

International Sprinkler Scene



January - March 2018

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IFSA Governing Members 2017-2018

Duyar
Flexhead/Atkore
FM Approvals
General Air Products
Globe Fire Sprinkler
Job GmbH
Johnson Controls
Lubrizol
Minimax
Potter Electric Signal
Reliable Automatic Sprinkler
Victaulic
Viking Group
Underwriters Laboratories

IFSA Officers 2017-2018

CHAIR
Bodo Mueller
Job GmbH
VICE CHAIR
Paris Stavrianidis
FM Approvals
TREASURER
Mike Bosma
Viking Group
MANAGING DIRECTOR
Russ Fleming

IFSA Takes on New Name: International Fire Suppression Alliance

At its 2017 year-end meeting, the Board of Governors of the IFSA voted to legally change the name of the organization to the International Fire Suppression Alliance, consistent with its mission “to globally promote the use of effective water-based fire protection systems”. Since its original formation in 1999, the IFSA has included water mist and other water-based systems within its scope of activities. In fact, the original mission statement of the IFSA was “to promote and enhance the business of manufacturing and installing fire sprinkler, water spray and water mist systems and devices in all buildings, from homes to high rise, worldwide, with the highest degree of competence and professionalism, for the purpose of saving lives and protecting property.” It was later shortened with the word “effective” added to highlight that product quality is a focus of IFSA efforts. The IFSA has

consistently pointed out the need for authorities to require proper product certification to guard against substandard products reaching the marketplace.

As part of changes also adopted at year-end, the IFSA has created a Country Campaign Steering Committee to help make decisions relative to where IFSA efforts can be most productive. The committee will also oversee the efforts of Country Campaign Managers, individual members of the IFSA Board assigned as liaisons to specific countries and organizations receiving IFSA grants. In this manner the IFSA can be kept better informed of the progress of its funded activities.

The IFSA Board also elected Mike Bosma, now representing Executive Governing Member Viking Group on the Board, to the office of Treasurer.

IFSA to Support AMRACI and ABSpk October Events

In lieu of sponsoring a “Fire Sprinkler Americas” conference of its own in 2018, the IFSA has decided to support both AMRACI’s 3rd International Fire Forum in Mexico City October 9-10, and ABSpk’s “CBSpk III” October 23-26 in Atibaia, a tourist destination located an hour north of São Paulo. As in its conferences in Panama City in 2014 and Medellin in 2016, IFSA will be working to encourage fire and government officials from throughout Latin America to attend one of these events. The recognition that AMRACI and ABSpk are well-equipped to conduct major conferences follows the pattern of the European fire sprinkler conferences, now sponsored by EFSN. This year’s “Fire Sprinkler International” will be held in Stockholm, Sweden on June 13-14, 2018, co-hosted by the Swedish sprinkler organization Sprinklerfrämjandet.

UK Commission Interim Report Supports Fire Sector Recommendations

The Fire Sector Federation, an umbrella organization for fire protection interests in the United Kingdom that includes BAFSA, NFSN and EFSN, is calling for a broad review and revision of UK fire protection building regulations. In a December 15, 2017 letter sent to Dame Judith Hackett, who is heading an independent review of building regulations and fire safety following the Grenfell fire disaster, the group provided the final version of a report entitled "Reviewing Document B (Fire Safety)." The November 30, 2017 report, commissioned prior to the Grenfell fire, was prepared by NBS Research based on a survey of 531 fire and construction professionals in the UK. Of those surveyed, only 5% were

of the opinion that the current Approved Document B (ADB) is fully fit for purpose.

Four days later, Dame Judith Hackett's panel released an interim report that agreed with these positions, stating that "...the current regulatory system for ensuring fire safety in high-rise and complex buildings is not fit for purpose."

Among other groups submitting comments, the Royal Institute of British Architects called for clearer and more prescriptive requirements, including mandates for fire sprinkler systems "in all new and converted residential buildings, as currently required under Regulations 37A and 37B of the Building Regulations for Wales, or at least for residential buildings over three storeys in height."



