

The Blueline



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE

HEALTHCARE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

VOLUME II, ISSUE I

1ST QUARTER

MARCH 19, 2008

President's Message

It seems like we were just celebrating the Christmas Holidays and already Opening Day is around the corner. The first quarter of 2008 illustrated the fantastic support of the HFMSNJ but its members. Attendance at meetings has been great and I thank all for their attendance.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our Education Committee for the fine speakers that made the Educational Sessions a success. January brought us a session on Mold Remediation, February's speaker presented Disaster Preparedness strategies and March topped the attendance charts with a Cyber Crime presentation by the FBI. Kudos to Ben and his staff for such a fine lineup and I know he has some equally fantastic presentations scheduled for the rest of the year.

Let us not forget our sponsors: The Lew Corporation, PK Mechanical, Ingersoll Rand, Munson Engineering, ECO systems and KJF Electrical who made these fine presentations possible.

Ben DiFranco, Jim Shoemaker and I had the opportunity to attend the 2008 PDC Conference in Orlando and it was quite the show! Between ASHE and AIA over 3800 professionals were in attendance. The sessions were informative and timely

with many addressing the topic of sustainability and Evidence Based Design. ASHE took the opportunity to unveil ASHE TV and new video production entitled "This Old/New Hospital" which will be sent to all ASHE members and member hospitals. The video is intended for hospital administrators and Boards to address issues of construction management. This preview is the first of a series of videos. Doug Erickson, Associate Executive Director of ASHE was the producer and was beaming like a proud parent on the arrival of his first born. Congratulation to Doug on what will, no doubt, be an award winning video.

Another bit of good news to report, two of our members, Brian Akers and Frank Conti have recently achieved CHFM status. Congratulation to you both. As always, please stay involved and let's break some attendance records. My best to you all.

**John DiGirolomo, CHFM, SASHE
President, HFMSNJ**



President-Elect's Message

Our first quarter saw all our members return for the 2008 and programs. We had a great program on mold remediation and Feb showed us all the intense power of Mother nature....March not only heralds in spring but the FBI so I urge all our members to attend and invite your security personnel as this is always a special night. I would like to congratulate all the past presidents who were honored with a ring they have served as the foundation for what we are today.

Education for 2008 is complete but I ask that the membership please let me know what they would like to see presented.

Please make arrangements' now for our Fall ALL DAY SEMINAR....this is the most critical day of education for our group as we can have a protracted program to educate the group and interact with one another...

If you do not currently belong to ASHE or have allowed your membership to expire please take a few moments to visit www.ashe.org and join or extend your membership

Think WARM THOUGHTS

Written and Contributed by:
Benedict DiFranco CHFM, SASHE
ASHE Region II Director
President-Elect, HFMSNJ



ASHE Report

As the newly elected Region 2 I have began the process of scheduling visits to the local chapters. I have had reached out to the local chapter presidents via e-mail and phone to introduce myself, they have all been extremely helpful and courteous.

I am in the process of assembling a packet for each chapter with ASHE information that deals with our mission statement and includes applications for the CHFM test, as well as pens and pins.

My hope is that they will be used to promote membership to ASHE and be made available at each chapter's respective monthly meetings.

As required in our by laws I have requested that Mr. James Shoemaker, FASHE assume the role of nominating committee chair and assemble a group to carry out the nominating duties for the Region Two election for 2008.

I have been asked to assist in planning to have the District of Columbia and Maryland chapters host a hospitality suite at our annual conference to be held at Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center Prince George County, Maryland (Located eight miles south of Washington, D.C.) July 20-23, 2008.

I am currently working on the quarterly newsletter and hope to have this out by mid March.

Written and Contributed by:
Benedict DiFranco CHFM, SASHE
ASHE Region II Director
President-Elect, HFMSNJ

Notes from the Editor

Remember to submit something for the next newsletter on or before Thursday, June 12, 2008. I'd like to release the 1st Quarter issue of BLUELINE before the June Meeting.

