

DORMITORY DEMONSTRATION FIRE TESTS

inFIRE Conference
FM Global
Norwood, MA
June 15, 2005



FIM GLOBAL

•200 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE





OBJECTIVE

•REALISTICALLY ILLUSTRATE LIFE SAFETY HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH STUDENT DORMITORY FIRES

•SHOW BENEFIT OF SPRINKLER PROTECTION FOR DORMITORY SPACES





FIRE IN STUDENT DORMITORIES

•APPROXIMATELY 2900 FOUR-YEAR CAMPUSES IN U.S.

•60 PERCENT HAVE FIRE SPRINKLER PROTECTION

•OCCUR MOST OFTEN SEPTEMBER TO MAY*



FIRE INJURIES

•MOST OCCUR DURING FIRE CONTROL (56 PERCENT) OR ESCAPING (16 PERCENT)

•SLIGHTLY MORE INJURIES WHILE SLEEPING (24% VS. 19%)

•LESS WHILE ESCAPING (16% VS. 25%)
[USFA DATA]





FATALITIES

- 7.7 PER 1000 FIRES VS. LESS THAN 1
- 18 FATALITIES 1979 1998 [UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND STUDY]
- JANUARY 2000 THREE FATALITIES AND 60 INJURIES [SETON HALL, NJ]



LOSS COST

- •NEGATIVE PUBLICITY = POTENTIAL RECRUITING PROBLEMS
- •PROPERTY DAMAGE \$24.7M ANNUALLY (1980 2001)
- •HOUSING SHORTAGE DURING ACADEMIC YEAR





TEST PROCEDURE

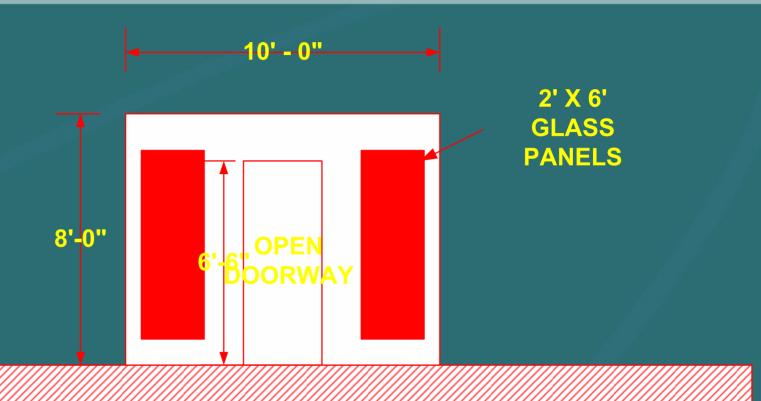
- •REPRESENTATIVE DORM ROOMS
 - -FURNITURE
 - CLOTHING/PERSONAL ITEMS

•SPRINKLERED VERSUS UNSPRINKLERED COMPARTMENTS



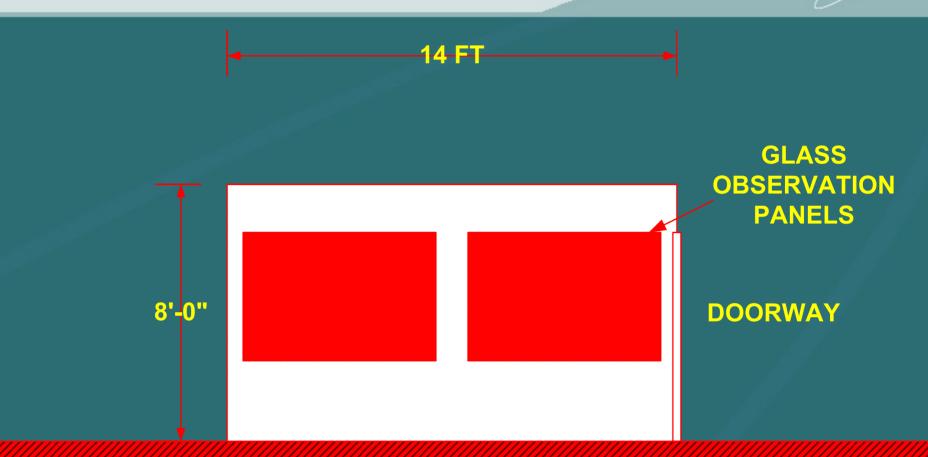






DORMITORY DEMONSTRATION FIRE TESTS ELEVATION VIEW FRONT (DOOR)



