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**All truth passes three stages.
First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently
opposed. Third, it is accepted as self evident.**

Arthur Schopenhauer
German Philosopher

Sound familiar? But it seems some groups cannot get past the first two stages of about truth. The code arena very vividly expresses the passion of the sprinkler industry and the profit motivation of those opposed to creating a more fire safe environment for people to live, work and recreate.

Smoke alarms went through the same evolution some thirty years ago and the naysayers who first ridiculed and secondly opposed the safety mechanisms now state that the alarms have a record that proves fire sprinklers are not needed. Accepting fire sprinklers in code development is seemingly a distance away before it is accepted as self evident.

Kevin Fee named 2008 Recipient of NFSA Golden Sprinkler Award

The National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) is proud to announce that this year's Golden Sprinkler Award recipient is Kevin T. Fee, who, along with his brothers, is a third generation owner and operator of Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Company. Kevin will be honored for his dedication and service to NFSA and the entire fire sprinkler industry when he accepts the award at a special presentation on Thursday, May 15 at the NFSA Annual Seminar at Atlantis on Paradise Island, Bahamas. Kevin is the longest tenured Board Member in NFSA history, serving on the Board of Directors for over 27 consecutive years. Kevin tirelessly served the NFSA as both Chairman and Vice Chairman and was actively involved in the origin and development of significant NFSA positions and programs. He is a founding member of the International Fire Sprinkler Association and served as its first Chairman of the Board of Directors for two terms. Some of the highlights of Kevin's tenure with NFSA include the expanding of NFSA products, service and involvement at the local level, the number of Regional Managers was increased to provide coverage and administer NFSA programs, NFSA worked with NFPA in the creation and adoption of NFPA25. Commenting on the announcement, NFSA President John Viniello said, "Kevin's energy and strong commitment to the promotion of the fire sprinkler concept is an inspiration. His ability to bring good ideas to fruition has earned the respect and admiration of the entire fire sprinkler industry. I can't think of a more deserving recipient for the 2008 Golden Sprinkler Award."

The Voice of the Fire Sprinkler Industry.

NFSA Welcomes Bruce Lecair as New Regional Manager for the West Region

Bruce Lecair, a 31-year fire service veteran, has taken over the position of Regional Manager for NFSA's West Region following the retirement of Sam Husoe. The states of California and Hawaii comprise NFSA's West Region.

Bruce joined the Woodland, California Fire Department in January of 1979 and rose through the ranks to Assistant Fire Chief where he served as Fire Marshal for six years. Perhaps Bruce's most significant contribution while at Woodland was the development of a Citizens Emergency Response Team Program, which was used as best practice model for other communities in Northern California. He served the Northern California Fire Prevention Officer's Association as co-chair of the Fire Equipment and Devices Committee and served for two years on its Board of Directors. He is a past president of the Yolo County Fire Prevention Officers Association. Bruce served on the Title 19/NFPA 25 Ad Hoc Working Group and was deeply involved in the recent code changes now contained in NFPA 25.

"We are thrilled to have Bruce as our new regional manager for NFSA's West Region," said NFSA President, John Viniello, "Bruce's experience and dedication to the Fire Protection Industry will serve our members well. We expect Bruce to be a productive and innovative member of the NFSA team."

Bruce can be reached at 25417 Hyacinth Street, Corona, California 92883, or at lecair@nfsa.org, Telephone and Fax 951.377.3517, Cell Phone 951.805.8992.

U.S. Fire Administration Endorses Home Fire Sprinklers

Gregory Cade, the U.S. fire administrator, announced March 28 that his agency is now supporting residential fire sprinklers. USFA posted the announcement just ahead of a major fire safety forum in Washington, D.C., that is intended to devise a strategy to change America's approach to fire safety and reduce casualties and costs associated with fires. Cade's message says in part, "I would like to address members of the Fire Service, homeowners, home builders, and other interested parties about the powerful protection from fire provided by residential fire sprinkler systems and why all homes should be equipped with them."

"Commercial buildings such as schools, office buildings, and factories have benefited from fire protection sprinkler systems for over a century," Cade continues. "But what about our homes? Although we protect our businesses from fire, what actions do we take to protect our families, our homes, and our possessions from fire? Millions of Americans have installed smoke alarms in their homes in the past few years, but a smoke alarm can only alert the occupants to a fire in the house. It cannot contain or extinguish a fire. Residential fire sprinkler systems can."

