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Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

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FUSIBLE LINK

NOVEMBER 2014

President's Message...

October was an eventful month and we have a lot to update you on at our November meeting. Our tour of Electric Boat in Groton Connecticut had about two dozen attendees; it's impressive to see the scale of things at a nuclear submarine manufacturer. SFPE held its annual meeting in Long Beach, CA. Rich Reitberger and I represented you there and we return with lots of stuff to discuss, among the more noteworthy; the change of the Society's communicative name, revision of its vision and mission statements, new logo, our donation to the Foundation, and lots of research papers presented from scientists and scholars around the world. Come to the November meeting and hear all about it and a good presentation about laboratory fire protection.

President, NJ Chapter SFPE

SFPE Enters A New Stage of Growth With New Look

BETHESDA, Maryland -- SFPE has officially changed its logo and tagline to convey a more contemporary, bold and global image while maintaining the iconic triangle. The logo, designed by Swirl: Creative Collaboration, will represent the new brand as it continues to attract and bring together the community of fire protection and fire safety engineers, and its allied stakeholders, around the world.

Similarly, the new tagline, Engineering A Fire Safe World, was selected as it communicates a broadening of SFPE's base worldwide, while still maintaining the emphasis on engineering.



"We are excited to launch a new logo and tagline that reflects the evolution and future of the SFPE global brand," said Carl Baldassarra, SFPE President. "The SFPE Board of Directors has spent the better part of 2014 reviewing our strategic direction and plans for the future. Rebranding with a stronger image and more inclusive messaging was needed if we are to better serve the global community and attract the next generation into the profession."

The new logo and tagline were unveiled at SFPE's Conference & Expo in Long Beach, California on October 12. New logos have also been created for all of SFPE's chapters, Corporate 100 and SFPE Foundation and these will be rolled out over the coming weeks.

Factory Explosion in Brazil Injures 26

October 21, 2014—At least 26 people were injured, including three who are in critical condition, in an explosion at a medicine factory in the southeastern Brazilian state of Minas Gerais, medical sources said.

The accident occurred in the early hours Tuesday in the municipality of Pouso Alegre, located at some 370 kilometers (230 miles) from the regional capital of Belo Horizonte. and according to firefighters the accident occurred when a furnace exploded inside the factory.

The victims were taken to Samuel Libanio Hospital, which said that most had suffered slight injuries, except for three of them, who are in more serious condition.

According to the Cimed Medicine Industry, some 1,200 employees work in the Pouso Alegre factory, though the company was unable to specify how many people were inside it at the time the explosion went off.

Firefighters and Civil Police are still in the building coping with the aftermath of accident. EFE

Minutes of October 7 Meeting

There are no minutes from the last meeting in October as this was a bus trip to Electric Boat in Groton, CT.

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Siemens Recalls Smoke Detectors for Failing to Alarm

(taken from *Security Sales & Integration*, Sept 2014 edition)

Siemens has recalled as many as 9,000 audible fire alarms that may possibly fail to sound during a fire.

The recall involves the firm's SBGA-34 audible fire alarm base. The company decided to pull the alarms after discovering that the audible alarm base "can fail to sound an alarm and poses a risk of personal injury and property damage," NBCDFW.com reports.

The alarms were sold from February 2013 to June 2014, Reuters reports.

No injuries have been reported.

The recall involves the SBGA-34 audible base that is affixed to ceiling-mounted smoke detectors. The SBGA-34 has part number S54370-F13. It also features date codes 0113 through 2314 in a WWYY format printed on a white label on the back of the unit part affixed to the wall.

Recalled fire detectors include:

- Cerberus PRO models (HI921, OOH941, OH921, OP921)
- Desigo Fire Safety models (FDOOTC441, FDOOT441, FDO421, FDOT421, FDT421)
- H-Series (HFP-11, HFPT-11, HFPO-11)
- Faraday 87XX-Series, models (8713, 8712, 8710)

The detectors are used in a total of nine Siemens, Desigo, Cerberus and Faraday alarm systems.

For more information, visit usa.siemens.com.



The recall involves the SBGA-34 audible base that is affixed to ceiling-mounted smoke detectors. "MODEL SBGA-34" is printed on a blue label on the back of the device. The base is off-white and measures about 6 inches in diameter.