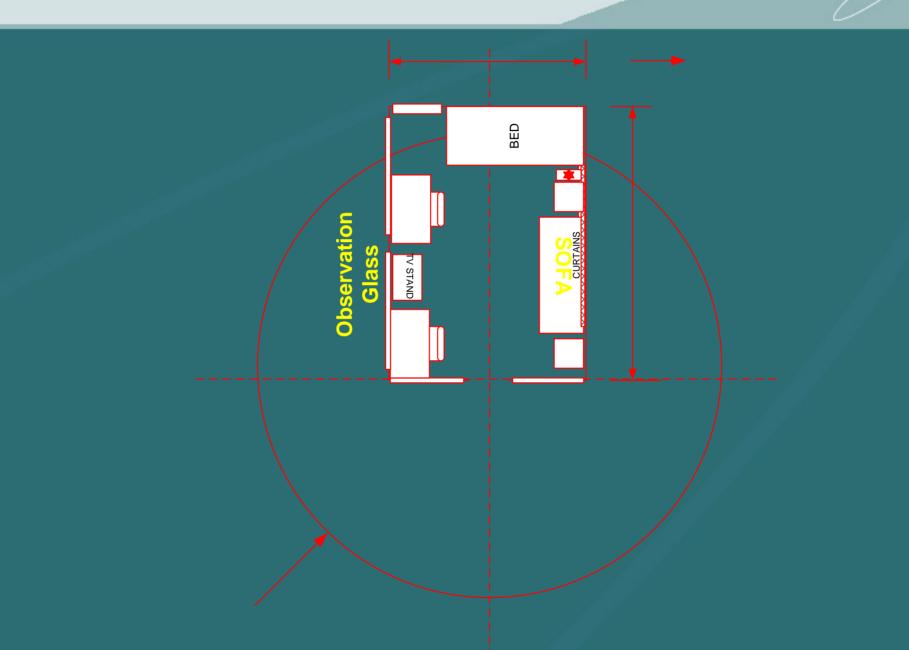


DORMITORY DEMONSTRATION FIRE TESTS - ELEVATION VIEW OBSERVATION PORT SIDE

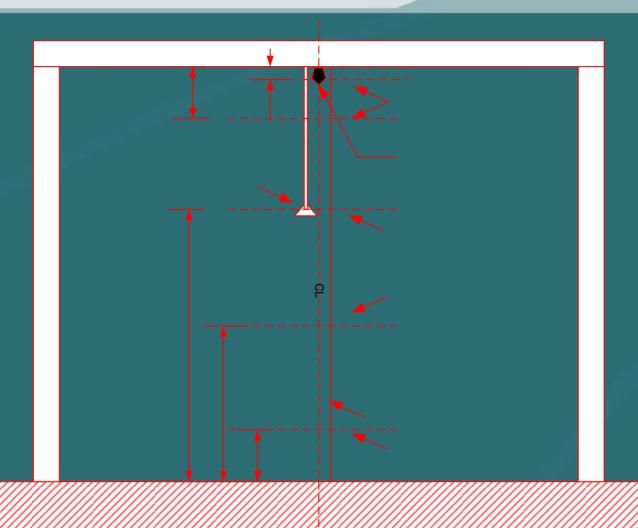












INSTRUMENTATION STATION AT CENTER OF ROOM











Unprotected



Protected (Sprinklered)

