

New England Division of the
International Association of Fire Chiefs

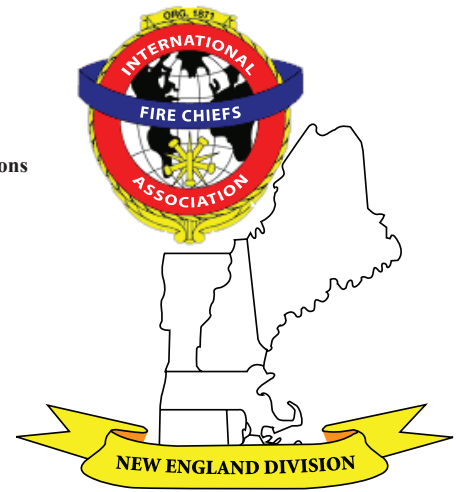
Presents
**Structural Stability of Engineered Lumber in Fire Conditions
And
Wind Driven Fires**

Sponsored by

Shipman's Fire Equipment Company

March 25, 2009

Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel
One Monarch Place
Springfield, MA 01144
413-781-1010



8:00 – 8:30 Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 11:30 **Structural Stability of Engineered Lumber in Fire Conditions**

A presentation that summarizes a research study on the hazards posed to firefighters by the use of lightweight construction and engineered lumber in floor and roof designs during and after a fire event. Participants will learn the bases for the study, how current construction conditions impact post fire environments and what step may be coming that affect fire modeling for the future. Analysis and discussion will enable participants to review a full free online course and discuss the limited results and apply them to real-life fires.

Our presenter is Robert J. James, a senior Engineering Associate Staff member with the Regulatory Services Department of Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) in Tampa, FL. His responsibilities include providing guidance for the UL regulatory fire plan in North America, fire protection related technical support to the regulatory community, providing education seminars, developing internet based training programs, service on two of the model fire code committees and serving as a liaison between the UL fire service research staff and the regulatory community.

Prior to this assignment, Bob was the Fire Marshal for the City of Bloomington MN. Mr. James provided the supervisory and review activities for the fire prevention department at the city, including plan review, inspection, investigations and public education relating to fire protection. His experience includes actively engaged in fire protection enforcement community for 29 years, both in the private sector and as a member of the MN State Fire Marshal Division.

11:30 – 1:00 Lunch sponsored by **Shipman's Fire Equipment**

1:00 – 4:00 **Wind Driven Fires**

This presentation will address multiple research projects that address firefighting tactics for building fires under wind driven conditions. Attention has been focused on this topic in recent years due to several noteworthy firefighter LODD incidents, and research is demonstrating that additional awareness is needed for structure fires that occur during high wind conditions and which can result in dangerous fire ground conditions. Attention to this topic has evolved such that it is more commonly recognized as a phenomenon associated with tall buildings, but this is also a concern with structures of any size, and it involves conditions that can have a dramatic effect on positive pressure ventilation techniques. A review will be provided of earlier research work that has led to two recent research projects that are now nearing completion, one of which was conducted at the NIST laboratory in Gaithersburg Maryland and the other conducted through NYU-Poly and FDNY at Governors Island in New York City. This current research will be summarized to help clarify an under-recognized hazard facing today's structural firefighters, and the direction that is being taken for additional work to further address this topic.

Our presenter is Casey C. Grant, P.E., Program Director for the fire Protection Research Foundation, an affiliate of the National Fire Protection Association. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and a Master's degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, both in Fire Protection Engineering, and he is a Registered Professional Engineer in the states of California and Tennessee. Casey is a Fellow of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, and has one fire protection related U.S. patent. Prior to joining the Research Foundation in 2007, Casey was the Secretary of the NFPA Standards Council and Assistant Chief Engineer, where his responsibilities included oversight for the approximate 300 NFPA codes and standards.

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\$50 registration payable to

Mail to: Westerly Fire Department
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