Ernesto Vega Janica, Director SFPE NJ Chapter presents the North Plainfield Fire Dept. Deputy Chief Frank N. D'Amore, Jr (left) and Inspector David Lawson (right) with a \$250 grant for increased education of fire prevention for older adults.

NJ SFPE Nov. 3rd Technical Presentation - Fire Protection/Life Safety Approaches for Laboratories Facilities

Our speakers for our Nov 3rd meeting will be :

Jeremy Lebowitz, P.E. Vertical Market Leader – Industrial, Chemical, Lab at Rolf Jensen & Associates. Mr. Lebowitz's consulting experience includes fire protection requirements for hazardous materials use and storage in high-hazard, chemical plant processing, and laboratory applications; specification of fire protection features for hazardous materials storage and process areas, including sprinkler design basis, ventilation, explosion venting, electrical classification, spill containment and drainage, control area design, and NFPA 45 laboratory unit design. Mr. Lebowitz's experience also includes high hazard occupancy requirements and fire protection and hazard evaluation of hydrogen and CNG compression, storage, and dispensing operations. Mr. Lebowitz also has valuable experience with fire protection and OSHA requirements for storage and processing of combustible dusts.

John Horton, CFPS Senior Consultant at Rolf Jensen & Associates, NYC - Mr. Horton is a certified Fire Protection Specialist, New Jersey Licensed Construction Official, Fire Sub Code Official, and High Rise Hazardous Fire Protection Inspector. Mr. Horton has been involved with the oil industry, preparing emergency preplans, reviewing fire protection systems, tank installations, rack installations, and tank car unloading rack installations, as well as, performing fire pump, water spray system and enclosure integrity testing water flow testing. Mr. Horton has conducted arc flash studies, fire assessments at terminals and pumping stations and other oil related facilities.

Mr. Horton was an adjunct and Fire Science Program Coordinator at Ocean County College for 18 years and is a life member of the NFPA.

Did you Know...?

According to NFPA's annual National Fire Experience Survey:

Fire departments responded to 1.24 million fires in 2013, a 9.8% decrease from 2012.

Despite this decrease, fires still contributed to 3,240 civilian fire fatalities, 15,925 civilian fire injuries and an estimated \$11.5 billion in direct property loss, highlighting the continued need to promote fire prevention.

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Using drones in firefighting operations

There isn't a day that goes by where we don't hear about drones being used for just about anything. The following is an article in the Oct. XL GAPS Fast Fast Forward publication.

[John A. Frank](#), Loss Prevention Center of Excellence Leader

[Peter J. Gore Willse, PE., FSFPE](#), Research

October 06, 2014

In January 2014, a fire broke out in Connecticut's Stone Creek Quarry. Fire Chief Jack Ahern knew he had a complicated fire on his hands because the fire was near a storage unit full of explosives. He needed information about the fire and he needed it fast. But the chief hesitated. Normally, he could have used a media helicopter to see how the fire was behaving, but it was too dangerous to fly a helicopter over the fire. Should he send a firefighter in? One of his volunteer firemen offered him an alternative. The volunteer firefighter happened to have his drone, an A DJI Phantom, in his car. Chief Ahern said yes, let's do it.

While the firefighter flew the drone up and over the fire, the chief was able to look at a live video feed of the fire. After looking at the video, he had enough information to determine where to send his firefighters and knew what direction the fire was heading. The fire was eventually put out and no lives were lost. When asked by a reporter if he would authorize the purchase of a drone for the fire department's future use, Fire Chief Ahern said, "the fire department uses media helicopters to get a bird's eye view, but a drone like the A DJI Phantom Drone, is much more cost effective." The cost of the drone was \$1200, which is "a drop in the bucket for what we saved in personnel by seeing what was going on in the fire." 2/3

Fighting wildfires

Drones are also helping fight wildfires. California fire officials used a drone to help fight the Rim Fire near Yosemite National Park in August 2013. The drone was operated by the 163rd Wing of the California National Guard at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, California. The drone was the size of a small Cessna and could remain over the burn zone for up to 22 hours at a time. This enabled the fire commanders to monitor fire activity, determine the fire's direction and the extent of containment, and confirm new fires ignited by lightning or flying embers.

Previously, ground commanders relied on helicopters that needed to refuel ever two hours. Unmanned aircraft can map fires, but the Predator drone used in the Rim Fire flew one of the longest sustained missions by a drone in California, broadcasting information to firefighters in real time.

