



ZONE VALVES

also

Benefit Tournaments



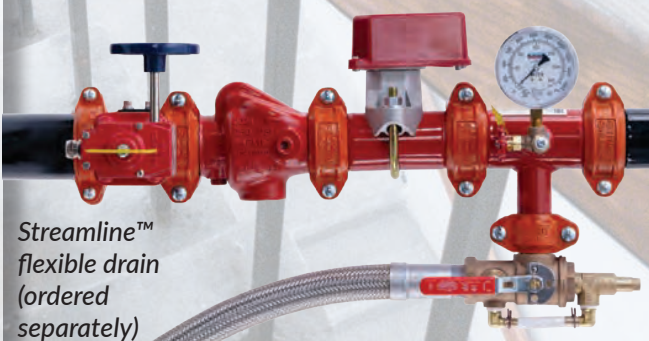
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~ ON THE COVER ~

ZONE VALVES

14 Zone Valves in Fire Sprinkler Systems

By Eduardo Lopez

16 The Importance of Fire Sprinkler System Zone Valves

By David Cook



Cover photos courtesy of Eduardo Lopez.

See the Zone Valves feature articles starting on page 14. Benefit Tournaments start on page 22. Our new column, Contractor of the Month, features Chuck Brown with a lighthearted look at his fire sprinkler industry career. Read it on page 18. As always, you're missing out if you don't read this edition cover to cover!

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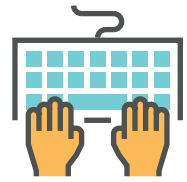
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Union Pros and Union Cons

They buy shoes too...

One has to wonder sometimes how do we best move forward? What do we have in common? How can we serve the common good?

At *FPC* we strive, first and foremost, to help fire sprinkler contractors. And we seek to serve the fire sprinkler industry. We ask what is in the best interest of the fire sprinkler industry. We do not claim to always know what that is. We share information, sources, and resources.

FPC is an open forum, an arena for ideas, a place to make points and counter points. We believe this serves the best interest of the fire sprinkler industry, and all of the people, organizations, and entities within; although from time-to-time *FPC* has been known to ruffle some feathers.

We want everyone to benefit from *FPC*'s content. We want everyone to subscribe, and to share their ideas and opinions – union and non-union. As Michael Jordan said in regards to endorsing a politician: “Republicans buy sneakers, too.”

As it says in our Masthead below: *FPC/Fire Protection Contractor* is published for the benefit of fire protection contractors, engineers, designers, sprinkler fitters, apprentices, fabricators, manufacturers, and distributors of fire protection products used in automatic fire sprinkler systems.

Readership: Fire sprinkler contractors and systems designers make up most of our circulation. Readers include architects, engineers, fabricators, manufacturers, suppliers, unions, fitters, universities, libraries, etc., totaling over 40 categories.

Disclaimer: The information contained herein is correct to the best of our knowledge. *FPC* will not knowingly publish false information, but individual authors and letter writers [and Advertisers] are responsible for the facts they represent. Recommendations and suggestions are made without guarantee as to result since conditions of use are beyond our control. The contents are intended only as a source of information.

There are absolutely pros and cons to unions. They do good and sometimes not.

What do you think? What has been your experience? How can we better serve the fire sprinkler industry? Please send your thoughts, reaction, ideas, and articles to: info@fpcmag.com.

Brant R. Brumbeloe, Editor
Son of a Sprinkler Man

Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

— Psalm 34:14 (New International Version)

***FPC* magazine**, Fire Protection Contractor
ISSN: 1043-2485

Volume 48, No. 5
Since 1978

EDITOR & PUBLISHER *Brant R. Brumbeloe* | ASSOCIATE EDITOR & PRODUCTION MANAGER *Tami L. Collins*
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT *Lillian Brumbeloe* | FOUNDER *Haden B. Brumbeloe, P.E., F.P.E.*

FPC/Fire Protection Contractor is published for the benefit of fire protection contractors, engineers, designers, sprinkler fitters, apprentices, fabricators, manufacturers, and distributors of fire protection products used in automatic fire sprinkler systems.

Circulation: Last month, April 2025, our circulation was 1,750 copies and 61 digital subscriptions. We have subscribers throughout the United States and Canada and several foreign countries and territories.

Readership: Fire sprinkler contractors and systems designers make up most of our circulation. Readers include architects, engineers, fabricators, manufacturers, suppliers, unions, fitters, universities, libraries, etc., totaling over 40 categories.

Subscription Rates: In the U.S.: 3 years/\$171, 2 years/\$124, 1 year/\$68. Mexico and other countries, \$145 per year (payable in U.S. dollars), First Class International. Canadian rates are (USD): 3 years/\$272, 2 years/\$192, 1 year/\$102 (5% GST included). Digital rates: \$55 per year.

Advertising deadlines for display ads is the first of each month for insertion in the following month's issue.

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Submittals: All letters, articles, and photographs are welcome and should be directed to Editor's attention. Material will not be returned unless accompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Disclaimer: The information contained herein is correct to the best of our knowledge. *FPC* will not knowingly publish false information, but individual authors and letter writers are responsible for the facts they represent. Recommendations and suggestions are made without guarantee as to result since conditions of use are beyond our control. The contents are intended only as a source of information.

FPC/Fire Protection Contractor is published monthly in Auburn, California; Phone: (530) 823-0706, Website: www.fpcmag.com, E-mail: info@fpcmag.com by Haden B. Brumbeloe & Associates, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Auburn, California and additional mailing offices.

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Letters



Doggone It!

Thank you for sending a new issue of March 2025. Attached is a picture of destroyed copy. Six French Bulldogs did this.

Best Regards,

— Edgar Gonzalez, RMO
Shield Fire Protection
Hesperia, CA



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Maine

Letter: Sprinkler Systems Save Lives

A letter by an Opinion Contributor posted April 3, 2025, in the *Bangor Daily News*, www.bangordailynews.com, said: David Patterson, owner of Canbury Homes, says that fire sprinkler systems save lives but should be optional for homeowners as they considerably drive up costs.

I have a problem with the March 31 *Bangor Daily News* headline, “This safety feature is driving up Maine home costs.” I think the true headline should be: “For as little as 4% your family home could be more fire safe than your neighbors.”

The proposed legislative bills that the article is referring to would limit a town’s ability to make their taxpayers and their families safer, save the taxpayers money on fire protection, and potentially prevent a family from losing everything they own, even if they escape a fire safely.

Yes, most of the municipalities that have enacted fire sprinkler ordinances are in southern Maine. Many of them are also the towns that have tripled in population (and number of buildings) in recent years.

Would it be better to have tripled the number of fire stations, firefighters, and apparatus? Unfortunately, that would not protect the lives and property of the residents as much as a sprinkler ordinance. The ordinances are the result of knowledgeable municipal leaders making their taxpayers safer, and keeping the tax rate as low as possible.

That’s called local control. Not one of them is forcing you to build your new home in their town.

The article stated that “firefighters” are the “most vocal opponents of such a change.” Could that be because the people living in that house expect the fire department to rescue them, and especially their loved ones, from a fire (often caused by their own carelessness)?

Bad news: Many, many people die in fires before anyone calls 911 to report that fire. Could it be that firefighters have seen how low the chances are of pulling

a living person out of a burning building, and really don’t enjoy recovering bodies? Who else are you going to call to do that? Maybe a building contractor?

Massachusetts

Objection to Fire Sprinkler Mandate

An article by Carol Britton Meyer posted April 3, 2025, in *The Hull Times*, www.hulltimes.com, said the seventh Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hearing on the proposal to build a four-story, 12-unit condominium development under the comprehensive permit process at 25 Ipswich St. in the Rockaway Annex neighborhood ended with a unanimous vote to continue the hearing until April 15.

At that time, the Board would deliberate on a draft decision written by Town Counsel Brian Winner and a consultant who has provided guidance and assistance to the ZBA throughout the process.

Fire Chief Chris Russo’s request for the developer to fully sprinkler the buildings and a dispute over a utility access easement could end up in Land Court.

Sprinkler system not required under building code: Housing consultant Dean Harrison, representing developer Alan

McKenzie, a Hull resident, continues to object to the sprinkler system request because it is not required under the *Building Code*, but is amenable to other requests from the Chief related to fire safety measures, including installing additional hydrants.

“With a condition like this, we could appeal to the Housing Appeals Committee,” said Housing consultant Dean Harrison. “A sprinkler system for each unit is not necessary considering the other accommodations we’ve made.”

Nevertheless, the ZBA may include fire sprinklers in the conditions if the Board decides to approve the project.

Harrison also emphasized that Chapter 40B projects must be treated similar to other developments when it comes to setting certain requirements, such as a sprinkler system.

Russo did not back down but agreed to meet with Harrison.

“This may not be the last 40B presented to the town,” Russo said. “If we don’t set a precedent now on the first one, shame on us.”

The developer wants to provide “the high-quality development we’ve agreed upon,” Harrison said. “This issue is causing us a lot of anxiety, and I feel we’re

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being mistreated. ... If this goes to the Housing Appeals Committee, it will cost the developer and the town money, and everyone comes out with a bad taste in their mouth. We would look at all the conditions in total to see which we would or would not appeal. I hope it doesn't go that way."

Russo, on the other hand, disagreed with Harrison's mistreatment characterization.

"Sprinkler systems save lives," he said. "I'm not trying to stall the plan, but I don't want people to die in these buildings."

Finn told Harrison that the sprinkler system request has nothing to do with the project being proposed under Chapter 40B.

Near the end of the hearing, Finn read a lengthy "finding of fact" detailing the process to date and various documents submitted, along with proposed conditions, a request for local preference for the affordable units, landscaping, conditions related to individual waivers, ornamental versus chain link fencing, concerns about blasting, the noise and vibration plan, fire hydrants, and improved access to Ipswich Street requested by the fire department, along with other considerations. He passed out copies to fellow Board members and the development team.

A replay of the meeting will be available on demand on Hull Community Television's website, www.hulltv.net.

Massachusetts

Lithium Battery Fire

An article by Amy Phillips posted March 21, 2025, on www.wvlp.com, said a home in Granby was saved after a sprinkler system was activated.

According to the Fire Marshal's office, the Granby Fire Department was called to a home for a reported fire on Chicopee Street. Crews found the fire extinguished when they arrived and the damage was contained to the flooring and nearby items.

"As a rule of thumb, a residential fire can double in size every 30 seconds and become deadly in a matter of minutes," said Granby Deputy Chief Tyler Yvon. "The growth and spread of this fire were stopped by the home's fire sprinkler system, which not only minimized property damage but may have prevented injury or worse. They were especially valuable because this home was in an area without hydrants, and we would have been working with limited water supply in our initial attack on the fire."

"The home's sprinkler system functioned just as it was designed to, and it protected the residents from what could have been a multiple-alarm fire," said State Fire Marshal Jon Davine. "Sprinklers are the fastest way to get water on a fire before it gets out of control."

It was determined the cause of the fire was a lithium polymer battery left unattended in a charger. Davine said that fires caused by lithium-ion and lithium-polymer batteries continue to rise as more devices are being manufactured that require this type of battery.

Fire officials suggest using only the battery, cord, and charging equipment provided by the manufacturer and always disconnecting the device when charging is complete.

North Carolina

Licensing Requirements

The City of Morganton in North Carolina is helping contractors become aware of licensing requirements according to an item by Rob Eastwood posted April 3, 2025, on www.whky.com.

The City of Morganton Development and Design Department is seeking to help citizens become aware of licensing requirements that apply to contractors doing work within city limits. It is important

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to verify that the contractor you plan to use has the appropriate license as required by North Carolina law. Some unlicensed contractors may not have adequate insurance, and they may expose you and your assets to significant financial harm in the event of an injury or property damage.

North Carolina General Statutes require individuals to hold a valid North Carolina License from the following respective boards: Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning, and Fire Sprinkler.

Minor repairs and service work to fire sprinkler systems must have a license from the State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating, and Fire Sprinkler Contractors.

They can be contacted at 1109 Dresser Court, Raleigh, NC 27609. You can call (919) 875-3612. Contact the City of Morganton Building Department at (828) 438-5266 to determine if your work requires a permit.

North Carolina

Inmate Breaks Jail Sprinklers

An item by Matthew Sockol posted March 31, 2025, on www.CBS17.com,

Raleigh, North Carolina, said an inmate at the Wake County Detention Center is facing a new felony charge after the jail's fire suppression sprinkler was damaged Sunday, a warrant shows.

Kenneth Corey Thompson, 49, of Garner is accused of breaking the fire suppression sprinkler at the jail, causing the cell and dayroom to flood. The damage to the sprinklers also prompted a response from fire personnel, according to the warrant filed by the Wake County Sheriff's Office.

