The SOLUTION

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The official newsletter of Home Fire Sprinkler® COALITION
Improved Fire Protection Through Public Education

SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS' SHOW EDITION

Innovative Miniature House Demonstrates Fire Sprinkler System Installation

What began as a one-dimensional cut-away drawing in an educational brochure has evolved into a sophisticated and vivid replica of a sprinklered two-story house now being used as an educational tool to help people learn how automatic fire sprinkler protection is built into homes.

The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) will debut the miniature built-to-scale house at the 2004 International Builders' Show in a booth jointly sponsored by HFSC and the sprinkler industry.

Visit Booth #C4049

See fire sprinklers in all four homes at Show Village across from the main entrance to the convention center

Measuring approximately 5 ft. long x 2 ft. deep x 5 ft. tall, the front of the house is fully open, allowing an unobstructed view of how the sprinkler system is installed. HFSC worked closely with a sprinkler installer to ensure the model system depicts national best practice.

"The miniature model home allows the uneducated viewer to see how unobtrusive a fire sprinkler system is and to conceptualize the entire system," said Colleen McNally, residential sales representative with U.S.

The HFSC's miniature built-to-scale display house allows views to see the details of a residential fire sprinkler system installed according to the NFPA 13D standard.

See "Miniature House" on page 6

Fire Sprinkler Industry Works Together At Builders' Show

Collective Builder Education Effort Draws Unprecedented Sprinkler Industry Support

Six sprinkler industry manufacturers have teamed up with the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) to support HFSC's "Built for Life" education campaign to increase awareness of the value of automatic fire sprinkler systems in new home construction.

The companies, sprinkler manufacturers Kidde, Reliable, Tyco, Viking and Victaulic and pipe and fitting manufacturer BlazeMaster, are co-sponsoring an innovative new booth at the 2004 International Builders' Show (IBS). The group is also providing the materials needed to fully sprinkler four newly constructed homes being put on display as part of the Show. Upon completion, each home will be donated to a charity.

The HFSC/Sprinkler Industry booth is a 900-square-foot island that features individual display areas for each manufacturer to showcase their materials. In the center of the booth is the main attraction, a cut-away miniature home model with a fire sprinkler system installed. The model (approximately 5 ft. long x 2 ft. deep by 5 ft. tall) provides Show attendees with a rare hands-on opportunity to explore and understand how sprinkler systems are installed in homes.

"The manufacturers' support and participation makes it possible for HFSC to bring the story of home fire sprinkler technology to builders and developers in a persuasive exhibit that will stand out among the 1,400 IBS booths," said HFSC Chair Gary Keith. "The industry's ongoing commitment is essential to achievement of our mission and we are delighted to have these six companies on board."

BlazeMaster® FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
Kidde Fire Fighting
Reliable®
tyco Fire Products
VIKING®
Victaulic®

The booth will also be staffed throughout the show with knowledgeable HFSC Steering Committee members, including American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA) President Steve Muncy. "This unprecedented level of industry cooperation sends the building community a message that is loud and clear: residential sprinklers are here to stay and HFSC is committed to helping builders learn how their businesses can benefit from this life-saving technology."

The International Builders' Show is an ideal venue for HFSC to communicate its messages directly to this important audience. The trade show is expected to draw more than 90,000 attendees.

See "Collective Effort" on page 6

Massachusetts Builder Installs Sprinklers To Distinguish His New Homes

Al Patenaude's business goal is to offer his customers new and renovated homes that meet their needs for both comfort and safety.

After an increase in new homebuyers' questions about fire sprinklers, the Pepperell, MA developer realized he needed to learn more about residential sprinklers. Already familiar with commercial systems, he did the research on home fire sprinklers and became convinced it is the way to go.

Patenaude said he was pleased to learn that sprinklers are affordable, helping him decide to set his construction company apart from other builders in the area by offering sprinkler systems in his new homes. A fully sprinklered model home is now being built for a new 12-house Patenaude Construction development underway in north central Massachusetts.