In 2006, 19 percent of all reported U.S. fires occurred in one- and two-family structures, and they caused 66 percent of the nation's fire fatalities -- more than 2,100 people who died in their homes as a result of a fire. Home fires take the lives of about 25 firefighters per year, as well, Cade points out. He says fire sprinklers have been demonstrated to reduce the chance of dying in a residential fire by 69 percent. When both smoke alarms and fire sprinklers are installed in a home, the risk of dying is reduced by 82 percent versus a home lacking both.

"Much has been written about the reduction of residential fire deaths due to improvements in building codes and the installation of smoke alarms," Cade continues. "Without a doubt, these have had a substantial impact on the home fire problem. The annual number of fire deaths in residential occupancies continues to decline. The trend in

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fire death data, however, shows that the number of residential fire deaths is declining at a slower rate over the past 10 years than it did in the period 1977 through 1995. Full-scale fire tests in residential settings suggest one explanation for this slowing in the rate of decline in residential fire deaths. The research shows that the available time to escape a flaming fire in a home has decreased significantly from 17 minutes in 1975 to only 3 minutes in 2003. This decrease in time to escape has been attributed to the difference in fire growth rates of home furnishings. In short, a fire involving modern furnishings grows faster than a fire involving older furnishings. The practical impact of this finding is clear -- smoke alarms alone may not provide a warning in time for occupants to escape a home fire.

Don't Wait Until the Last Minute, IRC Final Action Hearing, September 2008, Minneapolis, Begin Preparations to Attend Now

On or about September 20-21, 2008, the International Residential Code (IRC) Final Action Hearing will take place and the residential fire sprinkler issue will be decided. Voting governmental members of the International Code Council (ICC) will have the opportunity to change the IRC to require fire sprinklers in new homes, addressing a fire safety issue that has plagued America since its beginning, and causes more deaths than all the natural disasters combine each year, dwelling fires. This is your opportunity to be a part of the historic event by casting your vote for RB64-07/08 and place the requirement for residential fire sprinkler into the body of the code and eliminate Appendix P.

The IRC Fire Sprinkler Coalition's residential sprinkler proposal will be on the agenda as Item [RB64-07/08](#). If this item is accepted by ICC's voting governmental members, the residential sprinkler requirement will become a part of the 2009 edition of IRC. As a government employee, YOUR attendance in Minneapolis is critical because, to pass, this recommendation will require support by a two-thirds majority of voting governmental members present at the meeting.

If you've never attended an ICC hearing there is not better time to participate in a hearing. You can be a part of saving thousands of lives in the future and a historic event long overdue.

If you would like to support this effort, YOU MUST BECOME AN ICC VOTING GOVERNMENTAL MEMBER BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2008. [Click here](#) for more information on ICC voting governmental membership, which is required to vote at the hearing.

All regional managers have been tasked with getting action activities going in their regions to help facilitate attendance at the IRC Hearings. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at Gengler@nfsa.org.

Fire Sprinkler Industry - Best Practices – Thinking Ahead!

Best Practices include many ways you transform good ideas into actions. Some have more immediate impact on your bottom line than others.

For example, insurance premiums are declining and you are increasingly comfortable that the good times have returned. Remember 2002 when insurance problems were listed as the number one issue by NFSA members? The correction was abrupt and costly. Then the hurricanes fueled more price increases, and a few catastrophe free years have resulted in the most profitable bottom lines for insurers in history. So now it's about market share. Good for you. Current media reports on decreases averaging 15% and ranging from 5 to 30% reductions. Did you get yours, or will you next time?

In a free market economy, water seeks its own level. Maybe that's a bad analogy to use in the sprinkler industry, but you understand the cash flow business. For underwriters now, it's get the cash and watch the bottom line grow.

How long do you think it will last? Many think there may be another year of double digit reductions, unless investment income cuts short the feeding frenzy. So how well positioned do you think you are for the next hard market?

Remember the last time you thought about various ways that you intend to commit to capitalize on the trends, and have your company adopt more behaviors that will drive a favorable correlation between best risk management practices and the premiums you pay? It's only a matter of time, right? That dreaded hard market is lurking like the elephant in the room. Just like the dot.com bubble had to burst, and irrational exuberance abruptly ended windfall stock inflation, so too have careless credit terms led to the sub-prime mortgage crisis that is registering as an earthquake in the economy. So how many times have you seen the insurance cycle inevitably turn as if tidal waters on the seashore? Any doubt it will happen again? The downward trend is helpful now. Enjoy it while it lasts. Make sure your best practices are well documented, fine-tuned and getting you the results to maximize your premium reductions now.

Then think ahead: Will you be ready for the next inevitable correction? How compelling is your story to underwriters who will tighten requirements and hike prices? Will your experience be able to support a smoothing out of the upward pressures? A wise sage in the insurance business once said that when you see everyone running to one side of the boat, start moving toward the other side for surely it will swing back the other way. Maybe there's no apparent need to rock the boat at the moment, but will you be ready to roll with the tide?