Thompson is now also charged with the felony offense of interfering with a jail/prison fire system, according to the warrant.

According to court records, Thompson was not given bond on the jail/prison fire system interference charge.

North Dakota

Home Fire Sprinkler Education

The Southern Valley Fire & Rescue in Horace, North Dakota, will conduct a home fire sprinkler educational program, according to an article on www.inforum.com.

Southern Valley Fire & Rescue will offer an open house from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on May 13, to educate homeowners about the benefits of home sprinkler systems.

Home fires without sprinklers can become deadly in as little as two minutes, according to the nonprofit Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC).

A home fire sprinkler display will be available for the community to see just how easy home fire sprinklers are to have in a home, along with other educational materials describing the benefits of home fire sprinklers. Southern Valley Fire and Rescue received a \$750 stipend from the HFSC to host the event at its event center in Horace.

The event coincides with the national Home Fire Sprinkler Week, an effort to increase awareness of home fire dangers to civilians and responders and facts about installing fire sprinklers in new homes.

The HFSC Stipend Program is funded through a grant from State Farm.

For more information visit: www.SVFRnd.com, www.homefiresprinkler.org.

More News on page 12 >>>>

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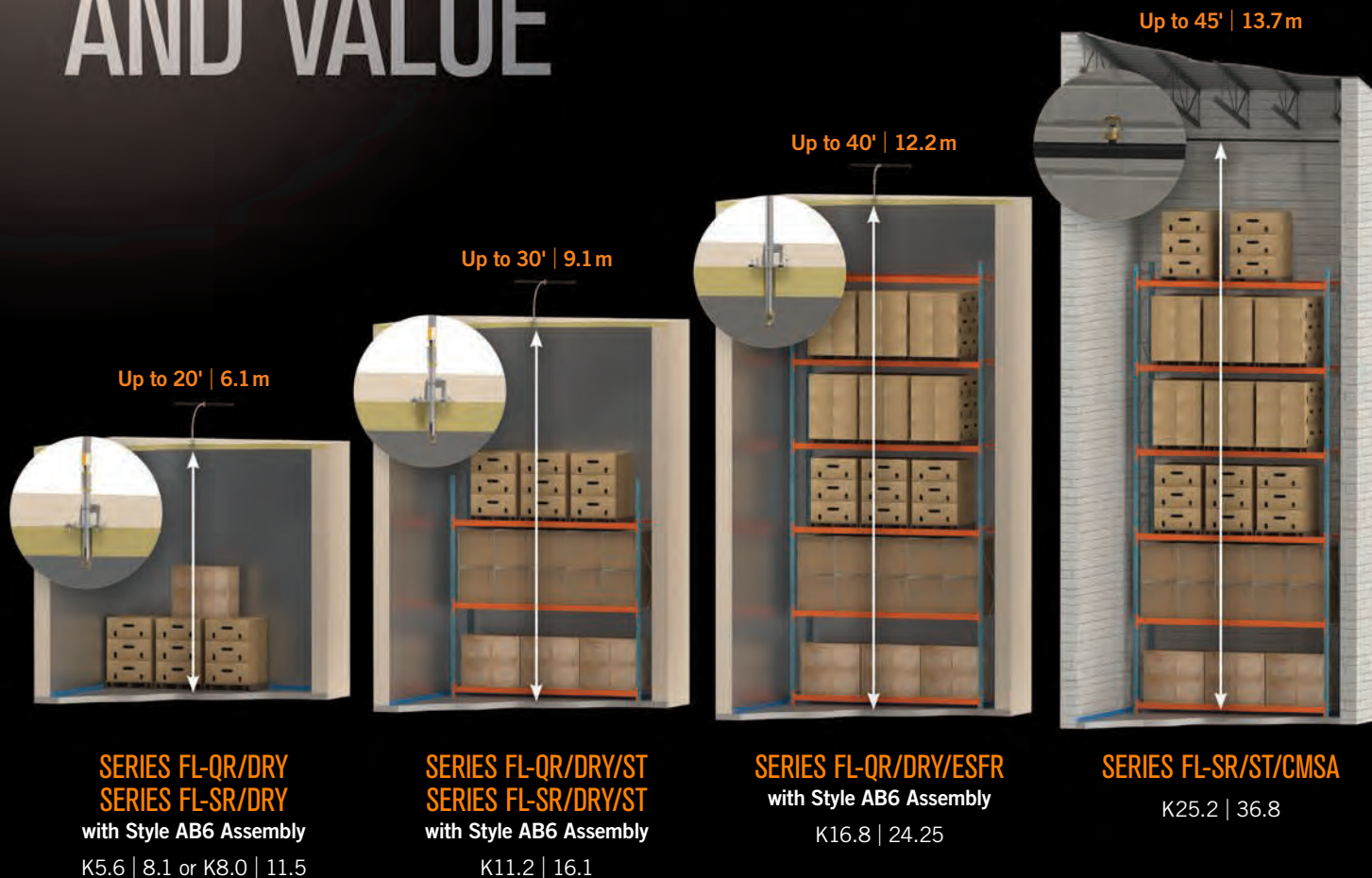
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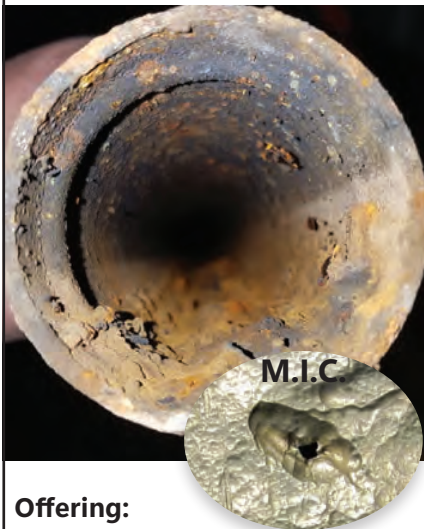


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Texas

Courthouse Needs Fire Sprinklers

An article by Alexis Scott posted March 11, 2025, on www.kristv.com, said during a routine inspection of the Nueces Courthouse, Corpus Christi Fire Department (CCFD) noticed the building did not have an automatic sprinkler system. Requirements mentioned in the 2021 *International Fire Code* state the property, located at 901 Leopard Street, is supposed to. CCFD implemented the 2021 *International Fire Code* in August 2023, which is when they initially sent a notice to county officials.

KRIS 6 Neighborhood News Reporter Alexis Scott sat down with Nueces County Judge Connie Scott. She told Scott her office did not receive the initial notice in 2023 and was unaware of the requirement.

“A letter had come to the courthouse. It wasn’t addressed to anyone; we’re not sure which department it got delivered to,” Scott said. “I have no idea what happened to the letter, I never saw it myself.”

Scott mentioned during a separate annual inspection that Corpus Christi Fire asked for an update regarding implementation of the automatic sprinkler system. That is when Scott’s office discovered they did not receive the initial notice. Following what Judge Scott called “miscommunication on both ends,” the Fire Marshal’s Office offered Nueces County an extension to submit a detailed compliance plan. The written compliance is due February 2026.

The 2021 *International Fire Code* states that all U.S. fire departments, including CCFD, have adopted requires existing high-rise buildings without a previously approved fire sprinkler system shall be equipped with an automatic sprinkler system, where any of the following conditions apply:

- The high-rise building has an occupied floor located more than 120 ft. above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.
- The high-rise building has occupied floors located more than 75 ft. and not more than 120 ft. above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, and the building does not have at least two interior exit stairways complying with

Section 1104.10 that are separated from the building interior by fire assemblies having a fire-resistance rating of not less than two hours with opening protection in accordance with Table 716.1(2) of the *International Building Code*.

- The high-rise building has occupied floors located more than 57 ft. and not more than 120 ft. above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, and the building does not have a fire alarm system that includes smoke detection in mechanical equipment, electrical, transformer, telephone equipment and similar rooms, corridors; elevator lobbies; and at doors penetrating interior exit stairway enclosures.

KRIS 6 News previously reported on other high-rise buildings, like Las Brisas on North Beach, receiving the same notice. Judge Scott ensured the Nueces County Courthouse has other fire protection to keep people safe.

“We definitely have fire protection or we would be shutting everything down immediately,” Scott said. “We do understand that these rules have now changed since the building was built in the 1970s, and we have some implementation and things that we need to do to address these problems.”

Nueces County Public Works Director Juan Pimentel issued a statement regarding the property’s fire protection: “The current 24 hour a day fire protection monitoring system provides visual, sound, public announcement and notifies County staff and the Corpus Christi Fire Department.”

Along with the one-year compliance plan, the county has up to 12 years to begin and finish adding sprinklers.

However, the questions many are asking still remain. How much would adding the automatic sprinkler system cost and how will an already ‘tight-budgeted’ county pay for it?

“Like everything else, we’re going to have to find the funds. How we do that, or if we have COs that we can use or if we have to go out and borrow the money, or whatever we have to do, we understand that we don’t have a choice,” Scott added.

Nueces County Public Works is in the process of obtaining estimates from contracting companies to determine the price tag on a project like this.

□

Sacramento

The Sacramento Valley Chapter of AFSA is holding their second Quarterly dinner meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

They will have representatives from Cal OSHA – Belle (Mabel) Acosta, Associate Safety Engineer, and Brice Bennett, Acting Chief of Fire Engineering Investigations, sharing any updates and following with a Questions & Answers session. This will include information from the AES programs April Advisory Committee meeting.

This is a great opportunity for members to have personal interactions with these two programs and raise questions or concerns.

The location is conveniently located off of the I-80 and I-5 interchanges at the Black Bear Diner, 2700 El Centro Road, Sacramento/Natomas (across from the Sacramento 49er Travel Plaza).

To register visit: www.sacvalleyafsa.org/event-6144299.

The Sacramento Valley Chapter of AFSA, in coordination with Spears Manufacturing Co. and AGF Manufacturing, will be offering a total of 6-hour seminars (Cal-Fire approved 0.6 CEUs), to be held at the Western Electrical Contractors Association (WECA), 3695 Bleckely Street, Mather, California, on Thursday, May 8.

Schedule and seminars will be as follows:

1. Registration: 8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.
2. Seminar: Spears – 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – “*FlameGuard CPVC Installer Training Program*” (0.4 CEUs).
3. Lunch: 12:30-1:00 p.m.
4. Seminar: AGF – 1:00-3:00 p.m. – “*Corrosion Mitigation and Auxiliary Drain Solutions: Navigating NFPA 13 Requirements*” (0.2 CEUs).

Be sure to register in the right category, member or non-member.

Lunch is sponsored by AGF Manufacturing.

To register visit: <https://www.sacvalleyafsa.org/event-6141308>

For more information contact: Paulene Norwood, Executive Director, Sacramento Valley, American Fire

Sprinkler Association, (916) 296-0635, paulenesacvalleyafsa@gmail.com.

Virginia

The AFSA Virginia Chapter’s essay scholarship for 2024-2025 is underway. This \$1,000 first place prize scholarship goes to a current high school senior planning to attend college, career training, or other approved educational institution in the fall.

The scholarship is intended for the purpose of assisting a student who has a family member currently working in the fire sprinkler industry.

The entry deadline has passed and the Scholarship Committee will choose the recipient and announce the award by May 31, 2025.

The AFSA Virginia Chapter minutes of the February 4 meeting noted that AFSA members met at Four Points by Sheraton in Richmond, Virginia.

Bob Beckwith opened the meeting by welcoming the Board Members. Bob asked everyone to introduce themselves. Bob introduced the speakers for the meeting, Mac and Bev with Henrico Co. and Mary Catherine with Eagle.

Tom Klecka reported that this year’s seminar is scheduled for **September 18, 2025**, at Chesterfield Training Facility. Tom has decided on a couple of topics but is still accepting topic suggestions...

The Social Media Committee’s Mary Catherine reported updates to the AFSA website and provided the posts for the Golf Tournament, Career Fairs, and their 2025 calendar. Any future Career Fairs shall be posted as well. Mary Catherine will be looking for photos to post for all upcoming events.

Bob secured **September 24, 2025**, as the next AFSA/BSF Golf Tournament at the Williamsburg National Golf Course. Lunch and dinner will be provided by O’Toole’s. Hotel reservations will be available at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Williamsburg.

The NexGen Committee’s Dominique Rose reported that the putting contest at the beginning of the AFSA Golf Tournament was a tremendous success.

Dominique mentioned several ideas to implement going forward to move their NexGen in the right direction.

The Community Projects Committee’s Jeff Lewis reported that the second floor of the Hermitage ACE center is to be built out with student workers and will be starting soon. The ribbon cutting for the House Project was to take place sometime in April. Meda Merritt and April Jones from AFSA National will be touring the ACE Building and the House Project.