About a third of Patenaude's customers routinely ask him about installing sprinkler systems in new homes, the builder said. He credits homeowner interest in fire safety to an enhanced focus on home safety and security at local home and builder shows, including more frequent displays with fire sprinkler systems.

Patenaude, whose degree is in architecture and construction management, said he has an eye for detail. He opted to feature concealed sprinklers in the model because he wanted potential home buyers to see for themselves how well fire sprinklers can blend into a home (décor).

If buyer response to the sprinklered model meets his expectations, Patenaude plans to make sprinklers standard in future developments. "I want to stay one step ahead of the other builders in the area," he said. ■

Oregon Fire Chief Helps Save Homeowners' Money

Across North America it is customary for water purveyors to charge varying "system development fees" when homes are hooked up to municipal water supplies. The standard fees are often increased dramatically, however, when a homeowner opts to install a residential fire sprinkler system. The added charge for sprinklers unfairly penalizes homeowners for their decision to enhance the safety of their home.

The hook-up fees are typically based on expected water use. A home's water supply is generally provided through a $^3/_4$-inch line. For a residential sprinkler system, the water line is typically a 1-inch pipe. Water suppliers often interpret the increased pipe size as an indication of the amount of water that could potentially be used by the sprinkler system. In response, the purveyor charges as much as three times the normal hook-up fee.

In Oregon, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVFR) is undertaking a unique effort to educate water suppliers within the fire district so they understand a sprinkler system actually uses less water to fight a fire than the fire department will use if it has to respond to that same fire. TVFR Chief Jeffrey Johnson said the unfair fee practice is analogous to some passengers paying for part of the cab when they take a cab ride, instead of just paying cab fare.

His fire district is a strong advocate of fire sprinkler protection. The $3000-$4000 additional (water supply) fee in his region is "a real barrier" for homeowners, said Chief Johnson. Concerned that the increased fees serve as a disincentive to homeowners, TVFR is reaching out to the water suppliers to ensure that a homeowner who chooses fire sprinkler protection will not have to pay more for the hook-up fees. "We work with every water purveyor in our service area to waive the extra fee so long as it is for fire sprinklers," said Chief Johnson.

The TVFR approach to working with water purveyors is a progressive technique that should be replicated elsewhere, said former Mesa, Arizona fire chief Dennis Compton, who now serves as a national fire and life safety consultant. "Like it or not, economics play an important role," he said. "Any time a fire department can intercede when there is an unjust financial barrier and advocate directly on behalf of the homeowner, it aides the process. Ultimately, Chief Johnson's plan and others like it benefit the entire community." ■

www.HomeFireSprinkler.org Offers Many Resources for Fire Service

Find out how fire sprinklers can saves lives and money at the new Building Professionals section of the HFSC Web site. There is information on the money-saving advantages of trade-ups, installation procedures, using fire sprinklers for competitive advantage and finding fire sprinkler contractors. Go to www.HomeFireSprinkler.org and click on "Building Professionals." ■

Every Home in New Oregon Community Will Be Protected by Fire Sprinkler System

Wilsonville, a growing Oregon riverside city of 16,000, is tucked into the hills and trees between Portland and the State's capital in Salem.

Rich in Oregon's natural beauty, the area also boasts more practical appeal, including being a major source of industry and stable employment. The progressive city will soon stand out even more when it becomes home to the State's first fully sprinklered residential community, Villebois Village.

Wilsonville Town Manager Arlene Loble played a key role in the new "smart growth" urban community in the City's west side, which is being built with sustainability as a baseline. She helped craft an innovative process for the City to invest in the plan, offsetting the cost of installing automatic fire sprinkler protection in every single dwelling unit.

"This is really a win-win project," Loble said, explaining that it was necessary to work out a cooperative arrangement among the city, developer and fire district, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVFR), which protects a total population of nearly 400,000.

