



Forum on Fire Protection Engineering: Challenges in Storage

September 8 - 9, 2022

Speakers

(Alphabetical order)



Robert Accosta, Jr.

Robert is a licensed fire protection engineer in Arup's New York office. He has been active in the volunteer fire service for the last 20 years and currently serves as Deputy Fire Chief. Robert is a principal member of the Fire Protection Technical Committee for New York City Construction Codes Revision, a principal member on the NFPA 72 Technical Committee on Notification Appliances for Fire Alarm and Signaling Systems and an alternate member on the NFPA 13 Technical Committee on Sprinkler System Installation Criteria. He is the Past President for Society of Fire Protection Engineers, New York Metropolitan Chapter. Robert's expertise focuses on fire protection systems design and life safety code consulting from project inception through beneficial occupancy and closeout.



Weston Baker, Jr.

Wes Baker is a Senior Engineering Technical Specialist in the Chief Engineers Group at F.M. Global. He is a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers and an NFPA member serving on both the NFPA 13 Installation and NFPA 13 Discharge committees. He has been with F.M. Global for 37 years and is currently responsible for data sheets related to the protection of storage, as well as the installation guidelines for sprinklers that are used for storage protection.

Mr. Baker was named the 2011 William M. Carey award recipient by the Fire Protection Research Foundation, an affiliate of the NFPA, for his technical paper, "Storage Sprinkler Design Criteria" – the concept behind the 2010 release of F.M. Global's Property Loss Prevention Data Sheet 8-9, Storage of Class 1, 2, 3, 4 and Plastic Commodities. Mr. Baker also received a Special Achievement Award from NFPA in 2015 for the contributions he provided on updating the 2016 Edition of NFPA 13 regarding guidelines for commodity classification.



Kerry Bell

Kerry is a Corporate Fellow and Principal Engineer for fire sprinkler and pump equipment at U.L. Since 1976, he has been involved in U.L.'s testing and certification activities related to a variety of fire suppression products including portable fire extinguishers, special hazard extinguishing systems as well as fire sprinkler and pump system equipment. He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Protection and Safety Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology and a Master of Business Administration degree from Northern Illinois University. He has been a registered professional engineer in the State of Illinois since 1981. He is a life member of NFPA and a Fellow member of the SFPE. He currently participates or previously participated in dozens of technical committees of the NFPA, International Organization for Standardization (ISO), American Water Works Association (AWWA), ASTM International and Underwriters Laboratories Inc. He was one of the key technical contributors in the design of U.L.'s award-winning large-scale fire test facility which opened in 1996. Bell has been a primary technical contributor in the development of new and/or revisions to more than 50 U.L. standards. He was member of NFPA's Standards Council for 15 years from 2004 - 2019 including serving as Chair for 6 years.



Tracey Bellamy

Tracey is Chief Engineering Officer at Telgian Engineering & Consulting. He has nearly 35 years of experience in fire protection engineering with extensive experience with fire suppression system design, fire hazard analysis and fire protection system inspection and testing. He is licensed as a Professional Engineer in 49 U.S. states, and a Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS) as well as a Certified Water Based System Professional. He serves on several NFPA technical and correlating committees including NFPA 1, 11, 13, 15, 16, 25, 30, 30B, 101 and 5000 (building code). He has been a major contributor to the NFPA 13 and NFPA 25 Handbooks as well as the upcoming 21st Edition of the NFPA Fire Protection Handbook.



Sean DeCrane

Sean DeCrane retired as a 25+ year veteran of the Cleveland Division of Fire. He served in various roles including the Director of Training and Chief of Operations retiring as a Battalion Chief. Sean is currently the Manager of Industry Relations for the U.L.'s built Environment COU. He is responsible for engaging with various industry organizations with a focus on the international fire service including Asia, Australia, Europe, and the United Kingdom. Sean has been involved in the research at Underwriters Laboratories and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. He served on the U.L. Fire Council and is a member of the U.L. Fire Safety Research Institute's Advisory Board. In 2021, Sean was named to the UL William Henry Merrill Society as a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff.



John Denhardt

John August Denhardt, P.E., E.T., FSFPE, CWBSP, is Vice President of Engineering and Technical Services for AFSA. He is responsible for strengthening AFSA's engineering and technical approaches to meeting member, industry, and operational priorities, with an emphasis on service, quality, and integrity. Denhardt is a Professional Engineer (P.E.) registered in the District of Columbia as well as the states of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. He is a NICET Level III in Water-Based Systems Layout, a NICET Level III in Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Systems, and an NFPA Certified Water-Based Systems Professional (CWBSP). Denhardt is a member of the NFPA 13 Sprinkler Discharge Committee, a Fellow of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), a member of the SFPE Board of Directors, a member of the Board of Trustees for NFPA's Fire Protection Research Foundation and sits on the University of Maryland Department of Fire Protection Engineering's Board of Visitors. A native of Maryland, Denhardt holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Protection Engineering from the University of Maryland in College Park. Before accepting this position, Denhardt was employed by Strickland Fire Protection in Forestville, Maryland, since 1994, overseeing large-scale projects and assisting with design and installation technical issues. He has served as an AFSA instructor, volunteered as a subject matter expert assisting with AFSA training updates, represented the Association on various technical committees, and authored numerous articles in the Association's flagship publication Sprinkler Age.