NFPA Fire Loss Statistics in 2013

NFPA has published their annual fire loss statistics for 2013. Some of the highlights are contained below:

IN 2013, PUBLIC FIRE DEPARTMENTS in the United States responded to 1,240,000 reported fires, according to estimates based on data NFPA received from fire departments responding to its 2013 National Fire Experience Survey. This represents a significant decrease of 9.8 percent from 2012 and is the fewest number of reported fires since 1977–78, when NFPA began using its current survey methodology.

Of these fires, an estimated 487,500 were structure fires, a slight increase of 1.5 percent from the year before. Between 1977 and 2013, the number of structure fires was at its peak in 1977, when 1,098,000 structure fires occurred. The number of structure fires then decreased steadily, particularly in the 1980s, when 688,000 were reported by the end of 1989, for an overall decrease of 37.3 percent since 1977. From 1989, the number of structure fires again dropped steadily, to 517,500 by the end of 1998, for an overall decrease of 24.7 percent. The number of structure fires stayed in the range of 505,000 to 530,500 from 1999 to 2008, before falling to 480,500 in 2009, and stayed in that range for the 2010 to 2013 period.

Fires by the numbers

1.24 million fires were responded to by public fire departments, a decrease of 9.8 percent from the year before.

487,500 fires occurred in structures, a slight increase of 1.5 percent.

369,500 fires, or 76 percent, of all structure fires, occurred in 1- and 2- family homes and apartments, a slight increase of 1.2 percent.

164,000 fires occurred in highway vehicles, a decrease of 4.9 percent from the year before.

564,500 fires occurred in outside properties, a significant decrease of 19.3 percent.

- Of the structure fires in 2013, 387,000, or 79.4 percent, were residential fires, a slight increase of 1.6 percent from the year before. Of the residential structure fires, 271,500 occurred in one- and two-family homes, accounting for 55.7 percent of all structure fires. Another 98,000 occurred in apartments, accounting for 20.1 percent of all structure fires.

There were also 100,500 nonresidential structure fires in 2013, a slight increase of 1 percent from the previous year.

There were 564,500 outside fires in 2013, an 18.4 decrease from the previous year. Between 1977 and 2013, the number of outside fires was at its high in 1977, when 1,658,500 such fires occurred. This number decreased steadily over the next six years, to 1,011,000 in 1983, representing a considerable decrease of 39 percent. The number of outside fires changed little during the rest of the 1980s, except for 1988, when the number jumped to 1,214,000. In 1993, outside fires dropped to 910,500, and stayed near the 1 million level for the next three years. From 1997 to 2002, the number of outside fires stayed in the range of 839,000 to 861,500—except in 1999, when it rose to 931,500—then rose in 2005 and 2006 before declining to 634,000 by the end of 2010. Over the next two years, the number of outside fires increased 9.1 percent, to 692,000 in 2012, before dropping significantly in 2013.

- Of the outside fires that occurred in 2013, an estimated 254,500 were brush, grass, and wildland fires, a significant decrease of 27.3 percent from the year before. An estimated 67,000 fires occurred outside of structures with value involved, a significant decrease of 19.3 percent from 2012.

There were also an estimated 164,000 highway vehicle fires in 2013, a decrease of 4.9 percent from 2012, and 24,000 fires in other vehicles, a decrease of 20 percent from the year before.

Another Carbon Dioxide Detector Recall



Safety Bulletin

Issued: 10/2/14

Summary of issue: CO response, i4 Series combination CO/Smoke detector

Level of urgency: **High – Immediate Action Required**

Model Numbers: COSMO-2W, COSMO-4W

Manufactured date range: September 3 2014 (4091) to September 13, 2014 (4092)