"It took some doing because the City couldn't merely require the development to install sprinklers," Loble said. "Oregon is a 'mini-max state, which means that state law prohibits requiring less or more than the existing code."

By law, the development is required to install sprinklers in the new village's multi-family dwellings, but not in single-family homes. Costa Pacific Communities was awarded the contract to develop the site. Project Manager Mike Ragsdale credited Loble with the idea and the strategic plan for achieving sprinklering in all of the 2,500 dwelling units. "It wasn't a simple process at first, he said. "But through innovative collaboration, it became a success."

"The economics were a real struggle," Ragsdale admitted. "We loved the concept, but wondered how we could do it affordably."

The fire district also needed to be on-board early on in support of the development. The addition of 2,500 new homes and accompanying residents created a huge impact on the area and population already protected by the district. And, on an economic basis, the TVFR was challenged even further because the new project is a redevelopment district, meaning it will not receive any property tax revenues for 20 years.

Enter Loble and her idea of sprinklering every house, thereby increasing the level of built-in fire protection, reducing the impact on TVFR and sparing the developer the cost of additional fire capacity in the City's reservoir system.

Increasing the safety of each dwelling in the new community served as an important incentive for the fire district to support the new development despite the lack of (district tax) revenue. "I think it's a success story," said Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Chief Jeffrey Johnson. "With sprinklers you reduce your maximum exposure to fire. Everyone wins all the way around."

"Special service fire districts are often excluded from the process during urban renewal projects," Chief Johnson said. "In our case, we were very fortunate that the City of Wilsonville sees itself as our partner. It's a credit to Arlene Loble and the City, because they could have done it without sprinklers."

The pro-sprinkler Chief is very happy with the Villebois sprinklering plan and said Wilsonville officials have become "rabid advocates" of sprinklers over the years. He puts a lot of stock in teamwork and said TVFR works closely with all nine of the cities within his fire district.

Loble agrees their working relationship has proved important to this project. "A few years ago we worked together to require sprinklers in all multi-family dwellings in Wilsonville," she said, explaining that the requirement effort was motivated by a tragic multi-fatality apartment fire. "Villebois sets a model that hopefully will be a wave of the future."

Costa Pacific's Ragsdale is happy that sprinklers provide a valuable marketing asset for the new development. He said "sustainability" is more than just a concept.

"You're talking about lifestyle, about a healthy community, Ragscale said. "Sustainability is about what it's going to be like 50 years from now and sprinklers are a safety advantage." ■

National Survey Reveals Builder Interest in Sprinklers

In a recent national research study undertaken to gauge homebuilders' awareness of and interest in residential fire sprinkler systems, nearly 90% of respondents indicated an interest in learning more about the life-saving fire protection technology.

Roughly one-third of those respondents also said they would participate in a pilot program designed to educate builders and homeowners about residential fire sprinklers.

The survey, sponsored by the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) and conducted by Reed Research Group, sought opinions from among 5,000 builders.

While less than one-fifth of the respondents had built a home with an automatic fire sprinkler system, those builders who had done so reported installing sprinkler systems in 28% of their homes on average.

Customer request was cited as the reason for installing sprinklers nearly a quarter of the time. Only 4% of respondents said they install sprinklers to benefit from cost-saving trade-ups.

"The survey findings confirmed some of our assumptions about builder awareness of home sprinkler systems," said HFSC Chair Gary Keith. "And, it provided important new clues about piquing increased builder interest."

HFSC's focus in 2004 is reaching homebuilders and designers in hopes of encouraging them to offer fire sprinkler systems to their customers. Surveying builders and developers will continue over time, helping HFSC gain greater perspective on their interests and activities and providing targeted educational programs that fit builder needs.