Christina Francis

Christina F. Francis, PE, FSFPE, currently serves as Senior Staff Fire & Regulatory Specialist for Tesla, Inc. Her previous roles include Global Fire Protection Engineer for The Procter & Gamble Co. (P&G), loss control associate with Industrial Risk Insurers, and design engineer with Bechtel. With almost 30 years in the fire protection industry, her experience includes design, construction management, loss prevention, risk management, and code consulting on a variety of industrial projects throughout the world. Ms. Francis has a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Auburn University, is a registered professional engineer in Fire Protection, and is a Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS). She is a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Industrial Fire Protection Section (past Chair), and previous Board Member of Fire Protection Research Foundation.



John Frank

John began his career as a professional firefighter and rose to the rank of base Assistant Fire Chief for the United States Air Force. He subsequently joined the Highly Protected Risk insurance industry as a property loss control engineer. John is currently the Property Center of Expertise Leader at AXA XL Risk Consulting, where he and his team provide advanced fire protection engineering support to the organization and its customers. As a volunteer firefighter in metro-Atlanta, he was part of the hose team that affected final extinguishment of a large bin box carousel ASRS fire that was controlled by four sprinklers. The residual fire was deep in an inaccessible part of the carousel. John was also a technical advisor at a tire warehouse fire and rolled paper warehouse fire. For more than 20 years, John has conducted custom pre-emergency planning classes for insured properties and their fire departments. These departments range in size from small volunteer to large urban. He has also evaluated fire department response capability in for sites in Germany, Switzerland, and Russia.



James Golinveaux

James E. Golinveaux is currently the President / CEO of Viking Group, Inc. With 39 years of experience in the fire protection industry including both contracting and manufacturing,

He currently holds 71 Patents in Automatic Sprinkler Technologies. James is the current Chair of the NFPA Standards Council and also serves on the ANSI Executive Standards Council (ExSC). He is a past member or the Board of Trustees for the Fire Protection Research Foundation, as well as multiple other Boards and Councils including the Factory Mutual Advisory Committee, AFSA, NFSA and the International Fire Sprinkler Association. James has lectured in 43 countries on Fire Suppression Technologies.



William Koffel

Bill is President and founder of Koffel Associates, Inc. He is recognized as an expert in the fire protection and life safety aspects of codes and standards.

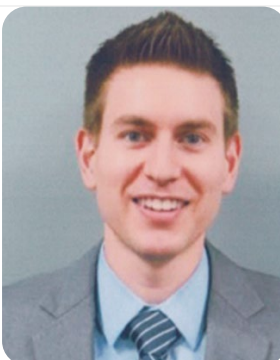
Mr. Koffel graduated in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Fire Protection Engineering from the University of Maryland; earned his Professional Engineering license in the specialty of fire protection engineering in 1983; and worked in private industry as well as in the Maryland State Fire Marshall's office. Totally committed to the fire protection and life safety industry with its governing codes, standards and design guidelines, he is Past President of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, serves on numerous National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Technical Committees, past member of the Department of Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee on Structural Safety Issues, and is one of a handful of approved NFPA instructors teaching various code-related seminars, nationally and internationally. He has co-authored manuals, including the "Fire Warning and Safety Systems" American Hospital Association manual which is the industry's guide to selecting, testing, and maintaining fire suppression, fire alarm, and smoke control systems; and has contributed to, or currently serves on, various panels and committees including those for Underwriters Laboratory and the International Code Council (ICC).



John LeBlanc

In 1986, he founded Koffel Associates and has presided over its national and international growth to its current staff of 40 people with offices in Maryland, Connecticut, and Massachusetts.

John LeBlanc is a Staff Vice President and Senior Engineering Technical Specialist within the Chief Engineer's group of F.M. Global. John has been with F.M. Global for 36 years. John is responsible for the development and updating of F.M. Global's Property Loss Prevention Data Sheets on ignitable liquid handling/storage, aerosol products, explosion protection systems, and provides support to all of the special hazard subject matter experts who handle combustible dust standards, flammable gas standards, hazardous chemical standards and special protection systems. In addition, he works with Research to support the development of research programs to understand and protect client scenarios. John received a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University and a Master of Science in Fire Protection Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He serves on eleven National Fire Protection Association committees responsible for ignitable (flammable and/or combustible) liquids (30), aerosol products (30B), finishing processes (33/34), explosion protection systems (67/68/69), static electricity (NFPA 77), the correlating committee for NFPA 13, and the correlating committee on combustible dusts. John is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the Society of Fire Protection Engineers.



