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| SESSION 4B | A Look at Exterior Cladding Materials and Fire Protection |
| SESSION DESCRIPTION | <p>In recent years, we have all watched in disbelief as a series of fires around the globe propagated, in part, by a combination of exterior wall components and materials with properties that, in certain circumstances, can facilitate combustion. Concerns in this area, and the corresponding evolution of building codes and test standards to address these concerns, date back nearly sixty years - long before the Torch Tower and Address Hotel fires in Dubai and the tragedy that we witnessed last year at Grenfell Tower in London. The presentation will begin with a brief overview of this history, then pivot to an update of the current situation relative to risk assessment of existing building stock, and finish with a discussion focused on why appropriately developed fire protection strategies are not simply skin-deep. Topics will include the regulatory response to exterior cladding fires by the UAE, the industry response that we are beginning to see in the U.S., and an exchange of ideas about where we go from here and the steps that we can take as design and construction professionals to further mitigate this risk while maintaining energy efficiency standards.</p> |
| SPEAKERS BIO | |
|  | <p>Douglas Stieve, RRC Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.</p> <p>Douglas Stieve specializes in the diagnosis and repair design for building envelope failures in contemporary and historic buildings. Since joining WJE in 1991, Mr. Stieve has provided professional services for over eight hundred buildings throughout the northeast United States. He has experience with many types of materials including brick, concrete masonry, natural stone, roofing and waterproofing, and Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS). He has also managed the design and construction period services for several multi-million dollar repair and rehabilitation projects, as well as provided consulting services to architects, contractors, and owners for new buildings.</p> |
|  | <p>Nicholas E. Ozog, P.E. Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.</p> <p>Nicholas E. Ozog, P.E. is a Senior Associate with Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. in their Chicago office. He has experience in building and fire code and risk analyses, property conditions and loss control assessments, and performance based design evaluations for a wide range of occupancies and building types including healthcare, high-rise, historic structures, business, residential, assembly, and industrial. He understands risk management principles, development of loss control strategies, and creation of fire protection programming plans. He has presented around the country and in London on a wide range of fire protection and life safety topics including façade fire spread and building system evaluation tools.</p> |
|  | <p>Michael J. Rzeknik, P.E. Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.</p> <p>Michael J. Rzeknik, P.E. is an Associate Principal with Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. in their New Haven/New York City offices. He is a recognized industry expert with over 27 years of experience in all areas of fire protection and life safety engineering, including fire protection system design, egress, fire investigation, and loss analysis. His global experience includes a wide range of building types and uses, with a particular expertise in hospitality and mixed-use buildings. He has authored articles on a number of fire protection and life safety topics including egress, fire modeling, special suppression systems, SFRM commissioning, and exterior building façade fire protection.</p> |