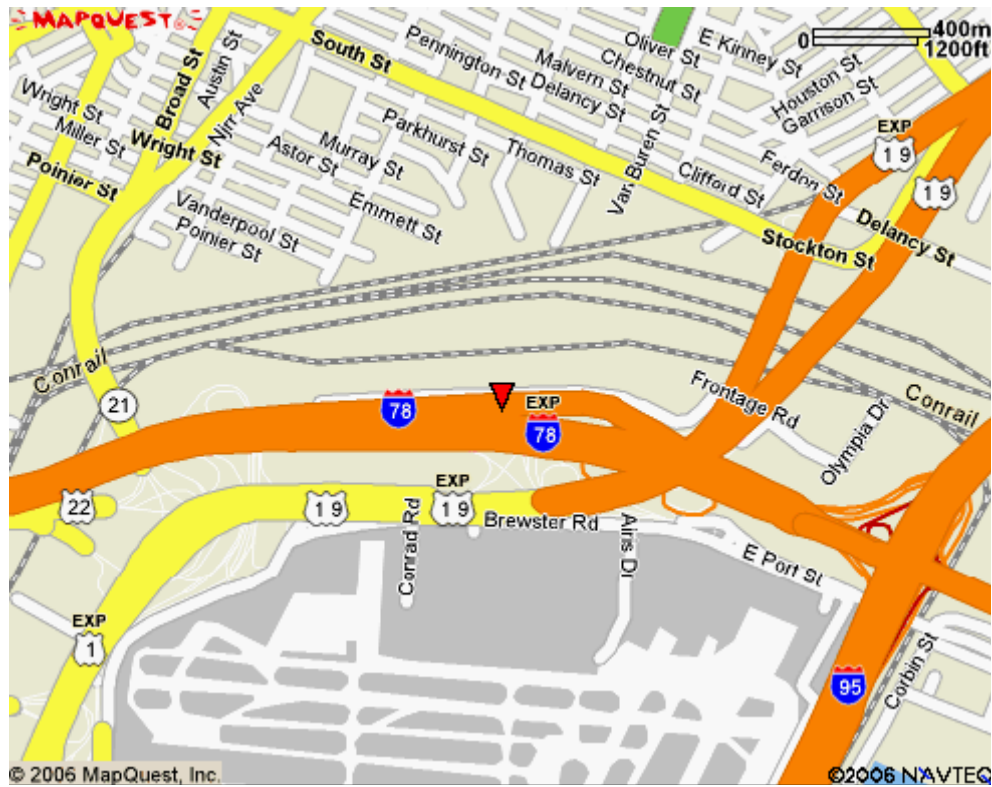
Questions or to reserve your seat in advance, please call Vicki Serafin at 973-541-6771

Directions to the Ramada Plaza, Newark Liberty Airport are attached.

Course CEUs will be awarded for those who attend (0.6 CEU/6.0 contact hours).

Note: CEU Certificates will be distributed after the last presentation.





From North

Take Route 1 or 9 South and watch for Airport sign. Take Frontage Road at immediate right.

From New Jersey Turnpike take Exit 14. After the toll plaza make the 2nd right - see sign marked Frontage Road.

From West

From I-78 East, take Exit 58-B Frontage Road Exit. Stay on Frontage Road, and the hotel will be on the right.

From South

From Route 1 or 9 North, exit Frontage Road and follow ramp to hotel.

**Ramada Plaza (formerly the Holiday Inn)  
Newark Liberty Airport  
160 Frontage Road  
Newark, NJ 07114  
973-589-1000**



The Society of Fire Protection Engineers New Jersey Chapter  
 The Automatic Fire Alarm Association of New Jersey  
 Proudly Announce

## SPRING TECHNICAL SEMINAR 2011

Friday April 15, 2011  
 Newark Liberty Airport, Newark, NJ

Place: Ramada Plaza (formally the Holiday Inn)  
 160 Frontage Road  
 Newark, NJ 07114  
 973-589-1000  
 Time: 7:30 am to 5 pm

### Vendor Registration Form

#### Vendor Table Fee is \$500

(Make checks payable to "NJ Chapter SFPE")

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: NJSFPE /AFAA Spring Seminar 2011 – Vendor Registration  
 c/o Vicki Serafin, P.O. Box 8268, Parsippany, NJ 07054

