



Campus Fire Safety e-NewZone Monthly Newsletter ... May 2015, Volume 4, Issue 5

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Campus **Fire** Forum Registration is open! ... [MORE](#)

Forum Overview includes:

Forum Keynote Speaker



Tim Vandenbrink,
Deputy Fire Chief/Safe City,
Spruce Grove Fire Services, Spruce
Grove, Alberta Canada

Presenting ...
Just Another "BORING" Safety Talk
[MORE INFO](#)

Special Forum Event



Mock Dorm Room Burn - (Classroom)

This one-hour course will present the uses and value of live burn demonstrations in the delivery of campus fire safety messages and education. A sample script for narration of a burn will be offered as a handout. Also addressed will be construction, staging, fire department participation, and potential assistance in funding for the event.

Outdoor Live Burn

Side by Side ... The NY State Office of Fire Prevention and Control will host a live dorm room burn showing the difference between a sprinkled and un-sprinkled situation. The demonstration will be built on-site by the NY State OFPC and the Niagara Falls Fire Department ... [MORE INFO](#)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is just before Memorial Day weekend as I sit down to pen this month's column, so I have decided to focus my message on the importance of the holiday rather than my more ubiquitous words about fire safety. The story of Memorial Day, initially known as z "Decoration Day", begins here in New York State, when in the summer of 1865 ... [MORE](#)



OFF-CAMPUS, by Tim Knisely

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THE INSPECTOR, by Phil Chandler

Would it be acceptable to remove the fire hose from the hose cabinets?

Question: As our campus, like many others, is forced to do more maintenance with fewer resources, would it be acceptable to remove the fire hose from the hose cabinets in our corridors? As we understand that fire departments will not use it and we discourage occupants from doing anything other than getting out in a fire, we could save a lot of money by removing them from our maintenance schedule. Un-racking and re-racking hose along with pressure testing add up to a pretty penny, not to mention occasional replacement ... [MORE](#)



2015 Webinar Schedule

Managing Fire Barriers, June 11, 11 AM EST (90 minutes)

Tropical Weather, July 8, 11AM EST (60 minutes)

Key Changes to 2015 ICC and NFPA Model Codes, 11/18, 11AM EST (60 minutes)

More Info & Registration:

Cost: Members are Free | Non Members \$50. per webinar

- Members: Simply login to our [website](#) with your member credentials (login is at top right of website) and the registration information (link) will appear directly underneath our webinar schedule.
- Non Members: \$50. per webinar - or - become a member! Regular Membership is \$40. annually ([see requirements first](#)). Once you become a member all webinars are free, along with discounts to our annual campus fire forum and more.

AND WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WEBINAR SPEAKERS! If you are interested in a webinar, simply let us know.... [Please click and complete your info.](#) If you have questions, please contact SupportTeam@campusfiresafety.org



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



Chubb Fire Protection Training - The 2015 schedule is now online...

Chubb Offers [30% discount](#) to Members of The Center for Campus Fire Safety or [50%](#) if you are also a Building and Fire Code official or firefighter... [MORE](#)



Fire Smart Campus Training Opportunities ... The Center instructor(s) will come to your campus or town. Price varies depending upon location ... [MORE](#)



Crowd Manager Training ... 2 hour online course @ \$19.95. Presented by ICC, NAFSM & CCFS, this course provides valid, credible training to those charged with crowd management at facilities including higher education. This meshes with The Center's mission of providing resources to our community ... [MORE](#)



FCIA Webinars are Free to The Center Members ... In addition to the two webinars FCIA will be presenting for The Center, members are also welcome to attend the 2015 FCIA Webinar Series at no cost ... [MORE](#)



C+S and more

CODES, STANDARDS & MORE



Integrated System Testing - It's Not Already Done?

By Jacqueline R. Wilmot, Fire Protection Engineer, National Fire Protection Association

Many people assume that when they enter a building, all the fire protection and life safety systems installed in a facility have been tested. Individually, this is true. Every fire protection and life safety system that is installed in a building is required to pass an acceptance test in order for the owner to receive a certificate of occupancy. Acceptance tests verifies a system's components for an individual system was installed and is operational in conformance with the applicable standards and the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) ... [MORE](#)



FIRE INCIDENT NEWS | BREAKING NEWS | MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS IN THE NEWS | ARCHIVES

We provide you with continual news updates when they happen Click on the links above to fire hundreds of higher education specific new stories ++ ability to search through years of our news archives.

