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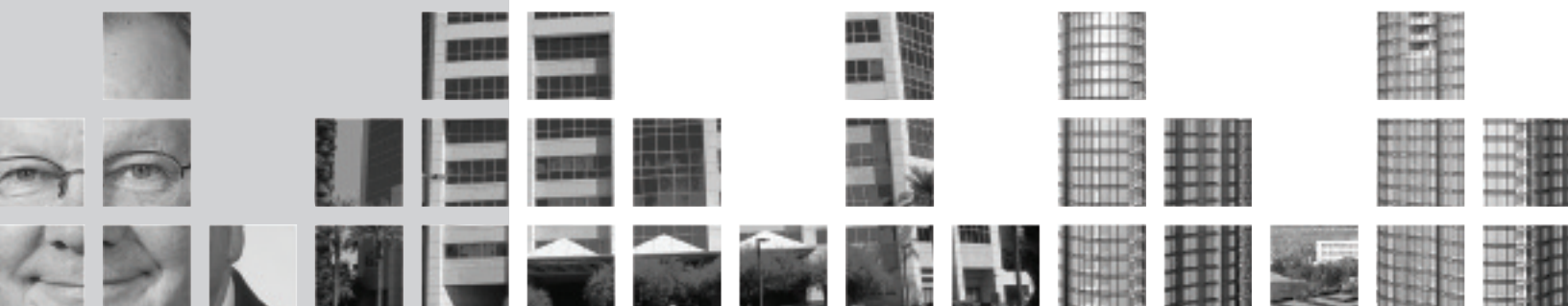
Expanding The Horizons of Fire Protection, Security and Media Technology for Our Clients Worldwide.



Unusual Application of NFPA 72 Solves Children's Hospital Dilemma *By Terry Manning*

The Phoenix Children's Hospital has recently constructed a Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU) inside of the Banner Good Samaritan Hospital to address a severe need for special neo-natal services. Banner Good Samaritan Hospital serves as the high incidence obstetrics facility for the Southwestern United States where expectant mothers with life threatening conditions for either the mother or the baby are anticipated. In the past, the newborn infants in need of intensive care were transported several miles to the Phoenix Children's Hospital. The new facility allows the infants to be cared for immediately adjacent to the Good Samaritan Labor and Delivery unit.

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Unusual Application of NFPA 72 Solves Children's Hospital Dilemma

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This new NICU facility allows for the immediate continuity of care for any infant with a life threatening situation.

The neo-natal unit has sixty beds in individual rooms and has a staff to patient ratio of 2 -1. The entire unit hosts state of the art diagnostic and life support equipment along with a highly trained staff, many with post graduate degrees.

The Phoenix Children's Hospital approached RJA with a problem that was identified by Dr. Mark Shwer, the Medical Chief of the Newborn Intensive Care Unit. Dr. Shwer recognized that the standard fire alarm signaling devices could be detrimental to the neo-natal patients in their care. The flash rate and intensity of standard strobe lights could cause retinal burns to the infants who cannot blink fast enough to shield their eyes. In addition, harsh fire alarm alerting sounds could cause a Vaso-Vagal response in the infants that could lead to seizures. RJA was challenged with developing an alternative alarm notification scenario for the patient care areas of the new facility. Upon closer inspection, we quickly determined that the life support equipment utilized alarms that were very similar to the available fire alarm signals. RJA utilized NFPA 72, 2007 Edition which has been adopted by the City of Phoenix to ascertain what alternatives were available. NFPA 72, Section 4.4.3.6.1 allows for the use of distinctive signals that are not used for any other purpose in the same area. With consideration for the delicate conditions of the patients and the constant attendance by trained hospital staff, we proposed the use of classical

music as the alerting tone. In addition, we eliminated strobe lights from the patient care areas.

The constant attendance in the unit by trained personnel allowed us to apply the Private Mode Audible Requirements of Section 7.4.3. Private Mode allowed for a sound level as low as 45 dBA in the patient areas which further assisted in lowering the potential stress to the infants. The actual sound level was 56 dB to achieve a 10 dB above the average ambient sound level in the unit.

