## SOCIETY OF FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS

# FLASHPOINT

**VOLUME 23, ISSUE 3** 

**NOVEMBER 2017** 

# **NOVEMBER MEETING INFORMATION**

DATE: WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2017

LOCATION:

JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP

THREE TOWER BRIDGE, SUITE 3000,

CONSHOHOCKEN, PA

TIME:

5:30 FELLOWSHIP TIME

6:00 DINNER

DINNER PROGRAM:

This month we will be welcoming Mike Zittle. The presentation will include information on mass notification.

**Emergency Communications / Mass Notification Systems** 

- Fire alarm systems are required in every building. How do you take these code required systems and expand them into ones that provide emergency communications to everyone in the facility, campus or industrial complex? With the need to get information out to everyone quickly, this presentation will provide many ways to deal with the notification of the many different types of emergencies from fire to weather to intruder to terrorism.

COST: \$25.00 FOR DINNER AND PROGRAM

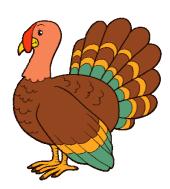
RESERVATIONS BY: 12:00 NOON

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 10,2017

PLEASE RSVP WITH:

JAY STOUGH

jStough@tilleyfire.com



## **FUTURE CITY PROGRAM**

With your help, we introduced over 600 middle school students at over 50 schools to the engineering profession. The Philadelphia Region is now in its 23rd year of competition.

Your continued sponsorship is greatly appreciated as costs to run the program continue to increase, with a current budget of \$37,000. Any increase in your sponsorship level will ensure the continued high-quality program Future City has provided since 1996.

Attached to this email are the sponsorship program flyer and sponsorship form. Please complete and return the sponsorship form as soon as possible so we can properly acknowledge your support in our publications and on our web site.

As always, we need many volunteer engineers to mentor the schools, judge and to keep things moving smoothly on Competition Day. Please encourage your colleagues to sign up to volunteer at www.futurecityphilly.org.

We look forward to including your name in the list of sponsors for the 2018 program.

## Inside this issue:

MEETING I INFO

PENN. UCC 2 ACT

PRESIDENT'S 2 SPARK

STEEL 3
BUILDINGS

FUTURE CITIES 4
INFO

FUTURE CITIES 5

CALENDAR 6

## PENNSYLVANIA'S UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ACT

From Mike Fink:

As expected, HB 409, amending Pennsylvania's Uniform Construction Code Act, was signed by the Governor on October 26, 2017. While these amendments allow for a process for the State to adopt all or portions of the 2015 International Codes next year, future adoptions will be significantly delayed. This would mean that Pennsylvania will always be applying accessibility provisions of the latest code, with remaining code provisions of a much older code.

This type of confusion and delay is unacceptable for Philadelphia. Therefore, we sought, and were granted, an amendment allowing Philadelphia to adopt the 2018 International Codes for commercial construction. We intend to do so effective October 1, 2018 when the State adopts its modified version of the 2015 Codes. This will mean that, beginning January 1, 2019, Philadelphia will be enforcing a single set of construction codes for commercial development.

As part of the adoption process, we are seeking input from our stakeholders on the 2018 International Codes. We are asking for public comment (in support or in opposition) on the 2018 International Code provisions. Comment may be submitted to the Department at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAo1XEHSw7h2h-cuyKpnhiruSkv8-L5ezpS4NhByjohlhbO/viewform?usp=sf link

The ICC provides public access to these codes through their web site - https:// codes.iccsafe.org/public/collections/i-codes You may also choose to purchase copies from them.

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

Newsletter/Publicity Commit-

## **Dyllon Slatcher**

**FLASHPOINT** 

Information for Publication can be submitted to: Dyllon Slatcher EMAIL:

dslatcher@OliverFPS.com

This newsletter is published 9 or 10 times per year (September through June) and received as part of membership of the chapter. Membership dues are \$25.00 Collected annually in the fall each year. For an application of membership please contact: Lou Annas

lan-

nas@bearindustries.com

## **VISIT OUR WESITE AT:** www.sfpephiladelphia.org

Articles written are the views of the Author and not necessarily those of the Philadelphia\_Delaware Valley Chapter of SFPE

## PRSIDENT'S SPARK

It is often the case in our business that projects with similar technical challenges come in waves. You may not be confronted with a particular aspect of fire safety for a year and then, suddenly, there are four projects on your plate with the same general conceptual issues to address. Recently, I have been preoccupied with thoughts about emergency communications systems. Concepts of acoustically distinguishable spaces, audibility, intelligibility, use of public address systems, and acoustical design have been forcing me to reconsider basic ideas about fire alarm system architecture and occupant notification.