News Brief:

At the February 21, 2008 Executive Committee meeting it was decided to give a past-president ring to all living past presidents that wanted one. Emails and Letters will be sent out to the last known addresses on file for each of the past presidents, advising them that they are entitled to a ring. It is hoped that enough will respond that we can hold a special event in their honor when we give them the rings.

FYI:

Congratulations to Joseph Glaski, CHFM for achieving his HFMSNJ vendor status. Joe has accepted the position of Senior Healthcare Consultant with Bob Bartell at Safety Management Systems and will start this May. He will be focusing on JCAHO readiness. His new e-mail is jglaski@safemgt.com.

Schliewenz@holyname.org
John Schliewenz, AIA
Editor – HFMSNJ Newsletter
“THE BLUELINE”



Secretary's Report

Minimum Staffing Levels

We are all very well aware of the countless healthcare management studies and their respective reported findings conducted by various regulatory bodies, government agencies and independent groups, clinical or otherwise.

As valuable as these studies are to those in the industry, I'd like to suggest a topic that in my opinion would be welcomed by those involved in healthcare engineering and if conducted accurately could very well help lay the ground work to allow facility directors an opportunity to have in place, systems that would help to better ensure hospitals continue to offer the safest patient care environment.

Over the past few years we seen funding released to study everything from smoke free environments to disaster recovery, the results often help pave the way for future requirements in the industry. Given the fact that many of the struggles faced by facility directors involve the day-to-day operations, I would like to borrow a page from the nursing requirement book and investigate the potential for minimum staffing levels required to effectively maintain a facility.

Written and Contributed by:

Edward Fay
Secretary, HFMSN





Status Report Executive Hospital Engineers of New Jersey Club

We did it again! On Wednesday, 03/13/08, at 4:00pm, fourteen regular HFMSNJ members representing nine hospitals met at East Orange General Hospital to attend the second scheduled meeting of the EHENJ Club.

Why did we meet? We met as a group of healthcare employees with common needs and interests. To discuss our facility needs in a casual, friendly environment, free from the influence of vendors and consultants.

It was remarked that this meeting is not intended as a substitute for attending the HFMSNJ meeting. All attendees were expected to attend the HFMSNJ meeting next week and were in agreement that if this has a negative impact on attendance at the HFMSNJ it will be discontinued.

We discussed recent JCAHO survey findings. One topic was medical gas systems, alarms, testing, labeling, policies and procedures and nursing education and orientation. Another topic was Humidity control, monitoring and documentation as well as policies and procedures in effect in various facilities. Various methods to address maintaining and monitoring refrigerator temperatures and the need to

purchase refrigerators with the ability to recover temperature after the door is opened.

We spoke about motor and pump rebuilding companies and which of them has a habit of removing the nameplate when they rebuild your pump.

Other issued included our aging work force and snow storms and utility emergencies.

A terrific buffet dinner was set up and waiting for us when we arrived. At 5:00PM Charlie Church started the meeting with introductions and opened the buffet. The meeting and discussions continued during dinner.

The attendees seemed to enjoy the meeting and indicated a desire to keep the EHENJ Club going. We adjourned at approximately 7:15pm.

Are we doing this again? Yes. The next meeting will be held at St. Josephs, Wayne Hospital, on June 12, 2008 and will be hosted by James Corueil.

Submitted by:
John Schliewenz, AIA
Past-President, EHENJ 1999



NJHA - EAB Engineering Advisory Board

With the beginning of a new year, the EAB like every organization has to look back at the past year and set goals for the coming year. In the spirit of that process, I shared a challenge from Dale Woodin our ASHE Executive Director. In Dale's November / December "Inside ASHE" message to the membership, Dale reminded us that our CEOs tend to forget about the facility area. This is not out of disrespect but rather because "they have come to expect us to do these things...with little or no action from them". And "CEOs have enough to do looking at the bigger issues that don't work".

Dale further quotes the Institute of Medicine which established six (6) quality aims for the Healthcare industry.

- Safety
- Effectiveness
- Patient Centered
- Timely
- Efficient
- Equitable

As "the much underutilized strategic resource in healthcare today", we are called to be part of the solution in addressing these aims. To that end the EAB has instituted a new goal: To increase the relevance of the facilities field within healthcare organizations through out the state.

