



**Editor Fusible Link**  
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**Ana Crisostomo**  
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# FUSIBLE LINK

SEPTEMBER 2015

## Chapter Officers

### President

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Ed Amm - 973-663-4291  
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Open director slot

### Special Executive Assistant to The Board

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## President's Message...

Welcome back all to a new NJSFPE Chapter year. Your Board of Directors met this past summer and put together a great program for the upcoming 2015-16 meetings plus a planned April 2016 Technical Seminar. Check the program schedule in this issue of the *Fusible Link* for more details. This year we are fortunate to have the annual SFPE 2015 Conference and Expo right in our backyard in Philadelphia. The Conference theme is "Freedom to Design" and it will be held at the Loews Hotel in downtown Philly November 8-13, 2015. The annual event is the source for technical information and technology for fire protection engineers, fire safety engineers and allied professionals. This year's conference also holds the special distinction, as 2015 also marks SFPE's 65th anniversary. The conference is a short train ride from Metro Park or Newark's Penn Station or a leisurely drive down the NJ Turnpike. The Chapter is looking at possibly having a meeting and/or Chapter member event during the conference. More to come on this later. For our September meeting – Monday Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> – we are pleased to announce our speaker will be John Cholin of J.M. Cholin Associates. His topic is a 'Debrief of the Imperial Sugar Explosion'. You do not want to miss this one!

A new Non Profit Foundation, which will incorporate our Scholarship Program, has been formed in July and is now known as the "SFPE NJ NY Metro Chapters Education Foundation Inc." The Foundation is registered in the State of New Jersey as a Non Profit 501c(3) organization. The new Foundation is staffed by members of both the NJ & NY Metro Chapters. New By Laws are being formulated and the new Foundation should be up and running shortly. The Foundation will manage both the Scholarship Awards and the annual June Golf Outing. More info from the Foundation is forth coming and will be reported here in the *Fusible Link*.

Vicki sent out the 2015-2016 Dues Notice to all in August. Please check your e-mail and get the form back to us so you can stay current. We thank you for your continued support of the Chapter and all of our programs. If anyone wants to volunteer to help on a committee please let us know. We currently have an open Director position on the Board of Directors. If anyone is interested in serving on the board, please contact me for further details.

See you at the September meeting!

Rich Reitberger  
President

## Chapter Meeting Minutes June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

President Joe Janiga convened the meeting at 6:00 PM at the Hanover Manor, E. Hanover, NJ with a salute to the flag and the customary Introductions.

The minutes from the April, 2015 meeting were read by the Secretary and accepted by the membership. The Treasurer's Report for April and May, 2015 was approved as presented by Nathan Gorey, Chapter Treasurer.

The chapter approved the membership applications for 2 new members - Thomas Findlay and David Windel.

Joe Janiga gave a Year in Review of Chapter activities, functions and highlights.

Scholarship Foundation. – Rich briefed progress in getting the 501c3 Foundation formed. The name will be the NJ NY Metro Chapter Education Foundation.

Ed Armm discussed the Seminar held in May. Ed briefed the results of the attendee evaluation forms. The speakers were highly rated. There were about 27 vendors attending.

Rich briefed the upcoming Golf Outing. To be held at the NY Country Club. So far there are about 120 attending.

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 submitted the following slate of Officers and Directors. The election was conducted at the meeting.

Officers elected were:

President, Rich Reitberger  
 First VP, Paul McGrath  
 Second VP, Mike Newman  
 Secretary, Chris Vitale  
 Asst. Secretary, Dave Gluckman  
 Treasurer, Nate Gorey  
 Asst. Treasurer, Glenn Buser  
 Directors  
 John Antola Jr. (2nd Year – 1st Term)  
 Jim Loftus (2nd Year – 1st Term)  
 Joe Janiga is Immediate Past President, a voting member of the Board of Directors and the Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

There was a balloted election held for two open Director Positions: Candidates were: Tim Costello, Ed Armm and Ernesto Vega-Janica.

Ballots were handled out to all in attendance for voting. Results were tabulated and Ed Armm and Ernesto Vega-Janica were voted in as Directors.

Speaker Julie Gordon of SFPE spoke about her Chapter Support role at SFPE and how SFPE is looking to help Chapter leadership with training and programs. Julie also briefed that the new SFPE By-Laws are up for vote. Encourages all SFPE members to go on-line and vote.

JC Harrington of FM Global gave an excellent and informative presentation on the comparison of UL 286 and ASTM 84 testing of materials and fire ratings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.



