

SFPE Policy on Marketing of Chapter Activity

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Background

The work of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) is recognized, used, and valued throughout the global fire protection engineering industry. Some of this work includes, but is not limited to, webinars, seminars, conferences, symposiums, magazines, newsletters, and technical engineering standards and guidelines.

In addition to the products and services that SFPE produces, our 100+ chapters around the world produce products and programs to support their local, defined region of operation as stated in their chapter Constitution and Bylaws (see sample below).

ARTICLE V Chapters

Section 1. Groups of members of the Society in individual geographical areas desiring to form a local chapter for purposes of local advancement of the purposes of the Society may apply to the Board of Directors for authority to organize as a chapter. If authorized chapter status, the chapter shall be chartered as the “ _____ Chapter” of the Society.

Section 3. In addition to provisions pertaining to the objectives and operations of the chapter, each chapter constitution and bylaws shall include indication of the geographic area from which the chapter solicits membership. A chapter’s constitution and bylaws shall not conflict with those of the Society.

The SFPE Standing Rules also state that all affiliated and incorporated chapters’ frameworks restrict their operations to the specific geographic region identified in their chapter charter.

Due to the number of SFPE’s own offerings and the volume of events, publications, and other activities of the 100+ chapters, SFPE does not have the resources or bandwidth to market local chapter products and services. Marketing of these chapter activities outside of the pre-defined regional area within the chapter’s bylaws would be contradicting the purpose and rules around chapter activity.

Policy

SFPE will not assist a local chapter in marketing products, programs, or services, including events, webinars, seminars, meetings, or activities of any kind. This does not include paid advertising purchased by a local chapter in SFPE media.

This policy does not apply to products, programs, or services that SFPE directly hosts, manages, or finances (e.g., bi-annual European Conference, bi-annual PBD conference, Engineering Solutions Symposiums) or any future activities or programs where SFPE has chosen to collaborate directly with a local chapter or regional group.