

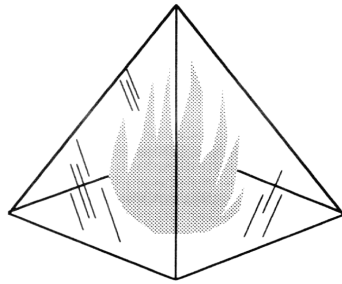
November 2013

**Special points of interest:**

- If you haven't paid your dues, please go to our website and send the form to John Spitz Jr.
- Mark your calendar for Future Cities on January 25, 2014. For more information go to <http://www.futurecityphilly.org/>
- Have a Happy and safe Thanksgiving!
- Invite a friend or colleague to this month's meeting

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# Flashpoint

Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter  
Society of Fire Protection Engineers

## November Speaker Dr. Jim Milke Of University of Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday November 12, 2013

**Place:** Jacobs Engineering Group  
Three Tower Bridge Suite 3000  
Conshohocken, PA

See Page 6 for directions

**5:30 PM:** Fellowship Time

**6:30 PM:** Dinner

### **Dinner Program:**

Dr. Milke will give us a presentation on the "Comparison of Performance of Smoke Detectors and Sprinklers in Fire Incidents". Jim Milke is a Professor and the Chair of the Department of Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland. Dr. Milke has served on the Society's Board of Directors since 2004 and is an SFPE Fellow. He has received a num-

ber of SFPE awards over the years including the prestigious John L. Bryan Mentor Award and the Harold E. Nelson award. Dr. Milke holds a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering, a Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering, a Bachelors degree in Fire Protection Engineering and a second Bachelors degree in Physics. He is a licensed Professional Engineer.

**Cost:** \$25.00 for dinner & program

**Reservations:** By 12 noon, Friday, November 8th, 2013

**Reserve with:** Jeff LaSalle by E-mail:

**[jlasalle@lasalleeng.com](mailto:jlasalle@lasalleeng.com) or  
Fax: (215) 658-1772** ♦

## Secondary Story Headline

A new report from the Fire Protection Research Foundation shows that the national average cost of installing home fire sprinklers is \$1.35 per sprinklered square foot. That's down from a national average of \$1.61 in 2008. The study looks at sprinkler installation costs at 51 homes in 17 communities. The study also shows that CPVC piping continues to be the material of choice for home fire sprinklers, and that significantly lower installation costs are found in the two states having statewide sprinkler ordinances: Maryland and California. This decrease may also be due to sprinkler system application in homes that has steadily increased in recent years, driven in large part by building codes, outreach, and education.

**FLASHPOINT**  
"The purpose of FLASHPOINT is to provide a forum for the transfer of information between members of the Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) and to give the Chapter visibility."

Newsletter/Publicity Committee: Jay Stough

Information for publication can be submitted to: **Jay Stough**

Email: [jays@tilleyfire.com](mailto:jays@tilleyfire.com)

This Newsletter is published 9 or 10 times/year (September through June) and received as part of membership of the Chapter. Membership Dues are \$30.00 collected annually in the Fall of the Year. For an Application of Membership contact: **Jeff LaSalle**

Email: [jlalle@lasalleeng.com](mailto:jlalle@lasalleeng.com)

Visit our web site at:  
[www.sfp Philadelphia.org](http://www.sfp Philadelphia.org)

Articles written are the views of the Author and not necessarily those of the Philadelphia-Delaware Valley Chapter of SFPE. ❖

## President's Spark by Mike Venneri PE

Thank you to Bob Moser, one of our very own members for his presentation on the FDS (Fire Dynamic Simulator) and related applications. Bob's presentation was timely and almost a follow up to the previous meeting on Performance Based Designs. Bob has taken the FDS into numerous applications beyond the world of Fire Protection Engineering proving how powerful a tool it can be for the proper application.

Mike Venneri

## Turkey Fryer Safety Tips

UL considers turkey fryers to be dangerous to use presenting numerous safety hazards to consumers. "We're worried by the increasing reports of fires related with turkey fryer use," says John Drenenberg, consumer affairs manager of UL. "Based on our test findings, the fryers used to produce those great-tasting birds are not worth the risks. And, as a result of these tests, UL has decided not to certify any turkey fryers with our trusted UL Mark."