The NY/NJ Chapters Scholarship Golf Outing Committee sends their special thanks to our long time sponsor Russ Fleming and the National Fire Sprinkler Association. We appreciate your continued support !!

## Lithium battery likely behind 2013 Boeing fire at Heathrow

*August 19, 2015 2:04 PM*

London (AFP) - British aviation authorities called Wednesday for a safety review of lithium batteries used in commercial aircraft, saying they were believed responsible for a 2013 fire on an Ethiopian Airlines aircraft at London's Heathrow.

According to a report published by the Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB), an "uncontrolled release of stored energy from the lithium-metal battery" in the plane's Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) was likely responsible for the blaze aboard the empty Boeing 787 as it sat parked at Heathrow on July 12, 2013.

The AAIB said a short circuit appeared to have caused the lithium battery to ignite.

The agency urged aviation authorities in Europe, the US and Canada to "require equipment manufacturers intending to use lithium-metal batteries in aircraft equipment to demonstrate that the battery design incorporates an acceptable level of circuit protection to mitigate against known failure modes."

Though the fire broke out in an empty plane, the rapid spread of the blaze through combustible materials in the cabin could have had dire consequences in an airborne craft packed with passengers, it said.

The fire led to the closure of Heathrow for 90 minutes, and raised concerns about batteries in Boeing's 787 Dreamliners.

Previously, lithium batteries powering Dreamliners had been found responsible for electrical fires aboard.

The AAIB report not only called for a review of the batteries and layout of electrical equipment surrounding them, but also to ensure accessibility to them by cabin crew in the event of an emergency.

# Investigators: Explosion at Houston Chemical Plant Accidental

*Publication Date*

08/20/2015

*Source:*

*Xinhua News Agency (China)*

HOUSTON, Aug. 19 (Xinhua) -- The exact cause of Friday's explosion at a chemical plant warehouse in the U.S. city of Conroe near Houston remains unknown, but investigators confirmed on Wednesday that it was an accident.

Investigators believed that the trigger of the fire and explosion could have been oily rags stored at the warehouse, or a problem with electrical wiring or gas-powered equipment, according to local TV station ABC13.

Fire officials of Conroe, a city about 60 km north of Houston, are working to determine the main cause and said there is no concern about public safety.

"We are working to rule out possibilities," Conroe Fire Marshal Mike Legoudes told a news conference Wednesday. "Hopefully, we can get to the cause."

The fire started at about 4:30 p.m. local time on Friday inside a locked warehouse on the mostly undeveloped southeast side of the city. A storage tank holding an unidentified chemical near the building ruptured during the blaze, causing an explosion that added to the thick, black smoke in the air.

The fire, which took fire fighters about two hours to bring under control, caused an estimated 3 million U.S. dollars in damage. No one was injured in the accident as everyone had left about an hour before the explosion.

Officials of the chemical plant, DrillChem Drilling Solutions, are not ready to release the names of specific chemicals stored and used in the facility.

The plant warehouse had passed inspections before the blast, fire officials said, adding that there were no records that the company had been investigated previously for problems with workplace safety.

Drillchem, which has been operating for more than two years, packages and stores chemicals used as lubricants and sealants in drilling operations.

(c) 2015 Xinhua News Agency

# Windstorm Damage Trends Reviewed 10 Years After Katrina

Publication Date: Wed, 19 Aug 2015 00:00:00 EST

Source: Insurance Newslink at [www.onlystrategic.com](http://www.onlystrategic.com)

4,000 lives were lost during the 2005 hurricane season, 80% of the city of New Orleans flooded, \$125bn in overall damages and 1.7 million insurance claims filed: Hurricane Katrina, which struck the Gulf Coast of the US on 29th August 2005, remains the largest-ever windstorm loss. Whether it is hurricanes in the US, typhoons in Asia or winter storms in Europe, wind is a global peril with more than 50 countries having suffered significant windstorm losses in recent years, insurance claims analysis shows.

To mark the 10-year anniversary of Katrina, a new report from Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty (AGCS)- "Hurricane Katrina 10: Catastrophe Management And Global Windstorm Peril Review" analyzes windstorm risks and losses and examines the lessons learned from Katrina for future global windstorm loss mitigation, given increasing weather volatility.

While scientists cannot provide a conclusive answer to the question of how climate change impacts storms, most agree severity of windstorms will change in future. Based on Allianz experience, the severity of losses from weather events including windstorms is already increasing. The average amount paid for extreme weather events including windstorms by insurers between 1980 and 1989 totaled \$15bn a year. Between 2010 and 2013 this rose to an average of \$70bn a year.