We requested permission from the Fire Marshall to eliminate the strobes in those areas where it could be expected that the infants would be present. The permission was granted with the stipulation that strobes would be installed in all of the support areas, nurse's stations and washrooms. The design incorporated all of the stipulations and also included fire alarm annunciators in all six of the nurse's stations. The annunciators identify all of the patient rooms in both of the NICU suites. By including all of the patient rooms on the annunciators, the staff in an uninvolved area can quickly rush to assist in the relocation of the infants in harms way. Because of the myriad of life support equipment for each infant, the Hospital uses horizontal and "defend in place" strategies for the infants and the additional trained assistance is vital to a quick and orderly movement of those affected. The music selected for the fire alarm signal is from the Aaron Copeland American opera "The Tenderland". The chosen piece, coincidentally entitled "The



Promise of Living", uses the full orchestra, which allows for multiple sound frequencies being broadcast over the fire alarm system speakers. The multiple frequencies in the music allow people with partial hearing impairment to hear at least some of the alarm sound.

The voice message that follows this alarm is given by a woman's voice that is both informative and less alarming than the traditional message delivery. The alarm message informs the occupants in the unit that an alarm has been received and to stand by for further information. This message is the indicator for the staff to immediately consult the nurse's station annunciators for the origin of the alarm. The staff then not only responds to the alarm origin, but also provides evacuation instructions to the parents of the infants. Due to the high level of security in the unit, there are very few family members for the staff to evacuate while relocating infants in

the immediate area of the alarm. Due to the fact that our application is unusual, while in accordance with NFPA 72, we felt that we should obtain prior approval and input from the Phoenix Fire Department. We presented the application to the Fire Marshall and received approval with several stipulations: all equipment must comply with NFPA 72 and be U.L listed,

the sound level of the music must be at least 45 dB and 10 dB above average ambient sound levels, visual alarms must be installed in all public and common areas and a written report must be submitted indicating the staff received specialized training for the fire alarm evacuation management system. The stipulations were incorporated into

the design. The completed system was tested and accepted by the Fire Department and is now in operation.

Terry Manning is a fire protection consultant located in the RJA/Phoenix office. . . +1 602-286-6000 or tmanning@rjagroup.com

PROMOTIONS

RJA is pleased to announce the following promotions:



Joseph Cappuccio, PE.,
RJA/Washington, DC, to Senior Vice President



Jeffrey Harper, PE.,
RJA/Chicago to Regional Vice President – Western Region



Jack Brady,
RJA/Baltimore, to Vice President



Peter Harrod, PE.,
RJA/Boston to Vice President



David LeBlanc, PE.,
RJA/Boston to Vice President



Joshua Greene, PE.,
RJA/Las Vegas to Engineering Manager of the RJA/Chicago Office



Bobby Patrick, PE., P.M.P.
RJA/Chicago to Director of Dubai Operations

New Office Locations

The RJA/Orlando and RJA/Raleigh have relocated to accommodate their expanding businesses. Please make note of their new contact information.

RJA/Orlando

12124 High Tech Avenue, Suite 250
Orlando, Florida 32817
Telephone: + 1 407-381-7771
Fax: + 1 407-381-5551

RJA/Raleigh

5520 Dillard Drive, Suite 255
Cary, NC 27518
Telephone: + 1 919-424-3858
Fax: + 1 919-424-3859



RJA Opens Office in Dubai

We are pleased to announce the opening of the RJA/Dubai office. RJA is committed to being a key player in the development of the Middle East. Dubai, a hub of progress and advancement, is a key location that will allow us to best serve our clients throughout the area by offering an unmatched scope of fire protection, security and media technology services.