BREAKING NEWS - Click here to Sign up!

The Center for Campus Fire Safety provides initial notification about fire fatalities that occur on a university or college campus, or that occurred within the town where the campus is located. This data is collected from news sources from around the country, and many times - around the world, and then emailed to you.

MEMBER NEWS & JOB OPPS Want to share? Send your news or job opps to: SupportTeam@campusfiresafety.org



ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Center Activities ... join us.

May	Director Tim Knisely will present at the New York State Fire & Life Safety Educators Conference, Montour Falls, NY.
June	Florida Association of Fire and Life Safety Educators - Michael J. Swain, Vice President will give a 4 hour training session at their conference. National Professional Development Symposium at the National Fire Academy, Director Tim Knisely will present and exhibit. NFPA Conference in Chicago - Janet Maupin, Director will be manning our exhibit.
July	CSHEMA Conference - Directors Kevin McSweeney and Rodger Reiswig will be speaking.



FIRE FATALITY STATISTICS

The Center for Campus Fire Safety provides basic information about fire fatalities that occurred on a university or college campus, or that occurred within the town where the campus is located. [Statistics](#)

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY



The Center is the Voice of over 4000 colleges and universities. As a nationwide non-profit, membership based, organization devoted to reducing the loss of life from fire at our nation's campuses, we offer an abundance of free resources to help fire and life safety officials working on college campuses and fire departments with responsibility for a college campus/university.

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CENTER SOCIALS

Connect with us ... Join our social networks and discussions on fire and life safety.

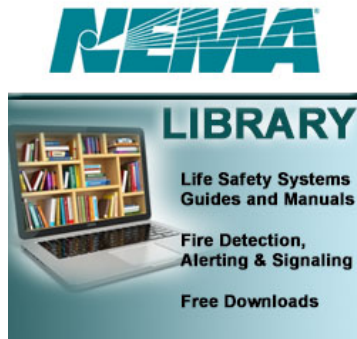
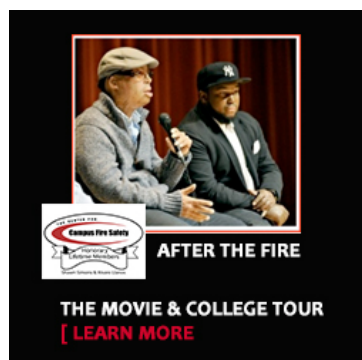
- For Fire & Life Safety educators and Fire Officials: [in](#) [LinkedIn](#) | [f](#) [FaceBook](#) | [t](#) [Twitter](#)
- Off-Campus Fire & Life Safety Alliance [Login](#) | [Join](#) (continual discussions about off-campus fire and life safety).
- CenterNet (member directory & social networking for Center members only) [Login](#) | [Become a Member](#)



NEW!! Campus Fire Safety for Students

Our Student to Student Network For Students & Parents: [f](#) [FaceBook](#) | [t](#) [Twitter](#)

Please spread the word to your students and parents. This team will be speaking to other students through social media about the importance of Fire and Life Safety on and off-campus. In a few months we will announce additional social networks, contests, materials and additional resources for students.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Paul D. Martin

May 2015

It is just before Memorial Day weekend as I sit down to pen this month's column, so I have decided to focus my message on the importance of the upcoming holiday rather than my more ubiquitous words about fire safety.

The story of Memorial Day, initially known as "Decoration Day", begins here in New York State, when in the summer of 1865, a prominent Waterloo pharmacist, Henry C. Welles, mentioned to some of his friends that praising the living veterans of the Civil War was important, but that was even more so to remember the patriotic dead. Welles' idea didn't get too much traction until he shared the idea with General John B. Murray the following spring. Murray was a civil war hero, intensely patriotic and supported the idea

enthusiastically. He gathered veterans' support and plans were developed by local citizens, led by Welles and Murray, for a more robust celebration.

A hundred years later, Congress in Concurrent Resolution 587, "Resolved that the Congress of the United States, in recognition of the patriotic tradition set in motion one hundred years ago in the Village of Waterloo, NY, does hereby officially recognize Waterloo, New York as the birthplace of Memorial Day..." And on May 26, 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson, followed, signing a Presidential Proclamation recognizing Waterloo as the Birthplace of Memorial Day.