What these projects have in common is more than just the fact that they are focused on the notification side of fire alarm and mass notification systems. They have reinforced the idea that there are no cookie-cutter solutions to problems of fire and life safety. We've all been guilty of trying to force a fix to a problem that we may be more comfortable with, rather than taking a few steps back to see a bigger picture and a wider array of potential solutions. I enjoy it when circumstances force me to put aside old ways of thinking and consider new ideas.

This is one of the many reasons I truly enjoy the career path I've chosen – I am always faced with challenges that force me to think differently about how to frame problems and how to devise appropriate solutions. I take every opportunity I can to tell young students about how thoroughly enjoyable a career in fire protection engineering can be. There is a unique challenge every day, and the problems you solve can have a direct impact on life safety.

Please take the time to let the young people in your life know what it is that you love about your career. Your enthusiasm may nudge the next technically-inclined teenager into a career in fire protection engineering.

Yours in fire safety,

Jeff LaSalle

## **CONSTRUCTION CONCERNS: ENGINEERED STEEL BUILDINGS**

The "engineered steel building" was designed as an inexpensive, lightweight, and noncombustible substitute for structures of other building code types including wood frame (type V), heavy timber or mill (type IV), ordinary or brick-and-joist (type III), and the more typical noncombustible (type II) building. Although they have sometimes been considered temporary structures when compared to conventional construction, with proper care these buildings have a life expectancy of more than 50 years.

Because of their construction materials and methods, they are usually limited to a single story, although mezzanines and second stories are sometimes included, which have structural supports independent of the enclosing engineered steel building.

Today's engineered steel buildings can be very large, covering several acres under one roof (1 acre = 43,560 square feet = 0.405 hectares) with clear spans between rows of columns greater than 100 feet (30.5 m).

Because of the large number of people who can be present at any time, and because of the combustible nature of the building's finishes (i.e., combustible artificial turf, combustible floors of wood or polyurethane foam, wood bleacher seating, and the clothing and duffel bags brought by the building's occupants), buildings like these are usually protected by a National Fire Protection Association 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, -compliant automatic fire sprinkler system.

Because of the size and complexity of this kind of facility, the fire sprinkler system will have several risers and may have a fire pump, depending on the water supply in the neighborhood.

Although a sports complex like the one shown in these photos will not have as great a fire load inside the building as a big box home improvement store or a mega-mart, it is likely to have a much larger population of athletes and spectators. A facility like this needs a detailed preincident plan that is updated regularly to cover changes in occupancy and activities.





# 2016 SPONSORS

Platinum Sponsor

Bentley Systems, Inc

**Gold Sponsor** 

**AECOM** 

Pennoni Associates

Urban Engineers, Inc.

#### Silver Sponsor

Arora Engineers, Inc.

Associated Engineering Consultants, Inc.

CVM Professional

Delaware Valley Regional Planning

Commission

Langan Engineering & Environmental Services Society of American Military Engineers,

Philadelphia Post

The Kirkman Oliver Company

#### **Bronze Sponsor**

American Society for Quality, Philadelphia Section

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers, Philadelphia Chapter

American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Philadelphia Section

American Society of Plumbing Engineers, Philadelphia Chapter

Association of Energy Engineers, Greater Philadelphia Chapter

International Society of Automation,
Philadelphia Section

International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers, Delaware Valley Chapter

Johnson Controls, Inc.

National Fire Sprinkler Association, PennJerDel Chapter

Sally and John Kampmeyer

#### Sponsor

American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers

American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section, Young Members Forum

American Society of Highway Engineers, Delaware Valley Section

Engineers' Club of Philadelphia

Freedom Mortgage Corporation Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers,

Philadelphia Section

Institute of Industrial Engineering, South Jersey Delaware Valley Chapter

Institute of Transportation Engineers, Mid-Atlantic Section

Intelligent Transportation Society of Pennsylvania International Code Council, Liberty Chapter

Javan Engineering, Inc. Jennifer Wetzel

Ken Golkin, PMP

L.F. Driscoll Company, LLC

Mary and Jim Moyer

Michael Baker International

National Association of Women in Construction National Council of Examiners for Engineering and

Surveying

P. Agnes, Inc. Pennsylvania Planning Association

Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers,

Delaware County Chapter

Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Philadelphia-

Delaware Valley Chapter

Timothy Haahs and Associates

Thomas and Julie Gennaro

# **FUTURE CITY® COMPETITION, PHILADELPHIA REGION**

January 21, 2017 - Archbishop Carroll High School, Radnor, PA

# 2016-2017 Sponsorship Program

The Future City® Competition is a hands-on, real-world learning experience for middle school students to learn how engineers shape the world we live in today and tomorrow. Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year in the Philadelphia Region, we need your continued support.