“Katrina will always be remembered as an extraordinary natural disaster that foremost affected millions of individuals and businesses, but also left an indelible impact on the global insurance industry,” says Chris Fischer Hirs, CEO of AGCS. “Storms can have a devastating effect for businesses. Even without considering the influence of climate change, the prospect of increasing losses is more likely in future due to continuing economic development in hazard-prone urban coastal areas around the world and in Asia in particular. Preparedness is a key issue to limit windstorm exposure and the lessons learned from major catastrophes such as Katrina can help businesses mitigate the impact of future events. AGCS is committed to working closely with clients and risk managers and sharing its insight to help ensure they are as prepared as possible.”

A decade on from Katrina, although businesses’ catastrophe risk management awareness has matured, there is still room for further improvement with a greater emphasis needed on reviewing pre-loss and post-loss risk management. Business continuity planning and indirect supply chain exposures are areas which would benefit from greater attention. If such procedures are not in place or reviewed, the magnitude of windstorm losses can increase significantly.

## **40% of natural hazard claims windstorm-related**

Whether it is hurricanes in the US, typhoons in Asia or winter storms in Europe—strong winds can easily cause property and business interruption losses for companies, as an analysis of more than 11,000 AGCS major business insurance claims worldwide (> E100,000) indicates. Over 400 storm-related claims were filed during this period, meaning windstorm ranks fifth in the top 10 causes of loss for business according to value of claims. Windstorm losses account for approximately 40% of all natural hazard losses by number of claims and 26% by value, according to AGCS analysis.

The US is the top loss location, accounting for half(49%) of the global claims analyzed, followed by Europe(19%), Asia(6%) and Central America(3%). Losses across Asia are expected to rise exponentially in future with 80% of the top 10 exposed locations to coastal flooding from storm surge and wind damage expected to be in this region in the next 50 years.

Growth of exposure is far outpacing take-up of insurance coverage resulting in a growing gap in natural catastrophe preparedness.

Claims analysis shows the maritime industry is highly-exposed to such losses, accounting for 60% of windstorms claims analyzed by number compared with 30% for property. Destruction of high-value pleasure craft, commercial vessels and cargo can significantly increase the loss tab. "Claims can also be incurred due to water ingress into ships' cargo holds damaging the cargo," explains Captain Rahul Khanna, Global head of Marine Risk Consulting, AGCS. "Storms can also damage or destroy ports or coastal infrastructure, including warehouses and stored cargo, cranes, quaysides, terminals, buoys and sheds."

### **Lessons learned from Katrina—storm surge to demand surge**

Katrina and other storms such as Sandy have helped to greatly improve catastrophe risk research and modelling. Katrina showed the impact of storm surge can often be more damaging than high wind speeds and that the physical size of the hurricane can affect the surge itself. Storm surge has been a contributing factor in half of the top 10 costliest storm losses in US history, with these five storms having collectively caused almost \$125bn in insured losses.

Katrina also outlined the need for better wind damage protection. Most of the wind damage caused by Katrina occurred to the building envelope, comprising roof covering, walls and windows. "If the building codes had been strictly followed, wind damage would have been greatly reduced," says Andrew Higgins, Technical Manager, Americas, Allianz Risk Consulting. "Poor workmanship and a lack of knowledge were the primary culprits." After Katrina, Allianz developed enhanced roof surveys, placing greater scrutiny on condition and age of roofs.

Importance of business continuity in the aftermath of a catastrophe, knowing exactly what is covered by the insurance policy ahead of a windstorm event and the unexpected impact of demand surge are the other key lessons learned. Katrina showed demand surge for materials in order to rebuild after a catastrophe not only leads to rising prices and supply shortages but can also have peripheral loss consequences, such as were seen post-Katrina with the use of sub-standard batches of Chinese drywall.

"Today, the Gulf Coast is better prepared to withstand the effects of a hurricane due to better education, improved construction guidelines and increased third party inspection," says Higgins.

### **Mitigating the impact of increasing losses from windstorm events**

Adequate preparedness before a storm arrives is key in order to mitigate potential losses, particularly in areas such as construction sites which are extremely susceptible. There are four crucial areas of windstorm loss mitigation: Pre-windstorm planning including development of a comprehensive emergency plan and testing it. Inspect roofs and the building envelope; anchor large equipment and prepare for possible flooding.

During a windstorm response personnel should monitor for leaks, fire and damage.

After a windstorm, the site should be secured to prevent unauthorized entry. An immediate damage assessment should be conducted if safe to do so.

