





March 2018

A publication of the Central Ohio Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers

SFPECOC.Webs.com

Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Location: Spaghetti Warehouse – 397 West

Broad St. Columbus, Ohio 43215

Speaker: Sam Bowen – Director of Business Development - Safespill

Meeting: Protection for Intermediate Bulk

Containers (IBC)

Time:

Registration 11:15 – 11:30 am Lunch at 11:30 am Program 12:15 pm

Cost: \$20.00 (Members) \$25.00 (Non-members)

No cost to one-pay members. <u>However</u>, reservations are required.

Reservations Deadline: March 9, 2018

Contact: Mike Lyons mlyons@d8fire.com 614-207-7590

Future Meetings

May 9, 2018
June 29, 2018 – Phil Gentile Golf Outing
September 17, 2018 – Burn Center Outing

2017 Ohio Fire Code Training Classes

The State Fire Marshal will host six, day-long, FREE training courses that will be open to the public. The training will focus on new code enforcement processes, updated special provisions of the OFC and important national model code changes that are incorporated into the new 2017 Ohio Fire Code. The live seminars will begin at 9:00 a.m. (registration beginning at 8:30 a.m.) and conclude at 4:00 p.m. as follows:



Click here for more information.

NFPA lauds passage of tax reform bill allowing the incentivizing of fire sprinkler installations

Source: NFPA Xchange

NFPA praises the recent passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which offers significant incentives for fire sprinkler installation.

"Our research time and again stresses the lifesaving importance of fire sprinkler protection," says NFPA President Jim Pauley. "The financial incentives allowed by this act will undoubtedly lead to safer establishments throughout the U.S."



Under the new act, small businesses can expense building improvement purchases tied to fire protection systems, including fire sprinkler retrofits, up to \$1 million in each year of the expense. Moreover, sprinkler installations in commercial settings and other larger buildings can be fully expensed until 2022. After 2022, the amount allowed to be expensed gradually declines. Retrofits for residential high-rises owned by a business would qualify for the incentive.

For decades, fire safety professionals have advocated for bolstering fire sprinkler laws. "While fire chief for the Louisville, Kentucky, Fire Department, we implemented the first proactive, high-rise sprinkler retrofit ordinance in the country," says Russ Sanders, regional director for NFPA's Central Region. "We were working with Mayor Jerry Abramson, who was also the president of the USA Conference of Mayors, in drafting the local ordinance. Simultaneously, during the early '90s, we were also working with Congressman Ron Mazzoli in drafting federal legislation that would offset sprinkler installation costs, which was the genesis of the new tax act."

NFPA and other sprinkler advocates—including the National Fire Sprinkler Association and American Fire Sprinkler Association—have also supported federal sprinkler incentives. All organizations have championed for the passage of the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act, which was introduced soon after The Station NightclubFire in 2003 and would have offered its own financial incentives for installation.

Research continually supports the necessity of fire sprinklers. According to NFPA's 2017 "U.S. Experience with Sprinklers" report:

 the civilian fire death rate per 1,000 reported fires was 87 percent lower in properties with sprinklers than in properties with no automatic extinguishing systems

- the average firefighter fire ground injury per 1,000 reported fires was 67 percent lower where sprinklers were present than in fires with no automatic extinguishing systems
- sprinklers were effective at controlling the fire in 96 percent of fires in which they operated

The new act does not offer incentives for sprinklering new, one- and two-family homes. NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative is currently working with North American advocates in getting sprinkler requirements adopted across North America. When installed in new homes, <u>fire sprinklers can be cost-effective</u>.

Burst water pipe creates icy mess at closed Fort Rapids water park Source: WCMH

A popular water theme park and hotel space, closed in Feb. 2015 for health and safety reasons, has been flooded with water and ice.



Water poured out of the 11th or 12th floor and turned to ice as it ran down the side of the Fort Rapids Waterpark Resort hotel just



off Hamilton Road and Interstate 70 Wednesday.

Officials said a water pipe burst on the upper floors and poured out of the windows and vents.

Fort Rapids was closed two years ago by Columbus Police for health and safety reasons.



Fire Captain Sandy Loeper said an employee of the park checked on the building Tuesday morning and did not see any signs of leaking water. On Wednesday morning around 7am, she reported water pouring out of the building.

