



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Fire Engineering Division**

P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Web Site: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov>
(916) 445-8200
(916) 445-8458 Fax



**STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S
Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2007**

Committee Goal: To provide a means of communications between the Office of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, the public and the fire service; and to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and intended future action.

Members Present:

Ben Ho, Division Chief-OSFM
James Parsegian, Program Coordinator-OSFM
Mike Waldron, RA-OSFM
Stan Smith, Sprinklers Fitters 483
Dennis Grubb, Orange Co. Fire Authority
Jim Feld, U.C. Berkeley
Darrell Harguth, Brooks Fire Equipment
Darrell Hefley, Jorgensen & Co.
Jim McLaughlin, Lund, Pearson, McLaughlin
Sam Husoe, National Fire Sprinkler Assoc.
Robert Nolan, ASCIP (Schools)
Wayne Martin, FPE
Randy Dysart, Cintas Fire
Craig Voelkert, Amerex Corp.
Ken Liming, Insurance Services Office
Helen Brockenbrough, Support Staff-OSFM

Members Absent:

Steve Ha1i,NAS-IP
Allen Quirk, Paraclete Fire & Safety Inc.
Lorin Neyer, OSHPD
Robert Rowe, FSABSC
Chris Gilbert, Simplex Grinnell
Patrick Chew, City of Roseville Fire Department
David Casey, Department of State Architect
Russell Blair, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Fred Benn, Advance Automatic Sprinkler Inc. Robert
Raymer, CA. Building Industry Ass.

Members Absent Continued:

Robert Blankenship, California Department of Corrections
Steve Hart, NAS-IP
Gary Boyles, Rodeo-Hercules Fire District
Sam Husoe, NFSA
Jaymae Wentker, City of Mountain View
Dennis Grubb, Orange County Fire Authority

Meeting Called to Order

Meeting was called to order by James Parsegian @ 10:05 a.m. on September 26, 2007.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken, there was a quorum. James Parsegian introduced Chief Ben Ho as the new Division Chief of the Fire Engineering Division. Chief Ho expounded a little on his back ground of 17 years with the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). During his 17 years of service at the OSFM, eleven were dedicated to the Fire Engineering Division. He expressed his willingness to work with committee members to try to improve the Division and resolve any issues currently unresolved.

Chief Ho explained that a recent re-structuring that took place at the OSFM. The Fire Engineering Division reports directly to Dave Hillman, Deputy Director. Chief Hillman reports to the State Fire Marshal, Kate Dargan. The State Fire Marshal oversees the Fire Engineering Division and Law Enforcement. He further reported that last month Tanya Hoover was appointed as the Assistant State Fire Marshal. The Assistant State Fire Marshal over sees the Training Division, Fire & Life Safety, Code Development and Regulations.

James explained that Helen Brockenbrough will be taking the minutes today in Caroline Fudge's absence. He also thanked Dennis Grubb for hosting the meeting. Introductions were conducted by James Parsegian.

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from June 14, 2007, were reviewed and edited. There was a correction made to the "members present" section, regarding Wayne Martin. He no longer represents FSABSC, he is an Independent FPE. Wayne Martin moved to accept the minutes as amended and Jim McLaughlin seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as amended.

Old Business**1. WORK GROUP UPDATES**

NFPA 25 Workgroup -There have been several questions concerning NFPA 25 on the LA Area Fire Marshal's Association website. More training seminars have been conducted. There will be another meeting November 20, 2007, at the Orange County Fire Authority. James talked to Ray Bazallast week concerning this meeting. NFPA decided to have Dave Haque participate. Dave is the staff liaison, and is very knowledgeable on NFPA 25. The people that worked on NFPA 25 adoption will probably be requested to participate. James Parsegian requested that email addresses be forwarded to him, so he can forward them to Bill Murphy of the LA Area Fire Marshal's Association. Bill will send out invitations or

attendance requests next week.

