Society of
Fire Protection Engineers
New Jersey Chapter

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FUSIBLE LINK

OCTOBER 2013

President's Message…

It's been a long time since Mrs. O'Leary's cow set Chicago ablaze. Think how much has been done to make society safe from fire since 1871. Back then it was oil lamps in growing cities congested with wooden buildings. Consider how many new hazards have come to exist since President Coolidge declared the first Fire Prevention Week in 1925 noting that 15,000 people died in fire the previous year. Airplanes hitting high rise buildings, night clubs with uncontrolled fires in exposed foam plastic acoustical insulation, crazed gunmen with automatic weapons in areas of assembly, urban/wildfire interface, I won't go on.

Despite all our advances in the past 142 years the hazards just keep on coming. We can't tire doing our part to beat them back down. Whether you develop smoke detector technology, design Mass Notification systems, install fire pumps, screw sprinkler pipe, engineer suppression systems, specify construction materials, enforce no smoking rules, issue citations for obstructed fire doors, or conduct valve inspections we each must do our part. That includes turning off unattended stoves, clearing space around burning candles or snuffing them out, cleaning out combustible clutter from attics and basements, testing CO detectors and replacing smoke detector batteries in our own homes and those of our families. Because in Coolidge's words "…every effort be made to reform the conditions which have made possible so vast a destruction of the national wealth."

This Fire Prevention Week, be well, keep your families safe and continue doing your best to protect society from the dangers of the built environment. And a special thanks to those of you who have or do volunteer on your local Fire Departments. Most of us don't have to risk our lives to do our part, and we appreciate and respect that you make that sacrifice doing yours.

I hope to see you at our October 10th field trip to Electric Boat. I can't wait to learn about how they handle fire protection.

Joe Janiga
President, NJ Chapter SFPE

Minutes of the SFPE – NJ Chapter Meeting September 9, 2013

A continuance of the executive board meeting took place to open the chapter meeting since Rich Reitberger has not found a volunteer for the position of Asst. Secretary. Therefore, he agreed to take the position until another candidate is found/qualified, most likely not until next year. A motion was made and carried by the members of the board electing Rich to this position.

President Janiga convened the meeting at 6:20 PM with a salute to the flag and customary introductions.

The Treasurer's reports for June/July 2013, Fiscal Year 2012-13 and August, 2013 were briefly reviewed. A motion was made and carried to accept the June/July 2013 and August 2013 reports.

Rich Reitberger read the report from the Finance Committee regarding the audit that recently took place for the 2012-13 fiscal year. All was in order and there were no recommendations. Now that the audit is complete, our tax filings can be prepared.

Paul McGrath introduced the door prizes for tonight's meeting which included a CO detector and fire extinguisher. Two names were picked.

Nate Gorey discussed our October 10 field trip to Electric Boat. All people attending must bring safety shoes, hard hats and safety glasses. Plans are to leave FM Global's parking lot about 6:30 am. Contact Nate or Vicki with any questions.

A motion was made and carried to elect eight new members to the chapter all from FM Global. They are:

Jeswin Varughese
Kyle Neuman
Mena Eskandar
Adam Walzer
Steven Simmons
Tyler Golz
Shawn Denning
Sebastian Vargas

Tim Costello of RJA gave us a presentation titled, "Presentation of a Case Study: Egress and Smoke Movement Modeling at 5 Beekman Street." Items discussed included:

1. Building Description
2. Project Overview
3. Atrium Details
4. Atrium Challenges
5. Atrium Solutions
6. Smoke & Egress Models
7. Applicable Codes & Standards
8. Tenability Criteria
9. Design Fire Scenarios
10. Analysis of Models

Slides of the presentation will be available on the NJ SFPE web site.

There were 19 attendees and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

A LETTER OF THANKS FROM ONE OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

I would like to thank you, the scholarship committee, and furthermore the entire New Jersey Society and NY Metro Chapters of Fire Protection Engineers for awarding me with the James R O'neil / Robert Powers Joint Scholarship. This scholarship is helping me greatly to offset the costs of continuing for my Masters in Fire Protection Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The classes that I am currently taking include People in Fires and Complex Decision Making. People in Fires is a class that surrounds how the occupants react in a fire as well as how the different aspects of both the occupants and building effect the egress from the building. This class is extremely exciting to me because one day I would like to work for a consulting firm that would have to take all of these aspects to calculate the required egress time from a building. I am also taking a class called Complex Decision Making, this class teaches many different techniques used to make complex decisions. I feel that these techniques will prove to be extremely important in my career.