Despite having roots 150 years old, Memorial Day did not become an official federal holiday until 1971 when

Congress declared that it would be observed on the last Monday of each May and expanded to honor all the men and women who have died in war or in service to their country.

As much as Memorial Day is intended as a day of reflection and honor, its meaning is becoming overshadowed by summer parties, traffic jams, big-box store sales, blockbuster movie releases, and the long, awaited three-day weekend. So this weekend, as we celebrate Memorial Day and families across the country will gather in backyards and front porches, fire up the barbeque, kick back with friends and family, please take some time to reflect on what Memorial Day is all about - pause to consider why this day is set aside as a time of national remembrance.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Paul D. Martin

May 2015

Our duty on Memorial Day is to honor the men and women who've died in service to this great nation; who've laid down their lives in defense of their fellow citizens; who've given their last full measure of devotion to protect the United States of America; those who've done their duty. These are the men and women we must remember this weekend.

Air Force Technical Sgt. Bill Monahan said, "Memorial Day isn't about romanticizing war or worshiping military veterans. It's a day to recognize personal sacrifices, regardless of their inclinations toward war. Too often today, political beliefs skew people's opinions on what constitutes honorable service, so it is important to have a day where we can look back at who laid it all on the line."

I encourage you to enjoy your day off, light the grill and spend time with family and friends. But I also challenge you - if you don't already have a connection to the military - to learn about just one fallen service member. You will likely learn that they probably didn't join the military for fame, reward, ambition or status. The inscription at Arlington's Confederate Memorial reads "In simple obedience to duty as they understood it. These men suffered all, sacrificed all, dared all — and died."

Therefore, while it is imperative to remember those who gallantly gave all, it is no less important to enjoy yourself this weekend. By spending time with your family and friends, enjoying our freedom and understanding its value is a great way to honor

their sacrifice. What better reassurance to those wish to honor is there, than to show them that they did not die in vain? I am quite certain that's the way they'd want you to spend Memorial Day.

Paul

Paul Martin, President

Paul D. Martin is Deputy State Fire Administrator for the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control where he served as a principle architect of New York State's nationally acclaimed Campus Fire Safety Program.

Under Paul's leadership, the staff of the Inspections and Investigations Branch is responsible for: fire and life safety inspections in a very diverse collection of facilities throughout New York State, including all colleges and universities; performing fire investigations statewide of fatal, large loss or other significant fires; providing fire safety education and information dissemination



FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Paul D. Martin

May 2015

intended to elevate the public's understanding of the danger of fire; and enforcement of the laws and regulations of the state regarding fire safety, including the world's first standard for reduce ignition propensity cigarettes.

Paul is active in the National Association of State Fire Marshals, where he serves as Vice-Chair of their Model Codes Committee and works on issues associated with fire and life safety for special needs occupancies.

Additionally, he serves as co-chair of Prevention, Advocacy, Resource and Data Exchange (PARADE), a program of the United States Fire Administration designed to foster the exchange of fire-related prevention/protection information and resources among Federal, State, and local levels of government.

He serves on the International Building Code - Means of Egress Committee for the International Code Council, where he is active in the development of the Codes promulgated under the auspices of the ICC. Additionally he is a principle member of the NFPA technical committee currently drafting a new standard on Fire Prevention

Unit Organization and Deployment.

Paul holds an associate degree in fire science, a bachelor of science in public administration and has an extensive portfolio of professional development education. During his fire service career spanning more than thirty years, Paul has served in multiple line and administration positions and has received several awards of valor, including the 2000 Firehouse Magazine® national grand prize for heroism.



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OFF-CAMPUS

By Tim Knisely

May 2015

Elected Officials Must Be Willing to Impose Change:

Too many tragedies have occurred in college communities across the country causing elected officials to consider changes to their local codes. Some make the right choice and require the properties to be improved. Others, give in to the opposition mostly in the name of cost or feel that fire officials are overreacting. Or, the belief that these events “won’t happen here.” Worse, is when mandates are overturned by new officials or so called “new evidence” that cause some to pause.

Maybe yet even worse is when officials make promises of change, but do little to keep their word. These examples have occurred in many communities, and they know who they are.

In April of 2005 in State College, PA an early morning fire claimed the life of a 21-year old senior, just weeks away from graduation. This fire was all too typical of what we have seen across the country since off-campus fires most recently came on to our radar in 2000, soon after the Seton Hall tragedy.