At the February meeting one such opportunity presented itself. Sally Roslow, the NJHA staff representative to the EAB, offered the Board the challenge of developing a personal development training program for those in the facility

field. What that training includes or how it is formatted is up to us. My personal recollection is that this is the first year in many that such an offer has been made specifically to the facility constituents.

The facilities field can encompass many departments and trades, with countless levels of careers from Helper / Entry Level to Vice President / Senior Management. Training for these careers can stem from hands on and on the job training and technical school, to degreed programs. The opportunities for mentoring are numerous.

With the possibilities being so wide open we look to each of you for input. Who else but those in our membership would understand what training is need by our subordinates and peers. Please take the time to forward any input to the committee or myself, so we as your representatives to NJHA can influence the coming year's training opportunities.

HFMSNJ Members

James Corueil
William Cutthill
Ben DiFranco, CHFM, SASHE
Bob Newman, CHFM
John Schliewenz, AIA
Hank Schuurman
George Thomas, CHFM, FASHE

**Article Submitted by
Hank Schuurman, Chairman EAB
VP Facilities Management
Christian Health Care Center**



Supporting Our Troops

It is our custom to begin our HFMSNJ meetings with a moment of silence to reverently remember our troops. Whether these troops are stationed in relative safety or have been sent into harms way they are protecting the freedoms we enjoy in this great country of ours. Regardless of any controversy surrounding the current conflicts or which side of the discussion we find ourselves, we are united in the love and support of our troops.

Having been brought up to be patriotic and being former military, I have always been very supportive but normally in less personal ways. Yes the Wounded Warrior Project continues to be on the list of charities I support and I periodically check on the status of my former units and military acquaintances. The Calvary unit I formerly had the privilege of commanding was activated to pull duty guarding the perimeter at Guantanamo with Bill, then a platoon sergeant now their First Sergeant. Mich, a section leader in my scout platoon, valiantly led his tank unit in Desert Storm. Ray, an OCS classmate, has been hopping between Iraq, Afghanistan, and the US so many times I have lost touch with him.

It became more personal however this week at the wake of one of my former soldiers Gene who passed away at 71. As always the funeral became the opportunity for old acquaintances to get together and commiserate. As the years melt away, you somehow become "LT" again as past experiences and all that has transpired over the years are shared.

Of the group of former platoon members only one remains in our former unit. SGT Pat Stroud now a Chief Warrant Officer. (Great rank since it is respected by both the enlisted and commissioned officers,

without the BS those of us who were commissioned put up with.)

Pat was the bespectacled wide eyed young warrior who pulled the short straw and ended up as my driver / radioman. Good duty in some units, not so good in the battalion's scout platoon, where as the battalion's "eyes and ears" the hours were long and sleep almost non existent. (Good Facility Emergency training) Combine that with the less than optimum conditions normally operated in and you become real close. Pat was always a great soldier if not a little naive and somewhat awed by what our "work" involved.

It would end there if it wasn't for the fact the 2-113 Infantry Battalion along with the rest of the states 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) received the call for their turn to go into harms way. In the next several months they will be mobilizing for several months of train up, followed by shipping off to Iraq for an undetermined timeframe.

As they are away I will find myself thinking of Pat and what he will experience as the battalions maintenance warrant in the land of IEDs. As my thoughts are with him, it will be however of the bespectacled, wide eyed, young warrior of many years ago and whether his naivety will last the effects of all he sees.

If at our next meeting's moment of silence for our troops my head remains down a little longer, I'm just adding an extra prayer. A prayer for Pat and all those serving in harms way, serving in the name of the freedom we all have the privilege to share.

**Article Submitted by
Hank Schuurman, Chairman EAB
VP Facilities Management
Christian Health Care Center**

NFPA UPDATE

While most facility managers have contracts for the required semi-annual maintenance and hood cleaning for the wet chemical fire suppression systems in their kitchens, they also need to make sure they are meet the requirements for Owner's Inspections.

If you read the following excerpt from NFPA 17A you may discover that you may be negligent in performing the proper owners inspections of your wet chemical systems.