### Turkey fryer hazards

- Many units easily tip over, spilling the hot oil from the cooking pot.
  - If the cooking pot is overfilled with oil, the oil may spill out of the unit when the turkey is placed into the cooking pot. Oil may hit the burner or flames, causing a fire to engulf the entire unit.
  - Partially frozen turkeys placed into the fryer can cause a spillover effect. This too may result in an extensive fire.
  - With no thermostat controls, the units also have the potential to overheat the oil to the point of combustion.
  - The lid and handles on the sides of the cooking pot get dangerously hot, posing severe burn hazards.
- ### Important safety information
- If you absolutely must use a turkey fryer, please use the following tips.
  - Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors a safe distance from buildings and any other flammable materials.
  - Never use turkey fryers in a garage or on a wooden deck.
  - Make sure the fryers are used on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
  - Never leave the fryer unattended. Most units do not have thermostat controls. If you do not watch the fryer carefully, the oil will continue to heat until it catches fire.
  - Never let children or pets near the fryer even if it is not in use. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot hours after use.
  - To avoid oil spillover, do not overfill the fryer.
  - Use well-insulated potholders or oven mitts when touching pot or lid handles. If possible, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from oil splatter.
  - Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and be careful with marinades. Oil and water do not mix, and water causes oil to spill over causing a fire or even an explosion hazard.

## **New CBT Testing for Fundamentals of Engineering Exam**

On the national front, the final paper and pencil Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam will be administered in October, 2013. On November 4th, FE candidates will be able to register with NCEES and select an exam site for the computer-based testing (CBT) to begin on January 2nd at a Pearson Vue testing center. These testing centers will provide a carefully monitored, consistent testing environment across the country.

The exam will be available in four testing windows: January-February, April-May, July-August, and October- November. Examinees may register for an exam during these times, but are limited to one time per testing window and three attempts during a 12-month window.

In Delaware, examinees with an ABET-accredited engineering degree may apply directly with NCEES for the exam. All other examinees will be required to submit an application and official educational documents for pre-approval.

Examinees will be provided with six hours of seat time at the computer testing center. This includes 5 hours and 20 minutes to complete the exam, tutorial and break times. Exam cost will now be \$225, plus any state specific fees.

Exam will consist of 110 questions. 24" monitors will be available to accommodate the embedded searchable supplied reference manual, as well as a calculator. Examinees may bring an approved calculator. A reusable board will be provided for scratch work.

After the successful passage of the exam, certification will be issued upon application.

The NCEES Annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas, was well attended by representatives from all jurisdictions in the country. Many motions were passed by a Consent Agenda, unless removal was specifically requested for separate consideration. Member boards discussed, in addition to CBT, amending the Model Law and Model Rules to:

- ▯ Eliminate the 4 years of experience between exams
- ▯ Specifically define disciplinary action
- ▯ Remind engineers that they must be competent to perform surveying incidental of the practice of engineering.
- ▯ Consider education and experience outside the U.S. to be equivalent to U.S. education and experience.
- ▯ Editorial changes to accommodate CBT and the new direct CBT registration with NCEES.

**Submitted by:** *Jim Davidson, PE*

**"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."**

*Edith Wharton*

**"When you change your clocks, don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors."**

*Right is right even  
if nobody's doing it,  
Wrong is wrong  
even if everybody's  
doing it.*

*If you have not  
paid your dues yet  
this year, please  
go to the [Phila](#)  
[SFPE](#) website and  
download the  
form and send it  
to John Spitz, our  
treasurer.*

## **Free Webinar on Inert Gas Suppression Systems.**

November 7, 2013 at 2:00 P.M., U.S. Eastern Time. This webinar will explain the intricacies of gaseous fire suppression. Attendees will learn about the history of suppression gases and how liquid and inert gas agents compare. The webinar also discusses the design components of inert agents and how they're applied to various applications for ultimate survivability and asset protection. SFPE Members who participate in the entire webinar will receive 0.1 CEUs. For more information or to register, go to [SFPE Webinar](#).

## **NFPA Issues Interim Amendments of 5 Documents**

At its October 2013 meeting, the NFPA Standards Council considered the issuance of several proposed Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA). The following TIAs on [NFPA 58](#), [NFPA 70](#), [NFPA 101](#), [NFPA 1006](#), and [NFPA 1403](#) were issued by the Council on October 22, 2013:

NFPA 58, [TIA 14-3](#), referencing sections 5.7.4, 11.4.1.11, 11.4.1.15, and 11.13.2.8

NFPA 70, [TIA 14-2](#), referencing Article 445.20

NFPA 101, [TIA 12-3](#), referencing Table 17.1.6.1

NFPA 101, [TIA 12-4](#), referencing section 19.2.2.2.5.2

NFPA 1006, [TIA 13-1](#), referencing sections 7.1, 8.1, 9.1 10.1, 16.1, 17.1.1, 18.1, and A.6.1.

