



National Independent Fire Alarm Distributors Association

May 2016

Calendar of Events

NIFAD

Annual Meeting

June 11-13, 2016

Monte Carlo Hotel

Las Vegas, NV

NFPA Convention

June 13-16, 2016

Mandalay Bay

Conference and

Convention Center

Las Vegas, NV

ISC West

April 5-7, 2017

Las Vegas, NV

AFFA National Codes Conference

April 2017

To Be Determined

From the President's Desk

Only a few days left before the Annual Conference takes place in Las Vegas. Are you ready? Have you made your arrangements? You are planning to attend, right?

This years conference promises to be bigger and better than ever with a great lineup of guest speakers, interesting topics in the round table discussion, lively and spirited discussions, and the ability to network with your peers in a casual relaxed atmosphere. And for those that think running a business is not a big enough gamble...we are in Las Vegas.

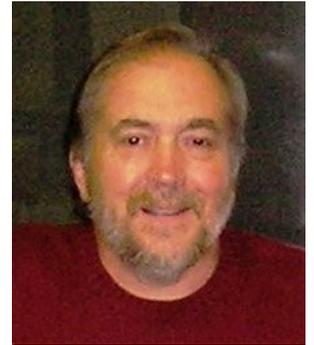
Featured speakers this year include Bill Koffel of Koffel and Associates making a presentation on Joint Commission. I had the privilege to hear Bill earlier this year and I promise you will enjoy what he has to say. We have Larry Rietz, manager of the Denver office of Jensen Hughes, to share the latest updates in NFPA 72. John Milliron and Leonard Hanna, with a combined 25 years experience with AES, are joining us to discuss the alternatives to POTS lines and how to best meet the code requirements of Chapter 26.

We have non-proprietary vendors joining us to give us a heads up on the latest products and services. Please be sure to let all vendors know how much we appreciate their support. This conference would not be possible without them.

Just a reminder...if you've not submitted questions for the roundtable discussion, please do so Anna can get them sorted into the right category and distributed before the conference.

I truly hope to see you at the Monte Carlo Hotel and Casino on June 11th through the 13th.

Mike Nelson
NIFAD President



NIFAD Sponsors Webinar

NIFAD sponsored its first webinar on April 21, 2016 entitled Profit Zoom for Fire-Life-Safety. A power point presentation is available for the NIFAD office if you were unable to participate and want a copy.

Member News



Anna Gavin, Fireline Corporation, had a healthy, beautiful baby girl on January 20, 2016. At left is Elizabeth Jane wearing her uniform.

Mike and Lindsay Callahan, FESCO are the proud parents of twins, Oliver and Fiona, born November 17, 2015. Babies and parents are doing well.



Did You Know?

NEW Federal Requirements for Health Care Facilities

The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has published a new rule that requires health care facilities to use the 2012 editions of NFPA 101[®], Life Safety Code[®], and NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code. NFPA has compiled resources to help facilities meet these new federal requirements.

Firefighter Suicides: Growing Awareness of Mental Health Issues in the Fire Service

Firefighters are viewed as models of strength and heroism, and the culture has typically fostered a “buck up” approach rather than “let’s talk about it.” Experts say they’re starting to see a shift in that culture, but there’s still a long way to go.

Trends and Patterns of Fire Losses

The number of reported fires has continued to decline over the past 15 years, with drops in the number of vehicle fires and outdoor and unclassified fires. The decline in structure fires has been much smaller.

U.S. Department of Labor Issues New Overtime Compensation Rules

The U.S. Department of Labor issued rules last week that increase the minimum salary/compensation levels of executive, administrative, professional, and computer employees in order to be exempt from overtime. The new rules are effective December 1, 2016 and in summary:

1. Hike the salary threshold for executive, administrative, professional, and computer employees from \$23,660 to \$47,476 annually.
2. Hike the “highly compensated employee” minimum for exemption from \$100,000 to \$134,004 annually.
3. Permits employers to use nondiscretionary bonuses and incentive payments (including commissions) to satisfy up to 10 percent of the new salary thresholds.
4. Provides for an automatic cost-of-living escalator for updating the minimum thresholds every three years.

UPDATE from Vic Humm

NFPA 72 2019 edition for Submission for Public Inputs

Currently until June 29th, NFPA is receiving Public Input submission on NFPA 72 2019. In order to do this the submitter needs to go to the NFPA website and use the Terra Online Platform. Any submitter either public, NFPA Member, or NFPA Technical Committee member can go back to their submission and edit or remove any of their items until the submission deadline has closed.

UL 864 Information

In Dec. 2014, UL issued a bulletin to its subscribers that Fire Alarm Control Panels issued to the 9th edition of UL 864 can continue even through the 10th edition has now been published. The effective date of the 10th edition is published as Dec. 3rd 2018, under a UL Bulletin, manufacturers can continue the current model production and still maintain UL Certification. If there is a feature improvement or software upgrade, then the submission will require an engineering review to determine if upgrade to the 10th edition is required. After the effective date for the 10th edition is published, any new model will be required to be listed to the 10th edition requirements of UL 864.

Notification Appliances

For nearly a year and one-half, UL has had a UL 1971 Task Group reviewing requirements for new technology illumination sources. Traditionally, the life safety has been the Xenon Flash Tube but with the increased use of the LED, NFPA 72 chapter 18 proposed a change in the standard of the flash duration from a maximum of 200 MS to 20 MS with the exception that in conference rooms and larger public areas the flash duration could still be up to 100 MS.

With emphasis of indirect viewing, a large number of concerns rose to the discussion table. The values for reflections off multiple surfaces such as unfinished masonry construction, color of surface, and texture of surface.

During May of this year, under the supervision of UL staff and representatives an UL LED manufacturer in China will be conducting a human factor response from approximately 200 personnel for varying genders and age range to adjustable light sources.

The volunteered test persons will be subjected to varying flash durations of both LED and Xenon light sources and well as what value of light source about ambient is required to provide the best stimulus to have the persons being tested to respond quickly and consistently.

Information from this testing will generate public inputs to make the requirements of NFPA 72 Chapter 18th to allow any technology to comply with Life Safety Requirements.

2016 NIFAD Annual Meeting

June 11-13

Monte Carlo Resort and Casino, Las Vegas



Make your reservations now for the
2016 NIFAD conference.

NIFAD has sleeping rooms blocked June 11-15, 2016.

Our room rate is \$115 for Saturday, June 11 and \$55 for the remaining nights.

A daily resort fee of \$25 will be charged in addition to room rates.

This fee includes: Wi-Fi in guest room and in all public areas on 1st and 2nd floors of hotel, including meeting space; fitness center access from 6am-7pm (excluding wet area); unlimited local and 800-number calls; daily newspaper pickup on guest room levels; boarding pass printing at the Kiosk in hotel lobby and limited copying & faxing at the Business Center.

The number to call for reservations is 1-800-311-8999

To receive the group rate callers must identify their affiliation with NIFAD.

NFPA Expo Hours

Monday, June 13	4:00 pm— 8:00 pm
Tuesday, June 14	11:00 am—4:00 pm
Wednesday, June 15	10:00 am- 2:00 pm

Opening Night Reception

Monday, June 13	7:00 pm—8:00 pm
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