Joshua Macke

Josh Macke joined the Shambaugh team in 2008 after earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University. He is a Professional Engineer licensed in Indiana, Arkansas, and Florida, as well as NICET Level III certified in water-based fire protect systems layout. Working as a designer, he gained experience on a variety of projects including schools, mercantile, hotels, manufacturing, special hazards, and cold storage facilities.



Garner Palenske

Mr. Palenske is a fire protection engineer with more than thirty-two years of experience in the fire protection and life safety field. During this time he has served as the Fire Protection Engineer for the San Diego Fire Department, a field engineer for F.M. Global, and as a consulting fire protection engineer. Mr. Palenske's technical portfolio includes forensic work, fire research, fire sprinkler consulting, and wildland fire analysis. His publications include numerous research projects exploring fire sprinkler issues, such as ESFR storage sprinkler performance, high-piled storage fire behavior, and factors affecting sprinkler performance. Garner is a proud graduate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, obtaining his Master of Science degree in Fire Protection Engineering in 2019. He is a current member of the NFPA 13 Correlation and Discharge Committees.



Rodger Reiswig

Rodger has been part of Johnson Controls for over 35 years. Starting his career as a fire alarm field technician, Rodger has held several life safety systems focused roles: sales, sales engineering, training, and management. Today, Rodger holds the position of Fellow & V.P., Industry Relations. In this global role, Rodger is instrumental in improving life safety for people around the world through his efforts to improve fire protection codes and standards and champion their adoption and enforcement. Rodger is part of numerous industry and code related organizations, and he serves on 25 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) technical committees as well as on NFPA's Standards Council. Rodger Chairs (ESA) Electronic Security Associations' life safety Codes and Standards committee, Chair of the signaling section, BS-SB for the U.S. based National Electrical Manufacturers' Association (NEMA).



Noah Ryder

For 20 years Dr. Noah Ryder has focused on understanding fire and explosion's interaction with both built and natural environments. He is a licensed professional fire protection engineer and focuses on how safety can be improved through the use of risk assessments, hazard evaluations, modeling, and performance-based design. Noah teaches Fire & Explosion Investigation and Industrial Fire Protection Engineering courses at the University of Maryland in the Fire Protection Engineering Department and the Investigation and Advanced Enclosure Fire Dynamics courses at the University of Waterloo. He is actively engaged in applied research related to advanced fire detection and fire state determination, fire suppression, and battery energy storage solutions. He is a member of numerous NFPA technical committees. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Fire Protection Engineering from the University of Maryland, an MBA from the RH Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland, and a PhD in Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering from the University of Waterloo.



Will Smith

William B. Smith, PE, PEng. is Principal of the Fire Protection Systems Design Group for CCI and has been actively involved in the fire protection industry for 33 years. Mr. Smith holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and is registered as a Professional Engineer – Fire Protection in 40 U.S. States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and 5 Provinces in Canada. Will's leadership role in the Fire Sprinkler and Fire Alarm Design Group has created a high level of expertise at CCI, while providing cost-effective solutions for suppression systems in difficult construction conditions. He is a member of the NFPA 13 Technical Committee on Sprinkler System Installation Criteria, the Chair of the Technical Committee on Sprinkler System Discharge Criteria and a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers. As Principal of the Fire Protection Systems Design Group at CCI, Will is responsible for all facets of project management, client relations, contract administration, and quality control. He facilitates the preparation of construction documents including drawings, specifications, and hydraulic calculations for competitive bidding, permit application and contracting. Client retention, project constructability, and contract management are foundational objectives, as well as departmental training and management of CCI's design team. Will has provided fire protection systems design services for thousands of projects, including hotels, apartments, condominiums, corporate offices, distribution centers, and retail and mixed-use developments. Other responsibilities include High-Piled Storage, Hazardous Materials, Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Dust Hazard Analysis and Battery Energy Storage Systems consultation.



Robert Vincent

Rob is the Chief Operating Officer of Shambaugh & Son, L.P. with over 40 years of fire protection experience. Shambaugh is a National Fire Protection Contractor with 26 offices, 6 fabrication facilities, and 2000+ team members throughout the United States. Rob is a member of the International Cold Storage Contractors Association and serves on the National Fire Sprinkler Association's (NFSA) Engineering and Standards Committee. He is a member of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and serves on NFPA 13 Automatic Sprinkler Systems Installation Criteria, NFPA 409 Airport Facilities, NFPA 410 Aircraft Maintenance, and NFPA 423 Standard for Construction & Protection of Aircraft Test Facilities. He also serves on the Board of the Northeast Indiana Construction Alliance and is a member of the Board of Directors for Southern Automotive Contractors Association.