"With a small percentage of builders apparently taking advantage of valuable trade-up opportunities, that incentive alone is prime potential for reaching builders," Keith added. "Moreover, customer interest in sprinkler technology is very encouraging, and builders need to realize the value-added that sprinklers offer. Our job is to help them understand that installing sprinklers can not only save them money, but also that sprinklers can also increase the value of their product to prospective buyers." ■

Sprinkler Trade Ups: A Builder's Best Friend

Sprinkler "trade ups" are construction design options provided by authorities having jurisdiction that allow builders and developers to utilize alternative design or construction advantages when they install automatic fire sprinklers. Installing the sprinkler systems provides the level of fire safety necessary to override the need for other, often expensive, building and construction requirements typically necessary for new developments.

Fire sprinkler trade ups benefit entire communities by holding down construction costs for the developer and enhancing public safety without unduly impacting municipal budgets. But not every developer is aware of those benefits, and there is no set trade up policy. Developers and building officials meet to work out the best approach for the individual circumstances.

"Sprinkler trade ups are too often a well kept secret," said HFSC Chair Gary Keith. "Once builders and developers learn about trade ups, they wonder why they haven't been utilizing the advantage all along."

Here's how trade ups generally work: By installing sprinkler systems even though they are not mandated, builder-developers can save on construction costs and might often negotiate land development options that save considerable money. The savings can be substantial, more than offsetting the cost of sprinklering the properties. For example, savings might include putting in narrower streets and spacing fire hydrants farther apart. Potential increases in profit margins are also possible because sprinklering might include increasing the number of homes built within a development. Every situation is unique, so trade ups differ depending on local ordinances and building officials' viewpoints.

Sprinkler trade ups aren't just for the building community; they benefit the consumer as well. Trade ups can help keep the community's taxes and insurance rates in check. More important, however, is the safety value. According to the NFPA, having a fire sprinkler system and smoke alarms in a home reduces the risk of dying in a fire by more than 80%. With eight out of 10 fire deaths occurring in residential properties, home fire sprinklers could save thousands of lives each year. Sprinkler systems also protect firefighters whose lives are on the line every day.

Learn more about sprinkler trade ups in the Builder section of HFSC's Web site: www.homefiresprinkler.org. ■

API Fire Protection Group Joins HFSC

In support of the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition's mission to increase awareness about the life- and property-saving benefits of residential fire sprinkler systems, the API Fire Protection Group has joined the Coalition as an Associate Member.

The API Group consists of eight fire protection companies located across the country with two in Canada and England.

According to Gregg Huennekens, President, U.S. Fire Protection, API wanted to support HFSC because of their accomplishments over the years, especially with the home building industry.

"When we first saw the HFSC *Building For Life* brochure, we were interested in supporting their education efforts," Huennekens said. "Now we are excited to support HFSC as associate members and with our resources at the International Builders' Show."

Two API Companies played a major role in preparing HFSC and the fire sprinkler industry for IBS. Western States/Statewide Fire Protection in Las Vegas designed and installed the fire sprinkler systems in the four homes located in Show Village, outside the main entrance to the convention. U.S. Fire Protection designed and oversaw the development of the system in the miniature built-to-scale home that will be on display at the HFSC booth.

"With API's added support, we are better positioned than ever to achieve our mission," said HFSC Chair Gary Keith. "We believe this exciting partnership will infuse the home construction market with enthusiasm for residential sprinkler systems." ■

API FIRE PROTECTION GROUP:

Alliance Fire Protection
www.alliancefirepro.com

Security Fire Protection
www.securityfire.com

United States Fire Protection
www.unitedstatesfireprotection.com

Viking Automatic Sprinkler
www.vikingsprinkler.com

VFP Fire Systems
www.vfpfire.com

Vipond (Canada)
www.vipondfire.ca

Vipond (England)
www.vipondfire.co.uk

Western States Fire Protection
www.wsfp.com

"Built for Life"

"Built for Life" is an ambitious, ongoing national campaign to educate builders, designers and developers about automatic fire sprinkler systems for homes and to increase homebuyer interest in the systems.

Underway for more than a year now, Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition's "Built for Life" program has many facets and is now gaining support from other safety groups.