On Education/Apprenticeship, Jeff reported that the Henrico Career Fair on February 25 at the Regency Mall had more than 300 students attending.

The Vendor Presentation was by Josh Shapiro with Reliable, who showed a video demonstration of the effects of lithium batteries in-racks that caught fire and how the sprinkler system responded.

The Association held a 50/50 cash raffle drawing at the end of the meeting and Terry Laffey of Viking donated his winnings to the Chapter. Terry was given a surprise gift for returning his portion.

The Henrico Mega Career Fair was February 11, which was an all-adult career fair.

The Germanna Community College Pipefitter Program has been approved by the DOL.

The Code Assistance Committee’s Joe Saffer reported they are working to set up a dedicated e-mail specifically for Committee questions. Joe is aiming for a 24-hour turnaround time on responses. The Program should aim to supplement more on local AHJ requirements, specific to their areas, with a disclaimer to protect the AFSA and the responder.

Future Board and Members meeting dates are **June 3, September 23, and November 4, 2025**.

Meeting attendance qualifies for NICET points.

The AFSA National Convention will be held October 15-18, 2025, at the Gaylord National, Washington D.C.

For more information contact: Steve McGee, AFSA VA, (757) 345-9884, exedirafsava@gmail.com.

□

Zone Valves in Fire Sprinkler Systems

By Eduardo Lopez

Use, Purpose, and Best Practices

In fire sprinkler systems, safety and efficient maintenance are key. To achieve this, zone valves are used. These are isolation valves that divide a system into independent zones, allowing specific areas to be isolated, controlled, and monitored without affecting the overall operation of the system.

In this article, we will explore their purpose, applications, best practices, and common mistakes to avoid.



Sprinkler zones

What is the purpose of zone valves?

Zone valves are designed to segment the sprinkler system into specific zones, improving control and facilitating maintenance. Their key functions include:

- Isolating specific zones without affecting the entire system – If a section requires maintenance, only that part is deactivated. In a multi-riser system, this means shutting down one riser while keeping the others active.
- Monitoring and supervising activations – Equipped with supervisory switches, these valves can detect if they are accidentally closed. All control valves must be monitored to ensure system reliability.
- Optimizing water distribution – Zone valves help regulate pressure and flow, improving efficiency in large buildings.

Where are zone valves recommended?

Zone valves are particularly useful in large, multi-occupancy buildings, where area-based control is essential. They are commonly used in:

- High-rise buildings – Allows sprinkler systems to be divided by floors or sections.
- Hospitals and healthcare facilities – Ensures that critical areas remain protected during maintenance.
- Industrial buildings and warehouses – Facilitates fire protection management by risk sector.
- Shopping centers – Allows individual stores within a shared system to be isolated when needed.



Multi Riser

Multi Riser: Recommendations for Installation and Use

To ensure proper operation, it is recommended that you:

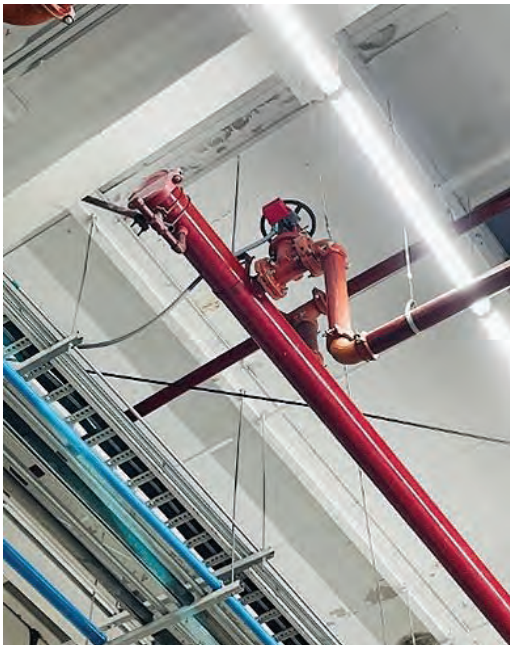
- Locate valves in accessible areas – Facilitates inspections and maintenance.
- Install valves with remote supervision – Enables real-time monitoring of their status.
- Perform periodic tests – In accordance with NFPA 13 and NFPA 25, ensuring functionality.
- Properly label and provide clear signage to help prevent confusion during an emergency.



Labeling



Hard-to-reach



Monitoring



Missing control valve



Locating

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Closing a zone valve without notifying the responsible personnel – May leave an area unprotected from fire hazards.
- Not including remote monitoring – A closed valve without supervision can go unnoticed until an emergency occurs.
- Placing valves in hard-to-reach areas – Makes maintenance more difficult and slows down response time.

Conclusion

Zone valves in fire sprinkler systems play a crucial role in enhancing system operation, maintenance, and overall safety, especially in large buildings. By following best practices and avoiding common mistakes, you can ensure an efficient and reliable fire protection system.

In Mexico, fire protection systems are typically designed differently, focusing more on sprinkler system zoning. Instead of using traditional zone valves, systems are designed so that every 40,000 to 52,000 square feet has its own set of control valves, effectively zoning the system for efficient operation.

About the Author:

Eduardo Lopez is a licensed engineer (NICET #130312, CFPS 4229, CETRACI S03983714) with Baja Design Engineering in Mexicali, Baja California. He may be reached at: Office: +52 (686) 905-9855, Cell (427) 290-9839, elopez@bajadesign.com.mx.

The Importance of Fire Sprinkler System Zone Valves

By David Cook

Fire sprinkler system zone valves play a crucial role in the safety, maintenance, and efficiency of fire protection systems. While some fire marshals have reservations about additional valves due to concerns over improper operation, the benefits of zoning fire sprinkler systems outweigh these risks when properly managed. Below, we explore the importance and impact of zone valves in fire sprinkler systems.

The Concerns of Fire Marshals – Many fire marshals hesitate to approve additional valves in fire sprinkler systems because each valve presents an opportunity for human error – specifically, the possibility of being left shut. This concern highlights the need for stringent management and oversight when installing and maintaining these systems.

Traditional Zoning Practices – For many years, four-story apartments and hotels were zoned as a single system for the entire building. This approach simplified design and installation but posed challenges for maintenance and emergency response, as any issue required shutting off the entire system, leaving the entire building unprotected.

Factory Mutual and Larger Systems – Certain projects, particularly those governed by Factory Mutual (FM) Global requirements, have expanded system sizes beyond the limitations set forth by NFPA 13. These increased capacities present additional challenges in terms of control and maintenance, making zoning even more critical to ensure flexibility and efficiency.

Benefits of Zoning Fire Sprinkler Systems – One of the most significant advantages of zoning fire sprinkler systems is the ability to isolate specific areas for servicing and maintenance. Instead of shutting off the entire building's fire protection, only a designated section is taken offline, minimizing risk and inconvenience.

NFPA 13 Requirements for Tamper Switches – To mitigate the risk of an improperly shut valve, NFPA 13 mandates the use of tamper switches on fire sprinkler zone valves. These switches alert building personnel and fire safety officials if a valve is closed, ensuring that fire protection is not inadvertently disabled.

Fire Alarm and Fire Sprinkler Zoning Discrepancies – Fire alarm zones in commercial buildings often do not match fire sprinkler zones, which can lead to confusion during emergencies. However, some authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) require that these zones align to facilitate a coordinated response between fire detection and suppression systems.

High-Rise Building Zoning Requirements – Most high-rise buildings require each floor to be zoned separately. This practice allows for more precise control

over the fire sprinkler system, enabling targeted responses in case of system maintenance, modifications, or fire incidents.

Additional Zoning Requirements by the Department of Defense – The Department of Defense's Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) 3-600 includes additional zoning requirements for fire sprinkler systems in military and government buildings. These stricter regulations ensure enhanced protection and operational efficiency in critical infrastructures.

Special Cases: Window and Closely Spaced Sprinklers – Most window fire sprinklers and closely spaced sprinklers are not assigned to separate zones. Instead, they are integrated within larger systems to maintain consistency and effectiveness in fire suppression strategies.

Conclusion

While the addition of fire sprinkler system zone valves introduces concerns about potential misuse, their benefits in terms of maintenance, flexibility, and compliance far outweigh the risks. With proper implementation of tamper switches and adherence to NFPA 13 and other regulatory guidelines, zoning can significantly improve the safety and operational efficiency of fire sprinkler systems.

About the Author:

David Cook, CPE, is Sales Manager with Aegis Fire Protection, LLC, a finalist for Subcontractor of the Year 2019, 2020, and 2021 from the American Subcontractor Association.

For more information contact: Aegis Fire Protection, LLC, Corporate Office, 13415 W. 98th Street, Lenexa, KS 66215; Missouri Office, 305 South Kyler, Suite 511, Monett, MO 65708; (913) 825-0178, <http://youtube.com/c/AegisFireProtectionFireSprinklerFireAlarm>.

“While the addition of fire sprinkler system zone valves introduces concerns about potential misuse, their benefits in terms of maintenance, flexibility, and compliance far outweigh the risks.”

Company News

Send COMPANY NEWS items to: info@fpcmag.com

AGF MANUFACTURING sends those on their mailing list e-mails with news, articles, and updates. They recently covered “Why a Remote Inspector’s Test Valve is Not a Good Air Vent.” Proper air venting is essential when designing and installing a wet pipe fire sprinkler system to reduce corrosion risks and ensure system performance. While NFPA 13 allows for different methods of venting air from a sprinkler system, including a manual valve, an automatic air vent, or a remote inspector’s test valve, it is crucial to understand why a remote inspector’s test valve is not an effective air venting solution. To read more visit the website, e-mail techsupport@agfmfg.com, or call (610) 240-4900.

AGF recently participated in a Milwaukee Regional Fire Sprinkler Training Event. This free in-person seminar qualified for four NICET CPDs and featured presentations and training on “Vapor Corrosion Inhibitors & Comparison to 98% Purity Nitrogen,” “Exploring NFPA 13 Requirements,” and more.

AGF Manufacturing also announced the addition of Michael DiRezzie as their new National Sales Manager of Canada. With over 20 years of sales management experience, Michael will be pivotal in expanding AGF’s presence across Canada. Michael’s responsibilities will include educating contractors, engineers, and distributors about AGF’s innovative product line and enhancing relationships throughout the industry. You can meet Michael at several upcoming events, including the Canadian Fire Safety Conference and Expo, CASA Annual Conference, and SFPE Annual Conference and Expo.

For more information contact: AGF Mfg., 100 Quaker Lane, Malvern, PA 19355; (610) 240-4900, marketing@agfmfg.com.

SERVICETRADE is a software platform that helps commercial HVAC, mechanical, and fire protection contractors grow their profits. During a persistent skilled labor shortage, contractors use ServiceTrade to control the costly chaos of on-demand work and effectively deliver contract commitments. ServiceTrade streamlines service and project operations to reduce administrative costs, optimizes field performance to increase revenue per technician, and boosts sales and client retention to grow margins.

ServiceTrade’s head of AI, James Jordan, spoke at the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) conference April 10-11, 2025, in Atlantic City. He presented *Busting Myths About AI in the Service Industry*.

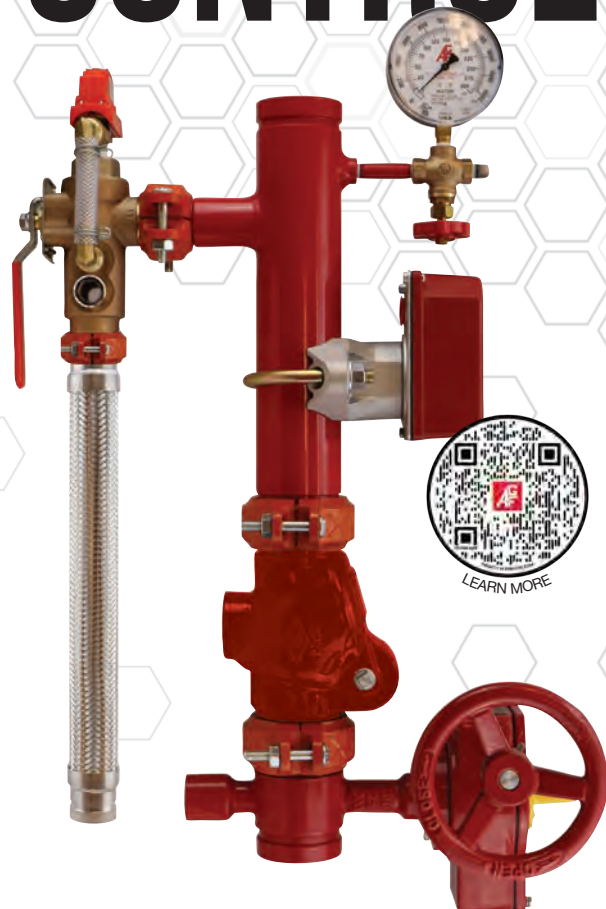
James is a frequent speaker on the current and future use of AI for commercial service providers, and the principal AI strategist at ServiceTrade.