Questions please call Vicki Serafin at 973-541-6771 or Ed Armm at 212-695-6670

## Meeting Dates/Programs 2010-2011

April 15	Joint Symposium/Seminar—International Codes and Standards
May 2	Green Power Hazards, FM speaker.
June 6	Annual Meeting—Update on HVLS fan testing - Pete Wilse, XL

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President

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**JMCC**

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jmc@jmcholinconsultants.com • www.jmcholinconsultants.com

**Edward B. Armm, SET**



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Tele: 973 439 6477  
Fax: 801 327 0769  
email: rvolinsk@adt.com

  
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www.ufpco.com



**Glenn D. Buser, P.E.**  
201-891-1405  
201-450-7559 (Cell)

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





## 2008-2009 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Program

Ed Armm, Chairman  
Consulting - Peter Rullo  
Richard Ravaoli  
Arrangements  
Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

#### Membership

John Cholin, Chairman

#### Nominating

Dave Gluckman, Chairman  
Glenn Dietz  
Chuck Gandy

#### Scholarship Fund

Chuck Gandy, Chairman  
Ed Armm  
Mike Machette  
Alternates: Rich Reitberger, Jim Tolos

#### Auditing

Joe Janiga, Chairman  
John Warnet

#### Archivist

Rich Reitberger, Chairman  
Nicole Smith

#### Historian

Jim Tolos

#### Communications

Fusible Link—Brad Hart  
Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator  
Mailing/Automation/e-mail—Vicki Serafin, Chairperson  
Website—Joe Janiga  
Facebook & Twitter Coordinator—Todd Vazquez

### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

#### Bylaws

Jim Tolos, Chairman  
Joe Janiga - Co-Chairman

#### Career Recruitment

Al Dopart, Chairman  
Glenn Deitz  
Dave Gluckman  
Glen Buser

#### Golf Outing

Richard Reitberger, Chairman  
Joe Janiga

#### Awards

Rich Reitberger, Chairman

#### 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  
Dave Kurasz

#### Finance

Rich Reitberger - Chairman  
John Cholin  
Bob Murray

### HELPFUL LINKS

**ADAAG** <http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/about/index.htm>

**AFAA National** <http://www.affaa.org/>

**AFFSA** <http://www.firesprinkler.org/>

**ANSI** <http://web.ansi.org/>

**ASHRAE** <http://www.ashrae.org/>

**Campus-Firewatch** <http://www.campus-firewatch.com/>

**Coffee Break Training** <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/>

**CPSC** <http://www.cpsc.gov/>

**CSAA** <http://www.csaaul.org/>

**Municipal Codes (E Codes)** <http://www.generalcode.com/Webcode2.html>

**FDNY** <http://nyc.gov/html/fdny/html/home2.shtml>

**FM Global** <http://www.fmglobal.com/>

**FSDANY** <http://www.fsdany.org/regs.htm>

**FSI** <http://www.firesprinklerinitiative.org/>

**FSSA** <http://www.fssa.net/>

**Fire Tech Productions—Nicet Training (FTP)** <http://www.firetech.com/>

**Home Fire Spklr Coalition** <http://www.homefiresprinkler.org/>

**HVAC Bld. Control Fire Safety** <http://www.iklimnet.com/hotelfires/hotelfiresmain.html>

**AFAA-NJ** <http://www.affaanj.org/>

**International Code Council** - <http://www.iccsafe.org/>

**International Code Council Residential Sprinkler Exam** - [http://www.iccsafe.org/news/nr/2009/0709\\_ResidentialSprinklerExam.pdf](http://www.iccsafe.org/news/nr/2009/0709_ResidentialSprinklerExam.pdf)

**The Joint Commission (JCAHO)** - <http://www.jointcommission.org/www.JointCommission.org/>

**Material safety data Sheets (MSDS-OSHA Site)** - <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/hazardcommunications/index.html>

**National of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED)** - <http://www.nafed.org/index.cfm>

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Do you want your business to be known by over 125 professionals in the local Fire Protection industry? Advertise in the Fusible Link. \$100 per chapter fiscal year. Contact Vicki Serafin for more info: [Vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com](mailto:Vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com)