Check out the May 8, 2008 Best Practices Business Thursday Program facilitated by Brian Cullen.

2007 Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act Needs You to Write Your U.S. Senator and Congressmen

The *Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act of 2007* has had very little legislative support for public sponsorship these past months. With the slow economy, there is optimism that another economic stimulus may be in the mix. The Incentive Act offers something to help that stimulus. The bill creates tax incentives for property owners to retrofit buildings with automatic fire sprinkler systems. Similar legislation was introduced in the 108th and 109th Congresses where it garnered over 140 cosponsors each time. As of mid April, 112 Congressmen and 18 Senators have signed onto the monumental legislation. The bill is identified as HR 1742. Earlier this year an equivalent bill identified as S 582.

These pieces of legislation would reduce the tax depreciation time on nonresidential real property from 39 years to only 5 for those that install sprinklers. Benefits of this legislation also include lower local fire department costs, increased loan activity, reduced insurance claims and premium costs and increased retrofitting and installation jobs. A lower 2006 re-scoring of the bill for the fiscal impact that would result with the passage of the fire safety friendly legislation gives proponents great optimism this year.

NFSA Director of Public Fire Protection, Jim Dalton, has been on point as NFSA's representative working with members of Congress and a coalition of fire protection industry concerns in supplying information and support as required to keep these vital pieces of legislation moving through the legislative process.

The NFSA Cap Wiz process has been updated for use and is promoted as a quick means for constituents and others to write in to support this important piece of fire protection legislation. Any and all Senators should be recruited, but members of the Senate Committee on Finance should be primary targets.

Go to this site and help us help America be safer: <http://www.nfsa.org/fsia/fsiahome.html>. For a document explaining the Incentive Act bullet points go to: http://www.nfsa.org/fsia/FSIA_Bullet_points.pdf. In this region contact the following legislators for their support:

Senate, *Sponsors recorded in bold red italics*

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Norm Coleman, Minnesota

Amy Klubuchar, Minnesota

Russell D. Feingold, Wisconsin

Heb Kohl, Wisconsin

House of Representatives – *Sponsors recorded in bold red italics*

Minnesota

[Bachmann, Michele](#), Minnesota, 6th [Ellison, Keith](#), Minnesota, 5th [Kline, John](#), Minnesota, 2nd

[McCollum, Betty](#), Minnesota, 4th [Oberstar, James L.](#), Minnesota, 8th [Peterson, Collin C.](#), Minnesota, 7th

[Ramstad, Jim](#), Minnesota, 3rd [Walz, Timothy J.](#), Minnesota, 1st

Wisconsin

[Baldwin, Tammy](#), Wisconsin, 2nd, *[Kagen, Steve](#)*, Wisconsin, 8th, *[Kind, Ron](#)*, Wisconsin, 3rd

[Moore, Gwen](#), Wisconsin, 4th, [Obey, David R.](#), Wisconsin, 7th, [Petri, Thomas](#), Wisconsin, 6th

[Ryan, Paul](#), Wisconsin, 1st, [Sensenbrenner, F. James](#), Wisconsin, 5th

Sample letters to your U.S. Senators and Congressmen can be obtained from the sites below:

<http://www.nfsa.org/fsia/senateletter.doc>

<http://www.nfsa.org/fsia/houseletter.doc>

Seton Hall Arsonist Denied Parole

Parole has been denied for one of two men who set a fire that killed three Seton Hall University students. The ruling on March 31, 2008 means that Joseph LePore will be eligible to ask for parole again in 18 months. The parole board also is deciding the fate of the second man, Sean Ryan.

LePore and Ryan admitted setting a banner on fire in a dormitory lounge in January 2000. Smoke spread throughout the six-story building. Three freshmen died and dozens of other students were injured, some of them seriously burned.

The fire led New Jersey to enact the nation's first law requiring sprinklers in college dorms and boarding schools.

NFSA Industry Advancement Fund Hits \$220,000

With the addition of two generous contributions, NFSA's Industry Advancement Fund (IAF) now totals \$222,000. L. Nothhaft & Son of Denver, Colorado is the latest to join the fund by contributing \$5,000. The positive and enthusiastic response by the fire sprinkler industry to the IAF is truly inspiring. The IAF is open to contractors, suppliers and manufacturers, as well as anyone else interested in supporting the fire sprinkler concept. Proceeds from the IAF will be used solely to support industry advancement efforts and to increase the fire sprinkler market. To contribute to the fund and, in turn, to the advancement of *your* industry, follow the Industry Advancement Fund link at the NFSA website at www.nfsa.org.