James Antell AIA, PE., Senior Vice President of International for RJA, has spearheaded the efforts into the Middle Eastern market. Based in the RJA/Chicago office, Antell has over 25 years of experience advising design teams and building owners on compliance with local and international fire safety codes and standards. His global high-rise fire engineering experience includes many of the world's tallest structures including projects in the U.S., Asia and the Middle East. He will oversee the operations of RJA/Dubai. Antell can be reached by email (jantell@rjagroup.com) or phone (+ 1 312-879-7200).



Bobby Patrick, PE., P.M.P., has been named Director of Dubai Operations. Now based in Dubai, Patrick most recently was a fire protection consultant working out of the RJA/Chicago office. He has a wealth of experience in managing substantial projects for global clients as well as knowledge of fire dynamics modeling, fire sprinkler and alarm systems, clean agent suppression systems and code compliance. A member of the Project Management Institute (PMI), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), he holds a Master of Science degree in Fire Protection Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a Master of Business Administration degree from Xavier University. Patrick can be reached by email (bpatrick@rjagroup.com) or phone (+ 971 4 801 9270).

The RJA/Dubai office

is located in

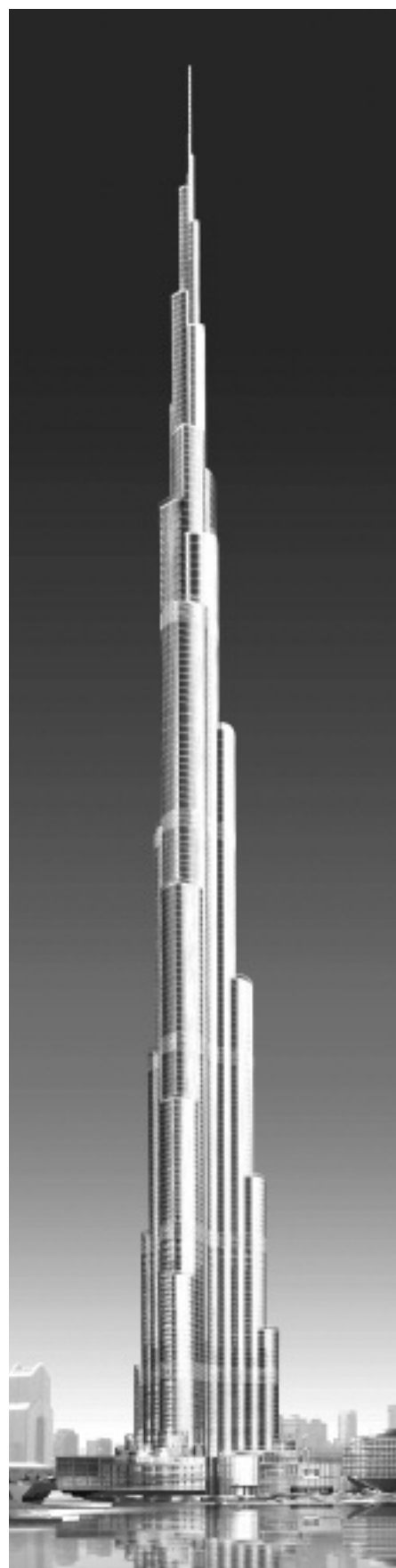
The Green Community, Building 3
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P. O. Box 212880 Dubai, UAE.

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Crowley Elected to 2008 SFPE Board of Directors

Michael Crowley, PE., FSPPE, a Senior Vice President with RJA, was elected to the position of Director for the 2008 Society of Fire Protection Engineering (SFPE) Board of Directors.

Crowley, a Senior Vice President located in the RJA/Houston office, is an SFPE Fellow and currently serves on the National Technical Steering Committee and the National Public Awareness Committee, for which he sat as Chair in 2006. During his tenure with SFPE, he was Chair of the National Task Group on Design Team Liaison and is a Houston Chapter Past President.



Crowley is also a Senior Member of the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE), Past President of the Construction Industry Council for the city of Houston and Member of the Salamander Fire Protection Engineering Honorary Society.

He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Protection and Safety Engineering from The Illinois Institute of Technology and a Masters of Business Administration degree from the University of Houston.