One thing that I have completed since last speaking to you was to take my Fundamentals of Engineering exam. I have recently received notice that I have passed it and now am one step closer to becoming a Professional Engineer. This I know will prove to be very beneficial in my career as a Fire Protection Engineer. Finally, as I attend classes I am also working at Tyco Fire Protection Products in Cranston Rhode Island as a 9 month Co-op in the Mechanical Research and Development Group. I really enjoy everything that I am learning at Tyco and look forward to everything else that I can learn at my Co-op with Tyco. I would just like to thank all of you for all of the support throughout my education towards becoming a Fire Protection Engineer. I cannot wait to graduate and be able to use my education to help people.

Thank you again,

Shawn Mahoney
Fire Protection Engineering
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
smahoney@wpi.edu

RENEWAL APPLICATION - 2013- 2014 DUES NOTICE

Name: _____

Company Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Company Mailing Address: _____

_____

Position/Title: _____

E-mail address: _____

NOTE* PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS SO WE MAY VERIFY AND UPDATE OUR RECORDS. THIS WILL ENABLE US TO PROVIDE YOU WITH IMPORTANT AND TIMELY NOTICES SUCH AS MEETING CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER.

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1. Are you a current member of the International SFPE? Yes _____ No _____
   If not, would you like a membership application? Yes_____ No _____
2. Are you interested in NJ Chapter Committee Participation? _____
3. Are you a Professional Engineer (Yes / No)? If so which state are you registered in? _____
4. Are you a current member of American Institute of Architects (Yes / No)

****

PLEASE REMIT BY – **September 30, 2013**

Dues - 2013-2014: $20.00 – Dues plus e-mail copies of Fusible Link & Meeting Notices

Note: $0.00 Membership if:

- **Retired**
- **Government Code Enforcement official**
- **Fire Marshals**
- **Fire Sub-Code Official**

(**Note:** $240.00 - Retired Members)

Meeting Prepay ($30/meeting): Or, **$260.00/yr** – Dues & above plus Prepay for 8 meetings and get the 9th meeting FREE

TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD: http://njsfpe.org/

Or

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO - "NJ CHAPTER SFPE"

PLEASE REMEMBER TO EMAIL OR MAIL YOUR APPLICATION TO:

Vicki Lynn Serafin
C/O NJ Chapter SFPE
P.O. Box 8268
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196 Fax: 973-541-6906 Vicki.Serafin@affiliatedfm.com

Thank you for your continued support!

11-Alarm Fire Guts Dietz & Watson Warehouse

Fear of electrocution, collapse forced fire chief to pull back crews

By Kelly Bayliss, Danielle Johnson and Dan Stamm | Tuesday, Sep 3, 2013 | Updated 5:56 AM EDT

http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/2-Alarm-Fire-Rips-Through-Dietz--Watson-Building-222001371.html

A massive fire that destroyed a South Jersey food warehouse has finally been contained, more than a day after it broke out.

The fire broke out at the Dietz & Watson cold storage facility on Cooperstown Road in Delanco, Burlington County, N.J. around 1:30 p.m. Sunday and caused the roof, lined with thousands of solar panels, to collapse within hours. Thick, black smoke could be seen billowing from the facility miles away.

“It’s just an intense fire,” said Delanco Fire Chief Ron Holt. “It’s going to take some time, and we don’t know what it’s going to do." By Monday morning, the blaze continued to burn as water issues, the threat of electrocution and other factors hindered firefighting efforts. Crews began to arrive before 9 a.m. While fire officials were finally able to contain the blaze early Monday evening, they also say it will likely continue to smolder for the next few days.

More than 200 firefighters from Burlington, Mercer, Gloucester, Camden and Atlantic Counties were brought to the distribution center which is about 300,000 square feet -- roughly the size of five football fields.