Sprinkler Saves

Sprinkler system does battle with fire at Civil War Museum

Kenosha's Civil War museum became an active battleground on March 22, 2008. Spontaneously combusting oily rags sparked a fire that could cost thousands in smoke and water damage, one week before the museum is scheduled to open to the public.

A maintenance worker heard alarms going off at the building shortly before 8:30 a.m. that Saturday. He smelled smoke inside the building and asked a passing Kenosha Police officer to contact the

Kenosha Fire Department Fire Battalion Chief Matt Haerter said it appeared the fire had been active for hours before that time. The sprinkler system, which appeared to also have been on for hours, was able to keep the fire under control before firefighters extinguished the fire. But Haerter said a significant amount of smoke was produced.

"Extremely heavy smoke was found on the first floor of the building without the fire spreading, which was a result of the smoldering fire," Haerter said. "In the early stages, the fire did not produce significant heat, but it did have significant smoke."

The low heat did not immediately activate the sprinkler system, but Haerter said water was vital to minimizing damage.

St. Paul Records Several Sprinkler Saves

The City of St. Paul recorded three high-rise apartment sprinkler saves recently.

The first occurred in a high-rise apartment building where smoldering cigarettes discarded in a trash can ignited a stuffed chair. A single sprinkler activated and ultimately reduced potential damage to chair and wet carpet damage of less than \$5,000. The alternative could have been front page news around the country.

A fire on March 22, 2008 also resulted in major life and property preservation. Another high-rise incident this time happened on the 7th floor of a ten story apartment building. A resident left a stove burner on and igniting a tackle box left atop the stove.

A single sprinkler activated and extinguished the fire before fire crews arrived. They were left with all souls surviving and assisting in water recovery.

The last save was a result of sprinkler activation after an eight-year old was playing with a lighter. Water damage again occurred to the apartment room of origin and units below. Again, a better scenario happened than the child hiding in a closet and not surviving the fire.

Fire Reported at Racine Restaurant

Things got a little hot April 12 for lunchtime patrons at the Racine New China Buffet restaurant, and we're not talking about the food. A fire was reported at 11:09 a.m. at the restaurant, located at 2405 S. Green Bay Road in the same shopping center that houses Kmart and Office Max. All workers and patrons escaped without incident and there were no injuries reported. As patrons were being served in one dining area, curtains were discovered burning in an unoccupied dining area.

James Madisen, battalion chief with the Racine Fire Dept., said employees tried to first put out the fire with

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extinguishers, but were unsuccessful. Soon after, sprinklers activated and the fire was contained. Fire crews arrived, shut down the sprinklers, cleared the building of smoke and water, and made sure flames did not extend into the ceiling. Firefighting units were on scene for roughly 45 minutes.

The investigator reported that the cause of the fire was electrical in nature. A damage estimate was also not available, but the restaurant was closed pending a Health Department inspection, said Madisen. All workers and patrons escaped without incident and there were no injuries reported.

Appleton's Sabee Products Sprinkler Save Keeps Fire in Check

Appleton Battalion Fire Chief Bill Breager said a fire sprinkler system in a large warehouse in Appleton's Sabee Products prevented a fire from causing more extensive damage on April 12, 2008. Firefighters responded to a water flow alarm at 5:44 PM and discovered the building full of smoke, Breager said.

"The sprinkler system did keep it in check and we were able to extinguish the fire right away," Breager continued. He indicated the fire "was by one of the machines" but he did not believe "anybody was inside the building" when the fire broke out. A damage estimate and cause was unavailable at the time of this submission.

Sprinkler Saves – We need this info to help promote the industry

Contact me **A.S.A.P.** at (262) 245-5255 or e-mail: dannfsa@aol.com if you have information regarding a Major Fire or Sprinkler Save. A major fire is defined as "one where there is extensive property loss, multiple death or injury to citizens or firefighters, or any other significant circumstances regarding fire sprinkler protection or lack thereof." Sprinkler Saves will help inform others that the systems do work and will provide life and property saving values.

NFSA Announces New Discount Shipping Program for Members

The NFSA is pleased to announce a new member benefit, the NFSA Discount Shipping Program. Through NFSA's agreement with PartnerShip, who developed and manages the program, NFSA members enrolled in the NFSA Discount Shipping Program receive significant discounts on domestic and international small package and freight shipments through FedEx[®], UPS FreightSM, and Yellow Transportation, as well as substantial discounts on copying and printing services at select FedEx Kinko's[®] locations nationwide. The program is **FREE** to NFSA members, with no obligations and no minimum volume requirements. You'll save from your very first shipment – even if it's your only shipment. You've got nothing to lose and everything to **SAVE**, so sign up today!