RJA Becomes SOAR Sponsor



RJA and SAKO employees volunteer at the 2007 Children's Christmas Party held annually at the Loyola Hospital Burn Center in Chicago. Loyola was one of the first burn centers in the country to implement a SOAR program.

RJA is proud to announce that we have become a Platinum Sponsor of the Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery (SOAR) program designed by The Phoenix Society for burn survivors and a national committee of experts. Since 2001, SOAR has been providing training to burn survivors, primarily children, and their family members who want to volunteer to help others whose lives have been touched by a burn injury.

The hospital based program is intended to make it easier for burn centers to work with volunteers in providing peer support to patients. More than 30 burn centers throughout the country have implemented various SOAR programs.

For more information on their important work with burn survivors, contact The Phoenix Society at 1-800-888-2876 or e-mail: info@phoenix-society.org.

Koverman Awarded Life Membership in IAHS



Robert Koverman, Senior Security Consultant for Sako & Associates, Inc. (SAKO), has been awarded Life

Membership in the International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety (IAHSS).

Life membership is awarded to senior members of the association who have at

least 15 consecutive years of membership and have made significant contributions to the IAHS. Koverman has been actively involved in the organization and is a National Past President (1987-1988). IAHS is a not-for-profit organization of healthcare security and safety professionals that work together to improve the security and safety programs within healthcare facilities.

Koverman has more than 37 years of

experience in the security industry. He has provided security and protection services in both the public and private sector, and specializes in comprehensive security operations program development and technical program development.

He sits on the Board of the Illinois Security Chiefs Associations and is a member of the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS).



RJA officials recently met with the China Fire Service leadership. Pictured are (l. to r.): George Miller (Chairman of the Board, The RJA Group), Director General Guo Tianan, Fang Li (Vice President – China Operations, RJA) and Mickey Reiss (President and CEO of The RJA Group).

Our global strategy: Exporting specialized expertise

We have a very simple vision for our company: to be recognized as the best in the world in our profession at providing consulting solutions for the built environment. Over the past twenty years the term “in the world” has taken on new meaning. As countries such as China and Korea evolve and areas such as the Middle East experience incredible growth, they look to the West not only for architectural ideas but also for expertise in the codes and standards that make our buildings the safest in the world.

For example, RJA has been working closely with Chinese fire officials since 1992 on developing performance-based approaches to fire safety. We’ve established offices in Shanghai, Macau and, most recently, Dubai and staffed them with some of our brightest people. We’ve conducted seminars and training programs for local fire officials and AHJs.



Mickey Reiss is the President and CEO of The RJA Group, Inc., based in Boston... + 1 508-620-8900, mreiss@rjagroup.com.

Equally important, we’ve exported specialized expertise – in master planning, code consulting, fire modeling, system design, emergency response planning and construction/project management – from our offices throughout the U.S. for many of the biggest international projects in over 60 countries.

This global strategy has worked to the benefit of our clients. As the landmark projects being undertaken outside the United States continues to grow, we can provide leading edge A&E firms, property management companies and owners with what they need to assure maximum life safety... project experienced consultants with not only expertise in a wide scope of disciplines but with established relationships with local officials in charge of fire and life safety.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR... By Jack Brady



RJA is often invited to become a member of an Architect-Engineering (A-E) or design/build IDIQ contract team. IDIQ is a contracting acronym meaning indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity. Fire protection engineers are typically required by the various government agencies standards and criteria documents to be the designers of record for their various construction and rehabilitation projects and therefore required members of IDIQ teams.

IDIQ contracts are most often used for service contracts and A-E services. This is a type of contract that provides for an

indefinite quantity of supplies or services during a fixed period of time. Awards are usually for base years as well as option years. The Government task orders (for services) against a basic contract for individual requirements. Minimum and maximum quantity limits are specified in the basic contract as either number of units (for supplies) or as dollar values (for services). The Government uses an IDIQ contract when it cannot predetermine, above a specified minimum, the precise quantities of supplies or services that the Government will require. The legal origin of IDIQ contracts comes from the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), section 16.501(a).