The program encourages partnerships among the building community, sprinkler contractors and fire service. It also promotes targeted outreach to homeowners to generate interest in homes with installed fire sprinkler systems.

"Our goal for this program is very straightforward," said HFSC Communications Manager Peg Paul, who oversees the campaign. "By increasing interest in home fire sprinkler systems among all the target audiences, we will ultimately help save lives and protect the valuable belongings that people treasure."

The new home construction market is HFSC's most promising opportunity for achieving that goal. According to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), 1.35 million single-family homes were built in the U.S. last year. Yet, only about 2% of new homes have sprinkler systems installed. NFPA fire data shows that eight out of 10 fire deaths take place in residential properties.

"The statistics are clear that homes are where we have the best potential to save lives, and fire sprinkler systems provide the ultimate protection against fire," Paul added. "It stands to reason that increasing the number of sprinklered homes will help lower the national fire death toll. But too few benefit from the technology today."

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) is an outspoken federal advocate of automatic fire sprinkler protection. "We know how important residential sprinkler systems are," said USFA Administrator R. David Paulison. "Every year, more than 3,000 people lose their lives in home fires, and most of those deaths are among the elderly, the disabled, the low income and the very young. Sprinkler systems are one way to reduce that number."

The "Built for Life" campaign began with the introduction of educational materials designed specifically for the building community. HFSC developed a specialized brochure and launched a builder section of the HFSC Web site, each intended to answer the industry's unique questions, dispel myths and increase interest in the technology. In 2003, the program was expanded with a national research project to benchmark knowledge of sprinklers within the building community (see article on page 3).

In 2004, HFSC will undertake a pilot program designed to showcase the value and benefits of residential fire sprinkler protection by installing sprinklers in selected model homes. The developer and his/her staff will receive training by HFSC, and their customers who tour the sprinklered models will receive free educational information as well.

Through its commitment to this strategic initiative, HFSC is fostering an improved network of support for residential sprinklers at the community level. This commitment includes the local fire service, often the homeowner's most trusted safety resource. "Built for Life" will continue to grow, expanding the delivery of life-saving information. ■

Home Fire Sprinkler Systems Cost Homeowners Pennies a Day in California

The president of Advanced Automatic Sprinkler Company in Hayward, California has developed a presentation that helps demonstrate the affordability of owning a residential fire sprinkler system.

When Brentwood city council members were considering a residential fire sprinkler ordinance, Fred Benn's presentation came in handy. "The council had created a task force to determine the costs involved with requiring a residential sprinkler ordinance," stated Benn. "When the task force presented its conclusion that sprinklers were too expensive, we were ready with a slide presentation and handouts."

Benn first broke down the mortgage information for a $400,000 home, the average price for a 3,000 square foot home in his area. The cost to install the system was estimated to be $3,000. Using a 7.75% interest rate on a 30-year mortgage, Benn calculated the $3,000 sprinkler system cost would increase the monthly mortgage by $20.47.

Next, Benn figured the tax and insurance savings for installing a residential system. With 28% federal income tax and 5% California state income tax, a tax credit of $6.10 per month resulted from the deduction of the interest portion of the additional $20.47.

Benn contacted insurance companies to gather the premium discount provided to homeowners with residential sprinkler systems. Six insurance companies gave quotes. The premium reduction for having a residential fire sprinkler system ranged from $90 to $165 per year. Using the middle quote of $136 per year, Benn calculated the savings to be $11.33 per month.

Adding all the credits together gives a total of $17.43 per month. Subtracting that from the monthly mortgage increase of $20.47 leaves an increase of only $3.04 per month for the protection of a residential fire sprinkler system.