The following list is the required inspections according to NFPA 17A 7.2 Owner's Inspection.

7.2.1 Inspection shall be conducted on a monthly basis in accordance with the manufacture's listed installation and maintenance manual or the owner's manual.

7.2.2 Inspections shall include verification of the following:

- (1) The extinguishing system is in its proper location.
- (2) The manual actuators are unobstructed.
- (3) The tamper indicators and seals are intact.
- (4) The maintenance tag or certificate is in place.
- (5) No obvious physical damage or condition exists that might prevent operation.
- (6) The pressure gauge(s), if provided, is in operable range.
- (7) The nozzle blowoff caps are intact and undamaged.

- (8) The hood, duct, and protected cooking appliances have not been replaced, modified, or replaced.

7.2.3 If any deficiencies are found, appropriate corrective action shall be taken immediately.

7.2.4 Personnel making inspections shall keep records for those extinguishing systems that were found to require corrective actions.

7.2.5 At least monthly, the date the inspection is performed and the initials of the person performing the inspection shall be recorded.

7.2.6 The records shall be retained for the period between the semiannual maintenance inspections.

What one hospital did to resolve not to let this issue fall through the cracks was to have their maintenance mechanic do these inspections during his monthly fire extinguisher inspections.

Don't be caught off guard if you are asked for documentation and a policy for this during your next Joint Commission or DOH inspection.

**Brian Akers, Lead Engineer
SJWH**



ARC FLASH – THE “DIFFERENT” ELECTRICAL HAZARD

To no one’s surprise, these facts are nearly common knowledge:

- An average of 4,000 non-disabling and 3,600 disabling electrical contact injuries in the workplace occur annually in the United States.
- One person is fatally electrocuted in the workplace every day.
- Electrocutions were the fourth leading cause of traumatic occupational fatalities.
- More than 2,000 workers are sent to burn centers each year with electrical burns.
- Historically, one-third of all electrical incidents are caused by a combination of unsafe equipment and unsafe conditions.
- This information suggests that adequately maintained equipment and operated equipment significantly affects worker safety.

Arc flash is a distinct electrical hazard that has existed in electric power systems since the late 19th century. Arc flash is considered to be different from electric shock. As the understanding of the arc flash hazard improved, it became clear that the work practices, protective equipment and electrical design practices employed to protect people from electric shock were not sufficient to protect them from arc flash. The National Electric Code (NEC) first included NFPA 70E (Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace) in 1979. In 2002, article 110.116 of the NEC (Flash Protection) required labeling where arc flash hazards were expected. Since that time, designers and practitioners have addressed the issues of arc flash mitigation, arc blast protection, arc flash hazard analysis and personnel protective equipment (PPE) requirements.

Currently, here’s how the NFPA Code handbook summarizes arc flash protection:

“Field markings that warn electrical workers of potential arc flash hazards are now required because significant numbers of electricians are being seriously burned or killed from accidental electrical arc flash while working on energized equipment. Most of these accidents could be prevented, or their severity significantly reduced, if electricians wore the proper type of protective clothing. Requiring switchboards, panelboards and motor control centers to be individually field-marked with proper warning labels will raise the level of awareness of electrical arc flash hazards and thereby decrease the number of accidents.”

Other standards organizations have addressed the arc flash issue.

- NFPA-2000 (Electrical Safety Requirements for Employee Workplaces) provides guidelines for planning safe work, setting the level of potential exposure and selecting PPE.
- IEEE Guide 1584 (Arc Flash Calculations) and OSHA (Safe Work Practices).
- ANSI Z535.4-1998 (Product Safety Signs and Labels) provides guidelines for design of safety signs.

WHAT IS NFPA 70E?

- NFPA 70 is the National Electric Code that is intended for electrical installations, *not maintenance and operation*.
- NFPA 70E is meant to complement the NEC's "how you build it" approach.

- NFPA 70E originated from a request from OSHA, which recognized safe work practices guidelines were missing from the NEC, and statistics indicated there was a need for such guidelines
- Unique safety-related terms have been defined by the technical committee over the seven editions of NFPA 70E.