As a team member of a number of wide-ranging IDIQ teams throughout the government RJA has had an opportunity to work on many successful projects. The following is a sampling of a few IDIQ successes.

The RJA Atlanta office is working with the KZF/BWSC Joint Venture on the design and construction of a dining facilities’ IDIQ for the Army Corps of Engineers at Ft Bliss, TX. RJA is in the midst of working on two Enlisted Personnel Dining Facilities at Ft Bliss providing fire protection engineering and code consulting services. During the course of our services to date, RJA has provided cost effective and innovative fire protection system designs. This includes

integration of the Mass Notification System into the Fire Alarm System and the use of dry sidewall sprinklers in lieu of an expensive high maintenance dry-pipe sprinkler system.

The RJA LA/San Diego office is working with Harper Construction Company Inc on a Bachelor’s Enlisted Quarter’s (BEQ) IDIQ Multiple Award Construction Contract (MACC) undertaking four BEQ projects for the Naval Facilities at Camp Pendleton, CA. Of note is the P-015 BEQ project at Camp Pendleton in which RJA provided the design/build and quality control fire protection engineering services for the construction on the new 4-story BEQ building. RJA conducted an engineering

analysis of an exit access corridor wall opening using performance based design engineering techniques providing the basis for a successful code variance request. As a result, this open breeze way design concept allowed the contractor to forgo the installation of mechanized transom windows providing significant cost savings. The open breeze way design has been used as a design feature for BEQ’s at Camp Pendleton with adjustments made accordingly based on the performance based design analysis.

The RJA New York office is working with several firms on Architecture/Engineering

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FROM THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR Cont'd...

IDIQ's for the Northeast Caribbean region of the General Services Administration (GSA). Through the IDIQ contracts in place, GSA requested that RJA provide a fire alarm evaluation study at the Alexander Hamilton Customs House in New York City and the Peter Rodino Federal Office Building in Newark, NJ. In addition, GSA also requested that RJA provide an evaluation of the sprayed on fire-resistive materials at the Javits Federal Building in New York City. Following these surveys and review, RJA discussed the

current status of the life safety systems and applicable codes with the GSA and prepared a written report. This report reviewed and confirmed the current condition of the existing fire/life safety systems, developed options for consideration, recommended the most appropriate options and provided general costs for the recommended options. The addition of RJA to an IDIQ team serves a couple, wide-ranging purposes. The first and most basic purpose is that the prime IDIQ holder fills the fire

protection engineer requirement box as required by the solicitation and defined by the government agencies standards and criteria with a technically sound, internationally known fire protection engineering firm. Secondly, and more importantly, the prime contractor is bringing value to the team by providing fire and life safety expertise that can merge the science and art of fire protection engineering to provide a safe and cost efficient facility with design features that meet the client's desires.

THE LEADING EDGE

Rolf Jensen & Associates (RJA) consultants are at work on leading fire protection, security and media technology projects around the world...

Tempe Center for the Arts, Tempe, AZ

The Tempe Center for the Arts is an 85,000 sq. ft. iconic performing arts center that consists of a two-story 600-seat main theatre, a 200-seat studio theater, a one-story gallery and a multi-purpose room and lobby, all enclosed within a primary building envelope. The center's design provided challenges in location, multi-use and code requirements, acoustics and the use of wood-finish materials.

Long before the September 9, 2007 grand opening, Rolf Jensen & Associates (RJA) was called upon to work with the design team to establish fire and life safety objectives and code compliance strategies. To address the acoustic concerns of locating a performing arts facility directly

beneath the flight path of a major airport, it was designed as multiple buildings within a single building envelope. This created challenges related to how the building code was intended to be interpreted and applied to this unique structure. Further to those challenges was the use of wood finishes to give the facility its desired richness and appearance. Since wood materials were not allowed based on the required construction type, it became RJA's responsibility to research and determine if, or how, wood could be incorporated into the project.

