



Seminar 2: Engineered Fire Detection and Notification

Fire alarm system design is too often seen as simply placing the right circle or square on a floor plan and connecting them with lines. In reality, like with any other fire protection system, the real design effort is the upfront analysis and understanding of the specific scientific and engineering principles on which the requirements in the fire alarm code are based. From strobe coverage to sound attenuation, from the listed spacing for a heat detector to the spacing adjustments based on ceiling height, simple calculations can be used to understand the mathematical “Whys” behind fire alarm design requirements. Just as important, is understanding the limitations of the technical information in NFPA 72. This presentation will look at the origin and derivation of the various “numbers” included in the requirements of NFPA 72 so a designer or reviewer can understand the intent and limitations of this nationally recognized standard.



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Jeff Moore is a senior fire protection engineer for Jensen Hughes. He operates an office in Cincinnati (OH) where he is involved with all aspects of fire/life safety code consulting and fire protection systems design. Prior to working for Jensen Hughes, he was a field engineer, district supervising engineer, and senior loss prevention training consultant for Industrial Risk Insurers for seventeen years. He also served five years as the fire protection engineer for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton (OH) where he served as the fire protection engineering resource for over 100 tenant organizations on an active U.S. Air Force base with more than 30,000 military and civilian personnel. He has been an instructor for NFPA’s fire alarm systems seminar since 1987 and has served on the NFPA 72 Technical Committee and NFPA 72 Correlating Committee since 1994. He chaired the Technical Committee on Protected Premises Fire Alarm Systems for eleven years, and has chaired the Technical Committee on Fire Alarm System Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance for the past nine years.

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