The program is **FREE**, with no obligations and no minimum volume requirements. You'll save from your very first shipment-even if it's your only shipment.

[Click here to enroll in this FREE program today!](#)

[Click here for a full summary of your new NFSA Discount](#)

Sprinkler Firewatch service helps track saves

A new service to automatically inform you of catastrophic fires in the country and to report reported sprinkler saves has been created by Ed Comeau. You can get up-to-date reports on the above and report saves for the program.

To receive and take part in Sprinkler Firewatch log onto: www.YAHOO.com. (If you do not have a YAHOO i.d., in the upper right hand corner is "FREE E-MAIL: Sign Up". Once you have signed up for a YAHOO e-mail address, you can join any "public" YAHOO group. You do not have to use the YAHOO e-mail address to obtain the alerts from Sprinkler Firewatch).



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SPRINKLER
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At: www.YAHOO.com, click on Groups on left hand column. On the next page type in “sprinkler firewatch”, the next page click on “Join this Group” in upper right hand side of page. On the next page, sign in using your YAHOO e-mail and password.

NFSA Expert of the Day You Can Get Great Advice

While most of the questions are answered within a few hours of being asked, there have been instances where the response to a request has been longer than what our membership considers optimal. To that end, we are instituting a series of checks and balances on our end to insure that your request is answered as soon as possible.

You can help us by following one simple procedure. When you have a request that you want answered, please e-mail your request to eod@nfsa.org or call the NFSA at (845) 878-4200 and ask for the Expert of the Day. That way, your request will go directly to the individual assigned the duty that day and we will have mechanisms in place to track it.

Since many of our staff travels extensively, they can't always respond in a timely manner to their individual voice mails and emails. When emailing your requests, we would appreciate if you would use our general email address, eod@nfsa.org, if calling in, please follow the prompt for the expert of the day. These procedures will allow us to insure quicker responses to your questions. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

For more information, contact: NFSA, PO Box 1000, Patterson, New York, 12563; by telephone at (845) 878-4200, by Fax at (845) 878-4215 or at our website: www.nfsa.org

NFSA Academy Trains You at Your Desk

To answer the call for a quality distance-learning program, NFSA has introduced the NFSA Academy. With 80 modules to pick from, dealing with beginner to advanced training, the Academy has something for everyone!

Save on lost billable hours and travel expenses by getting your continuing education needs right from your own desktop. Log onto www.nfsa.org and click on the banner below and sign up for the NFSA Academy, your competition is! Wisconsin contractors, get your CEU's here!

New NFSA Reference Textbook into Second Printing

The NFSA's new textbook titled Layout, Detailing and Calculation of Fire Sprinkler Systems has been an incredible success. The first printing sold out in only nine weeks. With more than 700 pages of information, this is the most complete text-book ever written for the fire sprinkler engineering technician.

Written by the NFSA Engineering Department staff and edited by Kenneth E. Isman, P.E., Vice President of Engineering, this text covers every aspect of determining the necessary details for a fire sprinkler system, including: Hazard classifications; Sprinkler spacing; Hanger and brace requirements; Hydraulic calculations; Water supplies, pumps and tanks.

The text also contains a significant review of basic math and physical science that is helpful to the user in understanding the scientific principles behind the requirements that need to be followed.

MINNESOTA: www.nfsamn.org

Fire Team USA to Visit Minnesota

Minnesota has been selected to be one of ten states to present the Fire Team USA program and arrangements are being made. It appears that the Minneapolis Marriott in Bloomington will be the location of this very influential NFPA13D

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program scheduled for July 30-31, 2008. Dan Gengler, NFSA North Central Regional Manager, has been working with the Office of the Minnesota State Fire Marshal to host the day and half program. Partners from the fire service and code officials will help make the program a success. Fire chiefs and local legislators will be invited free for the program that will educate these decision makers about the value of protecting one- and two-family homes with residential fire sprinklers. Check out the Fire team USA web site, www.fireteamusa.com, for more information.

MN IRC Fire Sprinkler Committee Continues Effort

As referenced in the IRC article above, the Minnesota International Fire Sprinkler Coalition, facilitated by Maple Grove Fire Marshal Marilyn Arnlund is working feverously to get the maximum MN fire service ICC delegates to the September International Residential Code Hearings in Minneapolis. The focus of the group is to ensure fire and building official register as members of the International Code Council (ICC) and be eligible to vote at the International Residential Code (IRC) Hearings scheduled for late September in Minneapolis.