Due to the multiple levels, fixed seating and sound/light locks inherently associated with a performing arts center, meeting the egress requirements of the code presented numerous challenges which RJA assisted in resolving.

RJA provided code consulting and third-party inspection services for the Center's smoke control system, and developed the fire and life safety report for the project and met with the City of Tempe to review the report and gain acceptance. RJA also developed testing scenarios for the facility's smoke control system that were to be implemented and observed by RJA prior to occupancy. RJA determined that



the inclusion of an area separation wall within the structure would allow the use of wood materials within the main theater and satisfied the height, area, and construction requirements of the applicable code.

At completion, RJA directed and participated in the testing of the fire alarm system and smoke control system to verify compliance with the fire and life safety report and the approved plans. RJA's work and final report was critical to the success of the project and allowed the facility to open on time. The \$65 million Tempe Center for the Arts opened on time to critical acclaim of what is now called "A Lakeside Masterpiece."

Nanjing Greenland Financial Center, Nanjing, China

The Nanjing Greenland Financial Center in eastern China is a 65-story office and hotel tower with about 60,000 square meters of office space; 52,000 square meters of hotel space; a hotel sky lobby and coffee shop; a public observation; and restaurants and suites. This mixed-use development is adjacent to two other buildings totaling over 20,000 square meters that were also part of the design project.

Several key features of the building design were not fully addressed by Chinese codes: the primary tower exceeds the 250-meter height limit of the code; high-occupancy spaces in the upper levels of the primary tower and the podium building, instead of below the third floor as permitted by code; area of refuge floors in the tower serving up to 23 floors rather than 15 as code specifies; and a single fire compartment for each office floor of the tower.

The design of the atrium space in the podium building also posed a challenge, because it called for a single fire compartment connecting all levels of the podium building, a design of the atrium mechanical smoke exhaust system based on performance measures, and a reduction of fire resistance rating for certain structural elements of the atrium roof structure, as well as circulation walkway bridges and escalators within the atrium.

RJA/Shanghai was brought in to apply a performance-based design approach, with

strategies that included providing: adequately sized and well distributed exit paths; structural fireproofing and fire barriers that limit fire spread and protect buildings from collapse during occupant exit; various fire detection and notification systems; active fire suppression and smoke extraction systems that limit fire size and



spread of smoke to enable occupants to safely exit and to minimize building damage; and infrastructure elements that promote safe and efficient firefighting operations.

For building features that met Chinese codes, RJA evaluated them for code compliance in the normal course of plan review and approvals.

Features that didn't meet code, however, needed to be evaluated using a performance-based design analysis consisting of computer fire and egress modeling. RJA's fire and egress modeling verified that proposed building design features that did not meet Chinese code and were required to undergo performance-based design analysis did, in fact, meet the established performance criteria and were equal to the fire safety intended by the code.

Fire growth scenarios, based both on accepted theoretical models and on existing fire test data, aptly assessed the effects of a fire within representative areas of the building and validated the appropriateness of proposed fire safety features.

RJA's analysis formed the basis for design acceptance by the Authorities Having Jurisdiction, and the development is on target for completion in 2008.



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RJA's multimedia presentation
What Sets Us Apart.





Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

Elmendorf Air Force Base built adjacent to Anchorage in 1941, is the largest Air Force installation in Alaska. The base underwent a phased expansion in preparation for receiving eight new C-17 aircraft and bringing its base up to state-of-the-art standards. Several buildings were upgraded or built to include: a large-frame aircraft hangar; a state-of-the-art flight simulator; a dual-bay hangar; survival equipment shop; squadron operations buildings and hangars; egress; battery shops; and life support offices. RJA became a partner in the design-build effort to ready the base for the new arrivals.

Of particular challenge was the new construction of the Large Airframe Maintenance Hangar (LAMH) to house the 174-ft.-long, 55-ft.-tall C-17 aircraft.

The Air Force's design criteria document, ETL 02-15 (Engineering Technical Letter)

for aircraft hangar fire protection, superseded the code standard, NFPA 409.

