

# KOFFEL TIMES

EXPERTLY ENGINEERING SAFETY FROM FIRE

Volume 8 / Issue 2  
Spring 2010

## *Koffel Talks*

Koffel Associates offers these hour-long presentations to larger local area clients and prospects to help them keep abreast of changes and nuances in the codes:

- 2009 NFPA 101® *Life Safety Code*® Updates
- 2009 NFPA 1 Updates
- 2009 IBC Updates
- 2007 NFPA 13
- 2007 NFPA 72
- Overview of the IBC
- Transitioning from the MBRC to IEBC, including Building Rehabilitation Provisions of NFPA 101
- NFPA 101 *Life Safety Code* Basics for Interior Renovations
- Building Rehabilitation Provisions of NFPA 101
- Maryland Fire Prevention Code Update
- Revising the Joint Commission Standards – A New Chapter in Life Safety

(Continued on page 2)

## *Corridor Projections*

The 2000 Edition of the *Life Safety Code* limited projections into the corridor to 3 1/2 inches at 38 inches and below on each side of the wall (7.3.2, Exception). This is the general projection requirement for most occupancies. After the 2000 Edition was published, the Temporary Interim Amendment (TIA) for alcohol hand rubs was published. This TIA permitted projections of up to 6 inches above the hand rail height to permit the installation of the alcohol hand rub dispensers in health care occupancies only (19/19.2.3.3). The TIA also required 48 inches between each dispenser (18/19.3.2.7).

The projection requirements have changed in multiple ways since the 2000 Edition of the *Code*. The 2009 Edition now permits projections up to 4-1/2 inches into the required egress width at 38 inches and below (7.3.2.2). This general requirement has become a bit more relaxed since the 2000 Edition. However, we find that the projection requirements for health care occupancies and ambulatory health care occupancies have changed entirely.

Paragraphs 18/19.2.3.4 now permits projections into the corridor for any item, provided it meets the following requirements and the corridor is at least 6 ft in

(Continued on page 2)

## *State Fire Commission*

Sharon S. Gilyeat, P.E., Principal was recently elected by her fellow commissioners as Vice Chair of the Maryland State Fire Prevention Commission.

This august body of nine is charged with making recommendations about the daily operations of the office of State Fire Marshal, including budget and personnel matters, as well as promoting information and educating the public and fire fighting personnel on advances in fire protection programs and procedures, life safety measures, development of improved fire safety goals and changes in the State Fire Prevention Code.

Sharon is serving her second five-year term on the commission.



## Koffel Associates, Inc.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.KOFFEL.COM

### Main Office:

Koffel Associates, Inc.  
6522 Meadowridge Rd, Suite 101  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075  
Phone: 410-750-2246

### Connecticut Office:

Koffel Associates, Inc.  
81 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Niantic, CT 06357  
Phone: (860) 739-1886

## Koffel Talks

(Continued from page 1)

- Fire Protection Requirements of the Unified Facilities Criteria
- Broader use of Fire Modeling in Design Projects
- Basic Principles of Smoke Management Systems
- Overview of Alternative Fire Suppression Systems
- Fire Stop Systems - Real World Problems

Please call Gayle James or email [gjames@koffel.com](mailto:gjames@koffel.com) if you are interested in any of the above training topics, or wish to learn about other training classes.

## Corridor Projections (cont'd)

width:

Each projection shall not exceed a depth of 6 inches  
Each projection shall not exceed a length of 36 inches  
Each projection shall be positioned not less than 40 inches above the floor.

Each projection shall have not less than 48 inches horizontal separation from adjacent projections.

Ambulatory health care occupancies now have requirements for the alcohol hand rub dispensers located in the corridor as well (20/21.3.2.6). This was not permitted in the original TIA.

It should be noted that most hospitals do not currently meet the requirement to maintain 48 inches between each projection. This is an issue that will need to be addressed when CMS and the accrediting agencies, such as The Joint Commission, adopt a newer edition of the *Life Safety Code*.

It should also be noted that accessibility requirements may not allow a 6 inch projection from the wall.

## P.E. EXAM STUDY

Diana Hugue, P.E. has been invited to join the Professional Activities and Knowledge Survey (PAKS) committee as it determines the types of questions (specifications) that are asked on the PE Exam. In order to produce a specification, this committee will develop a survey that goes to Fire Protection engineering professionals. The survey will be designed to inquire about the types of activities that are performed on the job. The final survey will be administered by the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, and the data assessed by the committee. It is from this data that the specification is produced.

## Service to Industry

- Bill Koffel recently was appointed to the Board of Visitors, Fire Center, Department of Fire Protection Engineering, University of Maryland, where he continues to serve on the Board of Visitors, Clark School of Engineering.
- Bill was also appointed to the SFPE Fire Safety in High-Rise Buildings Task Group Committee.
- Patti Zimmerman was appointed to the SFPE Fire Protection Engineering and BIM Task Group Committee.
- Koffel Associates' registered engineers recently participated in drafting questions that will be on the PE Exam.
- Koffel Associates recently presented the 2-day SFPE Seminar on "How to Study for the FPE/PE Exam".