UPDATES TO NFPA 20, 2028 EDITION

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SAN ANTONIO, TX

AFSA American Fire Sprinkler Association

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AMERICAN FIRE SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION

John August Denhardt, P.E., ET, CWBSP, FSFPE, is the vice president of engineering and technical services for the American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA). He is responsible for strengthening AFSA's engineering and technical approaches to meeting member, industry, and operational priorities, with an emphasis on service, quality, and integrity. Denhardt is a registered professional engineer (P.E.) in the District of Columbia as well as the states of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. He is NICET Level III certified in water-based systems layout, NICET Level III certified in inspection and testing of bater-based systems, and a certified water-based system professional through NFPA. Denhardt is a member of the NFPA 13 technical committee on sprinkler system discharge criteria, a fellow in the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), a member of the SFPE Board of Directors, a member of the Board of Trustees for NFPA's Fire Protection Research Foundation and sits on the University of Maryland Department of Fire Protection Engineering's Board of Visitors. A native of Maryland, Denhardt holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland, College Park in fire protection engineering. Prior to this role, Denhardt was employed by Strickland Fire Protection in Forestville, Maryland since 1994, overseeing large-scale projects and assisting with design and installation technical issues.

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HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THIS SEMINAR, YOU MUST:

1) scan badge upon entry,
2) attend seminar in its entirety, and
3) submit evaluation within 14 days

No individual or entity - including a presenting author - may electronically record or broadcast any portion of this AFSA training without prior written consent of AFSA. Unauthorized recording (audio, video, still photography, etc.) of this presentation without the express written consent of AFSA is strictly prohibited.

National Fire Protection Association
The authority on fire, electrical, and building safety

DISCLAIMER

This seminar and its content is not a formal interpretation issued pursuant to NFPA regulations.

Any opinion expressed is the personal opinion of the author and presenter and does not necessarily present the official position of the NFPA and its Technical Committees.

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NFPA Standards Development Process

- Standards are updated every 3 to 5 years.
- Approximately 8,880 volunteers serve on NFPA Technical Committees.
- Technical Committees represent a balanced variety of interests. Approximately 260 Technical Committees are responsible for document development.
- AFSA representation
  - 68 Committees
  - 51 Documents
  - 128 Seats (Principal/Alternate)

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Everybody's Favorite Topic!

5

What is the Purpose of a Fire Pump?

6

7

8

Notable Changes and Proposals from the First and Second Draft

NFPA 20-2028

AFSA45

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Minimum Requirements

AFSA45

FR-28 Section 1.1.1

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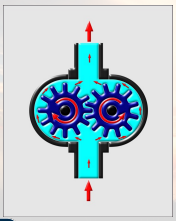
Safety Relief Valves



AFSA45

FR-27 Section 3.3.78.4.3

11

Required Power

- Proposed 220% limitation based on steepest curve
- Failed FD Ballot
  - FR → CI
- 28 PC submitted in support of limiting the horsepower rating

AFSA45

CI-33 Section 4.7.6

12

Approach at Second Draft

PCs 12/14/22/29/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/51/53/54/55/56/59/60

13

Eccentric Reducers

- Moved Hydraulic Institute guidance from annex to body
- Fed from above
  - Flat on bottom
- All other configurations
  - Flat on top
- Figure proposed as PC for second draft

FR-32 Section 4.16.6.4

14

Virtual Jockey Pumps

PI-18/19/39

15

Pumps Listed Specifically for NFPA 13R

16

Diesel Engines

FR-36 Section 11.1.1

17

REQUIRED

FOR CEU CREDIT:

- ✓ Badge scanned at start of seminar
- ✓ Attend full seminar
- ✓ Complete survey 1 of 2 ways:
  - ✓ Survey link is emailed to attendees with scanned badges
  - ✓ Event app by EventsAir
    - Login to app
    - Navigate to seminar survey
  - ✓ Surveys close 10/31/26

Thank you!