This document brought in some critical differences, which needed to be understood by the contractor and design team. RJA's aircraft hangar specialist was brought in to assure the team understood the Air Force's requirements. It was proposed that a pre-action sprinkler system design and high-expansion foam (HEF) system would be used in the hangar area and wet pipe sprinkler system in the adjacent shopping and office areas.

RJA provided the expertise in determining the best fire pump selection, number of foam risers and foam generator placement;



all critical to meet the system testing requirements. In addition, utilities, storage tanks and pumps were protected from Alaska's freezing conditions so that delivery of fire suppression materials occurred when activated.

The fire detection and alarm system included heat detection in the hangar area and notification appliances throughout the facility. The fire alarm system was also integrated into the base-wide mass notification system.

University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, an independent not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies nearly 15,000 healthcare organizations and programs in the United States, is recognized as a symbol of quality that reflects a commitment to meeting certain performance standards. When the University of Michigan Health System - an award-winning healthcare system made up of hospitals, health centers and outpatient clinics - needed to prepare Statement of Conditions (SOC) Documentation for The Joint Commission, they turned to the company that they had worked with in the past on such a project: Rolf Jensen & Associates (RJA).

Having worked with the University of Michigan Health System, RJA offered the type of experience the University of



Michigan Health System was seeking. The purpose of the SOC project was to conduct a life safety assessment survey to identify deficiencies of the facilities that are not in conformance with requirements of the 2000 Edition of NFPA 101, The Life Safety Code. RJA conducted a life safety survey for nine buildings, which total approximately 2,800,000 square feet.

The purpose of the life safety assessment survey is to provide a non-destructive visual inspection to identify general conditions and deficiencies with existing

floor/ceiling construction, smoke barriers, fire-rated separations, vertical shafts, fire-rated doors, hazardous areas, exiting, building construction and fire protection systems.

The deficiencies identified are documented on CAD drawings and spreadsheets. RJA also developed recommendations and costs to correct deficiencies noted during the survey as part of the Plan for Improvement.

The Joint Commission and the University of Michigan Health System were very pleased with the quality and detail of the SOC Report Documentation. RJA's work helped assure the University of Michigan Health System's continued pursuit of its mission - patient care, education and research - components that are intertwined and balanced to most effectively move the health system forward in a position of strength.



Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre, Atlanta, GA

During construction of the new Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre in Atlanta, a state-of-the-art 2,750-seat theater with a 10,000-sq.-ft. grand ballroom and 1,000 parking spaces, Rolf Jensen & Associates (RJA) tackled some tough life safety, egress and smoke management system issues. Finding a way to ensure that all performing arts center occupants are able to safely and swiftly exit the building on all levels during an emergency situation was the first challenge. The second required RJA to participate in the commissioning of the contemporary building's four-level atrium - a process that involved meeting requirements related to the new

International Building and Fire Codes.

Solving the performing arts center's exiting and egress problem was complicated by the fact that all six seating levels of the theater and atriums were designed to be open to one another and egress simultaneously during an emergency. Egress from the six levels was designed using two emergency exit stairs and two means of non-traditional egress through the smoke-protected atrium. RJA was successful in negotiating with the Cobb County Fire Marshal's office and the State Fire Marshal's office to accommodate the egress requirements. The solution also satisfied the building owner's program requirements and provided a cost-effective alternative to constructing four

emergency exit stairs.

In regard to the commissioning of the atrium, RJA was requested to play the role of Special Inspector on behalf of the owner. In this role, RJA addressed make-up airflow and overall system operability concerns related to the atrium smoke management system. RJA worked with the general contractor, the building's design team and the owner on developing a sequence of operations and testing protocol for the atrium smoke management system on primary power and back-up power to ensure all occupants would be able to safely exit the building and the smoke management system functioned in accordance with the approved design.





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For more information, contact Sarah Heilig at **1-888-831-4RJA** or e-mail sheilig@rjagroup.com



Horizon

Expanding The Horizons of Fire Protection, Security and Media Technology for Our Clients Worldwide

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