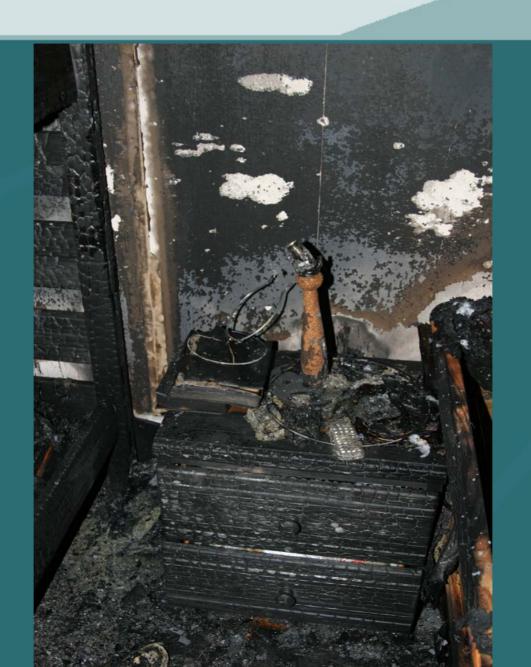


























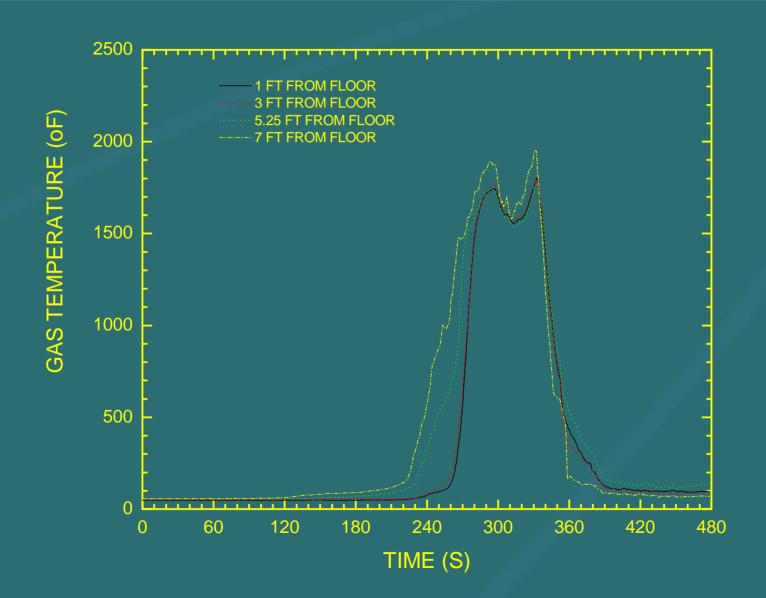


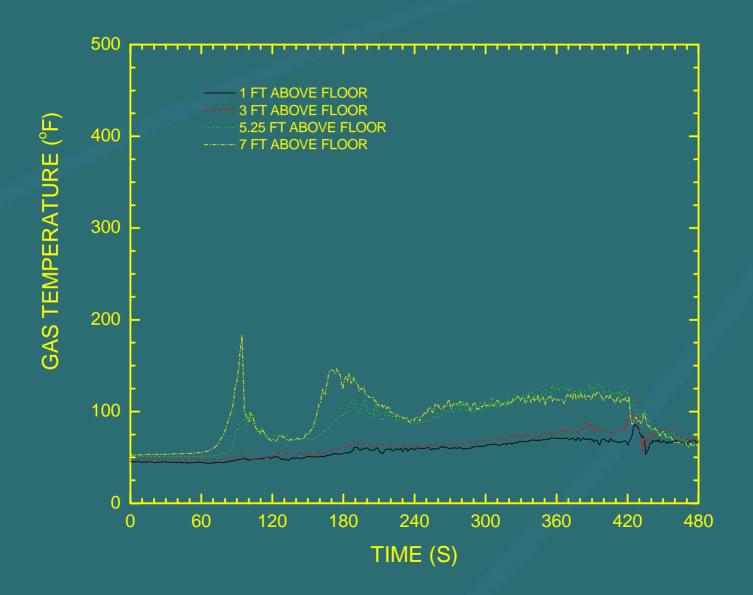














SUMMARY COMPARTMENT CONDITIONS

	TEST 1	TEST 2
CONDITION	UNPROTECTED	PROTECTED
MAXIMUM EYE- LEVEL AIR TEMPERATURE	1769 °F	131 °F
MAXIMUM 3-FT ELEVATION	1801 °F	97 °F
MAXIMUM HEAT RELEASE	4600 kW	938 kW



RESULTS

- SPRINKLERS PROVIDE IMPROVED LIFE SAFETY
 - ROOM CONDITIONS
 - TIME TO EGRESS
- SPRINKLERS REDUCE PROPERTY DAMAGE