SOLAR PANELS POSE HAZARD

Firefighters had to pull back at some points because the fully-charged solar panels posed the risk of electrocution.
"With all that power and energy up there, I can't jeopardize a guy’s life for that,” said Holt.

Officials say the fire was focused between the trusses and solar panels on the roof. There have been two explosions so far and at least one wall collapsed.

In 2010, the company installed more than 7,000 solar power modules, which officials claimed would reduce the facility's energy use by nearly 20 percent. Buildings with solar power systems “can present a variety of significant hazards" for firefighters including poor air quality and electrocution, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

The Burlington County hazmat team was called to the scene to test the air quality and concluded that there is no hazard at this time. However, residents received a reverse 911 message from the Beverly and Edgewater Park Joint Office of Emergency Management which warned them to stay inside their homes, close their windows and avoid breathing in the smoke.

“Unless you’re standing right there and breathing, it's dissipating before it hits ground,” said Chief Holt. “That's why we called the health department and hazmat team... (If they say close your window) that's their expertise, that's what I go with.”
No residents were evacuated.

Around 5 p.m. Sunday, fire officials were concerned that the water and foam used to fight the blaze would cause the roof to collapse and called all firefighters out of the building as a precaution.

Two firefighters suffered minor injuries including Chief Holt who broke his foot.

“If the building collapses, it collapses…it can be replaced. I’m not sending a man in to lose a life," said Holt.

DRAINING THE PUMPS

The amount of water needed to douse the flames drained pumps, forcing crews to bring in extra from other areas.

Trucked-in water is being dumped into large temporary pools, which are then connected to hoses and sent spraying on the building. The Camden Fire Boat crew also responded to the scene to help stretch a water pipeline from the Rancocas Creek.

New Jersey American Water asked customers in Edgewater Park, Beverley, and Delanco to limit their water usage as crews battle the blaze.

"Due to the large volumes of water being used by firefighters to tackle the six-alarm blaze, we ask that customers restrict their home water usage until such time as the fire is successfully brought under control. Additionally, you may experience periods of low pressure as we try to direct as much water to the firefighting efforts as possible,” according to Communications Director Peter Eschbach.
“That’s major because (without water) you are not putting the fire out,” said Holt.

ONLY MINOR INJURIES

The Delanco Riverside Bridge was closed around 7 p.m. Officials did not indicate when it would reopen.

Sandy Iwanicki, who lives near the warehouse, said she initially thought a plane had crashed.

“It looked to me like the kind of scene you would see if a plane crashed the black smoke was immense it was amazing,” said Iwanicki. Dietz & Watson officials released a statement on their website shortly after the blaze.

"Dietz & Watson suffered a setback to its Delanco Distribution center over the Labor Day Weekend. Other distribution centers, as well as all production facilities, were unaffected by this event. At this time, we are assessing the immediate needs of our customers;

business remains as usual. The Dietz & Watson Family appreciates all of the support it has received during this time, and is thankful that no one sustained any injury. Further, the company appreciates the efforts of all emergency services," according to the statement.

There is no word at this time on how the fire will effect production at the facility or the impact it will have in your local grocery store.

Louis Eni, Dietz & Watson CEO, claims the prices on the grocery store won't be going up due to the fire however. Dietz & Watson employs more than 130 workers at the facility.

As for the impact on Delanco, the mayor called the fire a loss for the town.

“This is a loss for Delanco, for all the employees, the economy and what have you… we ‘re going to take care of the firefighters and I just want to thank them all,” said Mayor Kate Fitzpatrick.

Officials say the facility was not operating Sunday. Two security guards were working outside the building.

The company, founded in 1939, opened the center in 2007. It is their main distribution center. They also have processing facilities in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Corfu, New York.

The cause of the fire likely won't be known until the blaze is extinguished and investigators can get inside.

Upcoming AFAANJ Training Classes are almost full. Last seats first come first served!

The AFAANJ is offering two training classes this fall, below is a short description and a link to download the flyer and registration forms. You will note there is a $50 dollar discount for early registration as well as an offer to become a member of AFAANJ at a discounted rate while allowing a huge cost savings by registering as a member.