WHAT IS OSHA'S ROLE?

OSHA was formed in 1970 and contains a broad range of general safety regulations and guidelines. Specific to the basis for NFPA 70E are three OSHA regulations:

- **1910.132 (d) 1:** The employer shall assess the workplace to determine if hazards are present or likely to be present which necessitate the use of PPE.
- **1910.335 (a)(2)(ii):** Protective shields, protective barriers, or insulating materials shall be used to protect each employee from shock, burns, or other electrically related injuries while that employee is working near exposed energized parts which might be accidentally contacted or where dangerous electric heating or arcing might occur.
- **1910.333 (A) 1:** Live parts must be de-energized unless the employer can demonstrate that de-energizing introduces added or increased hazards.

OSHA recently published a new final rule requiring employers to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) used to comply with OSHA standards. Employers are financially responsible for purchasing those items worn for protection from workplace hazards, including, but not limited to, non-prescription safety eyewear, hard hats, gloves, safety shoes, face shields and

electrically insulated tools. The final rule becomes effective on February 13, 2008. The final rule must be implemented by May 15, 2008.

WHAT IS ARC FLASH?

- It exists primarily in circuits of 208 volts or higher, although NFPA 70E sets the lower limit at 50 volts. *“Exposed live parts energized at 50 volts or more must be placed in an electrically safe work condition before an employee works on them.”*
- It is a release of energy in the form of a fireball with temperatures exceeding 5000°F. Untreated cotton, wool, rayon silk (or blends) and sneakers melt at 315°F.
- It is a pressure blast that propels hot gases and metal parts.
- At 480 volts, the release of energy is 60% of a bolted fault current.
- At 1,000 volts, the release of energy is 100% of a bolted fault current.
- Arc flash energy is greater and lasts longer than fault current energy.

WHY DOESN'T THE OVERCURRENT PROTECTIVE DEVICE, OCPD (fuse or breaker) PROTECT US?

- Air offers resistance to current flow, so the OCPD does not pass sufficient current to cause melting (fuse) or tripping (breaker), because arc flash current is less than fault current, or
- Clearing time of the OCPD is longer, because arc flash current does not reach the

OCPD melting or tripping point as fast as fault current.

WHEN IS FLASH PROTECTION REQUIRED?

- When a person is within the Flash Protection (FP) boundary, which is the distance that results in a **2nd degree burn** from an arc.
- That distance is proportional to the product of the *time of arc exposure in seconds* and the *bolted fault power* (Mega Volt Amps) available where the arc can occur.

Voltage	FP boundary
Up to 750	3 feet
750 to 2,000	4 feet
2,000 to 15,000	16 feet
15,000 to 36,000	19 feet

WHAT IS AN APPROACH BOUNDARY?

Three boundaries are defined as the clearance a person must maintain from an exposed, energized electrical conductor or circuit part. It is based upon the voltage, operating condition of the equipment and qualifications of the person.

- Limited: person must be qualified; at a voltage of 15kV to 36 kV, 6 feet
- Restricted: person must be qualified and wear PPE; at a voltage of 15kV to 36 kV, 2 feet, 7 inches
- Prohibitive: no uninsulated part of the qualified person's body crosses it; at a voltage of 15kV to 36 kV, 10 inches

WHAT IS A "QUALIFIED PERSON"

- An individual who possesses knowledge and experience of the work methods and safe work

practices to safely and effectively complete a specific task.

- *The Qualified Person is permitted to work within the Limited Approach Boundary of exposed live parts operating at 50 volts or more.*

WHAT ARE RISK CATEGORIES?

NFPA 70E Table 130 has a prescriptive listing of the minimum PPE requirements for working on energized equipment within the flash boundary.

- Category 0: Operating a panelboard circuit breaker with covers on: Long sleeve shirt and long pants, both FR.
- Category 1: Removing panel board covers, taking voltage or current readings, removing or installing circuit breakers rated below 240 volts: Long sleeve shirt and long pants, both FR; Arc-rated coveralls or parka; hard hat; leather gloves; safety glasses, foot protection.
- Category 3: switchgear at 600 volts: more restrictive.
- Category 4: switchgear at 1,000 volts and above: extremely restrictive.