"the current regulatory system for ensuring fire safety in (British) high-rise and complex buildings is not fit for purpose."

Technology Update : New FM Global Data Sheet for Automated Storage

Recognizing the increasing number of taller, tighter and more densely packed storage facilities with automatic storage and retrieval systems, FM Global has released a new data sheet containing protection criteria. The new fire-protection guidelines, based on five years and millions of dollars of research, recognize that many of the automated warehouses also include the use of combustible plastic containers that can trap water emitted by fire sprinklers. The guidelines include provisions for sprinkler arrangement, independence of in-rack and ceiling

sprinkler systems, container design, and rack structures, and are intended to optimize fire protection through careful storage design choices, reducing the costs of fire protection systems while supporting sustainability through the use of less water.

The new guidelines are contained in FM Global Data Sheet 8-34, *Protection for Automatic Storage and Retrieval Systems (ASRS)*. FM Global data sheets are available for free at: <http://www.fmglobaldatasheets.com/>

2016 World Fire Sprinkler Market Survey Shows New Record

IFSA's survey of 2016 global fire sprinkler usage has produced an estimate of a record 135.8 million sprinklers installed worldwide. It is important to point out that this total is only an estimate, obtained by compiling individual estimates and weighting those estimates based on the level of confidence of the submitter. The totals for each of 30 geographic areas appear on page 4 of this issue of *International Sprinkler Scene*. It can be seen that the greatest use of sprinklers is now believed to be in Asia (65.7 million), followed by North America (44.1 million), Europe (20.1 million), Australia and New Zealand (3.2 million), South America (1.6 million) and Africa (1.1 million). With the number of babies born globally in 2016 estimated between 131 and 135 million, this was probably the first year in history that there were more sprinklers than humans brought into the world.

For purposes of comparison, the 2006 IFSA survey marked the first time it was estimated that more than 100 million sprinklers were installed worldwide.

Upcoming Fire Sprinkler Events

May 2-5, 2018 – Business & Leadership Conference, National Fire Sprinkler Association, Fort Lauderdale, FL, USA www.nfsa.org

June 11-14, 2018 – NFPA Conference & Expo®, National Fire Protection Association, Las Vegas, NV, USA <http://www.nfpa.org/Training-and-Events/By-type/Conferences/Conference>

June 13-14, 2018 – Fire Sprinkler International, European Fire Sprinkler Network, Stockholm, Sweden <http://firesprinklerinternational.com/>

October 9-10, 2018 – 3rd International Fire Forum, AMRACI, World Trade Center, Mexico City, Mexico www.amraci.org

October 23-26, 2018 – CBSpk (Brazilian Congress on Sprinklers) III, Brazilian Association of Sprinklers, Atibaia, SP, Brazil www.abspk.org.br

News of Affiliated Fire Sprinkler Associations

ABSpk – The October 23-26, 2018 conference and exhibition “CBSpk III” will focus on the changes to federal legislation regarding safety, fire prevention and firefighting in commercial, industrial and residential locations. In a presentation to potential sponsors, ABSpk states “The new legislation aims to reorganize the whole segment to meet demands and advance best corporate practices, and validate the capabilities of players in facing the challenges of a growing market. Today, Brazil is aligning itself with other countries that are enhancing their fire safety legislation, and the sprinkler segment plays a crucial role in these new developments.”

AMRACI – The 2018 schedule of professional development and training classes being offered through the Fire Prevention Institute has been released, consisting of more than 14 events beginning with a three-day seminar February 20-22 covering warehouse sprinkler protection and seismic protection of fire sprinkler systems.

ANRACI Colombia – Four Powerpoint presentations dealing with fire pump systems that were given at the September 27, 2017 educational seminar within the framework of the Institutional Alliance SENA-ANRACI have been made available in Spanish at: <http://anraci.org/tag/anraci/> The presentations deal with NFPA 20, diesel pumps, pump controllers and pump maintenance.