According to James, he keeps hearing the same myths from contractors about why they can’t or shouldn’t use AI in their businesses – “It’s just a bubble,” “It’s too expensive,” “It’s not for me.”

Having led the AI initiatives at ServiceTrade for innumerable customers, he has seen firsthand how artificial intelligence

Continued on page 36

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How I Got Started in the Fire Sprinkler Industry

By Chuck Brown

As I reach the tail end of this ride through my fire sprinkler career, I feel like I have a few memories that your readers might enjoy. I'll preface this by stating that much like a fisherman, the story might be embellished somewhat, and names might be changed to protect the guilty.

Like many of the people in our industry I "lucked in" to this fine industry. My parents were dear friends with Bob and Bill and Ollie (Orvin Engineering). They happened to own and operate a fire sprinkler company and were part of a little shack that made pipe hangers where some really cool guy named George worked. (I remember George because he could sell anything.) As fate would have it, I worked there in the summers of my high school years, probably around 1972, making U-hangers and becoming an expert at smashing and bending pipe to make earthquake braces. From what I understand, that company has expanded quite a bit since then.

After a few years of school, working "night crew" in the grocery business, and seeing my roommate at the time (Bill Jr.) working as a designer for the sprinkler company, I realized that the plans were the same thing that I was doing in school. So, in 1980 I was lucky enough to get hired on as a "gopher."

At that time the sprinkler industry was very busy with high rise buildings going up all over Los Angeles. One of my first "big" jobs was to make blueprints of the MGM Grand system. The building in Las Vegas had a disastrous fire, and I was in

charge of making approximately 400 sheets for the sets. That fire was instrumental in making me understand the importance of the industry that I had become involved in.

As time went on I realized that hydraulic calculations were the sacred skill, and very few people in the company knew how

to calculate a system. About the same time, in the early 80s, a magazine popped up in our "office." I was excited to see that this industry was big enough to have a MAGAZINE about the industry.

FPC magazine opened up my eyes to many things, including Pat Brock and his hydraulic

calculations course through OSU. I took that course, bought a Radio Shack computer, and started Calc-U-Quick. That, and NICET, were probably the two most important things I have done. I think that I have taken every test, or element, that NICET had for fire sprinkler systems.

It didn't take long to figure out that the fitters made the "big" money, so I set out to learn as much as possible about the installation side of the industry. Of course, I realized very quickly that the industry was strongly represented by union installers. Once again, I was lucky enough to meet the "best" fitter in the world, more than once! I learned a lot from Paco, Jessie, Dick, and Earling, etc. I was able to learn enough about the field installation to know that it was best left to the fitters.

I decided to try and get my contractor's license and achieved that in 1986. At the time I was partners with a plumber and





These (above and on previous page bottom) are some riser rooms. Feel free to critique the installation, because they passed inspection, and they work like a charm.

we got into the residential game. We began using copper then eventually CPVC. Some guy named Bob was a great salesman who worked for the ONLY place that sold the fire sprinkler we needed. Some of you might remember the “alpha” that was the “Omega.” I jumped on the residential band wagon for the late 80s, and became well-versed at using plastic pipe. Bob introduced me to Raj, who probably introduced me to Scott, and Scott was the CPVC guru. You would be very surprised to see some of the hoops we had to go through to find hanger attachments and transition fittings. Residential fire sprinklers have become a complete opposite of what it was originally meant to be.

Residential fire sprinklers were supposed to be a system that could be installed by a homeowner. It wasn't to put financial hardship on new owners and builders. I have heard several Fire Marshals say that a one inch meter is sufficient, and then have plan checkers ask for an upgrade.

It's frustrating to see the industry changing from a good guy, handshake, and a verbal agreement, to a sometimes frustrating, job-delaying monster. I've had plans sit in the “portal” for months, on a 12 head residence. Has anyone had a plan checker ask for an 8 PSI loss on a calculation on a FLOW SWITCH? I wish we could resolve corrections with a phone call or a sit down with a cup of coffee and a short, friendly meeting.

I'm sure that there will be a few (a lot) of readers that will object to my view on this, but I bet they haven't dealt with generations of plan checkers and inspectors San Diego to Sacramento for close to 50 years.

P.S.

I write this in a lighthearted, very respectful, and thankful way to put a smile on your readers' face. It's been a wonderful ride and I truly thank you for your magazine.

About the Author:

Chuck Brown is the owner of Charles Brown Fire Sprinkler Design, a fire sprinkler contractor, and designer; California License #C16-499210, NICET Level III #68786.

He can be reached at: Charles Brown Fire Sprinkler Design, 21386 Lilium Court, Moreno Valley, CA 92557; (951) 712-4959, chuck92234@aol.com.



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We Didn't Start the Fire

By Russ Leavitt

I recently listened to Billy Joel's 1989 number one hit "We Didn't Start the Fire!" We are in the business of fire but there is no pun intended. Hearing the song made me think about how much things have really not changed even though we tend to think so. I used to say, "I am getting old," but the simple fact is – I am old. Although some things about aging are not much fun, one positive for me is that I can put things into perspective easier than I could as a young man.

Joel conceived the idea for the song when he had just turned 40. He was in a recording studio and a young musician said, "It's a terrible time to be 21!" Joel replied, "Yeah, I remember when I was 21 – I thought it was an awful time and we had Vietnam, and y'know, drug problems, and civil rights problems and everything seemed to be awful." The friend replied, "Yeah, yeah, yeah, but it's different for you. You were a kid in the fifties and everybody knows that nothing happened in the fifties." Joel retorted, "Wait a minute, didn't you hear of the Korean War or the Suez Canal Crisis?" Joel later said those headlines formed the basic framework for the song.

This exchange caused me to think about the year 1968, which historians consider to be one of the most tumultuous single years in history. The populace was torn apart by the war in Vietnam and the fight for civil rights. Senator Robert Kennedy was assassinated in Los Angeles the night he won the California democratic primary for President and Martin Luther King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. Protests occurred across university campuses in protests of the Vietnam war. Buildings were occupied, trashed, and many burned as the protests often turned violent.

The sitting President, Lyndon Johnson, terminated his campaign for re-election as President after winning in a historic landslide in 1964. The Democratic National Convention in Chicago was rocked with violence as police responded in force after being dispatched by Mayor Richard Daley. Thousands of protesters from groups including Yippies, SDS, and the Black Panthers fought outside the convention hall.

Internationally, the Soviets invaded Czechoslovakia after an election ousted the Stalinist candidate for a brief period of reform and liberalization in what was called the Prague Spring. North Korea captured the Navy intelligence vessel USS Pueblo

and held the 83 crew members in a POW camp. Nigeria was in the midst of a civil war that threatened the stability of West Africa. The strategy of MAD (Mutual Assured Destruction) between the West and the Soviet Bloc was at its height. Students protesting for liberation in Poland were crushed by government forces.

When taken in context, these and other events in 1968 are a reminder that what is happening today is not anything new. We have a divided nation, we have challenged elections, international

conflicts, and instability. On the other hand, some amazingly wonderful things happened in 1968, including the first manned orbit of the moon, the first international Special Olympics (in Chicago), and the signing of the *Civil Rights Act*. Just as today, there is a lot of good happening with the bad.

I happen to be an optimist. It is simply my nature. I have great faith in humanity and although there are a few who are capable of committing horrific things, there are billions more who simply want to work hard, take care of their loved ones, and have some time to enjoy life.

Do not give in to the negativity that is so pervasive. News and information often focus on the negative because it sells. We live in a great country, we have much for which to be thankful including the privilege of earning a living doing something that matters – it may sound trite, but our fire protection systems do save lives and protect property. Pretty darn good life all in all.

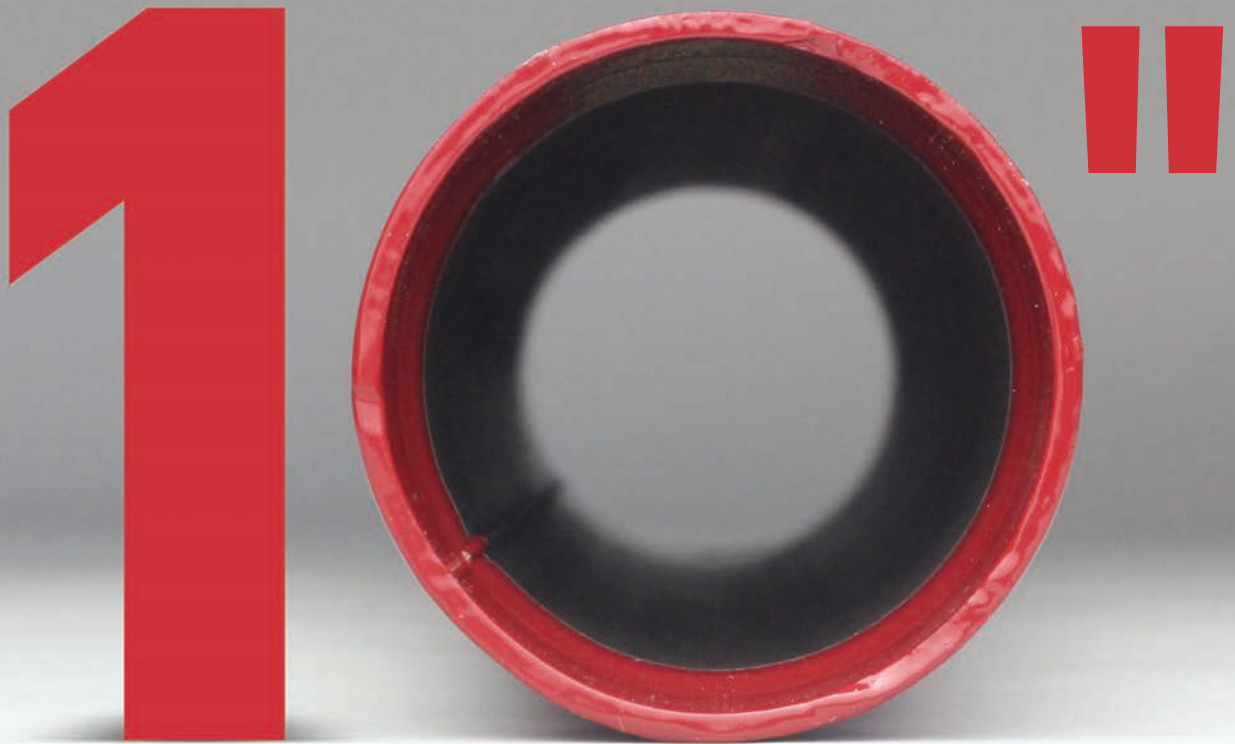
About the Author:

Russ Leavitt is the Executive Chairman of Telgian Holdings. With over 40 years of experience, he holds a Level IV certification from NICET in Fire Sprinkler Layout and Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS) designation. He is a Board Member and Chair of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the Chair of the NFPA 13 Sprinkler System Discharge Criteria technical committee. He also serves on the NFPA 13 Installation committee, as well as the NFPA 3, NFPA 4, and NFPA 25 technical committees. Russ conducts seminars internationally on a variety of fire and life safety related subjects and has authored a number of articles and training materials.

For more information visit: www.telgian.com

"Do not give in to the negativity that is so pervasive. News and information often focus on the negative because it sells."

OTHER VOICES is FPC's opinion piece section; FPC welcomes all voices, viewpoints, and opinions on matters concerning fire sprinkler contracting and the fire sprinkler industry!



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Benefits & Events

Tony Bice Memorial Golf Tourn.

May 5, 2025 – Hoover, AL

The Alabama Fire Sprinkler Association will hold the Tony Bice Memorial Golf Tournament (a 501c3 entity) on May 5, 2025, at the Hoover Country Club, 3140 Club Drive, Hoover, Alabama.

Proceeds from this tournament benefit the Children's of Alabama & Camp Conquest, the UAB Hospital Burn Center, and the University of South Alabama Health University Hospital Regional Burn Center.

To register go to: <https://birdease.com/31210/aboutus>. Make sure to explore the sponsorship options and register a friend to bring to dinner.

For more information contact: Alabama Fire Sprinkler Association, P O Box 1403, Wetumpka, AL 36092; (334) 546-3815, afsaexdir@aol.com, www.alfiresprinkler.org.

NFSA CT Chapter Golf Tourn.

