

Steel Tank Institute Steel Plate Fabricators Association

Divisions of STI/SPFA
570 Oakwood Road
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
847/438-8265 Fax: 847/438-8766

July 15, 2004

NEWS

STI/SPFA STEEL WATER TANK SEMINAR HIGHLIGHTS SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE & SEISMIC DESIGN

LAKE ZURICH, IL – July 15, 2004 - An F4 tornado tears through a Midwestern town, screaming as portions of buildings fly through the air, and transformers explode as power lines are torn down. Through the debris cloud an elevated water tank can be seen, untouched despite the tornado's fury, a testament to the superior structural performance of a properly designed steel water tank. Providing guidance to municipal water utilities about the importance of proper design, installation, maintenance and testing is the goal of the Steel Water Tank Seminar series initiated by the Steel Plate Fabricators Association in 1986.

Thirty-six structural and design engineers attended the most recent seminar on June 2 in San Diego. Participants were glued to their seats by the dramatic tornado video, dynamic footage of wave action inside a tank in response to an earthquake, and an equally riveting series of photos showing hurricane devastation to all but a steel water tank. The daylong seminar provides Continuing Education Credit from IACET (.8 CEU), for its in-depth examination of design and maintenance considerations for existing and new water tanks including:

- Decision criteria for water storage tank selection
- Compliance with water tank standards
- Location factors: hydraulics, topography, soils, FAA

- Sizing considerations: peak load, fire, future growth
- Selection criteria: economics, ground storage & elevated designs
- Soil investigation and foundation design, Seismic design calculations
- Shop and field fabrication, inspection and testing
- Cathodic protection system design, verification, operation and maintenance
- Service Life Cycle and protective coating system selection
- Inspection and Maintenance requirements
- Cellular Antenna lease considerations and design

Echoing the sentiments of the group, one participant begged for an additional day to begin to absorb the complex design details, noting there was simply too much material for the single day allotted to the program. Completely updated in 2004 for AWWA D102 standard revisions, the program is an intense look at water storage given by industry experts with a passion for their work. Additional STI/SPFA Steel Water Tank Seminars are scheduled for September 21 at the Hilton Philadelphia/Cherry Hill, in New Jersey, and October 19 at the Hyatt Lodge McDonald's Office Campus, in Oak Brook, Illinois.

The Steel Tank Institute and the Steel Plate Fabrications Association are Divisions of STI/SPFA, an association serving companies in the business of fabricating steel tanks, piping and pressure vessels for use in the petroleum, food, water and chemical processing industries. STI/SPFA provides training and certification, performs quality assurance inspections, develops industry standards and specifications, produces safety manuals, and serves as a liaison to regulatory and code authorities. For further information, contact Anne Kiefer at STI/SPFA, 570 Oakwood Road, Lake Zurich, IL 60047, Phone: 847/438-8265 Fax: 847/438-8766 E-mail: ankiefer@steeltank.com Web: www.steeltank.com and www.spfa.org. # # #