SEMINARS SPONSORED BY: AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM ASSOCIATION OF NJ, Inc.

INTERMEDIATE FIRE ALARM SEMINAR
(NICET Level I-II Prep and Review of NFPA 72 2013 edition)
Tuesday and Wednesday October 22nd - 23rd, 2013 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRE ALARM REQUIREMENTS OF THE IBC© SEMINAR (as ammended by the State of New Jersey)
Thursday October 24th, 2013 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

At the Hanover Manor
16 Eagle Rock Avenue
East Hanover, NJ 07936

Visit http://www.afaanj.org for directions, additional forms and directions or click here

Seminars are recognized by the ICC for Continuing Education and approved by the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs for Continuing Education, the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and NICET for CEU's.

NJ Chapter Dues For The 2013-14 Term Are Now Due

Please take a moment and remit the 2013-2014 SFPE-NJ membership fee of $20 by using the attached form or by visiting www.njsfpe.org.

Reminder: It's not too late to support last year's activities! For those who missed payment of last year's dues please take the opportunity to remit 2012-2013 membership fee of $20.00 with this year's dues.

The NJ SFPE Chapter thanks you in advance for your continuous support, and if you have any questions about your membership please contact Vicki Serafin.

A Model of Efficiency in Fire Protection

FM Global's Sergey Dorofeev's innovation in fire suppression modeling will help clients protect their property more efficiently and cost-effectively.

For all the advances in risk management and materials science in modern history, fire remains the leading cause of property loss at commercial and industrial facilities worldwide. Even more frustrating to owners and insurers than the cost of fires and collateral smoke and water damage is the expense of fire protection equipment that is often ineffective.

The challenge there is certainly not lack of experience, but the complications of empirical testing. Sophisticated burn rooms exist, but test fires require time-consuming preparation and forensics. Computer models are less expensive to run, but have not yet proven high fidelity.

Sergey Dorofeev, fire hazard and protection research area director at FM Global, has developed a computational fluid dynamics (CFD) computer model for fire suppression. It is designed to help develop fire-suppression systems that are closely tailored to specific facilities, as well as address hazards and scenarios that cannot be directly tested due to size or structural and safety considerations. It also provides quicker turnaround for clients and for FM Global's own property loss prevention data records. The new CFD model is expected to save millions of dollars in research costs. According to the company, live-fire tests at its research campus in Rhode Island can cost as much as $100,000 each, and the results are difficult to extrapolate to untested scenarios.

"Sergey's model is very different," said Louis Gritzo, FM Global's vice president of research. "It is a physically based model, arising out of natural laws for fire growth. That is very different from the standard Cat model that uses statistical analysis and stochastic calculations. The numerical and physical simulation of fire growth is a breakthrough."

Gritzo explained that up to this point, important data and knowledge has come either from actual losses, or from large-scale live-fire tests. He added that Dorofeev's CFD model will not replace full-scale testing but it will provide more data, more quickly and less expensively. In particular, the new approach incorporates fluid and heat-flow dynamics for both fire and water. While it is true that there are chaotic elements to every fire, much of fire growth and suppression is governed by physical laws.

"Sergey is a leader in this field because he has a strong background in both computational modeling and also empirical testing," said Gritzo. That means, he elaborated, that Dorofeev's model incorporates not just the physical model for fire and water, but also addresses the effectiveness of fire suppression systems. The idea is not just to knock down an inchoate fire, but also to develop fire-protection systems that minimize expense to property owners, operational downtime, supply chain interruption and actual losses for insureds.

That is proving to be an elusive goal, Gritzo said. "There are several challenges in fire protection today. For one, buildings are getting bigger, and ceilings are getting higher."

There are also more mundane and enduring challenges.

"Everyone hates sprinklers. They are often in the way, and they often get damaged," Gritzo added. Damaged sprinklers often mean collateral water damage. In a fire, sprinklers tend to be a blunt instrument, usually fairly effective at stopping the blaze, but even more effective at soaking an entire area.

"Through this project we are trying to pare down sprinklers," said Gritzo, "make them less intrusive and less expensive, but also more effective. Ultimately I think Sergey's model will lead to better standards for risk managers and for the entire industry, and better ways to get protection from fire."

