



SFPE Policy on the Use of Languages

Adopted: January 9, 2019

The work of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) is recognized, used and valued throughout the global fire protection engineering industry. With a global audience, there are also numerous languages used by those who are interested in reviewing and accessing SFPE's materials. In order to address those requests for translation of our materials and intellectual property, the following board-approved policy has been established.

Use of Languages Policy

The official language for all technical works (e.g. standards, guides, papers, courses, books, webinars, conference materials), events (e.g. conferences, meetings, workshops, seminars, symposia), and other activities held by SFPE will be in American English.

Substantiation for This Policy:

SFPE is a global professional engineering society that produces intellectual property by its members, consultants, and staff. The majority of members and participants come from English-speaking countries where English is either the primary or secondary language.

Technical Works

The primary and default language for all written technical work developed and produced by SFPE will be American English. This includes the SFPE Handbook, standards, guides, educational courses, webinars, and other technical papers and publications.

When committees are involved in the development and/or review of technical work, their communications will also be in American English, including for meetings and committee correspondence.

All technical work will utilize both metric and imperial units.

Events

SFPE offers a range of events to provide continuing education for fire protection engineers. These events include webinars, conferences and seminars.

All material for these events will be developed and produced in American English. When a need is identified, translators for these events may be made available.

Presentations which are approved for, and made in English, and that could be prepared by the same presenter in another language, may also be made available through SFPE.

Chapter Operations

SFPE Chapters are permitted to operate in their local languages as necessary for their chapter correspondence, meetings, and locally sponsored events.

Policy on Translation

Individuals, chapters, or organizations wishing to translate SFPE intellectual property may make a request to SFPE (info@sfpe.org) and will be considered on a case by case basis.

If approved, it will be the responsibility of the individual, chapter, or organization to pay for the cost of translating the intellectual and the following disclaimer must be included on the first page of the item:

The Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) published the original version of this document in the English language and it is available at XXX. This translation has not been verified by SFPE.

If the translated item is intended to be sold, a royalty agreement will be issued as well.

Technical works which are translated to languages other than American English will not be recognized as the official work of SFPE.

Electronic Translations through Web Platforms

Unsanctioned online content may utilize a third-party service to offer translations. Neither SFPE nor any agency, officer, or employee of SFPE warrants the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of any information translated by this system and will not be liable for any losses caused by any reliance on the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of the translation. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the translation, portions may be incorrect. Any person or entity who relies on information obtained from the system does so at his or her own risk.