The conditions found in the aftermath were

much like we had seen before, and unfortunately continue to find in every town. The early morning hours after a party, disabled smoke alarms, older structures that have not been kept up with current codes, and of course - the lack of automatic sprinkler systems.

What is different from what we have experienced in some communities is that the local elected officials immediately wanted answers on how to keep this type of event from happening again. And, they also took action to implement many of the recommendations.



OFF-CAMPUS

By Tim Knisely

May 2015

Although we all knew that a sprinkler retrofit would have the most dramatic improvement, with upwards of 15,000 rented dwellings throughout the region this was an unrealistic expectation. However, there were two significant changes that have already saved lives and will continue to do so for years to come.

The first and most significant change was for all rented dwelling units to be retrofit with smoke alarms in accordance with the codes in 2005. This meant that dwellings had to include smoke alarms in every sleeping room, the hallway

outside each sleeping area and every additional story as well as interconnected. To help ensure this recommendation would get approved, the newly released wireless smoke alarms were considered as an acceptable alternative to the 110-volt power supply and wired interconnection for the properties that already had rental permits.

The second change required that any rented dwelling with living space on the third floor, single family homes included, be provided with two means of egress from this floor. In lieu of the

second MOE the owners could opt to install sprinklers in accordance with NFPA-13D. In fact, a number of property owners did.

This is not the first time that the local elected officials have made improvements to the local rental codes. All rented dwellings utilizing fossil fuels have been required to install carbon monoxide alarms since 2005. And in 2003, an ordinance was passed requiring all fraternities to be retrofit with sprinklers in accordance with NFPA-13 or NFPA-13R within five years.



OFF-CAMPUS

By Tim Knisely

May 2015

Each of these retrofit requirements were met with some opposition, but the elected officials didn't waiver in their commitment to safety and didn't alter any of the requirements. Today, the rented dwellings in the community are much safer than they were once were and will continue to be. We have many documented saves from fires and CO exposure that may have otherwise been an all too familiar headline.

It is important to evaluate fire statistics in your community as well as those occurring across the country. Just because the fire

hasn't happened yet, rest assured that it will. Use examples from communities that have made changes. Also look at the communities that have experienced these tragedies and have done nothing. Let your elected officials decide what they would like to be remembered for.

It is important to note that State College is not alone in adopting retrofit requirements. We learned from others such as Lawrence, KS and Boulder, CO and the State of New Jersey to name a few. Some or most of all code changes requires a tragedy to occur first.

But, these officials took action to reduce the likelihood of future events. If your elected officials have made the hard decisions and choices that saved lives, please let me know. I'd like to recognize their efforts as well.

###

Tim Knisely

Tim Knisely is on the Board of Directors for The Center and the Senior Fire Inspector for the Centre Region Code Administration in State College, PA.

In this position he manages the Existing Structures Division that administers the fire and property maintenance code in all existing commercial and residential rental



OFF-CAMPUS

By Tim Knisely

May 2015

properties, and coordinates the life safety education for the community including off-campus and Greek housing.

Tim has been active with The Center for Campus Fire Safety since its inception and served as treasurer from 2007 to 2010.

He is a frequent presenter at Campus Fire Forum, an instructor for the Fire-Wise Campus program and served as project manager for Campus Fire Data.



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THE INSPECTOR

By Phil Chandler

May 2015

Question: As our campus, like many others, is forced to do more maintenance with fewer resources, would it be acceptable to remove the fire hose from the hose cabinets in our corridors? As we understand that fire departments will not use it and we discourage occupants from doing anything other than getting out in a fire, we could save a lot of money by removing them from our maintenance schedule. Un-racking and re-racking hose along with pressure testing add up to a pretty penny, not to mention occasional replacement.

Inspector: In these parts, this question is regularly asked and frequently debated. The final answer must come from your local authority having jurisdiction. What may be an acceptable answer in Albany, New

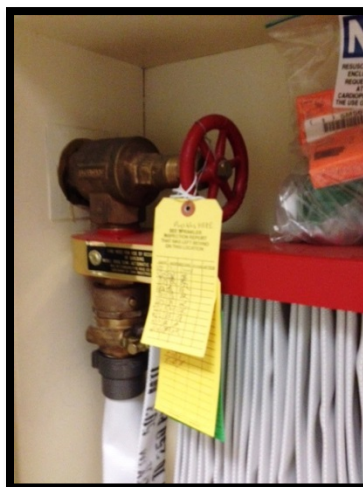
York may not play well in Peoria. Nevertheless, the discussion usually hinges on the same issues everywhere, on which we can agree to disagree.