May 19, 2025 – Glastonbury, CT

The National Fire Sprinkler Association's Connecticut Chapter will hold their Golf Outing on May 19, 2025, at the Glastonbury Hills Country Club in Glastonbury, Connecticut, and will benefit the Connecticut Cares Burn Foundation.

This event includes a cookout lunch, complimentary practice range, 18 holes of golf with carts, cocktail hour and bar service after golf, dinner, raffle, and various awards.

There will be two longest drive contests (M/F), a closest to the pin challenge, a gift raffle, and prizes for the 1st and 2nd place teams.

There will be an awards presentation with cocktails and dinner directly after golf in the clubhouse.

For more information contact: Paul Zbikowski, State Coordinator-New England & New York, zbikowski@nfsa.org.

Benefit Checklist

Please send us the following at your earliest convenience for benefits and other fire sprinkler industry events:

- (1) Calendar Item (date, event title, location, contact info.)
- (2) Announcement (100-300 words with more detail, preferred 3-months in advance.)
- (3) Report (Golf results report with photos and captions; and check presentation report with photos and captions.)
- (4) Donation info (how should a check be made out and where should it be mailed.)
- (5) Complimentary copies of *FPC* (If we may send some extra magazines, please advise where and when.)

IL Burn Prevention Golf Inv.

June 3, 2025 – Romeoville, IL

The 28th Annual Illinois Burn Prevention Golf Invitational will be held Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at the Mistwood Golf Club, Romeoville, Illinois.

This event benefits: the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance and its Camp "I Am Me" for burn-injured children; From Tragedy to Triumph Foundation, which awards scholarships to college students who are burn survivors; OSF St. Anthony Medical Center Burn Unit in Rockford; and Cook County Burn Unit at Stroger Hospital in Chicago.

Thanks to the generous support of dedicated sponsors, this very special event has raised approximately \$1.94 million for burn injury care, awareness, support, and other programs.

For more details visit: www.ilburnpreventionassoc.com.

Or, contact: Ryan Baumgartner, Illinois Burn Prevention Association, (224) 422-0646, ibpagolf@gmail.com.



14th Annual Texas Skins & Fins

June 5-8, 2025 – League City, TX

The Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association of Texas is holding the 14th Annual Skins and Fins event on June 5-8, 2025, at the South Shore Harbour Resort, 2500 S. Shore Blvd., League City, Texas. This is an outdoor adventure for the whole family, with fishing, golfing, a vendor show, and cruise.

This event will benefit association programs.

For more information contact: Sarah Kiefer, FSCATX, (512) 844-6632, info@fscatx.org, www.fscatx.org.

GBA Annual Charity Golf

June 9, 2025 – Pleasanton, CA

The American Fire Sprinkler Association's Greater Bay Area Chapter is holding their Annual Charity Golf Event on June 9, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at The Club for Ruby Hill, 3400 W. Ruby Hill Dr., Pleasanton, California.

The cost for registration is \$900 for a foursome and \$225 for a single player. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

The event is benefitting The Firefighters Burn Institute.

For more information visit: www.afsa-gba.org.

NJ Chapter 47TH Golf Outing

June 12, 2025 – Ringoes, NJ

The New Jersey Chapter of the NFSA is holding the 47TH Annual Golf Outing on Thursday, June 12, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Heron Glen Golf Course in Ringoes, New Jersey. This course is a beautiful and timeless historic landmark.

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., with tee-off at 1:00 p.m.

The price includes entry into all events, 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, dinner, and five drink tickets.

Events include putting challenge on the practice green, two-longest drive contest, closest to the pin challenge, 50/50 event, and a gift raffle.

Early bird pricing is available.

Please pre-register as soon as possible.

For more information contact: David Davis, NJ State Coordinator, 866-226-6006, davis@nfsa.org.

28TH Dean Cornwell Golf Classic

June 25, 2025 – Goodlettsville, TN

The Tennessee Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association is holding the 2025 Dean Cornwell Golf Classic on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at the Twelve Stones Golf Course in Goodlettsville, Tennessee.

Twelve Stones Golf Club offers 18 championship holes spanning over 6,000 yards, with the meandering Manning Creek as its centerpiece. The beautifully manicured bent greens and challenging course layout makes Twelve Stones one of the most enjoyable golf courses in Middle Tennessee.

A portion of the proceeds from the Dean Cornwell Golf Classic will be used to help with local issues such as families that are displaced by fires, projects that will help promote the fire sprinkler industry, efforts to deal with issues that affect the fire sprinkler industry, and providing meals for distressed families during the holidays.

All players are welcome. Entry deadline is June 18, 2025.

For more information contact: Brian Biggs, (615) 642-9717, biggs@nfsa.org, www.tfsca.com.

18TH Burn Aid Golf Classic

July 10, 2025 – Elkhorn, NE

The Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association of Nebraska is holding the 18TH Annual Burn Aid Golf Classic on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Indian Creek Golf Club, 3825 N 202ND St., Elkhorn, Nebraska.

This event will benefit the Tangier Shriners Transportation Fund. The Tangier Shriners transport patients receiving pediatric orthopedic, spinal cord, cranial facial, and burn care in their hospital system to and from whichever hospital they are receiving treatment. The cost of this service is funded through the Tangier Shriners Transportation Fund. The Burn Aid Golf Tournament will directly support the current 350 local children

receiving care at Shriners Hospitals for Children in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Chicago. Today, the Shriners are providing transportation for patients four to five days a week. Be it by van or through the air, dedicated volunteers keep this service running.

Since 1989, FSCAN has sought to bring together people associated with the fire protection industry in order to stay up to date on changes in codes and regulations. FSCAN also focuses on providing educational opportunities to promote fire sprinkler installations as a means of saving lives and property.

Over the past 17 years, with your support, FSCAN's partnership with the Tangier Shriners has been able to collectively raise over \$93,000 for the Tangier Transportation Fund.

For more information contact: Kevin Mendick, kevin@mfp-inc.com. Or contact: Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association of Nebraska (FSCAN), P O Box 874, Norfolk, NE 68702-0874, (402) 304-6984, www.fscan.org.

CFPA Annual Golf Tournament

July 25, 2025 – Littleton, CO

The Colorado Fire Protection Association Annual Golf Tournament will be held July 25, 2025, at the Arrowhead Golf Club, Littleton, Colorado, and benefits the Children's Hospital and Colorado Burn Camps Program.

The event starts with registration at 6:15 a.m. The practice range opens at 7:00 a.m., and there will be a 7:45 a.m. shotgun start, and a 1:00 p.m. lunch & awards presentation.

For more information contact: Bryan Echelberger, (720) 935-5846, bryan@veritasfire.com, www.cofireprotection.org.

Virginia Burn Survivors Golf

September 24, 2025 – Williamsburg, VA

The 32ND Annual AFSA-Virginia Burn Survivors Golf Tournament will be held September 24, 2025, at the Williamsburg National Golf Club, on the Jamestown & Yorktown Courses, 3700 Centerville Rd., Williamsburg, Virginia.

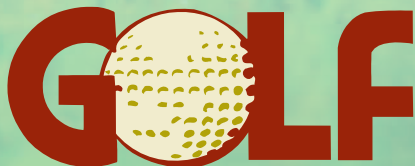
This event will benefit the Central Virginia Burn Camp 501(c)3 and the Old Dominion Firefighters Burn Foundation 501(c)3.

The dinner and awards will be at 5:00 p.m. on the grounds to celebrate the winners.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with lunch at 10:30 a.m. and a shotgun start at 12:00 noon. The practice range will be open from 11:00 a.m. until noon.

If you know of something that can be donated, such as sports tickets, autographed sports memorabilia, or gift cards to various merchants or retailers, please let any committee member know. Or if you have any idea or concept that will improve the tournament as a whole, please let us know!

For more information contact: Bob Beckwith, bbeckwith@cavalierfire.com, or Hooper Loscomb, timothy.loscomb@eaglefire.com.



*Please send your Golf Calendar items,
Announcements, Reports, Check Presentations,
and Photos to: info@fpcmag.com*

April 11, 2025 (Past Event)

AFSA SAN DIEGO BENEFIT GOLF
Benefitting Warrior Foundation Freedom Station
The Heights Golf Club, San Diego, CA
Rhonda Gudger, Executive Director
AFSA San Diego Chapt., (951) 326-4600
rhondasandiegoafsa@gmail.com

May 5, 2025

TONY BICE MEMORIAL
Benefitting Children's of Alabama /Camp Conquest, and UAB and University of South Alabama Health Univ. Hospital Regional Burn Center
Hoover Country Club, Hoover, AL
Alabama Fire Sprinkler Association
(334) 546-3815, afsaexdir@aol.com
www.alfiresprinkler.org
<https://birdease.com/31210/aboutus>

May 6, 2025

COMMON VOICES 8TH GOLF CLASSIC
Benefitting Common Voices
Nashville, TN
National Fire Sprinkler Association
www.NFSA.org, 800-683-NFSA (6372)

May 19, 2025

NFSA/CT CHAPTER GOLF OUTING
Benefitting Connecticut Cares Burn Foundation
Glastonbury Hills CC, Glastonbury, CT
Paul Zbikowski, State Coordinator
New England & New York
zbikowski@nfsa.org

June 3, 2025

ILLINOIS BURN PREVENTION GOLF INVITATIONAL
Benefitting Camps, Scholarships, and Burn Units
Mistwood Golf Club, Romeoville, IL
www.ilburnpreventionassoc.com
(224) 422-0646, IBPAGolf@gmail.com

June 5-8, 2025

14TH ANNUAL TEXAS SKINS AND FINS
Benefitting Association Programs
South Shore Harbour Resort
League City, TX
FSCATX, (512) 844-6632
info@fscatx.org, www.fscatx.org

June 9, 2025

GBA ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF
Benefitting Firefighters Burn Institute
The Club at Ruby Hill
Pleasanton, CA
AFSA Greater Bay Area Chapter
GreaterBayAreaChapter@gmail.com
AFSA-GBA.org

June 12, 2025

47TH NFSA NJ CHAPTER GOLF OUTING
Benefitting Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Assn. Foundation, The American Heart Association & Autism Speaks (in Memory of Bill Phair)
Heron Glen G.C., Ringoes Twp, NJ
Dave Davis, 866-226-6006
davis@nfsa.org

June 25, 2025

28TH DEAN CORNWELL GOLF CLASSIC
Benefitting Association Programs
Twelve Stones G.C., Goodlettsville, TN
Tennessee Fire Spk. Contractors Assoc.
Brian Biggs, (615) 642-9717
biggs@nfsa.org, www.tfsc.com

July 10, 2025

18TH ANNUAL BURN AID GOLF CLASSIC
Benefitting Tangier Shriners Transportation Fund
Indian Creek Golf Club, Elkhorn, NE
Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association of Nebraska (FSCAN)
Kevin Mendick, kevin@mfp-inc.com
www.fscan.org

July 25, 2025

CFPA ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Benefitting Children's Hospital Colorado Burn Camps Program
Arrowhead Golf Club, Littleton, CO
Bryan Echelberger, (720) 935-5846
bryan@veritasfire.com
www.cofireprotection.org

August 13, 2025

NFSA MICHIGAN GOLF OUTING
Shepherd's Hollow Golf Club
Clarkston, MI, www.nfsa.org
Ron Ritchey, NFSA
(765) 412-6707, ritche@nfsa.org
www.birdease.com/nfsamichigangolf

August 19, 2025

37TH BURN CENTER GOLF INVITATIONAL
Benefitting St. Mary's Regional Burn Center, Professional Firefighters of WI Charitable Foundation Summer Camp
Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, WI
Jim Gawloski, gawloksij@gmail.com
www.giveawf.org/bcgi

August 21, 2025

NFSA INDIANA CHAP. GOLF OUTING
Benefitting Hoosier Burn Camp
Country Club of Indianapolis
Ron Ritchey, (765) 412-6707
ritche@nfsa.org
www.birdease.com/22940

September 8, 2025

29TH ANNUAL NFSA MINNESOTA CHAPTER BURNAID GOLF CLASSIC
Benefitting Burn Aid Foundation Regions Hospital Burn Center
Dellwood Country Club
Dellwood, MN
Matt Gallagher, (651) 755-3906
info@burnaidfoundation.org

September 11, 2025

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
AFSA Chesapeake Chapter
The Links at Challedon, Mt. Airy, MD
Danielle Fowler, (410) 972-1122
daniellef@pottersignal.com
www.afsachesapeakechapter.org

September 22, 2025

36TH ANNUAL BURN OUTING
Benefitting Ohio State Burn Center at OSU, and The Burn Center at NCH
The Medallion Club, Westerville, OH
Bob Dawson, bdd4@yahoo.com
(614)-561-8145, www.sfpecoc.com