Last year, with the help of our sponsors, we introduced over 600 middle school students at over 50 schools to the engineering profession. Costs to run the program continue to increase and we hope you will be able to increase your level of sponsorship this year so we can continue the high quality program we have provided since 1996.

To help support this educational program, complete the sponsorship form as soon as possible, even if you choose to be invoiced in January 2017, so that you can be properly acknowledged in our publications and on our web site.

Future City Philadelphia is a 501(c)3 outreach program of Discover E so your contribution is tax deductible to the extent the law permits.

We look forward to including your name in the list of sponsors for the 2017 program.



49% of Future City participants are girls. 33% of participating schools enroll at least 50% of students in a free lunch program.

"I love Future City. It makes my brain sweat!"

- Future City Student Participant

This Year's Essay Topic: Design a Future City that includes a distributed network of innovative, multiuse public spaces. Include two examples of how your city converted a roadway and either a brownfield or greyfield into a public space.

As always, we need many volunteer engineers to mentor the schools, judge and to keep things moving smoothly on Competition Day. Please encourage your colleagues to volunteer for the competition. Volunteers will need to sign up online at <a href="https://www.futurecityphilly.org">www.futurecityphilly.org</a>.

## Questions?

- Contact Jennifer Wetzel, Regional Coordinator at iwetzel@upenn.edu or 215-573-3935
- Visit our website: www.futurecityphilly.org, http://futurecityphilly.org/Sponsorship.html





# **FUTURE CITY® COMPETITION, PHILADELPHIA REGION**

January 21, 2017 - Archbishop Carroll High School, Radnor, PA

# 2016-17 Sponsorship Form

Name will be listed in the Competition Pro	gram and on our website
\$250 – \$499: Sponsor  Name will be listed in the Competition Pro Logo and link posted on website sponsor  A Special Award will be presented in the	page
<b>\$500 – \$999: Bronze Sponsor</b> Sponsor Level PLUS: One-eighth page ad in the Competition Pr	Amount \$ ogram (3-7/8" x 2-1/4" or Business Card)
\$1,000 - \$2,499: Silver Sponsor  Bronze Sponsor Level PLUS:  Corporate sign or banner will be displayed One-quarter page ad in the Competition P	
<b>\$2,500 – \$4,999: Gold Sponsor</b> Silver Sponsor Level PLUS: One-half page ad in the Competition Prog	Amount \$ ram (8" x 4-7/8")
<b>\$5,000 – \$9,999: Platinum Sponsor</b> Gold Sponsor Level PLUS: Full-page ad in the Competition Program	<b>Amount \$</b> (8" x 10")
\$10,000 and Above: Diamond Sponsor Platinum Sponsor Level PLUS: Give a 5 minute talk to the students at the	Amount \$ Competition
Pledges and ads must be received by Januar Payment can be made now or in 2017 if desir	y 13, 2017 to appear in the Competition Program. ed.
Check enclosed Check to follow in mail	Send an invoice now Send invoice in Jan 2017
Make checks payable to <b>Future C</b>	ity Competition - Philadelphia Region
Name	Company
Telephone Email	Address
Sponsoring Organization or Individual (This is how it will ap	pear on the award)
Title of Special Award	

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Jennifer Wetzel, Regional Coordinator 215-573-3935 – coordinator@futurecityphilly.org

SEND PAYMENT TO: Please note the new address!
Future City Competition, Philadelphia Region
c/o Helen Eck; 123 Sycamore Road; Havertown PA 19083
(610) 357-2656 (C), heleneck7825@gmail.com



Page 6 FLASHPOINT

# November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			I NJ ASCET MEETING	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	П
12	13	14	I 5 SFPE PHILA/ DEL VAL MEET- ING AND DEL. ASCET MEETING	16	17	18
19	20	21 berks County Ascet Meeting	22	23 THANKS GIVING	24	25
26	27	28 PHILLY ASCET MEETING	29	30		

**NOVEMBER 1: NJ ASCET MEETING** 

NOVEMBER 15: SFPE PHILADELPHIA DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE MEETING

NOVEMBER 15: DELAWARE ASCET MEETING

NOVEMBER 21: BERKS COUNTY ASCET MEETING

**NOVEMBER 23: THANKSGIVING** 

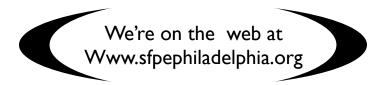
NOVEMBER 28: PHILADELPHIA ASCET MEETINGS

#### PHILA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE

209 Mechanic St. Doylestown, PA 18901

Phone: (215) 345-8066 Fax: (215) 345-9357 E-mail: dslatcher@OliverFPS.com





## MISSION STATEMENT

The Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter purpose is to advance the science and practice of fire protection engineering and its allied fields, to maintain a high ethical standard among its members and to foster fire protection engineering 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.