Occupant hose, some call it first-aid hose, was installed in buildings starting more than 100 years ago with the assumption that gallant men would come forward at the first whiff of smoke, grab a hose from the wall and beat back the flames long enough for occupants to escape. History records many such incidents, including the infamous Triangle Waist Fire of

1911.

On that dark day, we had the hose and nozzle, we had the gallant men, and we had scared occupants, mostly young women, who were prevented from quick escape. The only thing that was lacking was water in the system. Lack of maintenance (sound familiar?) helped seal the fate of 146 garment workers. Yes, there were other factors leading to the tragedy, like alleged blocked exits—but the simple fact remains that when the fire was still in its incipient stage, a charged hose line would have changed the course of history.

Given the construction of many older buildings, especially those without automatic sprinkler systems, occupant-use hose cabinets made a lot of sense; at least a credible argument could





THE INSPECTOR

By Phil Chandler

May 2015

be made for them. But what about in today's buildings, are they really necessary?

Today we have buildings of noncombustible construction, compartmentalized and ever-increasingly, sprinklered. We have fire detection systems (The Asch building home of the Triangle Waist Company, had a working fire alarm, but the occupants did not recognize the alarm for want of evacuation training.) that will alert all building occupants along with the fire department of any fire. And of particular importance, today, more than ever before, we also have combustible contents that omit deadly and flammable vapors when ignited. Do we really want anyone to remain behind and do battle with a fire—for what outcome, the saving of property? The

circumstances in which the use of occupant hose will be crucial to the preservation of life today are few and far between. It is with this logic that many of us teach that when the fire alarm sounds, there is only one operative principle: Stay low and go!

Some will argue that properly tested and maintained hose, in a cabinet or in stairwells, will be a valuable asset for firefighters. In theory that sounds good. Having carried a high-rise pack up eight stories, I can fully validate the sentiment. Having everything ready and waiting on the fire floor for an attack sounds good in theory. In the real world, however, we face different circumstances.

Most property managers, unlike on your campus, do not

reliably maintain their standpipe systems, not the plumbing and certainly not the hose. It is not uncommon for the Inspector to find old, rotted hose, with the coveted brass nozzle long gone. This is so prevalent, that most fire departments totally disregard the presence of owner supplied hose, including that which has been scrupulously maintained.

Additionally, occupant-intended hose lines often have features like flow-restrictors or small-orifice nozzles that make them more forgiving for un-trained users, but totally unacceptable for fire department use. Firefighters need high pressure, large flow and reliable equipment to stand face to face with the red stuff. Why take a chance when it's your life on the line?



THE INSPECTOR

By Phil Chandler

May 2015

So, it would seem that removing hose from the wall is a no-brainer. We discourage its use and the fire departments don't trust it at all. Of course, it's never that easy. If I were to suggest a moderate approach to this question, it would be along the lines of what we find in the 2015 International Fire Code (901.8.2):

The fire code official is authorized to permit the removal of existing occupant-use hose line where all of the following conditions exist:

1. *Installation is not required by this code or the International Building Code (Be careful if you have a multi-story building without sprinklers).*
2. *The hose line would not be utilized by trained personnel (Ask your ERT members) or by the fire department (Notwithstanding the above, ask anyway).*

3. *The remaining outlets are compatible with fire department fittings (Often times the remaining threads are pipe threads).*

There are other considerations as well. One local fire chief also insists that if removing occupant-hose, the remaining pipe be rendered completely inoperable, including removing the valve, unless it can be absolutely determined that the in addition to the threads being compatible, there are no impediments to the system providing adequate flow and pressure for firefighting, such as the aforementioned flow restrictors. This also means that the water source must be the same as standpipes and sprinklers, not part of the domestic water supply. Sounds reasonable for a chief to worry that in the fog

of battle troops might inadvertently utilize a water supply that will dangerously fall short of expectations.