The hearings will host a myriad of building issues including two basic residential fire sprinkler applications; one- and two-family and townhouses with language to require residential fire sprinklers. The fire service is strongly behind the measure in many states and is gearing up for what promises to be a spirited battle. The homebuilders have created a war chest to sponsor their friends to attend and vote “no” on the two proposals.

In late February, the IRC Committee entertained the inclusion into the main IRC document the sprinkler requirement. Unfortunately, the ICC format of committee assignments had a strong builder friendly vote against the proposal. To overturn, a 2/3 vote of attending members only, no proxies, must be attained to pass the two proposals

The group is working with all related fire service organizations to encourage participation in this potential historical event.

State Fire Code Statement of Need & Reasonableness Issues Statement on Residential Costs

Jon Nisja, Supervisor, Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division reported that the 2007 Minnesota State Fire Code Statement of Need & Reasonableness issued the statement below on the cost of residential sprinkler installation:

The overwhelming majority of fire deaths both nationally and in Minnesota occur in residential occupancies. A large percentage of the residential occupancies being constructed in Minnesota are in townhouse or similar multi-tenant configurations within the same building or under the same roof. In these types of buildings a fire in one unit can cause death, injury, fire loss, or major disruption to all of the tenants of the building.

This provision is needed to reduce life loss, fire related injuries, and fire loss, and to assist fire departments in extinguishing fires in these very large buildings. Most fire departments are equipped and staffed to handle typical single-family dwelling type fires. Most fire departments are not equipped to handle fires involving buildings in the tens of thousands of square feet (which can be seen in these larger townhouse complexes).

The cost of providing automatic fire sprinkler protection in new construction is approximately \$2-\$3 per square foot. The mortgage increase for a \$3,000 increase amortized over a 30 year loan at a 7% interest rate is approximately twenty dollars per month. The net cost following insurance rate reductions (average premium reduction for sprinklering is about 10%) and income tax savings (based on 28% federal and 7.05% Minnesota tax rates) is just over \$7 per month.

MN Chapter Working Actively to Educate the State

The NFSA-Minnesota Chapter has always been active in promoting the education of the public and Authority Having Jurisdiction on the benefits of fire sprinkler protection. It seems monthly that the Public Relations arm of the Chapter is attending conferences. Big events in the future include the Annual Fire Department Conference in Alexandria come June 5-8. Coordinated by and attended by Peg Bohn, the industry has always been a welcome guest and exhibitor at this event and all others in the state. The Chapter "red bags" will be given away just as they will be for the Governor's Fire Prevention Day at the State fair on August 22, 2008. Stop by as it is touted that the Fair offers fire prevention education to the largest gathering of the type in the world.

The Chapter sponsored four days of NFSA training the first week of April held at the Fire Fighter's Museum in St. Paul. An average of 30 students attended the sprinkler specific classes that received great reviews by attendees. Again, Peg Bohn spearheaded the week of education targeted to fire service authorities and fire sprinkler contractors.

12th Annual Burn Aid Golf Classic Scheduled for September 8, 2008

As all know, we are in May and September will be here in no time. The 12th Annual Burn Aid Golf Classic is scheduled for September 8, 2008 at the North Oaks Golf Club. Enter the date and location as information will be out later in May. All enjoyed a great day last year and it is anticipated this year's event will be the best yet. The steering committee has been in pursuit to make the day memorable, challenging and fun.

The annual fundraiser gives participants memories of golf and good times but also leaves all knowing they helped a great cause, the Regions Hospital Burn Unit in St. Paul. Monies from the outing will benefit many children and families for those who for unwanted seconds suffer the pain of burns. The 2007 event raised \$42,000 making the eleven year total nearly \$550,000.

In addition, John Berres and Rhonna Hed (Summit Fire Protection) has volunteered to head the Silent Auction Committee for this special event. John can be reached at (651) 251-1862 or iberres@summitfire.com in regards to any donations or gifts that you would like to include in this happening.

WISCONSIN: www.nfsawi.org

Three UW-Stout Students Die in Off-Campus House Fire

A smoky house fire near University of Wisconsin-Stout campus killed three students who never made it out of the rooms where they were sleeping early April 5, 2008, even though neighbors said they heard alarms. Rescuers found two women and a man in three second-floor bedrooms near the University of Wisconsin-Stout. All three were pronounced dead at a hospital, authorities said.

The smoke detectors were working, and neighbors called police when they heard the alarms, said Menomonie Police Chief Dennis Beety. Police don't know why the three victims didn't wake up and leave, and it was unclear whether alcohol was a factor. "There was a bottle of alcohol and the top was off of it," Beety said. "But that's no indication they were drinking at the time."

