



IFPA Monthly Newsletter

January/February

To all distinguished IFPA Members,

With the month of January already gone by and February coming to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to inform all of the membership of some product show updates. We presently have 29 booths already paid for and 10 on reserve by exhibitors. At this rate, we should exceed the amount of exhibitors that we had last year. If you are planning on displaying your products at this year's show, please be sure to contact William Sedlak (SFPE), Danielle Sandfox or Harold Miller for all of the necessary information. Otherwise, please visit our website (www.ifpanet.org) and print the exhibitors application which can be located under "IFPA Info" and tab "Forms and Applications."

As far as the CEU classes go, we have received registration information for approximately 43 individuals for one of the classes and 45 registrations submitted for the other. We truly appreciate all of you taking the time to attend these classes, we are sure that our presenters will be just as grateful.

Now to switch gears on you for a moment, I would like to inform all of the membership that was not able to make the January meeting. That we had a wonderful turnout, approximately 25-27 members were on hand. Rich Ray was kind enough to share with the membership all of the success that he has been having with NFPA at the ROC and ROP level. He provided a list of all of the battles that he has been up against, and this list can be viewed in the monthly minutes that can be found on the IFPA website. We also had the opportunity to view a presentation on NFPA 30 and the storage of Flammable and Combustible Liquids. This presentation was provided by Thomas Gray of CNA Insurance. If any of the membership would like any of the presentation information, please contact myself and I will be glad to provide this information to you.

Special thanks to Rich Ray and Thomas Gray for all of the valuable information.

Our February meeting was not so well attended due to the bad weather that came in that evening. Approximately 15 members attended. Our NFPA 20 Alternate Representative Brett Scharpenter informed us that NFPA has decided to accept the following "TIA":

Emergency Nature: In accordance with the NFPA Regulations Governing Committee projects Section 5.2, this TIA is of an emergency nature because the document contains an omission that was a result of the floor action at the NFPA Technical Session. In addition the proposed TIA

intends to offer to the public a benefit that would lessen a recognized (known) hazard or ameliorate a continuing dangerous condition or situation.

I have included a copy of the information that this “TIA” covers for your viewing.

Thank you Brett, for providing the above information!

At the meeting we also received a Product Show update as well as information regarding the CEU classes. We are still seeking volunteers to assist with the Product Show, so please contact Danielle or Harold if you are interested in assisting.

There is another thing that I would really like to ask of the membership, and that is if any of you have the opportunity to speak to Tom Lia or any of the NIFSAB Team. Please be sure and share your appreciation for all of the hard work that they are involved in with regards to improving and promoting our Industry. Just a couple of the recent accomplishments were the promoting of Fire Sprinkler Systems in Chicago after the 200 East Chestnut high-rise incident and also the recent bill (HB1175) that was passed regarding Inspections, Testing and Maintenance Reports having to be submitted to the local AHJ's.

Thank you NIFSAB Team, keep up the excellent work, it is greatly appreciated!!

Save the date



Continue to support our Industry and all of the hard work that has been put forth by all of those involved.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Rodriguez
Secretary



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TIA INFORMATION BELOW

NFPA 20-2010

Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection

TIA Log No. 976

Reference: 5.8 (New)

Comment Closing Date: December 18, 2009

Submitter's: Technical Committee on Fire Pumps

1. Add a new 5.8 as follows:

5.8 Protection of Control Wiring for Pumps in Series.

5.8.1* Interconnect control wiring of pumps in series which are not located in the same room and which affects starting of the supply (lower zone) pump(s) shall be protected against fire and physical damage in the same manner as power conductors described in NFPA 70, Article 695.

A.5.8.1 The following methods should be considered acceptable:

(1) Be encased in a minimum 50 mm (2 in.) of concrete (2) Be protected by a fire-rated assembly listed to achieve a minimum fire rating of 2 hours and dedicated to the fire pump circuit(s) (3) Be a listed electrical circuit protective system with a minimum 2-hour fire rating (4) Be protected by a listed fire-rated assembly that has a minimum fire rating of 2 hours and contains only emergency alarm and/or control wiring circuits dedicated to fire pumps or emergency systems generators or legally required generators, and no power wiring circuits

5.8.2 The motor on the supply (lower zone) pump(s) shall start on the opening of the control circuit (remote start) loop.

5.8.3 The installed controllers shall meet the requirements of 10.5.2.5 and/or 12.7.2.4 as applicable.

Substantiation: As a result of the floor action at the NFPA Technical Session the paragraph that would have required all high-rise pumps in series to be located within the same fire pump room was returned to the Committee and therefore deleted from the Standard. The Technical Committee addressed the need for protection of control wire installations by requiring all series fire pumps in high-rises to be located within the same fire pump room. The Committee did not contemplate any additional needs for control wire protection. The Standard as it exists does not contain any requirements for the protection of this critical wiring. Failure of this wiring could prevent lower zone pumps from starting when needed to supply building fire protection systems.

This could also result in failure of the higher zone pumps. The task group considered that each controller has an independent pressure switch, however there are certain conditions where the low zone pump pressure switch may be satisfied even though there may be an upper level water demand.

Also note that high zone pumps won't just cavitate in the absence of suction water; but, will run dry destroying them in short order and preventing any manual intervention. This will leave some high zones with out any fire protection, particularly those which are above the pumping ability of the local fire department. Since the building will already have a significant amount of 2 hour protected wiring already for the fire pump power supplies and for alarm and annunciator systems the added requirement to protect the controller wiring would not be difficult to achieve.

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