Robert Nolan asked about the code interpretation process. James explained the code interpretation process at the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), and that some of the code sections required thousands of hours of research and the OSFM does not have the resources to support the task. The OSFM decided to interpret model codes and model standards. With the adoption of the international and national codes; SFM only interprets OSFM amendments. If somebody needs the model code/standard interpreted, they'll need to go to NFPA first, and then if further clarification is needed "on model language" they can turn to the OSFM. The OSFM will not make official interpretation on standards and codes.

Robert Nolan thanked James and Jim Feld for coming down and answering questions and being a valuable part of the panel.

James announced that in approximately two weeks the OSFM will change the bulletin structure on the website, to include frequently asked questions. It will be in the form of a document that can be sorted by category.

2. MITS UPDATE

Darryl Hefley gave an update on the last MITS meeting. There's been some miscommunication regarding the meeting announcement. There has been no full work group formed. At Steve Hart's request, he will assist the new Chairperson of MITS, Chris Gilbert. Everyone will be notified of the next meeting date.

Wet/Dry Chemical Pre-Engineered Fire Extinguishing Systems

Darryl Hefley passed out and discussed a handout for review on "Wet/Dry Chemical Pre-Engineered Fire Extinguishing Systems" Title 19, Chapter 5, 904.7. He explained the group was tasked to come up with a form similar to the form developed for the water based system to cover the pre-engineered and engineered systems. Forms 17, 17A, 12, 12A in 2001 were used as a basis to review and see what the requirements are for maintenance inspection and testing, and try to incorporate them into the same type of format. The forms are titled AES 20, 21 AND 22.

NFPA 17A Wet Chemical Pre-Engineered Fire Extinguishing Systems relating to restaurant type systems. Page 1 has a block for the property and contract information. Some information requested to be on the 1st page was systems location manufacturer's model number, number of hoods and hood lengths, duct sizes, fuel shut off, cylinder sizes and quantities. The form has a place to list cooking appliance locations (left to right) and sizes. Page 2 moves through the standard and different references for different types of services. The format identifies inspections, maintenance and testing, as well as frequency, description and reference. NFPA 17A was used unless noted. The California Fire Code speaks to the issue of the cleanliness of hoods ducts and filters there is no specific reference in 17A

Jim McLaughlin suggested that a place for the date be put on the forms. Chief Ho suggested a differentiation in wet and dry forms for identification purposes, and further agreed that a place for the date should be put on the form, preferably at the top. Chief Ho suggested moving page numbers (AES 20, AES 21, AES 22) to the top of the form as well. The Committee agreed to the changes.

ACTION ITEM: Darryl will make necessary corrections to the forms and send via email to committee members for review. He will bring amendments to the next meeting for further discussion.

AES 21, NFPA 17 Dry Chemical Pre-Engineered Fire Extinguishing Systems. As with the other form; Include date and Form # at the top. Put testing between inspection and maintenance as above, remove word or forms. Moving T 1. through T 1.3 between the I's and the M's. M-1.1 wording the same as "complete all inspection items" and end up at 1.12.

Move AES 20, etc. in front of the page numbers. Add to the cooking appliances the wording to include the location (left/right) with sizes and nozzles. Boxes 1-8 will be sectioned off so the nozzles can be identified along size the appliances.

On page 2 of 2, we will include the AES 20. Item 1-1.3, remove the words "or form". Renumber the M numbers and have M-1.1 to start off with complete all inspection bracing. The rest will be numbered all the way down to 2.0. Remove test items in between inspection and maintenance. Remove "annually" within the body of the description T-1.4.

NFPA 13 Workgroup

James announced that the Building Standards Commission changed the date to October 2007. He will put everything together and send out amendments by email next week. Dennis Grubb passed out and discussed NFPA 13, Section 8.6.5.2.1.4,. The proposal is that this Section be deleted without replacement. This is necessary to clarify that all obstructions to sprinkler spray patterns shall be considered.