The university identified the victims aged 20, 21 and 23. All three appeared to have died of smoke inhalation and there were no obvious signs of foul play. "It's a tragedy that no campus prepares for," Chancellor Charles Sorensen said. "We'll grieve in this together."

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Emergency workers arrived shortly after a call made about 3:30 a.m. to find smoke coming from the basement, first floor and second floor of the duplex. Firefighters used thermal imaging to find the victims, said Fire Chief Jack Baus. Students and neighbors quietly walked over to the police tape that blocked off the street.

University counselors were on hand to help students, and the school encouraged students to call their families. Pictures of the students were posted on a wall in a campus building, along with markers and paper where students left notes such as "You will be missed" or "RIP."

"The police came over with the pastor and I said, 'What's going on here?'" one of the victims father said. "They told me to sit down, and then we all had a good cry together."

This horrific event occurred just 11 days earlier, the NFSA Wisconsin Chapter did a fire safety program with the Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Outstanding outreach for fire safety was promoted by UW-L, its Student Senate and the La Crosse Fire Department.

A side-by-side burn demonstration depicting two dorm prototype rooms were set afire at the same time. Smoke alarms activated in about 15 seconds. One room reached a flashover stage in less than three minutes while the second room had a single fire sprinkler activate to the heat and extinguishing the fire in less than a minute. Campus officials and student attendees vividly witnessed the power of and quickness of fire spread. They readily understood the rapid response need to evacuate when given early warning and the effectiveness of a fire sprinkler system.

The parents and best campus friend & roommate of Peter Talen, UW-L student killed in an off-campus fire at a University of Wisconsin off-campus fire last year, were in attendance. They were adamant about students understanding the need for reliable working smoke alarms and evacuation discipline. They too discovered that fire sprinklers save lives.

Our sincere thoughts and prayers are extended to the families, friends and campus survivors of the lost students, young lives not yet getting the chance to make their imprints on other lives.

20th Burn Center Golf Invitational-Course Preparation

The Twentieth Annual Burn Center Golf Invitational (BCGI) will be held August 25, 2008. The event will again be played on the Championship Brute and Highlands Courses of the Grand Geneva Resort & Spa in Lake Geneva. The golf outing and evening program is presented by the Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety, assisted by Columbia St Mary's Milwaukee Foundation and sponsored by the Midwest Sprinkler Industries and the Milwaukee Fire Department. The dedicated steering committee couple with dedicated volunteers has always been the successful formula for its success.

The 19th event raised \$110,000 and brought the invitational total for the BCGI to a benchmark \$1,614,000. All proceeds directly go to our charities; Columbia-St. Mary's Regional Burn Center, Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety Summer Camp for Burn Injured Youths, Newspapers in Education Fire Safety Program, National Fire Sprinkler Association Education Fund and other WAFS programming.

The event has contributed more than \$1,050,000 to support burn injured survivors as they ordeal their pain in the burn unit. State-of-the-art equipment has been purchased with some of the funds and presently monies are being dedicated to the construction of the unit being built for the new hospital. All thirteen WAFS camps have been supported by the generous participants and contributors of the outing. Several energetic fire safety programs have been initiated from some of the proceeds.



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Sponsors of the 2008 event will be again be given meaningful and artistic recognition remembrances. Awards will also be given for winners on both courses for total scores and special events. Participants in the golfing event will receive a pair of quality golf shoes for this year's give-away.

[NFSA Online Interactive Seminars Schedule - ***Get Wisconsin CEU's](#)

The 2008 On-line Technical Seminars have been scheduled. All seminars are conducted by NFSA staff or consultants on Tuesdays and will start promptly at 10:30 A.M. Eastern Time and run approximately 1.5-hours.

Seminar topics are designed to different levels of understanding, Basic (B), Intermediate (I) and Advanced (A) levels. There are several seminars that cross two levels.

NFSA Member Cost: \$125.00* per seminar per computer

Non-member Cost: \$250.00* per seminar per computer

Members Participation Verification w/Certification: \$25.00

Members Participation Verification w/Certification: \$50.00

Technical Tuesday Schedule for Winter/Spring 2008

Date	Topic	Instructor
May 6	Exposure Protection Systems (I)	Russell P. Fleming, P.E.
May 20	Water Cooling Towers (I)	Michael Friedman, P.E.
Jun 10	Standpipes, Pressures and Pumps (I)	Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.
Jun 24	The Extent of Systems (B)	Jeff Hugo

The topics for the 2008 "BUSINESS THURSDAY" Seminars have been specifically selected to help the fire sprinkler contractor deal with current problem areas in the business environment. The instructors bring varied backgrounds relevant to the subjects they will be teaching.