I personally also require that all signage indicating the presence of hose be removed or covered with signage stating **FDC or Fire Dept. Use Only**. In those instances where the connection has been totally abandoned, some property managers have placed fire extinguishers or AED's in the empty cabinet, amending the signage accordingly.

The Inspector is a dinosaur, just ask my colleagues! I personally feel comforted by the presence of 200 feet of canvass hose and a smooth-bore nozzle on every floor. I'm fool enough to want to make a last stand. The majority opinion, however, is to the contrary. So take it out



THE INSPECTOR

By Phil Chandler

May 2015

if you must, but due so only with due deliberation.

Philip Chandler is a long time firefighter and a fulltime government fire marshal working extensively in the college environment - from large public university centers to small private colleges.

His primary responsibilities include code enforcement and education. Phil welcomes your comments, thoughts and opinions (whether in agreement or opposition) to his viewpoints. He may be reached at:
<mailto:theinspector@campusfiresafety.org>

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Simply visit the [MEMBER LOGIN](#) section of our public website. Once logged in, look for the Town Hall Discussions and ask "The Inspector".

Note: The viewpoints expressed in The Inspector are those of the author alone. They are offered to initiate thought and debate, however, they do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of The Center for Campus Fire Safety, its officers, directors or its editorial staff.



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CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY CODE TALK

Campus Fire Safety e-NewZone

Integrated System Testing – It's Not Already Done?

By Jacqueline R. Wilmot, Fire Protection Engineer, National Fire Protection Association

Many people assume that when they enter a building, all the fire protection and life safety systems installed in a facility have been tested. Individually, this is true. Every fire protection and life safety system that is installed in a building is required to pass an acceptance test in order for the owner to receive a certificate of occupancy. Acceptance tests verifies a system's components for an individual system was installed and is operational in conformance with the applicable standards and the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Most fire protection and life safety systems in today's world are integrated with each other and designed to work together. The common misconception is that these integrated systems have been tested to confirm they will function with one another in the event of a fire. Until 2015, no single NFPA code or standard mandated integrated fire protection and life safety system testing.

NFPA codes and standards have been around for over one hundred years. When fire protection systems were first installed, they were designed to function independently. Early fire sprinkler systems used water flow bells (i.e. water gongs) to create an audible alarm signal. However, as buildings became more complex and technology advanced, a platform was created for these systems to be able to integrate with one another. What did not evolve however, was the language in a code or standard to require these interconnections to be tested.

For example, think of a student center that contains a fire alarm system, fire sprinkler system, and a central station monitoring of the fire alarm system. In a sprinkler system with a fire alarm panel, a water flow device initiates a signal through the fire alarm panel to then activate the notification appliances. An acceptance test



CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY CODE TALK

Campus Fire Safety e-NewZone

in NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, addresses the activation of the water flow device and tests if a signal is sent to the relay of the fire alarm control panel for the system. An acceptance test for NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, confirms that when the signal is received by the relay, the notification appliances functions are initiated according to the fire alarm signaling system. These acceptance tests confirm that each system functions individually according to applicable standard, however the acceptance tests do not verify that the systems function together and do not confirm they are properly integrated. An integrated system test would initiate the sprinkler water flow via the test connection to verify the receipt of the sprinkler waterflow alarm at the alarm control unit, confirm the activation of the fire alarm system notification appliances in the building, and verify the supervising station notified the alarm. This test scenario confirms properly installed system integration between the three systems.

Although this concept of conducting integrated system testing might have been applied intermittently in the past by informed facility managers, there was no single code or standard that required integrated system testing to be completed. The Technical Committee on Commissioning and Integrated Testing closed this gap by developing NFPA 4, *Standard for Integrated Fire Protection and Life Safety System Testing*, first published in 2015.

NFPA 4 provides a testing protocol that will verify that integrated fire protection and life safety systems perform as intended. The standard does not provide specific test scenarios that are required for a particular building or system, rather it provides the minimum requirements that should be analyzed for testing of integrated fire protection and life safety systems. NFPA 4 helps the user document the process and determine who should be on the integrated testing team, recognize the team member responsibilities, identify the criteria to develop test scenarios, conduct the tests, and



CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY CODE TALK

Campus Fire Safety e-NewZone

establish testing frequencies. Having the information on the integration of the fire protection and life safety systems in your building and how they function is the best instrument to have in your toolbox.



The Center for Campus Fire Safety

978.961.0410

SupportTeam@campusfiresafety.org