September 24, 2025

CASA ONTARIO REGIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Benefitting Camp BUCKO & SickKids Foundation
Redcrest G.C., King City, Ontario
Daniel Beck, (905) 477-2270
dbeck@casa-firesprinkler.org
www.casa-firesprinkler.org

September 24, 2025

**32ND ANNUAL AFSA-VIRGINIA
BURN SURVIVORS GOLF TOURNAMENT**
Benefitting Burn Survivors Foundation
Williamsburg National Golf Club
Williamsburg, VA
Bob Beckwith
bbeckwith@cavalierfire.com
Hooper Loscomb
timothy.loscomb@eaglefire.com

October 6, 2025

KFSCAF ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
Frankfort Country Club, Frankfort, KY
Michelle Jacobi, KY Fire Sprinkler
Contractors Association Foundation
michelle@ksae.com, (502) 223-5322
www.kfscfa.org

October 9, 2025

**FIRE SPRINKLER CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION CHARITY GOLF**
Benefitting Burn Centers
Strawberry Farms Golf Club
Irvine, CA
Larry Seligman, (626) 673-5345
larry@apfs.com

October 10, 2025

GBA BOWLING TOURNAMENT
Benefitting Association Programs
Dublin, CA
AFSA - Greater Bay Area Chapter
www.afsa-gba.org

October 13, 2025

**35TH SCOTTISH RITE
CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC**
*Benefitting Scottish Rite
Hospital for Children*
Trophy Club Country Club
Trophy Club, TX
Sarah Kiefer, (512) 844-6632
sarah@fscatx.org, www.fscatx.org

October 24, 2025

**25TH BOB McCULLOUGH MEMORIAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT**
*Benefitting Fire Safety
Educational Projects*
Chateau Elan, Braselton, GA
Mindy McCullough Buckley
mindy@allsouthsprinkler.com
www.georgiafiresprinkler.org

October 27, 2025

17TH LFSA GOLF TOURNAMENT
Beneficiary To Be Determined
Santa Maria G.C., Baton Rouge, LA
Ellen Ballard, (318) 841-1494
Louisiana Fire Sprinkler Association
eballard@firetechsystems.com
www.lafiresprinkler.org

NOVEMBER 14, 2025

NORCAL-NV SFPE GOLF EVENT
Benefitting Scholarships
Tilden Park G.C., Berkeley, CA
Patrick Kogoma, (925) 997-3247
patrick.kogoma@ffic.com
www.ncnsfpe.org

November 21, 2025

**GARY WENNES MEMORIAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT**
Benefitting Arizona Burn Foundation
Biltmore Golf Club, Phoenix, AZ
Matthew Virtue, Cell (602) 376-4818
matthew.virtue@Victaulic.com
Danny Garcia, dgarcia1@winsupply.com
www.AZfiresprinkler.org

December 9, 2025

GFSFA CHRISTMAS GATHERING
Benefitting Toys for Tots
Punchbowl Social
Atlanta, GA
mindy@allsouthsprinkler.com
www.georgiafiresprinkler.org

**BENEFITS &
EVENTS BY STATE:**

Alabama: May 5

Arizona: November 21

California:

San Diego – April 11 (past event)

Pleasanton – June 9

Irvine – October 9

Dublin – October 10

Berkeley – November 14

Colorado: July 25

Connecticut: May 19

Florida:

March 26 (past event)

April 11 (past event)

Georgia:

Braselton – October 24

Atlanta – December 9

Illinois: June 3

Indiana: August 21

Kentucky: October 6

Louisiana: October 27

Maryland: September 11

Michigan: August 13

Minnesota: September 8

Nebraska: July 10

New Jersey:

Ringoes Twp – June 12

Ohio: September 22

Tennessee:

Nashville – May 6

Goodlettsville – June 25

Texas:

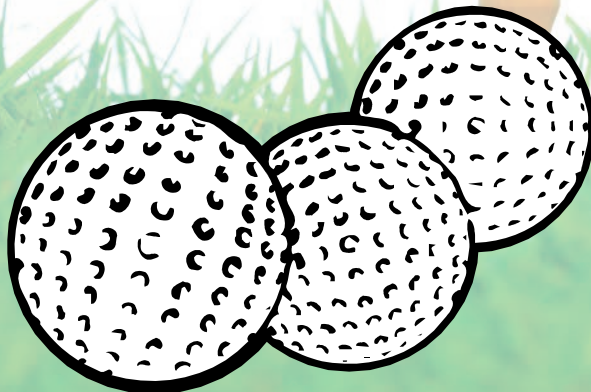
League City – June 5-8

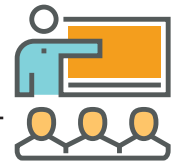
Trophy Club – October 13

Virginia: September 24

Wisconsin: August 19

Canada: Ontario – September 24





Fire Alarm Interconnectivity to Fire Sprinkler Systems

May 14, 2025 – Online

Fire Smarts is offering “Fire Alarm Interconnectivity to the Fire Sprinkler System,” a live, virtual classroom, online training course to be held on May 14, 2025 (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. PST).

This course covers the NFPA *Standards* requiring water-based fire protection systems to be tested and inspected as per both the NFPA 25 and NFPA 72. This course will discuss the monitoring requirements for sprinkler systems as well as supervisory signals that need to be captured. It will also cover dedicated function fire alarm systems that are used exclusively for sprinkler monitoring and the requirements for those systems.

Fire Smarts is a nationally recognized provider of fire protection education and training services. With specialized expertise in the NFPA Standards, the company’s internationally recognized instructors create and deliver custom fire protection training solutions.

Fire Smarts is a Preferred Provider with the International Code Council (ICC) to deliver approved training programs for CEUs toward ICC Certifications.

For more information contact: Fire Smarts, LLC, 70 S. Val Vista Dr. A3-181, Gilbert, AZ 85296, 888-365-5355, www.training.firesmarts.com.

NFPA Annual Conference & Expo

June 16-18, 2025 – Las Vegas, NV

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) will host its annual Conference & Expo at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center in Las Vegas on June 16-18, 2025. This comprehensive event brings together thousands of the industry’s leading professionals who will attend more than 130 educational sessions addressing the latest issues, challenges, and trends in the world of fire, electrical, and life safety, including code compliance, emergency preparedness and response, emerging technologies, global issues, public education, building and life safety, **fire protection systems**, industrial hazards, and much more.

The NFPA Expo will feature more than 400 exhibitors, showcasing the latest products and services available to help meet and maintain compliance with prevailing codes and *Standards* in the design, construction, and operation of buildings and facilities of every kind. In addition, three NFPA Specialty Theaters, which all attendees are invited to attend, will feature three full days of presentations that address timely issues with a focus on how technologies are being applied to the world of fire and life safety, including fire service trainings, emergency response and management, hazardous materials mapping, pyrotechnics, and facility maintenance.

This year’s NFPA Spotlight on Public Education (SOPE) will include eight education sessions covering a wide range of public health topics and the powerful impact of community risk reduction; the Focus on Latin America will offer eight comprehensive sessions addressing industry issues impacting the region.

The keynote speaker at the conference’s opening general session will be Keller Rinaudo Clifton, co-founder and CEO of Zipline, the largest commercial autonomous system in the world. This is the second time Clifton is presenting as keynote speaker. In 2018, he shared how Zipline uses drone delivery operations to transform the way goods are globally moved, radically expanding access to healthcare, consumer products, and food. This June, Clifton will provide an update on Zipline’s reach and impact, as the company now completes a commercial delivery every 70 seconds and serves more than 4,000 businesses, organizations, and governments, saving lives, reducing emissions, and increasing economic opportunity.

The NFPA Technical Meeting, which allows NFPA members and the public to express positions through debate on each certified amending motion (CAM), is scheduled to take place



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Seminars continued on page 32

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

13 March 2025 1:30 PM

Case No. 2022 CH 00239

AMERICAN BACKFLOW & FIRE
PREVENTION, INC., DAVID LOES,
an individual, KADEN HARBUT, an
individual, and LINDSAY
BOUFFARD, an individual,

VS.

ASSE INTERNATIONAL
CHAPTER OF IAPMO, LLC, d/b/a
ASSE INTERNATIONAL,
DEFENDANTS.

PLAINTIFFS.

- Vice President Organizer William J Hincks of Sprinkler Fitters L.U. 281 U.A. filed false statements in a complaint sent to ASSE International Chapter of IAPMO, LLC, d/b/a ASSE International against ABFP employees labeled "ASSE Fraud Letter 8-30-22.pdf".
- A jury found ASSE International Chapter of IAPMO, LLC, d/b/a ASSE International wrongfully revoked licensure without following the published guidelines and ordered to pay plaintiffs.
- A jury found all applicants had a minimum of 5 years of documented practical work experience in the fire sprinkler industry.

JUDGEMENT ORDER

This cause coming before the Court for jury trial, Plaintiffs present and represented by counsel, George Svoboda, and Defendant present and represented by counsel, Jason Jochum, the Jury finding issues in favor of each of the Plaintiffs, David Loes, Kaden Harbut, and Lindsay Bouffard.

THE JURY FINDS THAT:

David Loes suffered damages [REDACTED] in direct damages and \$15,010 in emotional damages for total damages of [REDACTED]

Kaden Harbut suffered damages of [REDACTED] in direct damages, [REDACTED] in incidental damages and \$15,010 in emotional damages for total damages of [REDACTED]

and Lindsay Bouffard suffered damages of [REDACTED] in direct damages, [REDACTED] in incidental damages and \$15,010 in emotional damages for total damages of [REDACTED]

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that judgement is entered against the Defendant, ASSE International Chapter of IAPMO, LLC, d/b/a ASSE International, IN THE SUM OF [REDACTED] PLUS COSTS OF SUIT.....

FILING FEE \$452.71

SERVICE FEE \$70.00

TOTAL JUDGMENT \$168,960.71

Date: March 12, 2025

JUSTICE SERVED



Cold Storage Bracket

Viking's Cold Storage Bracket for Faster, More Flexible Installation

Viking Group, Inc., a Michigan-based manufacturer and distributor of fire protection solutions, is excited to introduce the new cold storage bracket, an innovative solution designed to streamline the installation of dry ESFR sprinklers in cooler and freezer applications while maintaining a secure air seal.

Installing dry ESFR sprinklers in cooler and freezer facilities is challenging, especially in “box-in-a-box” structures where sloped outer roofs create limited space near the edges. Stabilizing hard piping dry heads can cause issues when foot traffic flexes the freezer ceiling, disrupting the air seal between the conditioned space and the freezer area. Additionally, areas that experience significant snowfall can see snow loads build weight on roofing structures; these “snow loads” can cause roofing to flex, leading to the piping on which the dry heads are installed to move. In both of these scenarios, the flexing freezer ceiling or the piping movement impacts the integrity of the seal. Furthermore, hard piping significantly extends installation time.

The cold storage bracket securely affixes the sprinkler to the cooler or freezer ceiling, enabling a more flexible installation when paired with a flex hose. This flexibility allows the sprinkler to move with the ceiling or the piping above, preventing disruptions to the seal and eliminating the risks associated with rigid hard piping. By removing the need to install hard piping for each dry sprinkler, the bracket significantly reduces installation time and labor costs.

“The new bracket is a game-changer for fire protection in cooler and freezer environments,” said Martin Workman, Sr. Vice President – Product Experience at Viking Group. “It not only simplifies installation but also ensures long-term dependability by preventing air seal disruptions. This solution will save contractors time and provide future owners with a more durable and maintenance-friendly system.”

For more information visit: www.vikinggroupinc.com.



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Viking cULus Listed Recessed Flexible Sprinkler Assembly

Viking Group, Inc., announced the VK970 Quick Response Sprinkler and Flexible Hose Assembly, a next-generation fire protection solution engineered to simplify installation processes by eliminating the need for recalculations of hydraulic requirements. The VK970 is pre-calibrated with a K-factor of 5.6 (80.6 metric), ensuring accurate system design without the complications of equivalent length adjustments – an essential benefit in retrofit projects where original system data may be lacking.

Available exclusively through Viking SupplyNet, the cULus Listed assembly is offered in two hose lengths – 48" and 60" – with a variety of finish options including brass, chrome, white polyester, black polyester, and an electroless nickel

PTFE (ENT) coating, as well as multiple temperature ratings of 155°F, 175°F (built to order), 200°F, and 286°F (built to order). Its innovative design integrates a fully welded flexible hose assembly, featuring a 2" UL Listed bend radius capable of supporting up to four bends without the need for additional tools. Furthermore, the VK970 is packaged in boxes of five units, each complete with recessed escutcheons to ensure product integrity during shipment.

“This cutting-edge offering streamlines the installation process and reduces the burden of complex hydraulic calculations,” said Martin Workman, Senior Vice President – Product Experience. “Our commitment to innovation and quality is reflected in every aspect of the product’s design, from its robust manufacturing to its versatile application.”

