



FIRE BUCKET

VOLUME 126 ISSUE 16 – DECEMBER, 2008

UPCOMING MEETING:

The Central Ohio Chapter, Society of Fire Protection Engineers, next chapter meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15th at the Fawcett Center, Registration: 11:15-11:30 AM, Lunch at 11:30 (Fawcett Center Buffet), Presentation: 12:15 PM. Our speaker for this event will be Mr. Robert Zuiderveld, PYROBAN Corp.; the topic will be “Industrial Equipment in Explosion Hazard Areas”.

Mark Bowman, Vice President of this chapter will be e-mailing everyone a Meeting Announcement with the itinerary. The cost for members is \$20.00 or for non-members it is \$25.00. The organization would appreciate everyone make reservations for this meeting. Mr. Bowman’s E-Mail is as follows: mark.bowman@xlgroup.com, also you can contact Sheryl Stahl at: sherylstahl8384@aol.com if you have any questions or concerns.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

DUST HAZARDS IN INDUSTRY:

The last Chapter meeting was held on November 13th at The Fawcett Center. The speaker for this was Mr. Todd Dillion, Senior Loss Prevention Specialist – XL Group Asset Protection Services. Mr. Dillion discussed explosion fundamentals, reviewed real life explosion incidents and cover recent regulatory action regarding dust hazards.

Also, in October, 2007 the OSHA initiated National emphasis on the Dust program. One of the real life example was the “West Pharmaceutical Industry date 01/29/03, it was discovered that there were a couple of inches of dust above suspended ceiling, which was part of the cause for this explosion. As

of today there has been over 155 plus industrial dust explosion/fires as recorded by press reports.

This meeting was very informative and gave the members valuable information on what they can look for in regards to Dust Hazard. Again we would like to thank Mr. Todd Dillion for speaking at our meeting.

FIRETRACE AUTOMATIC FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM:

The Central Ohio Chapter, Society of Fire Protection Engineers meeting that was held on Thursday, September 18th, 2008 was very informative our speaker was Mr. Michael Campo, Regional Manager, Firetrace International.

Mr. Campo introduced a detection system which detects a fire and releases the extinguishing agent. This detection system (a Linear Pneumatic Heat Sensor) can be installed in small or complex enclosures such as industrial equipment, storage compartments, control cabinets or various types of remote installation.

Firetrace can use several different agents such as: AFFF Foam, FM 200, or FE 25. Also, heat and flame will activate these agents.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January, 2009 – Chapter Meeting

March, 2009 – Chapter Meeting

May, 2009 – Chapter Meeting

June, 2009 – SFPE/OSU Golf Outing

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I hope everything is well with you and your families. It's hard to believe the holidays are upon us again. This is our first Fire Bucket since our October golf outing to benefit the OSU Hospitals Burn Center. We had good weather, a great facility and very good attendance. Not all of the numbers are in yet, but we believe that we will donate around \$17,000.00 to the Burn Unit. Thanks to all who sponsored and attended. We would really like to host a half day or whole day seminar this Spring. We are still looking for topics and speakers for this event. If anyone has a suggestion, please contact myself, Mark Bowman or any of the board members.

I trust that everyone has renewed their local membership dues. If not, the dues are only \$20.00 per year (\$10.00 for retirees) and includes this fine Fire Bucket publication and meeting announcement for all of our regular chapter meetings and all special events such as the golf outings, the joint meeting with MCACO, ASHRAE, ASPE (October)...etc. If you need a membership application, please contact John Falk, Sheryl Stahl or any board member. Don't forget, we are always looking for new members. So, if you know of someone who you think would be interested or who would benefit from our organization, please give them an application or have them get in contact with us.

I know that we discussed this next topic at our last lunch meeting (November), but I again want to discuss the new State of Ohio EPA requirement concerning low suction alarm panels as they relate to fire pump systems fed from municipal supplies. For many years, the Ohio EPA and Board of Health required a low suction alarm panel that would alarm and disable the fire pump if the city water pressure dropped below 10 PSI (higher pressures where the local authority was more stringent). Effective August 8, 2008, low suction alarm panels are no longer permitted. Instead, the State is requiring a fire listed suction control valve (some call it a suction sustaining valve). The valve is installed on the discharge side of the fire pump (before the system check valve), is required to be full line size and requires a pressure sensing line back to the supply side of the fire pump. If the supply pressure drops to the "low suction pressure", the control valve starts to close to restrict the flow in an attempt to maintain the minimum suction pressure. This allows the fire pump to continue to run and supply some volume of water to the system as long as the minimum supply pressure can be maintained. If the supply pressure can not be maintained (example, a city main break), the valve will close all the way and the fire pump will continue to run (dry). The fire pump will not be prevented from starting or running. If our technology works right, I have attached a copy of the Revised Ohio EPA Administrative Code. Please contact me if you have any questions or if you need any additional information.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe Holiday.