The Technical On-Line Seminars have been approved for 1.5 –hours CEU credit in Wisconsin. This is monumental because those needy contractors/fitters not finding the availability to get away from the workplace or jobsite will find this opportunity quite convenient. From the desktop of an office or the comforts of a home, one can watch the 1½-hour live-interactive seminar and receive credit. When registering for the seminar, the registrant needs to inform the NFSA that they are in need to receive Wisconsin CEU's. Those needing CEU's for *their 2004 license need to have their 12-hours of CEU's completed and submitted prior to March 30, 2004. We can help! NFSA is offering to all AHJ's the member rate for these live on-line seminars. Order all 10 and save 30%. For more information on this offer and information on these seminars please contact Dawn at Dawn@nfsa.org or 845-878-4200 x133.*

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Date	Topic	Instructor
May 8	Best Practices	Brian Cullen
June 19	Safety for Contractors	Ray Lonabaugh
May 8	Best Practices	Brian Cullen

You can attend a NFSA Seminar without traveling to a classroom. For more information and to view a demonstration, visit our Website at www.nfsa.org, or call Dawn at (845) 8784200 x 133. Check these on-line programs:

SIX WEEK ON-LINE PROGRAMMING:

NEW HYDRAULICS FOR FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS,

PUMPS FOR FIRE PROTECTION

RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLERS HOMES TO HIGH-RISE

INSPECTION, TESTING & MAINTENANCE OF WATER BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

NFSA North Central Regional In-Class Seminars

Your Regional Manager is looking to schedule more 2008 programming, Contact Dan Gengler (262) 245-5255 or dannfsa@aol.com for information or registration. Check the NFSA web site to register and to link to our other regions for seminars that may fit your educational needs.

The Oak Creek, WI Fire Department is co-sponsoring Half-Day Introduction to Fire Sprinkler Systems (June 10), One-Day Plan Review, Policies and Procedures (June 11), Half-Day Commissioning & Acceptance Testing of Fire Sprinkler Systems and Half-Day Underground Piping for Fire Protection Systems (June 12) seminars. Again, get Minnesota & Wisconsin CEU's for attending.

Milwaukee will be hosting an Inspection and Testing Technician NICET Level 2 Study Review Seminar - This three-day seminar has been developed for individuals that inspect and test water-based fire protection systems. The purpose of the seminar is to assist individuals in advancing their careers by reviewing material necessary for Level II certification in the relatively new NICET Subfield of Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems. Watch for location in May report.

Contact Dawn Fitzmaurice, NFSA @ (845) 878-4200 ext. 133 for information or registration for any NFSA training program. Check the NFSA web site, www.nfsa.org, to register and to link to our other regions for seminars that may fit your educational needs.

Register 5 Attendees for One Class; get a 6th Free for that Same Class.

Non-Member Fire & Building Officials: When a building or a fire official wants to take an NFSA "full-day in-class" seminar, they can get a special discount package that pays for the seminar and also gives them a one-year membership in the NFSA. The regular seminar fee is \$99.00 dollars and the regular one-year subscriber membership is \$85.00 dollars. That totals \$184.00 but when you join the NFSA as a subscriber member when you register for the NFSA seminar, you only pay a combined fee of \$149.00 dollars which saves you \$35.00 dollars on the total package.

Just make sure you check-off the "F&B" box with red pricing on the seminar registration form.



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By becoming a member and taking an NFSA seminar all at the same time, you're getting valuable industry information both ways.

NFSA Honor Role - Thanks for your industry support!

Pipe Fabricators
Maple Grove, MN
(5/05-83) 25 years

SimplexGrinnell, LLP
Everywhere
(5/18/05) 103 years

Xerxes Corporation
Minneapolis, MN
(5/23/05) 3 years

NFSA Code of Ethics Preamble

The members of the National Fire Sprinkler Association recognize that their work has a direct, as well as indirect, impact on the quality of life for all humanity. Accordingly, the services provided by NFSA members require honesty, impartiality, fairness and equity, and must be dedicated to the preservation of life and property and the further enhancement of the public safety, health and welfare. In practice of their profession, members

of the National Fire Sprinkler Association must maintain and constantly improve their competence and perform under a standard of professional behavior, which requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct with balanced regard for the interests of the public, clients, employees, colleagues and the greater fire protection community they serve. Members of the National Fire sprinkler Association are expected to act in accordance with the provisions of this code of ethics and all applicable laws, and actively encourage others to do the same.