The VK970 Quick Response Sprinkler and Flexible Hose Assembly joins an impressive portfolio of innovative solutions and designs aimed at improving efficiency and installation convenience.

For more information visit: www.vikinggroupinc.com. □

Viking is a global leader in the manufacture and distribution of innovative fire protection and life safety systems. For more than 100 years the company’s products and services have protected lives and property worldwide from the devastating effects of fire. For more information on Viking’s complete line of fire protection products and services visit: www.vikinggroupinc.com.



VK970 Quick Response Sprinkler and Flexible Hose Assembly

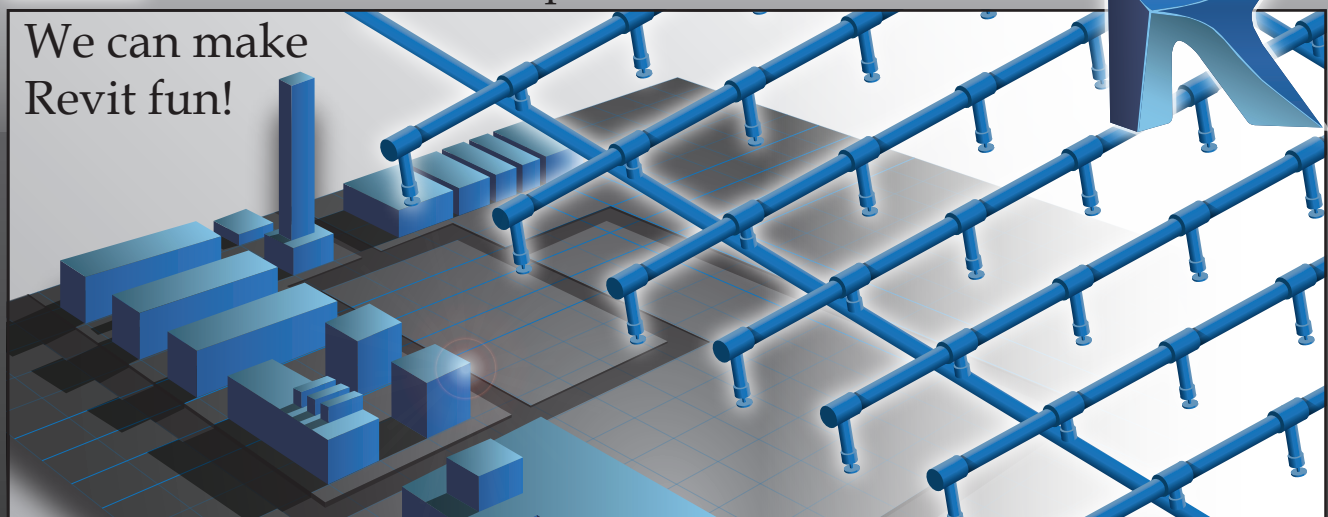


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FPC's
2020
Person of
the Year
Matthew
(Matt)
Klaus

Matthew (Matt) Klaus was unanimously selected by the Board of Directors of the American Fire Sprinkler Association to be Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer as of April 1, 2025.

“Matt Klaus is an industry leader with a broad base of global industry knowledge and experience that would be hard to match. Having Matt join Team AFSA secures long-term growth and development for our Association and its members,” says AFSA President Bob Caputo, CFPS. “Matt rounds out

an already strong staff of fire and life safety professionals and makes AFSA the unsurpassed technical powerhouse in the fire sprinkler industry.”

As Executive Vice President/COO, Klaus will oversee daily operations, ensure operational efficiency across all departments, and collaborate with AFSA’s experienced team of engineers and other professionals to serve its members and set and meet Association goals. Klaus will also represent the Association and foster relationships with industry partners to increase the visibility and value of the fire sprinkler industry in support of AFSA’s mission to be the voice of the merit shop fire sprinkler contractor, educating and training the industry while promoting fire protection systems to save lives and property. Klaus has been involved with AFSA for many years, serving as a convention seminar speaker and member of AFSA’s Legislative and Public Education & Awareness Committees.


“I’m thrilled to join the AFSA team

and to work closely with all of their members and staff who are focused on making the world safer,” comments Klaus. “The hazards that impact our society, including our buildings and their occupants, continue to evolve. I look forward to facing the challenge of mitigating the impact of these hazards with this amazing staff and dedicated membership base.”

Klaus is well known within the fire protection industry and joins AFSA after a 15-year tenure at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). At NFPA, he served as the Principal of the Global Advisors business line in the newly formed NFPA Global Solutions. Prior to that, Klaus served as a Senior Principal Fire Protection Engineer and the Director of Technical Services at NFPA, where he was responsible for products and services related to Fire Protection Engineering.

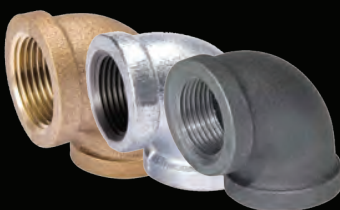
“Matt is a great addition to our AFSA team. I have known Matt for over 15 years, and he is an outstanding leader



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who works hard and encourages those around him to excel,” states AFSA Vice President of Engineering & Technical Services John August Denhardt, P.E., FSFPE. “Matt’s experience and leadership skills will make AFSA stronger and a driving force in the sprinkler industry.”

Klaus has extensive international fire protection engineering consulting experience. He has served as the author/editor of several handbooks on topics including fire sprinkler system design and installation, commissioning and integrated system testing, ITM (inspection, testing, and maintenance), and residential sprinkler system design and installation. Klaus holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Fire Protection Engineering, both from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

“On behalf of the Board, I would like to welcome Matt Klaus. We are thrilled to add one of the all-stars of our industry to our AFSA team,” says AFSA Chair of the Board Linda Biernacki, President of Fire Tech Systems in Shreveport, Louisiana. “This is an exciting time for our Association and our members. Welcome, Matt. I look forward to an exciting year ahead.”

For more information visit: www.firesprinkler.org.

Bryan Berkley, Senior Technical Rep at Viking Corporation, will speak on *Parking Structures New Design Requirements, Insta-seal Technology* at the Southern Fire Sprinkler Summit, which will be at the Hilton in Pensacola Beach, Florida, from July 22-25, 2025.

In November 2022 at the SFPE Central Ohio Chapter, Bryan Berkley spoke on *Advantages of Using Attic Sprinklers over Standard Spray Sprinklers*, and the challenges of combustible interstitial space fires and how to provide protection for them. He covered the necessity of using institutional sprinklers, and how window sprinklers allow for architectural freedom in building design, and the challenges of ever-increasing storage heights and the sprinklers that address them.

For more information visit: www.vikingcorp.com, 877-384-5464, techsvcs@vikingcorp.com, or www.southernfiresprinklersummit.org.

Michael Stamets, with Victaulic, will speak on *Advantages of a Low-Pressure Dry Valve* at the Southern Fire Sprinkler Summit, held at the Hilton in Pensacola Beach, Florida, from July 22-25, 2025.

Stamets is a Victaulic University® Training Leader, a Technical Trainer, and an Application Engineer of Fire Protection for Victaulic.

Previously he was a professional firefighter and EMT.

Victaulic® University Continuing Education courses, online and in-person, are taught by Victaulic Training Professionals and are geared toward anyone seeking to expand their knowledge of

Victaulic and the industry surrounding the pipe joining and flow control markets, including owners, engineers, contractors, installers, inspectors, designers, and AHJs. Earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and download a course certificate upon successful completion of assessment, along with Professional Development Hours (PDHs) and Learning Units (LUs).

Victaulic University is accredited by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and is authorized to issue IACET CEUs.

For more information visit: www.victaulic.com. □



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Seminars continued from page 26

on June 19-20. Final details of the Technical Meeting schedule (including final determination of whether Day Two will be necessary), as well as the full agenda of all CAMS to be debated and acted upon, will be announced by the Motions Committee on or before May 20. Anyone who has been a continuously active member of NFPA in good standing since December 21, 2024 and is registered for the 2025 Technical Session will be eligible to vote on all CAMS.

About the National Fire Protection Association®: Founded in 1896, NFPA® is a global self-funded nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property, and economic loss due to fire, electrical, and related hazards. The Association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and Standards, research, training, education, outreach, and advocacy; and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission. All NFPA codes and Standards can be viewed online for free at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.

For more information visit: www.nfpa.org.

NFPA 13D Residential FSS

June 4, 2025 – Online

Fire Smarts' live, virtual classroom, online training "NFPA 13D Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems" course will be held on June 4, 2025 (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. PST).

This course covers the purpose of NFPA 13D residential fire sprinkler systems and basic design concepts. The types of systems are reviewed in detail including multipurpose, network, and passive systems. The requirements for pipe, fittings, sprinklers, and system appurtenances are discussed. The location and positioning of sprinklers is covered with an emphasis on correct application of sprinkler types. This seminar reviews hydraulic calculations required by NFPA 13D as well as the hydraulic consequences when making field changes to sprinkler layout, pipe sizes and lengths, or the system riser location. The seminar concludes by reviewing the requirement for system acceptance including the performance of "bucket tests."

For more information visit: www.training.firesmarts.com.



Southern Fire Sprinkler Summit

July 22-25, 2025 – Pensacola Beach, FL

The Southern Fire Sprinkler Summit will be at the Hilton in Pensacola Beach, Florida from July 22-25, 2025.

Hosted by the Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, and Louisiana chapters of AFSA, this year's summit promises a blend of learning, networking, and a whole lot of fun.

With seminars, a Welcome Reception, a Vendor Expo, and the exciting new "Caddyshack Bash," there's something for everyone. At the Vendor Expo, don't miss the Costume Contest, Best Booth competition, and the legendary Dance Competition – with cash prizes for the winners!

The Welcome Party will be Tuesday, July 22, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Aqua Vista Room, offering cocktails & hors d'oeuvres.

Some of the seminars are: *Waterflow Testing and Marking of Hydrants* by Bob Caputo; *Updates to NFPA 13, 2025 Edition* by Kevin Hall; *Fire Pump Room Basics* by Glenn Bradshaw; *From Rust to Ice: NFPA 13 Solutions for Corrosion in Wet Systems & Freeze Protection in Dry and Preaction Systems* by Jim McHugh; and much more.

For more information visit: <https://southernfiresprinklersummit.org>.



24TH International Water Mist Conference

September 24-25, 2025 – Manchester, UK

The 24th International Water Mist Conference (#IWMC2025) will take place in Manchester, United Kingdom, on September 24-25, 2025. The conference webpage is now active and tickets can be purchased. The organizer of the conference, the International Water Mist Association (IWMA), is offering special prices until August 1.

The conference webpage provides all there is to know about the event – including travel and venue information. Sponsors will find delivery labels for the shipment of their goods and speakers will find instructions about giving presentations. Some useful links for accompanying spouses and partners are also included.

IWMA General Manager Bettina McDowell said, "The program will be published on July 1. The line-up of speakers and topics already looks very promising."

Day one will – as always – mainly deal with systems in practice, whereas day two will be dedicated to the scientific side of water mist.

Tickets can be bought until September 19. The registration will be closed on that day at noon (CEST).

For more information visit: www.iwma.net.



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Learn more on our website at vikinggroupinc.com.

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Calendar



May 7-9, 2025*

ANNUAL SEMINAR AND NORTH AMERICAN FIRE SPRINKLER EXPO
 Music City Center
 JW Marriott, Nashville, TN
 NFSA, www.nfsa.org

May 11-17, 2025

HOME FIRE SPRINKLER WEEK
www.homefiresprinkler.org

May 14, 2025

FIRE ALARM INTERCONNECTIVITY TO THE FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM
 Fire Smarts, 888-365-5355
www.training.firesmarts.com

May 15, 2025

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIRE PROT. EXPO
 Thornton, CO
www.cofireprotection.org

May 20, 2025

TECH TUESDAY: OBSTRUCTIONS
 12:30-1:30 p.m., Virtual
www.nfsa.org/technical-tuesdays

See our featured **Benefit Tournaments and Events** on page 24.