Carl Sellke

3745-05-07 **Booster pumps.**

- (A) No person shall install or maintain a water service connection to any one, two or three family dwelling where a booster pump has been installed, unless an air gap separation is provided to ensure that the booster pump cannot exert suction on the service line.
- (B) For booster pumps not intended to be used for fire suppression, no person shall install or maintain a water service connection to any premises not included in paragraph (A) of this rule where a booster pump has been installed on the service line to or within such premises, unless such booster pump is equipped with a low pressure cut-off designed to shut-off the booster pump when the pressure in the service line on the suction side of the pump drops to ten pounds per square inch gauge or less.
- (C) For booster pumps used for fire suppression installed after the effective date of this rule, no person shall install or maintain a water service connection to any premises not included in paragraph (A) of this rule where a booster pump has been installed on the service line to or within such premises, unless the pump is equipped with a minimum pressure sustaining valve on the booster pump discharge, which throttles the discharge of the pump when necessary so that suction pressure will not be reduced below ten pounds per square inch gauge while the pump is operating.
- (D) For booster pumps used for fire suppression installed prior to the effective date of this rule, no person shall maintain a water service connection to any premises not included in paragraph (A) of this rule where a booster pump has been installed on the service line to or within such premises, unless the pump is equipped with either a low pressure cut-off designed to shut-off the booster pump when the pressure in the service line on the suction side of the pump drops to ten pounds per square inch gauge or less, or a minimum pressure sustaining valve on the booster pump discharge, which throttles the discharge of the pump when necessary so that suction pressure will not be reduced below ten pounds per square inch gauge while the pump is operating.
- (E) It shall be the duty of the water consumer to maintain the low pressure cut-off device or minimum pressure sustaining valve in proper working order and to certify to the supplier of water, at least once every twelve months that the device is operable and maintained in continuous operation.



Society of Fire Protection Engineers
Central Ohio Chapter

Meeting Announcement

- Date:** Thursday, January 15, 2009
- Location:** The Fawcett Center - 2400 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210
- Speaker:** **Robert Zuiderveld, PYROBAN Corp**
- Topic:** **Industrial Equipment in Explosion Hazard Areas**

The presentation will cover the use of industrial equipment in explosion hazard areas, the codes/standards/guidelines/regulations, protection methods, developments and new protection technologies and philosophies and on this topic.

Pyroban has 35 years of global industry experience and memberships on several international code writing boards. The company has a significant amount in insight and know how regarding the ignition protection of industrial equipment used in explosion hazardous areas.

- Time:** Registration 11:15 – 11:30 am
Lunch at 11:30 am (Fawcett Center Buffet)
Presentation 12:15 pm
- Cost:** \$20.00 (Members)
\$25.00 (Non-members)
Free to “One Pay” members. (Please make reservations)

Reservations Deadline: Monday January 12, 2009 - Noon

Contact: Mark Bowman
mark.bowman@xlgroup.com
614-751-5049

Please feel free to bring a guest.

Reservations must be cancelled within 48 hours, or will be billed.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

Water pumps failed in fire, officials say Equipment failures
Nov. 15 caused fire hydrants to go dry in highest neighborhood of Yorba Linda.

Water officials said Tuesday that pumps designed to push water to the upper reaches of a hillside Yorba Linda neighborhood failed during a Nov. 15 firestorm, possibly explaining why firefighters were forced to abandon the area and let homes burn after fire hydrants went dry.

The disclosure came four days after Orange County fire officials blamed the loss of as many as five homes in the neighborhood on lack of water from fire hydrants.

No water supply More than 180 homes were destroyed or damaged when fire tore through Yorba Linda, 19 of them in the upper Hidden Hills Estates neighborhood where firefighters encountered the dry hydrants. The ridge-top homes border Chino Hills State Park, 14,100 acres of oaks and dry grasslands.

Agency officials had said they believed the dry hydrants were caused by the overwhelming water demands of such an intense and widespread firefighting effort.

But on Tuesday, officials described a frantic afternoon and evening in which, little by little, they learned from media reports, fire authorities and their own inspection crews that neighborhood fire hydrants had gone dry, electronic communications had failed and pumps expected to help deliver the water had shut down.

The problems first surfaced at 1:22 p.m., when the water district's computer system lost communication with Santiago Reservoir and a nearby pump station, which together supply water to the neighborhood of about 110 homes for residential use and for hydrants, Yorba Linda Water District Assistant General Manager Ken Vecchiarelli told reporters Tuesday.