"Basically, for the price of a Happy Meal or a Starbuck's coffee, your family can be protected by a residential sprinkler system," Benn commented. His efforts paid off when the Brentwood City Council passed a residential ordinance that same day. ■

Editor's Note: Sprinkler installation costs vary. On average, HFSC estimates the cost of sprinklers in new construction to be between 1 and 1.5% of the total cost of construction. Installation costs are lower where demand is greater. For example, in Scottsdale, AZ, where fire sprinklers are required in new homes, the cost to install residential sprinklers is less than $0.80 per square foot.

This abridged article from Sprinkler Age Magazine is used with permission of the American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA).

Collective Effort

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"We are proud to have the industry stand up and be counted this way," said Jim Dalton, vice president with the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) and also a member of HFSC's Steering Committee. "This annual trade show is the building community's premier event and it is essential for the sprinkler industry to take part in it. Working together with this unique exhibit, we can make more progress with the building community, and do it faster."

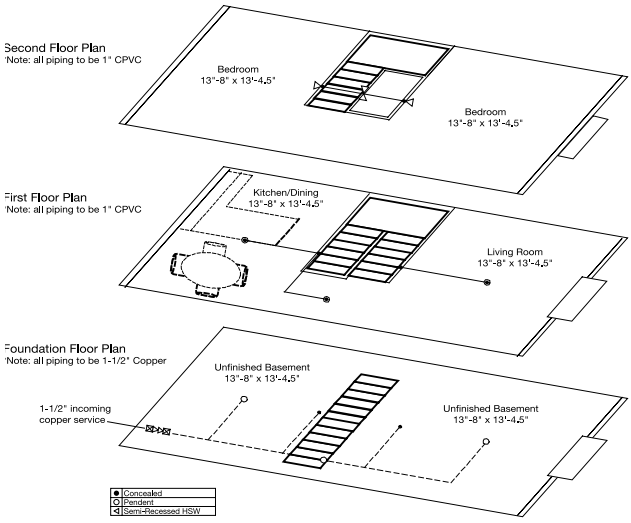
The miniature model's NFPA 13D-compliant sprinkler system was designed by U.S. Fire Protection, based in Lake Forest, IL. Under the direction of the company's residential division sales representative Colleen McNally, the model system was carefully installed to scale, and will accurately portray a NFPA 13D system within a typical two-story home. "Having Colleen's expertise and energy on this project has been a huge advantage," said HFSC Communications Manager Peg Paul.

The HFSC has exhibited at the International Builders' Show with a conventional booth since 2000, fielding questions and also polling builders to better understand their interest, concerns and misconceptions about residential sprinkler systems. HFSC's new "Built for Life" program is the result of the knowledge gained through exhibiting at the IBS show over the years. "Built for Life" is intended to provide the building community with the level of information they say they need and want.

"This new program is just one example of HFSC's redoubled efforts to reach the home builder and developer community specifically," said HFSC's Keith. "We recognize builders are influential with homeowners, so we want them to understand as much as possible about the technology and its use in the residential setting." ■

Miniature House *continued from page 1*

Fire Protection, which installed the sprinkler system for HFSC. "Additionally, the model demonstrates good installation practices with metallic (copper) pipe used in the unfinished basement and cold climate practice of running CPVC pipe in interior walls vs. exterior walls or attics."



The floor plan for the display house provides additional detailed information about the sprinkler system.

HFSC has participated for years in a popular companion to the annual International Builders' Show – "Behind the Walls." In this interactive exhibit, full-sized homes are partially constructed and then put on display with piping, wiring and other infrastructure exposed to viewers who walk through the house during the show. It's an effective concept that, along with the brochure diagram, inspired the new exhibit.

"We wanted the miniature house to serve the same purpose as the 'Behind the Walls' exhibit, allowing people to learn first-hand how sprinkler systems are installed and work inside a home," said HFSC communications manager Peg Paul. "By building a much smaller to-scale house, we are able to take this educational tool on the road, increasing the number of people who can see for themselves how home fire sprinkler systems really work."