May 20-22, 2025

FIRE PUMP APPLICATIONS, INSPECTION & TESTING (2.5-DAY)
 Stillwater, OK
 Oklahoma State University (OSU)
 (405) 744-5715, ceatfire@okstate.edu
www.ceat.okstate.edu

June 3-5, 2025

FIRE PROTECTION & LOSS CONTROL
 Stillwater, OK
 Oklahoma State University (OSU)
 (405) 744-5715, ceatfire@okstate.edu
www.ceat.okstate.edu

June 4, 2025

NFPA 13D RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
 Fire Smarts, 888-365-5355
www.training.firesmarts.com

June 16-18, 2025*

NFPA CONFERENCE & EXPO®
 Las Vegas, NV
www.nfpa.org

June 23-24, 2025

INSPECT., TEST., & MAINTENANCE OF AUTO SPRINKLER SYSTEMS (IT&M)
 Stillwater, OK
 Oklahoma State University (OSU)
 (405) 744-5715, ceatfire@okstate.edu
www.ceat.okstate.edu

June 25-27, 2025

FIRE PUMP APPLICATIONS, INSPECTION & TESTING (2.5-DAY)
 Stillwater, OK
 Oklahoma State University (OSU)
 (405) 744-5715, ceatfire@okstate.edu
www.ceat.okstate.edu

July 22-25, 2025*

SOUTHERN FIRE SPRINKLER SUMMIT
Theme = Caddyshack
 Hilton Pensacola Beach, Pensacola, FL
 Ellen Ballard, (318) 841-1494
www.southernfiresprinklersummit.org

September 16-18, 2025

SUBEXCEL
 Oklahoma City, OK
 American Subcontractors Association
ASAtoday@asa-hq.com
www.asaonline.com

September 24-25, 2025

24TH INT'L WATER MIST CONFERENCE
 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Manchester, UK
www.iwma.net

October 5-11, 2025
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

**FPC plans to attend*

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October 14-19, 2025*

**AFSA44 CONVENTION, EXHIBITION,
& APPRENTICE COMPETITION**
Washington, D.C.
www.firesprinkler.org

October 20-24, 2025

CASA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Vancouver, BC
www.casa-firesprinkler.org

October 21-23, 2025

SFPE ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO
Vancouver, BC
SFPE, www.sfpe.org

October 30, 2025

**WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION
19th ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
Renaissance Arlington Capital View
Arlington, VA
www.womeninconstructionconference.com

November 5-7, 2025

DESIGN-BUILD CONFERENCE & EXPO
MGM Grand, Las Vegas, NV
www.dbia.org/design-build-conference-
expo

Other Dates by Organization

Fire Tech Productions
www.firetech.com

- Jun. 3: *Inspect/Test. Fire Spk. Sys.*, Caledonia, MI
- Jun. 3: *Fire Pump Maintenance Master*, Atlanta, GA
- Jun. 23: *I&T Fire Alarm Systems*, Indianapolis, IN
- Jul. 14: *Inspect/Test. Fire Spk. Sys.*, Indianapolis, IN
- Jul. 16: *Inspect/Test. of Fire Pumps*, Indianapolis, IN
- Aug. 12: *Fire Pump Maintenance*, Indianapolis, IN
- Sep. 16: *Insp./Test. of Fire Pumps*, Indianapolis, IN
- Oct. 7: *Inspect/Test. Fire Spk. Sys.*, San Antonio, TX

- Oct. 14: *Fire Pump Maint. Master*, Atlanta, GA
- Nov. 11: *Fire Pump Maintenance*, Atlanta, GA
- Dec. 1: *Inspect/Test. Fire Spk. Systems*, Atlanta, GA
- Dec. 3: *Inspect/Test. of Fire Pumps*, Atlanta, GA

Fire Smarts LLC – Live Online
www.firesmarts.com

- May 14: *Fire Alarm Interconnectivity to the Fire Sprinkler System*
- May 28: *Fire Protection Requirements for Automated Storage and Retrieval Systems (ASRS)*
- May 28: *Equivalent Means and Methods with an Emphasis on Full-Scale Fire Tests*
- Jun. 4: *NFPA 13D Res. Fire Sprinkler Systems*
- Jul. 9: *Intro to Fire Sprinkler Systems*
- Jul. 30: *Hydraulic Calculations for Fire Protection*
- Aug. 13: *Intro to Fire Alarm Systems*
- Aug. 20: *Fire Spk. Sys. Requirements for Storage*
- Sep. 3: *NFPA 20 – Fire Pumps*
- Sep. 10: *Fire Pump Testing and Analysis*
- Sep. 10: *NFPA 14 Standpipe Systems*
- Sep. 24: *Understanding and Applying NFPA 25*
- Oct. 1: *Water-Based Fire Protect. Sys. Freeze Protect.*
- Oct. 8: *Seismic Protection for Fire Sprinkler Systems*
- Oct. 22: *Fire Alarm Interconnectivity to the Fire Sprinkler System*
- Nov. 12: *Res. Fire Sprinklers: Homes to High-Rise*
- Nov. 19: *Intro to Spec. Haz. Fire Suppression Sys.*
- Dec. 10: *Fire Protection Requirements for Automated Storage and Retrieval Systems (ASRS)*
- Dec. 10: *Equivalent Means and Methods with an Emphasis on Full-Scale Fire Tests*

NFSA Tech Tuesdays (Virtual 12:30-1:30 p.m.)
www.nfsa.org/technical-tuesdays

- May 20: *Tech Tuesday: Obstructions*
- Jun. 17: *Tech Tuesday Live NFPA Conference*
- Jul. 15: *Tech Tuesday: Data of System Failures*
- Aug. 19: *Tech Tuesday: NFPA 13D*
- Sep. 16: *High-Piled Storage Process*
- Oct. 21: *Hydraulic Supplement*
- Nov. 18: *Field Inspections*
- Dec. 16: *Special Designs*

Oklahoma Fire Sprinkler Association
The Alarm, Locksmith, and Fire Sprinkler Committee
remaining dates for 2025 meetings: **May 7, Jun. 4, Jul. 9, Aug. 6, Sep. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 5, Dec. 10.**

Also Visit:

- ACADEMY OF FIRE SPRINKLER TECHNOLOGY
www.firesprinkleracademy.com
- AMERICAN FIRE SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION
www.firesprinkler.org
- AMERICAN SUBCONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
www.asaonline.com
- BLAZEMASTER®: www.blazemastertraining.com
- CANADIAN AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION
www.casa-firesprinkler.org
- FERGUSON FIRE & FABRICATION
2025 Trade Pro Tour TBD
www.ferguson.com
- FIRE PUMP ACADEMY
www.firepumpacademy.net
- FIRE SMARTS: www.firesmarts.com
- FMI: www.fminet.com
- NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
www.nfpa.org
- NATIONAL FIRE SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION
www.nfsa.org
- OKLAHOMA FIRE SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION
www.ofsa.info
- OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
www.ceat.okstate.edu
- SENECA POLYTECHNIC
www.senecapolytechnic.ca

Other Future Meeting Dates:

AFSA, www.firesprinkler.org
September 25-29, 2026
San Antonio, TX

SFPE Annual Conference & Expo
www.sfpe.org
October 6-8, 2026, Atlanta, Georgia
October 12-14, 2027, Minneapolis, MN

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Company News *continued from page 17*

is already transforming the commercial service contracting industry. "We're not talking about sci-fi future tech – we're talking about practical tools that are helping contractors work smarter today," James said.

Learn from James why he believes AI isn't coming – it's here – and how he helps fire and life safety contractors embrace it so they don't fall behind those who think they're not ready to use AI.

For more information contact: Service-Trade, 5003 South Miami Boulevard, Suite 500, Durham, NC 27703; (919) 246-9900, www.servicetrade.com.

DESIGNERHUB offers a variety of services to the fire sprinkler industry. They can help you connect with professionals with their Design Company Board, Company Board, Employment Board, and Résumé Board.

For more information contact: DesignerHub LLC, (720) 502-3346, info@DesignerHub.com.

MEYERFIRE is a community that helps you shine in Fire Protection. They have a blog, a forum, a toolkit, a university, help with PE exams, and more.

They have information on backflow, clean agents, demand, fire flow, fire pump curves, friction loss, and much more.

MeyerFire.com's goal is to improve fire protection practices worldwide. They promote the industry by creating helpful tools and resources, and by bringing together industry professionals to share their expertise.

MeyerFire, LLC is a NICET Recognized Training Provider and International Code Council Preferred Education Provider.

For more information visit: www.MeyerFire.com.

TALCO FIRE SYSTEMS has been building premium quality fire pump systems for over 30 years. Specializing in both residential and commercial packaged fire pump systems, they design and custom build packaged units to fit any application.

Talco's packaged systems will save you time, money, and headaches. They pull it all together, you drop it in place. Whether you need a residential fire pump

and tank for your home or a 5,000 GPM diesel driven fire system for a multi-warehouse complex – Talco has you covered.

Talco Fire Systems products include the HH family, HH2 hero, the Talco-Guardsman, Commercial Fire Pump Systems, and more.

From their innovative designs and attentive customer service with in-depth knowledge of NFPA Codes, Talco Fire is unmatched in commercial fire protection systems.

The Home Hydrant is the industry's leading pump and tank system for NFPA 13D fire sprinkler applications.

Tanks and accessories include overflow and suction fittings, an automatic fill valve assembly, and a pre-assembled hose with shut-off valve to connect the tank and pump.

The UL Listed vertical inline fire pump and controller, packaged with sensing line, has a test port and casing relief valve. Jockey pumps are an optional addition.

They are fully NFPA 20 & NFPA 13R compliant, with flow rates ranging from 50 to 1,500 GPM with pressures up to 160 PSI. System options include test headers, flow loops, city bypass loops, jockey pumps, and an array of controllers to choose from.

For more information contact: Talco Fire Systems, 800-878-8055, www.talcofire.com.

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2025 marks ARGCO's 44th year in business. Jim Stoddard started ARGCO from his garage in May of 1981, selling just one item, PTFE tape.

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For more information visit: www.argco.com. □

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HELP WANTED

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FIRE SPRINKLER DESIGN SERVICES: • 3D design • Submittals/working plans • Product data • Fabrication reports • Consulting/Coordination • Pre-planning design • Commercial • Residential • Assisted living facilities • Storage/Racking • Military • Underground • Tenant improvement • Wet systems • Dry systems • Pre-action • Nitrogen • Standpipes • Fire pumps. Contact: Adam Tuomala NICET-IV (W.B.S.L.), Phoenix Fire Protection, Lago Vista, TX, Owner and Licensed Contractor; phoenixfirepros@gmail.com.

SALES

DES ASSOCIATES offers UL FM Fire Sprinkler Products - Flexible Drops; Fire Pumps; Jockey Pumps; Fire Sprinklers; Butterfly Valves; Commercial and Residential Riser Check Valves; Shotgun Riser Valves; Water & Hose Valves; Adapters & Fittings; Hydrant Accessories; Foam Tanks; Water Storage Tanks - Above Ground Bolted & Welded Steel; and Underground Fiberglass Tanks. DVBE Certificate #2026104 may help you get new business! Please call for pricing!!! Contact: Dennis Sekermestrovich, oldseker@yahoo.com, (951) 541-4045.

Distributors Wanted – DUYAR Valve is looking for Distributors to sell Commercial and Residential Fire Sprinkler Products in the US and Canada. UL FM Riser Manifolds; Waterflow Detectors; OS&Y and PIV Supervisory Switches; Pressure Switches; etc. Contact: Dennis Sekermestrovich DES Associates, (951) 541-4045, oldseker@yahoo.com, DVBE Certificate# 2026104.

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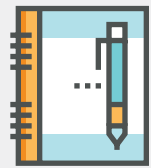
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Cheers to the letter writer in the Bangor Daily News who promoted fire sprinkler installations. See the News on page 7 in this edition!

Jeers to those in “Objection to Fire Sprinkler Mandates in Massachusetts.” Housing consultant Dean Harrison, representing developer Alan McKenzie, a Hull resident, continues to object to the sprinkler system request because it is not required under the building code...

Cheers to Hull Massachusetts Fire Chief Chris Russo for his efforts to have developers fully sprinkler buildings. “If we don’t set a precedent... shame on us.”

Cheers to Granby, Massachusetts, Deputy Chief Tyler Yvon who said: “The growth and spread of this fire were stopped by the home’s fire sprinkler system...”

Cheers to Massachusetts State Fire Marshal Jon Davine who noted: “Sprinklers are the fastest way to get water on a fire before it gets out of control.”



COLLECTOR'S CORNER

and a Warning



I found it at an auction of a friend that owned a small museum in Beaumont, California. I hung it in my garage over the hood of a '57 Chevy (that I am lucky enough to have – all stock and runs).

I had my house termite treated, and they used heat. I didn't think to remove it, but I did back the truck out of the garage. Much to my surprise, the head fused and it sprayed, and it sprayed an oil type “fire retardant.” You would think that a fire protection contractor would be a little smarter than that – but live and learn. Which is what much of my career has been based on.

— Chuck Brown
Charles Brown Fire Sprinkler Design
Moreno Valley, CA

MEMORIAL DAY

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— John 15:13 (King James Version)

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