WHAT IS THE HOSPITAL'S RESPONSIBILITY?

The Hospital has the responsibility to limit the operation of electrical system equipment to staff they have authorized to perform such operations, through a process of verifying experience, training, and proficiency testing. The Hospital shall maintain a list of individuals that have successfully met these requirements on the Hospital's electrical switching and tagging list. Individuals shall

posses a combination of practical and classroom training in the safe operation of electrical system equipment.

WHAT IS A COMPLETE SCOPE OF TRAINING FOR A HOSPITAL MAINTENANCE STAFF?

- NFPA 70E Content
 - Chapter 1: Safety Related Work Practices: Safe work practices and procedures.
 - Chapter 2: Safety Related Maintenance Requirements: Maintaining equipment in a safe condition.
 - Chapter 3: Safety Requirements, Safe Practices and Procedures for Special Equipment.
 - Chapter 4 Installation Safety Requirements: Basic safety requirements for installations (*Articles in Chapter 4 coordinate OSHA and the NEC requirements for on-going operation and maintenance efforts*).
- Review of the existing Electrical Safety Program at your Hospital.
- Overview and application of NFPA 70E.
- Preparing electrical equipment for maintenance work; defining the process of isolating, testing, and grounding, to insure a safe condition.
- Maintaining a basic set of work conditions, to insure that maintenance activities can proceed.
- Recognizing the need for and proper use of PPE.
- Single Line Diagrams
- Space around electrical equipment
- Grounding and bonding
- Guarding of live parts
- Safety interlock equipment

- Identification of components and circuits
- Posting warning signs
- Periodic electrical testing, proper handling and storage of portable electric tools
- Electrical System Electrical Maintenance Technician Qualifications
- Electrical Switchman Task Description
- Electrical System Operator Responsibilities for Electrical Safety
- Electrical System Operator Switching Technician Toolkit
- Electrical System Operator Switching and Tagging Rules

HOW CAN THE HOSPITAL MEET ITS OBLIGATION?

NFPA 70E training and education material is available off-site at a number of private contractors, including NEC, NFPA and IEEE. These are intended to meet the need of electrical designers, contractors and safety administrators, among others. Self-training courses are available in book form, DVD's or both. A more focused approach is conducted on-site, based specifically on the Hospital's electrical system and individuals.

One such private contractor serving this area is Energistics, LLC. Energistics offers focused, on-site NFPA 70E training.

Their morning session includes a Power Point presentation, real-time visuals of arc flash events, inspection and use of PPE, and case studies related to the voltage system at the Hospital.

The afternoon session takes place in one or more Hospital electrical switchgear rooms, where the staff is shown what to do and, more importantly, what not to do relative to observing, reporting and reacting to electrical events.

At the end of the training, a letter report is prepared, defining the results of the training and which persons can be considered to be "Qualified Persons". Where appropriate, a pre and post training test may be administered. For a staff of 10 to 15, the cost is approximately \$4,500. The training is conducted by John Hyfantis, PE and Richard Bernhardt, PE.

**Article contributed by
John Hyfantis, PE,
President Energistics, LLC**

**Safety Management Services, Inc.
presents:
Environment of Care®
Interpretations for 2008 -
"Meeting the Demands of Change"**

Featured Program Faculty
Robert Bartels, CHFM – President
William M. Wagner, ScD CHCM CHSP –
Vice President, Education, Research &
Development
Allan "Mac" McLean CHSP – Senior Staff
Consultant
Lori B. Dinney, PE MS – Manager, Fire
Protection Services
Lorrie Jansen-Adams CHSP,
Senior Staff Consultant, & Manager of
Training & Publications
Nicole C. George, CHSP – Staff Consultant

Why YOU should attend...

Program Objectives – "Meeting the Demands of Change" - This workshop will not only familiarize attendees with The Joint Commission®'s Environment of Care® Standards for 2008 and beyond, but will

also explain how to efficiently integrate the new standards into your existing program. As part of handout materials, participants will receive a comprehensive "crosswalk" which addresses the transition of the 2007 – 2008 EC standards.