Dorofeev's work on the CFD model started in 2008 and, like the live-fire testing it is meant to complement, the development has been challenging, time-consuming and expensive.

It has had to incorporate changes on the fly as insureds make their own changes in manufacturing processes, materials and storage and warehousing methods.

The development took three phases. The first called for an assessment of existing models. Focused experiments assessed material flammability properties, studies of sprinkler spray parameters and fire extinguishment tests.

Phase two began the collaboration between FM Global and research partners at the University of Maryland and University of Edinburgh, both leading academic institutions in the fire science field.

Advanced models for fire growth and validation protocols were developed that addressed turbulent combustion, finite-volume radiation heat transfer, soot radiation, material flammability, and fire extinguishment.

FM Global organized a first-ever open-source CFD fire-modeling workshop, held at its Center for Property Risk Solutions in Norwood, Mass. in 2009. It has since become an annual event.

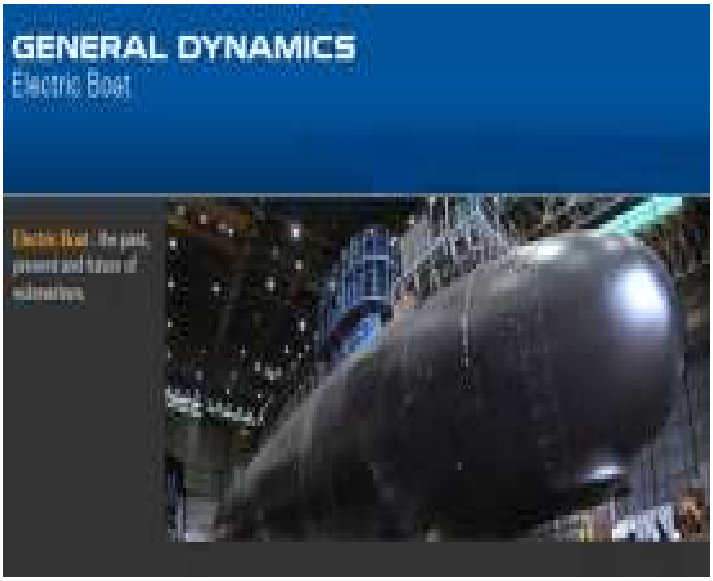
Phase three began in 2011, using advanced models for protection system activation and fire extinguishment that were developed in the earlier phases. Updates and modifications were introduced, improved and validated. And that process continues through commercial operations.

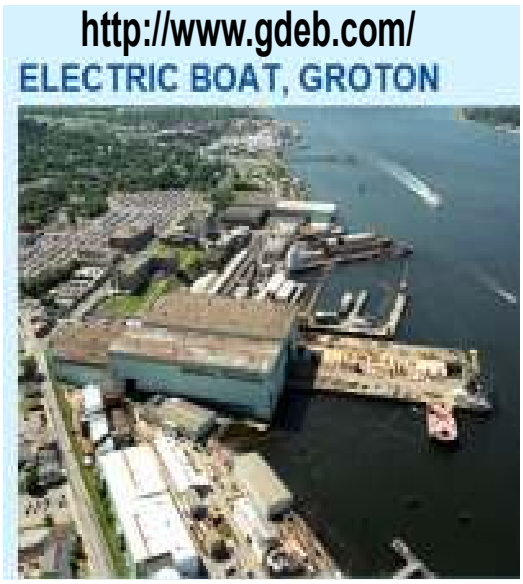
--By Gregory DL Morris

Chapter Annual Field Trip to Electric Boat
Groton, CT

This year the Chapter field trip should be extremely interesting to just about anyone on the planet. We will be going to Electric Boat in Groton, Ct to tour their boat yard and manufacturing processes. A copy of the flier is included in this issue. It is extremely important for everyone to register early. There will only be one bus leaving from the FM Global parking lot in Parsippany and thus space is limited to first come first served. For $30 each which includes lunch and transportation, this is real deal!