A fire sprinkler alarm was flashing on the front of the building, and Captain Loeper said a fire sprinkler line may have burst. Firefighters say millions of gallons of water then leaked from the burst pipe.

This 12 story hotel tower is what remains of the old Holiday Inn East before it closed in 2004 and a new owner spent millions of dollars to build the waterpark.

Captain Loeper said firefighters were not able to get upstairs because of electrical and ice hazards. She said water was pouring into the elevator shaft and down the staircases. Water was eventually shut off at

the fire sprinkler and out at the street by a public services crew.

The Franklin County Auditor's web site shows Ray Lee Reagan from Gatlinburg TN owns the building. Property taxes are being paid by a Los Angeles, California based company. Last year a managing company said the complex was being renovated.

So far there is not an estimate on how much damage was done by the water leak.

The water park was closed in February of 2016 after several issues were reported at the resort, including bed bugs, cockroaches, air quality, improper food handling, repairs without permits and numerous fire code violations. There were also reports of guests being sickened from the fumes in the water park.

The water park had also received an "F" rating by the BBB before it closed.



Understanding and managing the fire hazards of exterior walls containing combustible components

Since the 1980s, innovative exterior wall systems have been developed to enhance building appearance and improve overall



performance of a facade. In recent times, an increasing number of fast-moving fires involving cladding have occurred on high-rise buildings, including structures in Dubai, Shanghai, Atlantic City, and London. NFPA has developed research and resources to help building owners and global enforcement authorities assess the fire risk of existing high-rise building portfolios, as well as identify what fire test procedures to apply when designing new buildings.

Click here for more information from NFPA



Science and Engineering Festival

Source: SFPE Web Site

The 5th USA Science & Engineering Festival will be held on April 7-8, 2018 in Washington, DC. The USA Science & Engineering Festival is a national grassroots effort to advance STEM education and inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers. Explore 3,000 handson exhibits from the world's leading scientific and engineering societies, universities, government agencies, high-tech corporations and STEM organizations. The two-day Expo is perfect for children, teens, and families who want to inspire their curious minds.

Join SFPE along with 350K+ attendees to celebrate science at the Expo and engage in activities with some of the biggest names in STEM. Hear stories of inspiration and courage, participate in mind-boggling experiments and rock out to science during our incredible stage shows.

Fire protection engineering is one of the best kept secrets in terms of lucrative and fulfilling career prospects for students considering engineering careers. For those who have never heard of fire protection engineering, it is the application of science and engineering principles to protect people and the environment from the dangers of fire. Fire protection engineering is one of the hottest career choices available for students interested in engineering and making the world a safer place. Fire protection engineers are in very high demand both in the United States and across the world, and work everywhere; in big and small cities, urban areas and rural communities. even remote wilderness areas. Some work in business offices or classrooms, others in factories or research labs or onsite at a building location.

Fire protection engineers enjoy high salaries and great job security, as there's a high demand for their expertise. Fire protection engineers have significantly higher starting salaries than do college graduates with bachelor's degrees in many other fields. The median starting salary for a fire protection engineer is nearly \$65,000.

SFPE18 International Conference

Source: SFPE Web Site

The 12th International Performance-Based Codes and Fire Safety Design Methods will be held in Honolulu, Oahu, April 23-27, 2018. This SFPE conference will provide an excellent global opportunity to address current and future trends in building and fire regulatory systems, the contribution of fire protection engineers to innovative design solutions, and the latest developments in fire modelling, risk assessment and analysis in support of those solutions and their approvals.

The conference will also provide a forum for discussion of the issues of fire protection engineering education, professional competence, product certification and inspection, fire safety maintenance and management, verification methods and all the regulatory and administrative provisions needed



to ensure that effective fire safety outcomes result from performance based design solutions.



For more information click here.

Web Links

SFPE Central Ohio Chapter www.sfpecoc.webs.com

Society of Fire Protection Engineers (National) www.sfpe.org

American Fire Sprinkler Association www.firesprinkler.org

ICC Website www.iccsafe.org

National Fire Sprinkler Association www.nfsa.org

N.I.C.E.T. www.nicet.org

Ohio State Fire Marshal www.com.state.oh.us/sfm

OSU Fire Safety Website www.firesafetv.osu.edu

Underwriters Laboratories www.UL.com

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