A proposal to NFPA 13 Section 8.16.1.3.3 was presented. This amendment refers requirements for post indicator valves back to NFPA 24.

Discussion was held on clarifying language and when to require sectional valves (fire line to building or single hydrant).

Jim Feld discussed NFPA 13, Section 9.3.3.3. This proposed amendment requires additional seismic bracing.

Dennis Grubb addressed lag screws. He also discussed sections that were eliminated, replaced or modified from the CFC.

Jim Feld also discussed NFPA 13, Section 9.3.6.1, the end of line restraint requirements. He said the 4 methods considered approved are:

1. Use regular brace.
2. 12 gage, 440 lb seismic splay wire.
3. A wrap around U hook.
4. Other approved means

This proposed amendment would provide another option for end of line restraint. L over R must be less than or equal to 300. Length is limited to 28" and has to be installed at a minimum of 45 degrees. There was further discussion on options.

Title 24 will stay with the 2002 edition NFPA 25.

NFPA 13D

James started discussion regarding placement of some type of restriction on the monster homes that have above 7000 sq. ft. for single and 14000 sq. ft. for multiple floors. A 13D system does not adequately protect a single family dwelling of this size. There was a consensus to go forth with this amendment to 13D.

NFPA 13D, Section 8.6.4 was discussed and a consensus to put forth an amendment to remove the word 'garages' was reached.

NFPA 14 Workgroup

Discussion as to the proposed Amendment to NFPA 14, Section 6.4.5.4. regarding the placement of post indicator valves. The workgroup recommendation is to amend this section so it correlates requirements for the installation of post indicator valves found in NFPA 24.

NFPA 24 Workgroup

Discussion regarding proposed amendments to NFPA 24.

Section 4.2.1 - added "Requires appropriate license in the State of California" to the code:

Section 4.2.2 states that the AHJ has to be consulted, which has been modified to say that before the construction project can begin, the plans must be approved.

Section 4.2.2.1 states if you have an emergency break or repair you can begin to do repairs immediately, but must contact the AHJ within 96 hours.

Section 6.3.3.2 on code restrictions states the PIV has to be 40 ft. away from the building, because if the sprinkler system is overwhelmed there has to be a way to turn the sprinkler system off to redirect the water to manual operations. However with approval of the AHJ it can be closer.

Section 6.5.1 is a repeat of 13, for large systems. Appurtenances clarified. James obtained a consensus from the group on who agrees or disagrees with the amendment as written. The majority was against and will work on a recommendation to be forwarded to the OSFM. The recommendation must comply with section. 10.6.2, where the pipe must be under the building or building foundation.

Section 10.9.1- Clean fill sand must be a minimum of 6" below and a minimum of 12" above the top of the pipe to protect the pipe. No pee gravel allowed.

New Business

Secondary Water Supplies for High Rise Buildings

The Secondary Water Supplies for High Rise Buildings has been very contentious because of seismic zones. James tasked the committee members to do research on the new CBC, regarding the seismic zones.

FOLLOW-UP: Bring results to the next meeting for further discussion.

Open Forum

James passed around a faxed handout correspondence from Northstar Fire and asked everyone to review it and give him feedback. The handout references damage to pipes actual fittings with foam insulation applied to them. James will contact the manufacturer, Blaze Masters to obtain information. He asked that everyone email the findings to him so they can be reviewed before the next meeting. Sam suggests inviting someone knowledgeable about pipes and foam insulation from Blaze Masters to the next meeting.

James passed around 3 proposals received from Fred Benn, which will be heard and voted on at the Palm Springs meeting.

Sam Husoe spoke in Fred's absence and stated that Fred is seeking committee support to require an approved automatic fire sprinkler systems to be installed in new one-and- two-family dwellings and townhouses in accordance with NFPA 13D.

Craig Voelkert passed out and discussed handouts on "UL 300 comparison of and old and new standards" and on "FEMA commercial cooking operations".

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in Northern California, date and location to be determined.