NFPA 1403, [TIA 12-1](#), referencing section 4.16

Tentative Interim Amendments (TIAs) are amendments to an NFPA document processed in accordance with Section 5 of the [Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards](#) (Regulations Governing Committee Projects). They have not gone through the entire standards development process of being published in a First Draft Report (formerly ROP) and Second Draft Report (formerly ROC) for review and comment. TIAs are effective only between editions of the document. A TIA automatically becomes a public input (formerly proposal) for the next edition of the document, as such is then subject to all of the [procedures of the standards development process](#). TIAs are published in [NFPA News](#), NFCSS, and any further distribution of the document after being issued by the Standards Council.

Copied from the NFPA website

# November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 ASCET SJ chapter Mtg	7 Inert Gas Webinar	8	9
10	11	12 SFPE Business	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 ASCET Berks chap- ter	20 ASCET Delaware chapter mtg	21	22	23
24	25	26 ASCET Phila chap- ter	27	28 Thanksgiv- ing!	29	30

## Monthly events

- Nov 6: NJ ASCET Meeting @ the Collins House in Collingswood, NJ
- Nov.7: Inert Gas Suppression System Webinar from SFPE
- Nov 12: SFPE meeting @ Jacobs Engineering. Don't forget to make your reservation by Friday Sept. 7th.
- Nov 19: Berks County ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Valentino's in Kutztown 6PM
- Nov 20: Delaware ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Charcoal Pit on Kirkwood Highway in Wilmington
- Nov 26: Phila. ASCET Chapter Meeting @ Michael's Dinner in Bensalem
- Nov 28: Thanksgiving



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## Mission Statement

The Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter purpose is to advance the art and science of fire protection engineering and its allied fields, for the reduction of life and property losses from fire, to maintain high ethical standards on engineering among its members and to foster fire protection education.

Recognition of fire protection engineering as a discrete engineering discipline is a prime goal. Engineering disciplines exist because there is a special body of knowledge based on the fundamentals of mathematics, physics, chemistry, engineering science and economics.

The chapter strives to facilitate sharing of sound engineering experiences and knowledge between its members and the fire protection community in general with an active program of education and scholarship activities.

## Directions to Jacobs Engineering

### From Central Philadelphia:

Follow the Schuylkill Expressway (I-76) west to Exit 29 (Conshohocken). Stay in the center lane. At the traffic light, go straight and cross the Fayette Street Bridge. **At the next traffic light, turn right onto Elm Street. Go two blocks and turn right onto Ash Street. Three Tower Bridge is 1/8 mile on your right at the end of the street.**

### From Philadelphia International Airport and points south:

North on I-95 to Exit 7. Follow I-476 North (toward Plymouth Meeting) to Exit 16. Follow signs for Route 23 Conshohocken. At the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp, turn right. Continue down road merging into the center lane. At the traffic light, go straight and cross the Fayette Street Bridge. Continue from bold text above.

### From Allentown and points north:

Take the Northeast Extension of the PA Turnpike south to Exit 25A (Mid-County Interchange). Follow signs to I-476 South. Continue to Exit 16 (Valley Forge). On the off-ramp, follow signs to Route 23 Conshohocken. At the traffic light at the end

of the off-ramp, turn right. Continue down road merging into the center lane. At the traffic light, go straight and cross the Fayette Street Bridge. Continue from bold text above.

### From New York and Northern New Jersey:

Take the New Jersey Turnpike south to exit 6 (PA Turnpike). Take PA Turnpike west to exit 25A (Mid-County Interchange). Follow signs to I-476 South. Continue to Exit 16 (Valley Forge). On the off-ramp, follow signs to Route 23 Conshohocken. At the traffic light at the end of the off-ramp, turn right. Continue down road merging into the center lane. Continue from bold text above.

### From points west:

On the PA Turnpike, Take exit 24 (King of Prussia). Follow signs for I-76 east (toward Philadelphia). Take exit 28B (Plymouth Meeting). Follow signs for Route 23 Conshohocken. Continue from bold text above.

### Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.

**Three Tower Bridge, Two Ash Street – Suite 3000**

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