4091 defined as 4 = 2014, 09 = September, 1 = 1st week of the month

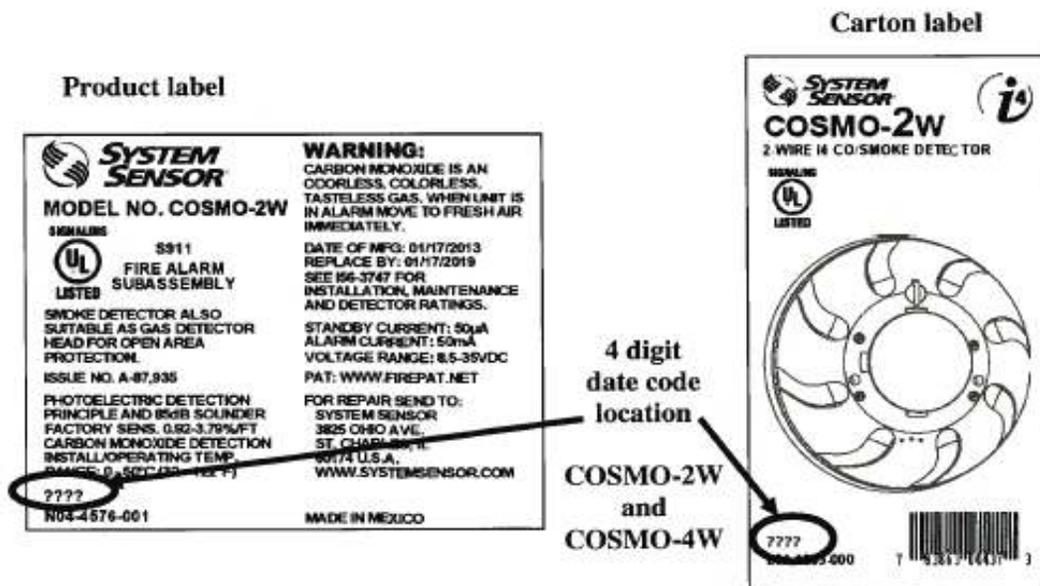
4092 defined as 4 = 2014, 09 = September, 2 = 2nd week of the month

You are receiving this bulletin because you have purchased the i4 series combination CO/Smoke detector manufactured by System Sensor with manufacturing date codes 4091 and 4092.

i4 series combination CO/Smoke detectors manufactured within this time period have the potential for delayed or no response to elevated CO levels. System Sensor has taken the appropriate steps to prevent recurrence and units manufactured outside of 4091 and 4092 are not affected.

All COSMO-2W and COSMO-4W products with date codes 4091 and 4092 need to be returned to the point of purchase for replacement or credit. Please contact your point of purchase to coordinate the product return.

Our goal is to resolve this issue as efficiently as possible and we apologize for the inconvenience. This recall is being conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.



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MEETING NOTICE

Date: November 3, 2014

Place: Hanover Manor
16 Eagle Rock Avenue
East Hanover, NJ 07936

Price: \$30.00

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

Topic: Fire Protection/Life Safety Approaches for Laboratories
facilities - Jeremy Lebowitz and John Horton of Rolf Jensen & Associates

Speaker: Jeremy Lebowitz, P.E. Vertical Market Leader – Industrial, Chemical,
Lab at Rolf Jensen & Associates John Horton, CFPS Senior Consultant at
Rolf Jensen & Associates, NYC

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "SFPE NJ CHAPTER" TO:

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OR PAY AT THE DOOR

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Meeting Dates/Programs 2014-2015

Nov. 3	Fire Protection/Life Safety Approaches for Laboratories facilities, Jeremy Lebowitz and John Horton of Rolf Jensen & Associates
Dec. 8	The 1984 Great Adventure - Haunted Castle fire revisited and remodeled - Would sprinklers have prevented loss of Life” - Jack Fairchild, Ballinger Consulting
Jan. 12	What’s Eating Your Pipes? How Corrosion can Cause Your Sprinkler Systems to Fail” Doug Nadeau, TruVUE
Feb. 2	TBA
March 2	Foam Systems Design & Acceptance Testing’ Gary Ryman FM Global & Fay Purvis Vector Fire
April 9	Joint Seminar’ with NJ AFAA
May 4	Solar Panel Fire Hazard’ Dick Davis, FM Global
June 8	Comparison of UL 286 and ASTM E84’ JC Harrington FM Global & ‘SFPE Update’ Julie Gordon SFPE

JMCC 

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Ernesto Vega-Janica

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Dave Gluckman, Chairman

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Chris Vitale

John Antola, Jr.

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Jim Tolos, Vicki & Nicole

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Rich Reitberger

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Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator

Communications-Other

Paul McGrath

Mike Newman

Mailing/Automation/e-mail—Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

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Jim Loftus—Alarm Speakers Coordinator

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NY Chapter for 2014

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PE Examination

Donna Spano

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

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

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

AFAA <http://www.affaa.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

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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