Business continuity management is crucial as just-in-time production, lean inventories and global supply chains can easily multiply negative effects. Property damage and business interruption are usually covered by insurance policies but often there is loss of market share, suppliers, clients and staff. Businesses should develop and test business continuity plans and communication cascades. Have insurance policies at a safe accessible location.

# Employment Opportunities

## ARUP is looking for a Senior Fire Consultant/Engineer - Tri State Region - offices in Edison and NYC

At Arup, our innovative spirit compels us to express our ingenuity in unique ways —developing many of the world's most innovative and sustainable buildings, transport and civil engineering projects. Arup is a global engineering and consulting firm of 11,000 creative minds.

Our integrated approach to engineering and design brings together the best professionals to meet our clients' needs.

We are currently seeking a Senior Fire Consultant/Engineer to play a very active role in the continued development of Arup's fire engineering practice in the Americas and will work closely with many of the world's leading architects and building owners developing innovative, performance based design solutions for a wide range of building, industrial and transport projects.

### Your responsibilities will involve:

- Provide fire safety consulting engineering services to a variety of potential clients, including but not limited to architects, developers, owners, government and insurers.
- Consulting on building codes and standards including IBC, NFPA codes and tri-state jurisdictions (NYC, NYS, NJ).
- Develop fire strategies for projects across all markets
- Fire alarm design and construction administration support including reviewing shop drawings, submittals, RFIs and conducting field reports for large rail projects.
- Responsible for project management of multiple projects to ensure successful delivery on time and budget.
- Developing client relationships and pursuing new business opportunities.
- Contributing to our research and development activities.

Qualified professionals will have a Bachelors or Master's degree in Fire Engineering or related field. PE license in fire protection engineering desired. Candidate must possess good communication skills essential for team-based working, excellent planning and organization skills required for our fast-paced environment, and must be highly motivated, proactive and willing to take on new challenges.

Share your passion and experience in a global culture that believes your potential to achieve is endless. This is your opportunity to shine.

Arup is proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

APPLY at: <https://arupjobs.taleo.net/careersection/jobdetail.ftl?job=NEW000037&lang=en>

## Lockton Northeast Series – Senior Property Risk Control Consultant

Location: New York, NY

### About Lockton:

More than 5,300 professionals at Lockton provide 41,000 clients around the world with risk management, insurance, and employee benefits consulting services that improve their businesses. From its founding in 1966 in Kansas City, Missouri, Lockton has attracted entrepreneurial professionals who have driven its growth to become the largest privately held, independent insurance broker in the world and 10th largest overall. Independent researcher Greenwich Associates has awarded Lockton its [Service Excellence Award](#) for risk management for large companies. For five consecutive years, Business Insurance magazine has recognized Lockton as a ["Best Place to Work in Insurance."](#) To see the latest insights from Lockton's experts, check [Lockton Market Update](#).

Lockton is known throughout the insurance industry as an entrepreneurial, progressive and successful insurance broker. As a result of continued individual and group accomplishments, Lockton has a record of steady and substantial growth. Unlike publically held companies that have to report to public shareholders on a quarterly basis, Lockton operates on a long term goal basis over years, not quarters. If you are a committed professional with a passion for delivering unparalleled service, Lockton is interested in hearing from you.

Job Description:

Responsibilities: Lockton is searching for an experienced property risk control consultant to work in a fast-paced team environment to support the insurance placement process, participate in the acquisition of new business and advocate for the client with insurers and support their risk management/property loss prevention processes and programs.

Qualifications:

- 10 to 15 years of insurance carrier, broker or risk management property risk control experience.
- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering or Applied Science or equivalent
- PE license or CFPS certification a plus
- Strong oral and written communications skills
- Proficiency in knowledge and application of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- Standards and FM Global Data Sheets
- Strong interpersonal skills to communicate effectively with clients
- Expertise in development and analysis of property insurance industry loss estimates including MFL's, PML's and LE's.
- Self-motivated individual with successful ability to work in a team environment
- Microsoft Office and internet proficiency

Interest candidates should contact David A. Larson, SVP - Risk Services Practice Leader, Lockton Companies, 1185 Ave of the Americas, New York, NY 10036; E-mail: [dlarson@lockton.com](mailto:dlarson@lockton.com); Office: (646) 572-7367.

Lockton Companies, LLC is an equal opportunity employer. As a privately held company, we offer a competitive compensation and benefits package reflecting our commitment to attracting and retaining great individuals. This includes health and dental coverage, which begins on your first day of work, 401(k) with match and immediate vesting, a competitive vacation plan and unrivaled career advancement opportunities.