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Scan QR code to submit questions for **Ask the Experts!**

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2027 Training Schedule

WEBINARS

1/6	Updates to NFPA 20
1/20	Calculating Pressure Reducing Hose Valves
2/3	Consumer Alert: Nitrogen in Sprinkler Systems
2/17	Reviewing Hydraulic Calculations
3/3	Updates to NFPA 13, 2028 Ed.
3/17	Updates to NFPA 13R & 13D, 2028 Eds.
4/7	Topic Coming Soon
4/21	NFPA 25: Roles & Responsibilities
5/5	Standpipe Flow Test Procedures
5/19	Storage 101
6/2	NFPA Technical Meeting - Voting Guide
6/16	Topic Coming Soon
6/30	Topic Coming Soon
7/7	Updates to NFPA 14, 2027 Edition
7/21	Adjacent Hazards & Design Methods
8/4	Acceptance Testing
8/18	Modifications to Existing Systems
9/22	Topic Coming Soon
10/6	Seismic 101
10/20	Proposed Updates to NFPA 25, 2029 Ed.
11/3	Evaluating Fire Pump Flow Tests
11/17	Top 10 Tech Reviews
12/1	Designing Water Storage Tanks
12/15	Pump Room Layout

PROGRAMS

Feb 9 - Mar 5 Apr 20 - May 14 Aug 3 - Aug 27** Oct 26 - Nov 19	Beginning Design School*
Apr 26 - May 7 Nov 1 - 12	Intermediate Design School*
Feb 8 - 10** Apr 12 - 14 Jul 12 - 14 Oct 11 - 13	Sprinkler Hydraulics Calculations Workshop
Apr 19 - 21 Oct 18 - 20	Advanced Hydraulics Calculations Workshop
Feb 11** Apr 30 Jul 23 Sep 24	Introduction to the Fire Sprinkler Industry
Mar 1 - 3 May 17 - 19 Aug 16 - 18 Oct 18 - 20**	NFPA 25 Essentials Workshop
Jun 7 - 10 Sep 20 - 23	Experienced Inspector Skills Lab
Mar 4 - 5 May 20 - 21 Aug 19 - 20 Oct 21 - 22**	NFPA 25 Fire Pump Workshop
Spring Summer Fall	ITM Inspector Development Program* *This program is 20 months.*

** Hybrid course **At General Air Products Lab, Exton, PA*

AFSA46

September 8-11	Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, CA

For More Details Visit:
firesprinkler.org

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Dates subject to change. Programs subject to minimum registrations.

rev 9/14/2026

Virtual Instruction Path (VIP)

for Sprinkler Fitting Apprentices

Level 1 - Begins January 2027

Level 2 - Begins February 2027

Level 3 - Begins January 2027

Level 4 - Begins March 2027

www.firesprinkler.org/VIP

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HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS FOR 2027

FEATURING AFSA'S TRAINING LAB

NFPA 25 Essentials Workshop

Mar | May | Aug | Oct

Description: Understand roles, responsibilities, and NFPA 25 ITM procedures through hands-on testing of wet systems, dry systems, and fire pumps.

NFPA 25 Fire Pump Workshop

Mar | May | Aug | Oct

Description: Develop practical NFPA 25 fire pump ITM skills, including no-flow and full-flow testing, water supply graphing, and performance evaluation.

Introduction to the Fire Sprinkler Industry

Feb | Apr | Jul | Sep

Description: This course is designed for those new to the industry. An introductory, wide-ranging 8-hour course that provides a broad overview of core fire sprinkler industry concepts for those new to the field.

Experienced Inspector Skills Lab NEW

Mar | Sep

Description: Take your ITM expertise beyond the basics. Designed for experienced technicians, this course combines focused classroom instruction with hands-on system lab training to strengthen your application of current NFPA 25 inspection, testing, and maintenance requirements. Refine fire sprinkler testing practices, improve documentation, deliver more consistent service, and help reduce liability while reinforcing knowledge commonly covered on certification exams.

Learn more about AFSA's fire sprinkler lab featuring functional risers, a spray room, fire pumps, and an interactive classroom.

firesprinkler.org/lab