



IFSA

International Fire Suppression Alliance, Ltd.

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International Fire Suppression Alliance

A not-for-profit association created in 1999 "to globally promote the use of effective water-based fire protection systems."

IFSA achieves this vision through:

- Fostering national/regional organizations with similar objectives
- Developing information systems to protect product integrity and industry identity
- Leadership in training and education
- Enhancement of codes, standards and related legislation
- Growth in industry visibility, membership and support



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- BIG PICTURE: IFSA's goal is to change the dialog around fire protection around the world.
 - The 1st Decade (2000s) focus was initially Europe:
 - Key contributor to establishing EFSN
 - Supporting various programs in Europe
 - The 2nd Decade (2010s) shifted focus on Latin America
 - Establishing industry groups in Mexico, Brazil and Colombia
 - As IFSA enters its 3rd decade, we continue to expand our global reach.
- But our future success can only be achieved if we help others build on our experience.



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- What are we doing now?
 - IFSA is providing grant funding to:
 - Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) – Australia
 - Initiatives to protect Social Housing
 - Creation of a Virtual Reality Video for AHJs and the public
 - LATAM PCI
 - Funding the formation of a Fire Protection Industry Group
 - Founding Members: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador, and DR.



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- What are we doing now?
 - IFSA is providing grant funding to:
 - ANRACI (Colombia)
 - Funding to reserve and plan for an Andean Fire Conference
 - Direct Support for updating
 - Building Codes
 - National Tech Standards
 - Labor Standards/Qualification
 - Technical Specifications
 - EFSN
 - Direct Support for a Program Leader in Spain
 - Committed matching funds for establishing a program here in Italy



Ongoing Efforts

Industry Advocacy:

- Seeking to maintain high quality and reliability
 - IFSA Continues advocacy for product certification efforts
 - See IFSA Videos
 - [IFSA Certification - English Version - YouTube](#)
 - Working with local partners and E-Commerce providers to remove illegal, non-compliant products from marketplaces (Amazon. E-bay etc.)



Promoting Local Advocacy

- The “*IFSA Guide to Promoting Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems*” was completed this Summer of 2022 (Available on our Website)
- The Guide contains 13 chapters plus annex material containing articles and other items of interest, such as:
 - Sample bylaws of national and regional sprinkler organizations,
 - Instructions for constructing and conducting side-by-side sprinkler demonstrations
 - Discussion on why regulatory trade-offs work.



The 10 Strategies Ranked by the Advisory Committee

- 7.3 - Convincing code writers to require sprinkler systems for specific occupancies
- 7.0 - Encouraging fire authorities to promote fire sprinklers
- 6.9 - Creating economic incentives in building codes for sprinkler systems
- 6.5 - Proposing legislation to enact fire sprinkler requirements
- 5.5 - Advancing installation standards that lower sprinkler installation costs
- 5.1 - Encouraging property insurance discounts for sprinklers
- 4.7 - Informing public opinion as to the effectiveness of fire sprinklers
- 4.2 - Promoting tax incentives for property owners to install sprinklers
- 4.0 - Urging recognition for fire protection engineering
- 3.8 - Educating the public as to how fire sprinkler systems work



The Thirteen Chapters

1. Is There a “Best Way” to Promote Sprinklers?
2. Forming an Advocacy Group
3. Limitations of Insurance Incentives
4. Fire Codes and Fire Sprinklers
5. Pursuing Changes in a Code Environment
6. Developing a Fire Code Where None Exists
7. Dealing with Performance-Based Codes
8. Mandates and Incentives Through Legislation
9. Lowering System Costs with Installation Standards
10. Educating and Informing the Public
11. Fire Sprinklers and Sustainability
12. Responding to Tragic Fires
13. Available Resources



Chapter 4

Fire Codes and Fire Sprinklers

- 4.1 The Obligation of Governments to Provide Protection from Fire
- 4.2 A Brief History of Building and Fire Codes
- 4.3 Active vs. Passive Protection
- 4.4 The Proven Effectiveness of Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems
 - 4.4.1 Studies of System Effectiveness
 - 4.4.2 Ensuring Effectiveness – Certification of Products
 - 4.4.3 Ensuring Effectiveness – Certification for System Technicians
 - 4.4.4 Ensuring Effectiveness – Systems Inspection and Testing
- 4.5 The Importance of Fire Sprinkler incentives in Building Codes
 - 4.5.1 Incentives Case Study – U.S. High Rise
 - 4.5.2 Incentives Case Study – Cost Benefit Analysis





Promoting Local Advocacy Summary

The IFSA Guide addresses the promotion of fire sprinkler systems through different means, each with some history of success.

But is there a best way?

Is there a best single best practice or main point to be understood for a successful campaign?



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We could do so much more!!!

- Preparing for building code changes in India that use the recently adopted new sprinkler product and installation standards
- Working with other building organizations to encourage a single building code across the Caribbean, effectively the 3rd largest economy in Latin America.
- More efforts in the Middle East, Central and East Asia as well.



International Fire Suppression Alliance

To Increase our reach, we need to Grow our Membership!

Membership in the IFSA is open to any corporation, partnership, trade association, society or person engaged in the manufacture, sale, installation, design, inspection, testing, maintenance, promotion or regulation of fire sprinkler, water spray or water mist systems.

And we could do so much more...Together!!!

Do you have an idea that needs support?

IFSA Grants Applications for FY2023-24 are available now!!

Proposals are due 2022-12-01



Thank You!

Please introduce yourself!

And learn more about how
the IFSA can help you!

www.ifsa.global