The electronic communication lapse lasted 24 hours.

Then, after seeing television news reports about 3 p.m. detailing a lack of water in the Hidden Hills area, district officials started to ask other agencies, including the Orange County Fire Authority, if they were having water problems. They initially said no, Vecchiarelli said.

At 4:15, a water district crew made it up to the burned-out Santiago pump station to find three electric pumps and a gas-powered backup had shut down. Workers then checked fire hydrants one by one, finding that while some still had water pressure, the highest ones had run dry. Water officials believe the electric pumps shut off because the fire had burned through their electrical communication systems. The backup, they said, failed because of the heat.

Workers were able to restart the pumps manually but later had to shut them off because too much air -- and not enough water -- in the system was causing them to vibrate.

By 4:30, workers saw that the 1.1-million-gallon Santiago Reservoir, which is covered, was less than 15% full, and by 11 p.m., hours after the fire had passed, workers lifted up the hatch to find it totally drained.

Hidden Hills Estates is the highest neighborhood in Yorba Linda, and its upper streets are the only area within the water district's boundaries where water is supplied solely by electric and gas pumps that push water uphill to homes, the very ones that failed, officials said. The rest of the city has standard gravity-fed water lines.

Hidden Hills residents said they have complained for years about low water pressure and said they had been told for several years that a reservoir was to be built soon.

Water officials also have acknowledged that there had been problems with water pressure in the neighborhood.

"We were doing improvements to make it more reliable until we could build a new reservoir," Vecchiarelli said. The water district had recently improved the backup pump, among other things. The district had also set aside up to \$9 million for the new reservoir to supply Hidden Hills through a gravity-driven system.

Officials said Tuesday that the reservoir has been on the to-do list since at least 2001, when developer Shapell Industries first submitted plans to build homes around Hidden Hills. The agency has recognized the need for more reservoirs in the eastern side of Yorba Linda for 30 years but depends on developers' building plans to determine where to locate the infrastructure.

Since then, officials said, they have hit stumbling blocks with Shapell and the state, which owns the land on which the planned 2-million-gallon reservoir and pipes leading to it would be built. Land use hang-ups and environmental review processes have caused delays, they said. Officials said they are now meeting with state officials and asking for the process to be expedited.

"Nothing can bring those homes back," Vecchiarelli said. But now, he said, he hopes the message is clear that it is better to have the reservoir sooner than later.

Barboza is a Times staff writer. tony.barboza@latimes.com

Copyright ©200 Los Angeles Times, Date: November 26, 2008, By Tony Barboza All rights reserved.

NFSA's Manager of Codes Jeff Hugo was in attendance at the ICC Appeals Board hearing and reported this afternoon that by a unanimous vote of 3-0, the Appeals Board denied the homebuilders' claim that the fire sprinkler industry engaged in practices in violation of ICC established procedures.

After receiving the news about the ICC Appeals Board decision, NFSA President John Viniello said, "As the fire sprinkler industry's leading membership organization, we are extremely pleased at the outcome of this hearing. It reinforces that the members of the ICC recognize that fire sprinklers need to play an integral role in the protection of life from fire within the home."

About the National Fire Sprinkler Association Established in 1905, the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) is the voice of the fire sprinkler industry. NFSA leads the drive to get life-saving and property protecting fire sprinklers into all buildings; provides support and resources for its members – fire sprinkler contractors, manufacturers and suppliers; and educates authorities having jurisdiction on fire protection issues. Headquartered in Patterson, N.Y., NFSA has regional operations offices throughout the country. www.nfsa.org.

You are receiving this message because you are subscribed to the NFSA email list. To remove yourself from this service and stop receiving email messages from NFSA, Please reply to this message with "remove" in the subject line.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

National Association of Homebuilders Appeals Sprinkler Vote

Posted: 11-12-2008

Updated: 11-12-2008 10:59:59 AM

Select State: Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Conn. Delaware. D.C. Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada New Hampshire New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Okla. Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming The effort to have fire sprinklers required in the International Residential Code for new single-family home construction now has a new hurdle to clear.

Although IRC Proposal RB64-07/08 passed on Sept. 21, the National Association of Homebuilders filed an appeal on Oct. 30 with the International Code Council.

In the appeal, the NAHB contends that the ICC failed to provide a balance of interest in voting as it did not "prevent a single interest group, specifically the fire service, from unfairly dominating the voting at the final action hearings."

The IRC Fire Sprinkler Coalition -- which lobbies for the installation of fire sprinklers in residential homes -- helped drum up support among the fire service prior to the hearings.