CASA – After a January 2014 fire killed 32 people, the province of Quebec required that privately-owned residences for seniors install fire sprinkler systems by December of 2020. Recent criticism that the Quebec government’s financial assistance program for the systems was ill-conceived and badly organized led

Health Minister Gaetan Barrette to announce that the program would receive an additional \$67 million in funding, bringing the total to \$183 million. Instead of a 60% subsidy, the new funding will cover the entire expense of sprinkler retrofit for residences with less than 30 occupants, and will also completely cover the costs for seniors’ residences regardless of size if run by non-profit organizations.

EFSN – Having previously advised officials in the European Commission that the Construction Products Regulation has made it difficult to write product standards needed for fire protection (there’s been no new sprinkler component standard published for well over 10 years), the EFSN is encouraging its members to take part in the current review process at: https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-eu-rules-products-used-construction-buildings-and-infrastructure-works_en Executive Director Alan Brinson notes that the absence of European standards weaken the CE mark, which has its flaws but is a tool to prevent the import of unsuitable products. The more comments received, the better.

NFSA – Efforts to amend the U.S. tax code to treat fire sprinklers more favorably met with success in December 2017 legislation. Lobbying efforts for a Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act began shortly after the 2003 Station Nightclub fire that left 100 dead, and were aimed at reducing the time for property owners to write off the cost of fire sprinkler retrofit, which was tied to building depreciation periods of 39 years for commercial occupancies and 27.5 years for residential occupancies. The new tax law specifically declares that expenses for fire sprinkler systems, alarm systems, HVAC systems, and roofing in commercial occupancies are eligible for 1st-year Section 179 deductions up to \$1 million for small businesses. For larger businesses, the first year write-off is reduced dollar for dollar for spending over \$2.5 million in eligible purchases.

Please Participate in 2017 World Fire Sprinkler Market Survey

Help the IFSA survey the total 2017 sprinkler usage in various areas of the globe. Figures (in millions) are shown from the 2016 estimates. Fill in one or more lines based on your knowledge.

Geographic Area	2016 Group Estimate	Your 2017 Estimate	Your Confidence Level (H=High, M=Medium or L=Low)
1. Canada	3.8	_____	_____
2. Mexico	0.7	_____	_____
3. United States	39.6	_____	_____
.....			
4. Brazil	0.5	_____	_____
5. Colombia	0.2	_____	_____
6. Other Central/South America	0.9	_____	_____
.....			
7. United Kingdom and Ireland	2.0	_____	_____
8. Germany	3.5	_____	_____
9. Austria and Switzerland	1.1	_____	_____
10. France	1.5	_____	_____
11. Scandinavian Countries (Nor., Swe., Den., Fin. and Ice.)	1.5	_____	_____
12. Italy	0.6	_____	_____
13. Low Countries (Belg., Neth., and Lux.)	1.1	_____	_____
14. Spain and Portugal	0.8	_____	_____
15. Russia, Belarus and Ukraine	0.6	_____	_____
16. Poland	0.5	_____	_____
17. Turkey	4.0	_____	_____
18. Israel	1.1	_____	_____
19. Other European & Mid-East	1.8	_____	_____
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20. China (inc. Hong Kong)	43.5	_____	_____
21. Japan	2.2	_____	_____
22. Korea	8.8	_____	_____
23. Singapore and Malaysia	3.6	_____	_____
24. Taiwan	0.2	_____	_____
25. India	4.2	_____	_____
26. Other Asian and Pacific	3.2	_____	_____
.....			
27. South Africa	0.3	_____	_____
28. Other Africa (inc. Egypt)	0.8	_____	_____
.....			
29. Australia	2.7	_____	_____
30. New Zealand	0.5	_____	_____

Please fax to IFSA at 1-603-719-0351 or send to ifsa@firesprinkler.global

Your Name: _____ Company: _____ Country: _____
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