



## Fire Protection Engineer

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### Description

The National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) is a trade association representing and serving as the voice of the fire sprinkler industry. The NFSA engineering staff provides technical support to our members through our expert of the day (EOD) service, issuance of TechNotes, delivery of online Tech Tuesday seminars, and in a variety of other ways. NFSA represents the sprinkler industry on numerous technical committees (TCs) including dozens of TCs for NFPA codes and standards, ICC building and fire code committees, AWWA, ISO and many others key organizations effecting sprinkler systems and other water-based fire protection systems. NFSA is also active in the development of technical literature, books and training courses. NFSA offers a broad range of opportunities to develop and expand technical skills, increase the number of lives saved from fire, and help in providing better fire protection through the widespread acceptance of the fire sprinkler concept.

This position exists to support the mission of the National Fire Sprinkler Association by providing technical services to the members of the association. Such services include representation on technical committees of multiple organizations, organizing and disseminating research of various aspects of sprinkler system performance, preparing written materials on the installation of water-based fire protection systems, and developing and teaching seminars from beginner to advanced levels of experience.

### POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represent NFSA on codes and standards committees.
- Serve as expert of the day (EOD) responding to requests for information.
- Serve as speaker at NFSA meetings and fire related industry meetings.
- Coordinate research on behalf of the fire sprinkler industry on topics as assigned.
- Write articles in support of NFSA publications.
- Assist with development and delivery of training materials and publications.
- Manage research projects.
- Other duties as assigned that are necessary for the fulfillment of the NFSA's mission.

### Requirements

This position reports to the Director of Contractor Services and requires strong technical aptitude, self-motivation, and a passion for fire protection and life safety. Applicants should possess strong communication, presentation, and organizational skills. This position requires a degree in fire protection engineering or related technical field with consideration added for advanced degrees. The position also requires experience in the design of sprinkler systems or experience as a practicing fire protection engineer. Applicants should have 3 to 10 years of experience and either have a professional engineering (P.E.) license or an engineer-in-training (E.I.T.) certificate and the ability to obtain a license within two years.

The duties of this job require a high degree of specialized expertise and skill in maintaining established standards of quality and accuracy. Drive, determination and a self-disciplined approach to achieving results that meet these established criteria are necessary for successful job performance. The job environment is structured and job expectations are clear. While the pace of the work is faster than average, quality is never compromised. The focus of communication and organizational relationships is based on technical expertise. The work requires specialized technical problem solving and ingenuity while working within approved organizational systems and technology, and the demonstration of the values of integrity, quality and caution. New ideas and concepts are also important but will be carefully analyzed and tested before communication and adoption. If the job involves managing others, there is a need for someone who can exercise the necessary authority to assure policies and procedures are followed and time frames are met. At the same time, it will be necessary to give subordinates structured opportunity to develop their own expertise and capability for quality work to assure effective delegation and shared responsibility for work output. It is expected that coaching and training support for achieving effective delegation will be required. The position encompasses a defined span of control and opportunity for someone who engenders trust, demonstrates a sense of urgency and assures consistent achievement of quality standards. The work requires making decisions that support company guidelines authoritatively and quickly.

## JOB CHARACTERISTICS

- Varied activities multiple, simultaneous projects fast-paced environment
- Technical, analytical focus work within established standards and guidelines expertise-based problem solving
- Authoritative, quick decision making within defined span of control based on accepted quality standards, policies and procedures important to also train others to make correct decisions
- Communication is task based, technically oriented team roles are clearly defined need for collaboration is minimal, when necessary, it is focused on specific tasks or problems
- Leadership based on specialty expertise directive leadership to assure quality standards are met delegation infrequently required, and when required, close follow-up is essential

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