The New Jersey Chapter SFPE is excited to report that the 2013 Annual Bus Trip this year will be to Electric Boat a Navy submarine manufacturer





- The trip will be Thursday, October 10th .
- Bus will leave FM Global's parking lot in Parsippany at 0630 for a 0930 show time
- $30 per person (lunch included)

To attend you will need to bring your own safety gear

Safety Gear Required:

- ✓Steel Toe Boots
- ✓Safety Glasses
- ✓Safety Hard Hat

Lunch at Puffins Restaurant on the river!

Space Limited! Reserve with Vicky by August 1st:
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

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

MEETING NOTICE

Date: October 10, 2013

Place: Meet at FM Global's parking lot in Parsippany before 6:30 am for Bus trip. Tour at 9:30 am

Price: $30.00

Topic: Chapter field trip to Electric Boat

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

Vicki Serafin
Affiliated FM
400 Interpace Parkway, Bldg C - 3rd Floor
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

OR PAY AT THE DOOR

NAME: _____

COMPANY:_____TELEPHONE:_____

Meeting Dates/Programs 2013-2014

Oct. 10	Chapter field trip to Electric Boat
Nov. 4	Topic: Fire Protection of Ultra Tall Buildings by Todd Ossmann of Willis
Dec. 9	Topic: Special Inspections by John Stoppi of Arora Engineers
Jan. 6	Topic: NYC Resiliency by Rich Leentjes of FM Global
Feb. 3	Forensic Loss Investigations by RJA - Speaker to be announced
March 3	Aerosol Storage Suppression by Anthony Gee—Company to be provided later
April 17	Chapter Seminar
May 5	NOVEC Fire Suppression Agent Update—Larry Lussier, 3M
June 2	TBD
June	Joint NY/NJ Chapter Golf Outing – details and date to follow

Containership fire fighting systems decades out of date warn insurers

In a year that has seen a spate of containership cargo fires insurers have warned the fire-fighting systems on many vessels are decades out of date.

Speaking at the International Marine Insurance Union (IUMI) conference Uwe-Peter Schieder, of the German Insurance Association GDV, said many containership fires could only realistically tackled by fire-fighting tugs rather than the onboard firefighting systems.

“Fire protection systems have not yet realised that cargo is now transported in containers, as it has been for the last 30 or 40 years. Crews do not have the systems to fight fire,” he said.

“Hull insurers just have to stand by and pay out the claims.”

Schieder said he was aware of five cargo fires on containerships this year, and noted the fire on MSC Flaminia last year in which two crew members died took five weeks to fully extinguish.

He noted that few vessels had been fitted with modern, advanced firefighting systems, which include CO2 flooding of holds and remote control monitors that can send up walls of water, partitioning off any blazes above deck.

Schieder said he hoped to see vessels better equipped to fight fires in years to come that and “We cannot continue cannot continue to ignore the issue”.

Containership cargo fires this year have included the Eugen Maersk, Hansa Brandenberg, Maersk Kampala and the MOL Comfort.

2011-2012 Chapter Committees

STANDING COMMITTEES

Program
Ed Armm, Chairman
Consulting - Rich Reitberger
Paul McGrath
Arrangements
Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

Membership
Dave Gluckman, Chairman
Rich Reitberger
Ernesto Vega-Janica

Nominating
Ed Armm, Chairman

Scholarship Fund
Ed Armm, Chairman
Mike Newman
C. Vitale

Auditing
Joe Janiga, Chairman

Archivist
Jim Tolos

Historian
Jim Tolos

Communications
Fusible Link—Brad Hart
Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator

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

Webmaster—Mike Newman & Paul McGrath

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Spring Seminar
Ed Armm
Rich Reitberger
Dave Kurasz

Bylaws
Jim Tolos, Chairman

Career Recruitment
Rich Reitberger, Chairman
John Stoppi
Donna Spano
Marios Michaelides

Golf Outing
NY Chapter for 2014

Awards
Rich Reitberger, Chairman

PE Examination
Donna Spano

Chapter Seminar/Field Trip
Richard Reitberger, Chairman
Ed Armm , CoChairman
Dave Gluckman
Joe Janiga

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.afaa.org/
AFSA 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.afaanj.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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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@affiliated fm.com