



THE FIRE PROTECTION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Symposium

Mark your Calendars:
**SupDet 2009, February
24-27 in Orlando, FL**
This year's symposium will feature a workshop on clean agent suppression of energized electrical fires as well as three intensive days of the latest research and applications for suppression and detection systems.

Featured presentations include keynote presentations on California's regulatory initiatives to reduce suppression agent contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and New Zealand's experience with design issues for fire protection systems in a performance based regulatory environment.

Visit [our website](#) to view the entire program and to register.

Contact the Foundation

epeterson@nfpa.org for
more information or to

Inside the Foundation

NFPA establishes \$6 million endowment for the Foundation

On September 23rd, NFPA announced the establishment of a \$6 million endowment for the Foundation. The endowment will provide the Foundation with the independence and stability to continue its mission to plan, manage and communicate research programs to support NFPA's codes and standards and other activities. We are grateful to NFPA for its generous gift to the Foundation and its longstanding support of our efforts.



Pictured: Paul Fitzgerald, Kathleen Almand and Jim Shannon

Fire Protection and Safety: Preparing for the Next 25 years

On November 17, 18, at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington DC, 130 leaders from the research, engineering, fire service, facility fire protection and manufacturing fields met to explore demographic, technological and environmental trends that will impact fire safety in the future. Keynote speakers from outside the fire protection community provided in depth information on the aging of our population, the explosion of new materials and technologies, and threats to the sustainability of our planet along with a challenge to explore their impacts on fire safety.

Panelists provided their views on these challenges and needed research to address them. The Foundation is preparing a white paper on the input from the meeting and from a series of related meetings held with key NFPA codes and standards committees which will be available at year end. We will use this input to shape our research direction as we begin our second 25 years.

Research Planning

Developing a Strategic Research Agenda

Based on a series of research planning activities conducted by the Foundation in cooperation with NFPA Technical Committees, the Foundation's Research Advisory Committee is developing a strategic research agenda for Board approval which will guide the Foundation's activities in the next several years. Contact kalmand@nfpa.org

participate in Foundation programs

[Foundation Website](#)



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Automatic Sprinkler Fire Protection Research Council

The Council held its first meeting on September 22 in Savannah, Georgia. Over thirty priority research needs in support of developments in NFPA 13 were identified and prioritized by participants. The top five priorities identified were: residential sprinkler performance criteria (including single sprinkler design, impact of ceiling geometry, fire flow calculations and other topics); protection of expanded group A plastics; burning characteristics of commodities (including storage configuration issues); storage under sloped ceilings; and suppression design for final extinguishment. The Foundation will be developing these projects in the future; if you have an interest in participating, please contact kalmand@nfpa.org.

Residential Sprinkler System Design Criteria with Varying Ceiling Configuration

The Foundation is developing a project to study the performance of residential sprinklers in home fires with a range of typical ceiling geometries to develop test methods and performance criteria with a goal to develop design guidance for reference in NFPA 13D. Contact kalmand@nfpa.org.

New Reports available on the [Foundation's website](#)

Video Image Detection Systems Installation Performance Criteria

The 2007 edition of NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm Code*, recognized the use of VID systems for flame and smoke detection. This report describes the results of a Foundation project to develop fire performance objectives and related criteria for VID systems in selected key applications relevant to their reference in NFPA 72.

Validation of a Smoke Detection Performance Prediction Methodology

This series of four reports present the results of a Foundation project whose goal was to develop a validated engineering methodology to calculate and accurately predict the response time of spot-type and aspirated smoke detection systems exposed to incipient fires and growing fires. The report, divided into four volumes, describes the test methods, test results, computer simulations and analyses used for this project, which addresses the validation of a smoke detection performance prediction methodology.