The resolution garnered 72 percent in favor versus 26 percent against out of a voting pool of close to two thousand people during the conference in Minneapolis.

According to the notice of appeal from the ICC, the appeal is currently slated to be conducted in Chicago with conference call capabilities. All involved parties will be informed of the date, time and location of the appeal hearing at least 20 days prior to the scheduled hearing.

Firehouse.com will provide more information on this story as it develops.

Copyright ©2008 Firehouse.com Home > News Headlines



Society of Fire Protection Engineers Central Ohio Chapter

SOCIETY OF FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS –COC PAID MEMBERSHIP – SEPT 2008- AUG 2009

Bowman, Mark – XL Gaps
Boyce, James - USEC
Dann, Bryan – Dannba Design Services
Dawson, Robert – Simplex Grinnell
Dexter, David – Korda/Nemeth Engineering, Inc.
DiMarzo, Jim – Industrial Sales Co., Inc.
Downey, Ray – Chemetron Fire Systems
Evans, Lorin – Gentry Fire Protection Co.
Falk, John Sr. – Capital Fire Protection Co.
Faulk, Ed – TP Mechanical Contractors
Fischer, Bob – Viking SupplyNet
Gates, Steve – Mitsui Sumitomo
Gentile, Philip – Swiss Re Gap Services
Hard, Michael D. – Hard Fire Suppression Sys.
Howard, Bradley – Koorsen Fire & Security
Hunnell, Mark – Capital Fire Protection Co.
Kennard, Bill – Robert H. Fuller & Associates
Kossler, Rick – SA Comunale
Kovach, Dennis – American Electric Power
Laing, William – W.E. Monks & Co.
Leman, Eric – Heapy Engineering, LLC
Lowman, Stefon – SA Comunale
Madsen, David R. – Whitfill-McCarthy, LLC
Manring, Bret – Hard Fire Suppression Sys.
Marcinick, Jill – Abco Fire Protection, Inc.
McCann, Dennis – State Fire Marshal Office
McDowell, Daniel – City of Columbus, Bldg. Servs. Div.
Nibert, James - Retired
Ohler, Deborah D. – Ohio Board of Bldg. Standards
Orr, Robert – Simplex Grinnell L.P.
Perkins, Alan L. – Washington Twp. Fire Dept.
Sellke, Carl A. – Industrial Sales Co., Inc.
Shaw, Robert – Simplex Grinnell L.P.
Stahl, Sheryl – Gentry Fire Protection Co.
Thompson, Robert – VFP Fire Systems
Titter, Robert – Ashland, Inc.
Tulga, Gerald E. – Tulga Consulting LLC
Walters, Michael – Michael Walters Fire Prot. Design
Yambrovich, Vince - Fire Loss Control, Inc.
Zink, David – Koorsen Fire & Safety

WEB LINKS

SFPE Website	www.sfpe.org
SFPE Website Central Ohio Chapter	www.freewebs.com/sfpecoc
ICC Website	www.iccsafe.org
BBS Website	www.com.state.oh.us/ODOC/dic/dicbbs.htm
NFPA Website	www.nfpa.org
US DOE Office of Energy Efficiency Website	www.energycodes.gov
State Fire Marshal Website	www.com.state.oh.us/sfm
Underwriters Laboratories Website	www.ul.com
OSU Fire Safety Website	www.firesafety.osu.edu
National Fire Sprinkler Association Website	www.nfsa.org

SFPE CENTRAL OHIO CHAPTER OFFICERS

Carl Selke – President - Industrial Sales Co., 614-882-1916, E-Mail: csellke@industrialsalesco.com
Mark Bowman -Vice President, XL Gap Services, 614-751-5049, E-Mail: mark.bowman@xlgroup.com
John Falk-Treasurer, Capital Fire Protection Co., 614.279.9448, E-Mail: jcf_sr@yahoo.com
Sheryl Stahl-Secretary, Gentry Fire Protection Co., 614.777.6009, E-Mail: sherylstahl8384@aol.com

DIRECTORS

Phil Gentile - Past President, XL Gap Services, 740-965-1577, E-Mail: philip.gentile@xlgroup.com
Bruce Larcomb-Board Member, International Code Council (Retired) 614.891.5189, blarcomb@columbus.rr.com
Jim DiMarzo-Board Member, Industrial Sales Co., 614-882-1916, E-Mail: jdimarzo@industrialsalesco.com
Robert Barnett-Board Member, The Ohio State University, 614-688-0256, E-Mail: barnett.5@osu.edu

The FIRE BUCKET is published as a forum for its members. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Central Ohio Chapter, or its Editor.