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## Introducing the K25 Standard Response Upright Storage Sprinkler

### Viking's new VK598 is FM Approved to protect cold storage without in-rack sprinklers

Viking is pleased to introduce an innovative new model to its leading line of storage sprinklers, the new [VK598](#) Standard Response Upright Sprinkler. This new FM Approved storage sprinkler has a K-factor of 25.2 (363) and is approved for use in both dry and pre-action sprinkler systems. In these applications, the VK598 is approved to protect Class I-III commodities with storage heights of up to 40 ft (12,2 m) in warehouses as high as 45 ft (13,7 m), without the need for additional in-rack sprinkler protection.

By eliminating in-rack sprinklers, the VK598 can significantly reduce system costs, increase racking flexibility, and lower the potential risk of damage to the system by warehouse operators. With its larger K-factor, the new K25 upright can offer design pressures as low as 15 psi for dry and pre-action system, and 7 psi for wet systems.

To learn more about the new VK598 and all of Viking's products and services, visit [www.vikinggroupinc.com](http://www.vikinggroupinc.com) or contact your local Viking SupplyNet representative.



### VK598 Details

#### Listings / Approvals

FM Approved

#### K-factor

25.2 (363)

#### Thread Size

1" NPT / 25 mm BSP

#### Operating Element

Glass Bulb

#### Temperature

155° F (68° C), 175° F (79° C),  
200° F (93° C), 286° F (141° C)

#### Finish

Brass



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## MEETING NOTICE

**Date:** September 14, 2015

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

**Price:** \$30.00

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Topic:** Debrief of the Imperial Sugar Explosion

**Speaker:** John Cholin, J.M. Cholin Associates

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

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Parsippany, NJ 07054  
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OR PAY AT THE DOOR

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## Meeting Dates/Programs 2015-2016

<b>Sept 14</b>	<b>Debrief of the Imperial Sugar Explosion—John Cholin, J.M. Cholin Associates</b>
<b>Oct 5</b>	<b>Advance Technology Smoke Detection—Frank Savino, United Fire Protection</b>
<b>Nov 8-13</b>	<b>SFPE Conference—Philadelphia</b>
<b>Dec 7</b>	<b>Tyco—Quell System—Protection System for Freezers</b>
<b>Jan 11</b>	<b>FM DS 8-9 Changes and Rack Sprinkler Protection—Wes Baker, AVP, Sr. Engineering Technical Specialist, Engineering Standards Group, FM Global Research</b>
<b>Feb 1</b>	<b>ARUP—Egress Modeling on Large Projects</b>
<b>March 7</b>	<b>John Drucker—NJ Code Update</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>Annual Seminar</b>
<b>May 2</b>	<b>Corrosion Solutions for Sprinkler Systems</b>
<b>June 6</b>	<b>Annual Meeting—Use of Large Capacity Lithium Batteries in NYC Buildings</b>

**Ernesto Vega Janica, SET**  
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## 2015-2016 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Program

Mike Newman

#### Arrangements

Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

#### Membership

Paul McGrath, Chairman

#### Nominating

Joe Janiga, Chairman (IPP)

Chris Vitale

John Antola, Jr.

#### Auditing

Vanessa Gallagher, Chairman

Rich Reitberger

#### Archivist/Historian

Jim Tolos, Vicki & Nicole

#### Speakers Gifts

Rich Reitberger

#### Communications

Fusible Link—Brad Hart

Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator

#### Communications-Other

Paul McGrath

Mike Newman

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

Webmaster—Mike Newman & Paul McGrath

### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

#### Spring Seminar

Ed Armm—Chairman

Dave Kurasz—Sprinkler Speakers Coordinator

Jim Loftus—Alarm Speakers Coordinator

Paul McGrath—Vendor Coordinator

#### Bylaws

Jim Tolos, Chairman

Joe Janiga

John Antola

#### Career Recruitment

Tim Costello, Chairman

Donna Spano

Marios Michaelides

#### Chapter Excellence Awards

Ernesto Vega-Janica

#### PE Examination

Donna Spano

#### Chapter Seminar/Field Trip

Richard Reitberger, Chairman

Ed Armm, CoChairman

Dave Gluckman

Nathan Gorey

#### Legislative

Rich Reitberger, Chairman

Jerry Naylis

Dave Kurasz

#### Finance

Rich Reitberger - Chairman

Vanessa Gallagher

C. Patel

### HELPFUL LINKS

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

**AFAA National** <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](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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