Educating builders about home sprinklers is a leading HFSC objective, and much of the education comes in the form of debunking stubborn myths. Along with the general public, builders often are taken in by inaccurate Hollywood special-effect depictions of sprinklers, leaving a negative impression about the technology. Numerous myths persist, ranging from cost to appearance and water damage. These are among the reasons why a hands-on exhibit like HFSC's new cut-away miniature house is so valuable. "The model shows that the sprinkler system, although it has its own piping system, is supplied by the incoming domestic service rather than needing a separate underground connection," McNally added, correcting one of the myths.

Throughout the house, there are cut-outs Ithat allow viewers to see the fire sprinkler system.

HFSC's Paul said the exhibit was patterned after the cut-away schematic used in the HFSC's "Built for Life" brochure, which is targeted to the building community, and specifically designed based on the types of questions builders have been asking HFSC staff for years.

"Some of the most frequent builder questions we get have to do with room coverage and plastic (CPVC) pipe," she explained. "When they can see with their own eyes how the system is hooked up – behind the walls and tied into the water main – they can more readily imagine themselves offering fire sprinkler systems in the homes they build."

U.S. Fire Protection worked directly with the miniature model supplier to ensure that the system depicts a code-compliant system. "We wanted the miniature to be as accurate a portrayal of a sprinklered home as possible in a portable unit," Paul said. "With Colleen McNally overseeing the installation, we were insured a successful result." ■

Behind the Scenes at the Booth

BlazeMaster® Fire Sprinkler Systems are made from chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC), a high-temperature specialty material used in fire sprinkler pipe and fittings. Lightweight, easy to install, and less expensive than most metallic systems, BlazeMaster fire sprinkler systems offer advantages in both new and residential retrofit applications. Highly durable and lightweight, BlazeMaster CPVC systems' primary benefit is its ease of use and speed of installation. BlazeMaster CPVC fire sprinkler systems can be engineered quickly, requiring only simple hand tools. Ease of installation, corrosion resistance, low flame spread and low smoke characteristics of the BlazeMaster CPVC fire sprinkler system are attributes that have led to greater public demand for fire sprinkler systems.

Kidde Fire Fighting is an organization dedicated to the design and manufacture of technologically advanced, high quality approved products and systems for fire fighting and fire control professionals. With the combined expertise from National Foam, Angus, Automatic Sprinkler, Powhatan, Feecon, Flexline, Imperial, and Wirt & Knox, Kidde Fire Fighting has a broad and comprehensive product portfolio. Automatic Sprinkler, part of the Kidde Fire Fighting organization, is a quality brand of sprinkler heads and sprinkler system components such as nozzles, valves and accessories. A long established and trusted name in the fire protection industry, Automatic Sprinkler excels in providing proven performance and innovative fire control products for industrial, commercial, residential and specialist needs.

Reliable® Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Company has grown from a small company founded 80 years ago to the internationally respected fire sprinkler manufacturer it is today. Reliable operates global sales and distribution facilities in 10 states and two countries. Reliable's growing fire sprinkler product line contains the most complete range of sprinklers, valves, system components, and a comprehensive line of special hazards/special systems. Three goals are at the heart of Reliable's mission: To be the leading worldwide manufacturer of innovative, quality-oriented fire sprinklers and system devices; to be a leading supplier of fire sprinkler system components; and to be the leader in providing the highest level of operational excellence in customer service, exceeding all customer expectations.

tyco Fire Products Tyco Fire and Building Products is a business unit of Tyco Engineered Products and Services and is a global manufacturer of water-based fire suppression system components and ancillary building construction products. It continually expands its capabilities through aggressive research and product development to provide its customers effective fire protection and construction solutions for residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings. Its products are sold worldwide under the brand names Acrobe, Ancon, Central, Central SpraySafe, GEM, SprinkCAD, Grinnell, Lindapter, Star, Unistrut and Wopf.

