SFPE New Jersey

NJSFPE
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FUSIBLE LINK

March 2026

Meeting Notice

March Meeting – Monday March 16th, 2026
Hanover Manor
16 Eagle Rock Ave, East Hanover, NJ 07936

Topic: AI and Fire Protection

Speakers:
Evan Fitzgerald, Risk Logic
Lt. Mark Bagniewski, Cranford FD

Price is $30 / per person
Social – 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm
Buffet Dinner
6:00 pm

Register HERE

The presentation will explore what artificial intelligence is — and is not — and how it is beginning to impact fire protection engineering, insurance, and property risk assessment. The presentation will highlight real-world applications of AI in underwriting, inspections, risk engineering, and business operations, while distinguishing advanced automation from true AI. Also to be discussed are the limitations, ethics, and why professional judgment and licensed engineers remain essential as technology continues to evolve. You don't want to miss this presentation which is on the cutting edge of emerging new technology

2026 UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

April 30	(Thurs) Annual day-long joint seminar with AFAANJ
May 12	(Tues) Joint Regional meet w/ allied industry organizations – D. Davis
June 1	Foundation Scholarship Golf Outing at Galloping Hill GC, Union, NJ
June 8	Annual Chapter Meeting & Election of Officers

Minutes of February Meeting

President Maradiaga convened the meeting at about 6:00PM with a salute to the flag and our customary introductions. There were thirteen in attendance. Marvin announced our upcoming March 16 meeting with our own Evan Fitzgerald &. and Mark Bagniewski presenting on using "AI in Fire Protection". He also discussed the planned May 12 joint meeting with some of our cousins in the industry. We are expecting local members from ASCET, AFAA, AFSA, NFSA and NAFED to join us for an evening of networking and discussion of our mutual interests.

Following dinner Liam Steiert of Ferguson Fire & Fabrication made a presentation about the "Automist System by Plumis". Liam explained the product is UL Listed to NFPA 750 but they are applying it to NFPA 13-D, one- and two-family dwellings. Though this is not a substitute for sprinklers where NFPA requires those they suggest it can be a useful tool to supplement sprinklers. Liam says there are about sixteen thousand of these systems installed in the UK over the past fifteen years with a few now being installed in California and Colorado. The system requires dual detector activation, with a discrete smoke detector on the ceiling of the protected area and an integral infrared detector on the wall mounted, retractable nozzle assembly. The directional nozzle uses 2.4 gpm and the system requires a 14-psi pump. A discussion followed regarding system performance, suggested and possible applications, area applications, etc. At the conclusion Liam forwarded a copy of his slide deck to one of the officers. Thanks Liam for a useful and enjoyable discussion. President Maradiaga adjourned the meeting at about 7:45PM.

Officers and Trustees Nominations 2026-2027

In accordance with the Incorporated Bylaws of the SFPE New Jersey Chapter, Inc. the following is the proposed slate of Officers and Trustees including terms of service indicated below for Officers and Trustees. The election is scheduled to be conducted at the Chapter's annual business meeting to be held during June 8th, 2026.
We are electing new Officers and two Trustees

Officers (One Year Term – August 1, 2026 to July 31, 2027)

President – Richard Reitberger
Vice President – Carl Monesmith
Secretary - Joe Janiga
Treasurer – Evan Fitgerald

Trustees (Three Year Terms – Alternating Years)

Jim Loftus	(**3 Year Term July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028)**
Victoria Valentine	**(3 Year Term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029)**
Ernesto Vega-Janica	(**3 Year Term July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027)**
Mark Bagniewski	**(3 Year Term July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028)**
Dave Davis	(**3 Year Term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029)**

Nominating

Evan Fitgerald
Dave Gluckman
Jerry Naylis

The Chapter encourages volunteers to serve in leadership roles on the Board or on Committees.
Any member who desires to run for Chapter Office, Trustee or serve on a committee is encouraged to do so by contacting the Secretary Joe Janiga at jwjaniga@gmail.com at least 4 weeks before our annual meeting in June.

Commercial — Data Center Upgradeable System

Maximize flexibility with UL Listed Data Center Upgradeable Systems

The Data Center Upgradeable System is a pre-trimmed dry system riser designed for quick and easy field conversion to a preaction system—without replacing the main valve. It features an A-1 Differential Valve and includes all key system components in one packaged solution, designed for applications like data centers. Available in sizes from 1-½" through 8", the Data Center Upgradeable System is cULus Listed and offers flexibility for versatile spaces.