Each participant will also receive an SMS, Inc. 2008 EC Toolbox™ – a CD-R with 27 sections covering the entire range of EC standards. This disk has over 500 sample data collection tools, forms, policies, procedures, reports, management plans, annual evaluations, tracers, survey preparation tools and much more. Participants are encouraged to take these survey-proven aids and use them in their respective facilities as templates for their survey presentation materials.

SMS, Inc. has re-worked our educational seminar to include that significant body of changes found in the Emergency Management section of the 2008 standards. This program will review these new guidelines, including HICS & NIMS-oriented elements, and show the participant how to build a rock-solid EM program. Additionally, the specialists at SMS, Inc. have revisited the Fire Safety (EC.5.10 – EC.5.50) requirements, and introduced even more tools and ideas for addressing the participation of The Joint Commission's Life Safety Code Specialist Surveyor. Within the Fire Safety/Life Safety Code segment, the speakers will address the nuances of developing the Statement of Conditions™ (SOC™), and the technical specifications of complying with the electronic SOC (eSOC™) process. This seminar will review The Joint Commission's "Tracer Methodology" process and how facilities will need to account for it in

their survey preparations. Emphasis will be made on how to apply practical solutions to the Joint Commission's requirements for the development and maintenance of Management Plans, Risk Assessments, Performance Measures, Annual Evaluations, Emergency Management/Disaster Preparedness, and Pre-Construction Risk Assessment (PCRA). Our primary objectives will be first - for the participants to come away with a set of strategies for how to obtain the best possible survey results, and second – the participants have a clear understanding of how to stay in compliance between their triennial surveys.

Registration - Since space is limited, apply early. If registering within 10 days of the seminar, please call (847) 577-6550 or toll free at (877)577-6550 for available information. Payment may follow registration. Registration Fee: Single registration is \$450. If two to four register from the same institution, the fee is \$400 per person. If five or more register from the same facility, the fee will be \$370 per person. The fee includes refreshments, lunches and course materials (and includes a CD-R with our EC Toolbox™ 2008). If you cannot attend one of the seminars listed below, but wish to attend one in the future, please email or fax your name, facility and address so that we may add you to our mailing list. SMS, Inc. typically provides 5-10 seminars per calendar year, and our goal is to make a yearly program readily accessible to everyone in the continental United States.

CEU Credits Available - All participants will receive a printed "Certificate of Attendance" for the program from SMS, Inc. Attendees may request to receive 1 CEU credit, per EC seminar, by the Department of Biomedical Instrumentation Technology, College of Health-Related Professions, University of Arkansas for Medical Services. CEU's are appropriate for

engineers, BMET's and safety professional. Your certificates of completion will be sent to you after the program's completion, and processing takes approximately 6 weeks. If you desire CEU's, please indicate so on the registration form and provide your Social Security number in the space provided.

Cancellation and Refund Policy - It is our understanding that when you register, you will attend. If for some reason you will not be able to attend, we require a 10-day notice or you will be invoiced for the seminar.

We will gladly honor substitute participants. If possible, please call us to update our attendee list with the correct name of the substitute participant.

Seminar Calendar & Locations

East Elmhurst, NY
May 8 & 9, 2008

[Marriott LaGuardia Airport](#)

102-05 Ditmars Boulevard
East Elmhurst, NY 11369
800-882-1043 or 718-565-8900
Room Rate \$179.00
Reserve Room by: April 7, 2008

Please contact us at any of the numbers given below for a seminar flyer and registration packet, or for information on direct consultation services or for any questions you may have.

Social Justice Committee Report

James C. Davison, Chief of the Cedar Knolls Fire Department, sent a letter thanking HFMSNJ for the “. . . generous donation of toys to the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. This program provides toys for thousands of underprivileged boys and girls and your many bags of toys helped greatly with this effort.”

**Submitted by:
Frank Keller, Chairman
Social Justice Committee**

* * *

**Apparently nothing is funny
these days.**

See next issue for

Engineering Humor