VIKING® The Viking Group was established in 1897 and has been a leading manufacturer and distributor of fire sprinklers, valves and related equipment since the 1920s. Innovative design and strict product quality have been an essential part of the Viking culture for the past 100 years. These standards, combined with a world-class distribution network, have been the key to Viking's success. Viking equipment is incorporated in a wide variety of applications including aircraft hangars, power plants, factories, warehouses, shopping malls, offices, apartments and single-family homes. Viking products have been trusted to protect irreplaceable properties such as Independence Hall, the White House and the Smithsonian Institution.

Victaulic® Victaulic Company's complete line of fire protection products – including FireLock Automatic sprinklers and CPVC – provide optimal reliability and performance for residential applications. Victaulic sprinklers meet the requirements of NFPA 13D and 13R for residential use in a variety of room sizes and each model is UL listed. Victaulic offers a complete line of FireLock CPVC pipe, couplings and fittings, approved for residential service up to 175 psi at 150º F. FireLock CPVC piping products are impact-resistant and UL Listed and FM Approved. A complete line of grooved and plain-end products specifically designed for fire protection applications are also available to provide fast, easy and cost-effective pipe joining solutions often required in dormitories, high rise apartments and condominiums.

HFSC STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

AFSA – The American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA), established in 1981, is dedicated to the educational advancement of its members and the promotion of automatic fire sprinkler systems.

CASA – The Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association (CASA) promotes, defends, enhances and improves the business of installing and manufacturing fire sprinkler devices and systems.

Home Safety Council – The Home Safety Council is the only national organization dedicated solely to the prevention of unintentional home injuries and the advancement of home safety information.

NFPA – The NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896.

NFSA – The National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) is an international organization with the mission to create a market for the widespread acceptance of competently installed automatic fire sprinkler systems in new and existing construction.

UL – Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is an independent product safety testing and certification organization which has tested products for public safety for more than a century.

USFA – The United States Fire Administration (USFA), an entity of the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has the mission to reduce life and economic losses due to fire and related emergencies.

Home Fire Sprinkler®
COALITION
Improved Fire Protection Through Public Education

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

For more information about home fire sprinklers, individuals can call toll-free 1-888-635-7222 or go to the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition web site at: www.homefiresprinkler.org

For further information about HFSC partnership programs, contact Gary Keith at (617) 984-7263 or via e-mail at gkeith@nfpa.org

Industry Links

For more information:

Contact these manufacturers for additional information on their products and services:

Blazemaster Fire Sprinkler Systems
www.blazemaster.com

Kidde Fire Fighting
www.kidde-fire.com

Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Company
www.reliablesprinkler.com

Tyco Fire And Building Products
www.tyco-fire.com

Victaulic Fire Safety Company, LLC
www.victaulic.com

Viking Group
www.vikingcorp.com

Home Fire Sprinkler®
COALITION
Improved Fire Protection Through Public Education

The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition was formed in 1996 in response to the tremendous need to inform the public about the life-saving value of home fire sprinkler protection.

The HFSC has developed educational material with details about automatic home fire sprinkler systems, how they work, why they provide affordable protection and answers to common myths and misconceptions about their operation. These materials are available upon request.

Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition

Steering Committee

- American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA)
- Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association (CASA)
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA)
- Sharel Stokes Fire Sprinkler Public Education Foundation
- Underwriters Laboratories (UL)
- U.S. Fire Administration (FEMA)

Associate Member

- API Fire Protection Group

Affiliate Members

- Advanced Automatic Sprinkler Inc.
- Affordable Fire Protection
- Blazemaster
- Connecticut Fire Marshal Association (CFMA)
- Fire Protection Products, Inc.
- Florida Fire Chiefs' Association
- Mesa Fire Department (Arizona)
- IFSTA/Fire Protection Publications
- National Association of Independent Insurers (NAII)
- New England Association of Fire Marshals
- Plano Fire Department (Texas)
- Quality Fabrication and Supply
- Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc.
- Rural/Metro (Scottsdale, AZ Fire Dept.)
- Viking Corporation
- Wirsbo Company, U.S.
- Wirsbo Company, Canada