Features and advantages of Viking's Data Center Upgradeable System:

- Utilizes a Viking Model VXD Deluge valve and trim as a dry pipe system that can be easily upgraded to a single- or double-interlock preaction system
- Includes unions at release for easy preaction conversion
- Features a robust 6:1 differential design with the A-1 Differential Valve to control the water supply to the sprinkler system piping that is equipped with closed sprinklers
- Each riser includes key system components—valve, trim, check valve, pressure switches, drains and gauges—ready for install right out of the box
- PTR trim offered with or without additional isolation butterfly valve
- Multiple sizes available to meet your unique system needs

For more information, please contact your Viking sales representative or visit our website at **vikinggroupinc.com**.

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General reference only. Prior to the design, layout, and/or installation of any sprinkler system, please refer to Viking's technical documentation and consult with the AHJ.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Model Number:	Model VXD Data Center Upgradeable System
Listings/Approvals:	cULus Listed
Sizes:	1-½", 2", 2-½", 3", 4", 6" 8"
Finish:	Black Epoxy Polyester Coating
Material:	Ductile Iron
Trim Offered:	PTR w/wo isolation butterfly valve and separate conversion kit required for upgrade to preaction
Item Price Group:	V406
Occupancy/Hazard:	Commercial
Technical Datasheet:	F_040125

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Vapor Pipe Shield® is a trademark of General Air Products, Inc.
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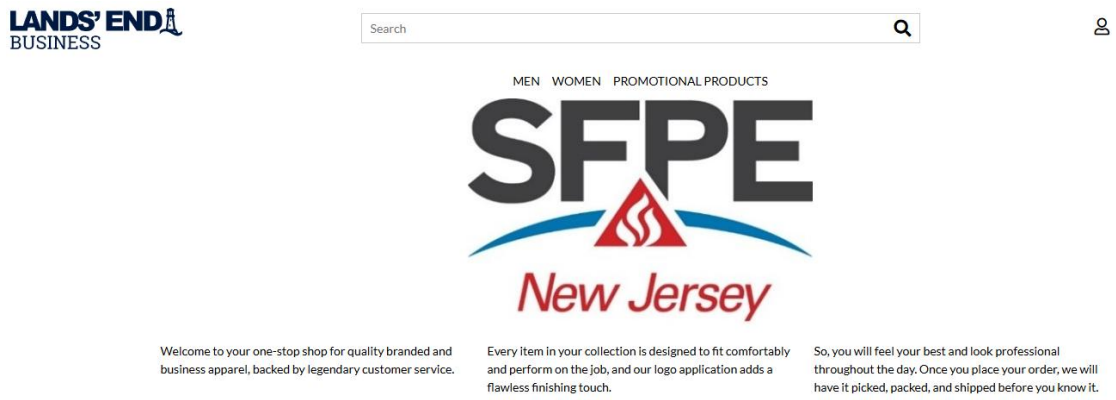
NJ SFPE Chapter Merchandise



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Are you a professional member?

If you haven't already, apply for professional membership to become the gold standard in your profession. Encourage your chapter members to do the same. Professional membership is highly regarded and increasing the number of professional members will improve your Chapter's ACE score!

More Info - [Go HERE]

SFPE Weekly News Brief – a customized weekly news brief published every Thursday that includes a hand-curated selection of industry news and SFPE updates.

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Rich Reitberger
NJSFPE
7 Mayapple Drive
Brick, NJ 08724

To Pay Online go Here

*Please send your Scanned Business Card or Artwork to the following e-mail address: richreit522@gmail.com

Any questions call Rich at: 973- 902-1319

Thank you for your continued support

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - 2026

Have you Paid your 2026 Chapter Dues? If not do it today!!

Your dues goes a long way to help to fund our meetings, programs and activities.

NJ Chapter Dues - $ 20

AHJ / Code Official / Retired – NJ Chapter Dues - $ 0

Payment:

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Rich Reitberger - NJ Chapter SFPE

7 Mayapple Drive, Brick, NJ 08724

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Thank you for your continued support

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SFPE Handbook of Fire Protection Engineering

The SFPE Handbook of Fire Protection Engineering, 6th edition, is the definitive reference on fire protection engineering and performance-based fire safety. Over 130 eminent fire engineers and researchers contributed chapters to the Handbook, representing universities and organizations worldwide. Purchase the handbook or select chapters.

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Current Chapter Leadership

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Questions or Comments or if you need further information about the Chapter contact the Fusible Link editor at
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