

REPORT TO IFPA ON NFPA 25 – 10/11/11 – Rich Ray

NFPA is now accepting Proposals to the 2014 edition of NFPA 25. The closing date to submit a Proposal is 11/25/11.

The ROP (Report on Proposals) meeting is scheduled for Jan 17-19, 2012 in San Antonio, TX - I will attend.

Here's some items that either I will submit proposals on our already have someone lined up to submit a proposal:

- 1) 8.1.6.1 (**Suction supply for a fire pump**) we need to add something like "as supplied by the owner" referring to the system demand (as we did in section 8.3.5.7). Too often, the system demand is unknown by the inspector since hydraulic placards are often not available.
- 2) 13.4.4.1.1 (Regarding inspecting to insure that a supply of heat capable of maintaining a minimum 40F heat in a **dry pipe valve enclosure** exists). This needs to be moved to Chapter 4 and become part of the Owner's Responsibility.
- 3) **5.2.1.1.2 Loaded or painted heads**: Is there a way of better defining what heads need replacing? Paint or loading on the sprinkler head element as an example.
- 4) **Corrosion prevention**: Corrosion is mentioned throughout the document. There are many devices and chemical inhibitors on the market that specifically address corrosion prevention. Is it time to put something in the document to address inspecting these products? Should they be listed? Also, should we add language to chapter 4 addressing the owners responsibility for keeping documentation on all corrosion issues and remedies on the system?
- 5) **Table E.1 Guidelines**: Refine table and move it to Annex A
- 6) **Escutcheons**: Add some language that addresses missing escutcheons. Many AHJs are treating missing escutcheons as a deficiency, but the labs do not test them as a unit and do not feel they are a deficiency.
- 7) **14.1 Internal Inspection of Piping**: We need to prepare to defend the 5 year internal inspection based on the last cycle. Removing a head from a branch line does not give you an adequate view of the internal piping. A lot of the air/water interface where corrosion begins occurs in the branch lines. Should we try to add a requirement to break lines apart during this inspection?
- 8) **A.4.1.4 Recalled products**: I recently did a quick search on the word "recall" in NFPA 25, 2002, 2008, and 2011 editions. Section A.4.1.4 2002, 2008, and 2011 editions is an annex section referring to the owner's responsibilities. However, in the 2008 edition, there is a new section 5.2.1.1.6 on sprinklers requiring recalled heads to be replaced. It disappeared in the 2011 edition with no record of the change in the ROP or ROC that I could find. We like having in the annex under the owner's section and do not want it in the body. Florida is getting ready to adopt the 2008 edition and we continue to stumble across recalled heads. I would like to explain the committee's action on placing this in the annex, under the owner's responsibilities to the AHJ. Do you remember how section 5.2.1.1.6 was changed in the last cycle? Was this a mistake?

Things I anticipate to see come up this cycle:

- a) push back by owners on testing of dry pipe and preaction valves
- b) owners trying to make design & installation issues "part of" an NFPA 25 inspection (again)

Discuss TIA 11-2 (antifreeze for ESFR heads) and it sure looks like Blazemaster is coming out with a noncombustible antifreeze that can give protection to -45F. Stay tuned.

END