

Carl F. Baldassarra, P.E., is President of Schirmer Engineering Corporation, a fire protection engineering firm celebrating its 68th anniversary this year. He has been with Schirmer since 1971 and has served in virtually every capacity within the firm, from designer to consultant, office manager to vice president, becoming president in 1993. He is responsible for overall management of the firm, including its 17 offices located throughout the U.S. and 2 international offices.

Mr. Baldassarra has a B.S. degree in fire protection and safety engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology, and is a registered professional engineer in several states. In his project portfolio, Mr. Baldassarra includes the Sears Tower, the Statue of Liberty, the "Tall Tower" in Dubai, the Messeturm in Frankfurt and numerous other high profile projects.

He is a member of the NSPE, the NFPA, the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, the Underwriters' Laboratories Fire Council and the International Code Council. He has served in various capacities for the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, including the Board of Directors, the Editorial Advisory Board and past chair of the Public Awareness Committee.

He is a recognized authority on the model code development process and the application of alternate methods and performance-based principles. He has been a member of numerous building and fire code committees, including the BOCA Building Code and Fire Code Development Committees, the BOCA Interpretations Committee and, most recently, the International Fire Code Development Committee. He currently serves as a member of the ICC Code Technology Committee.

He also serves as a member of the NFPA 5000 Technical Correlating Committee; a member of NFPA 1, the Fire Prevention Code Technical Committee, and NFPA 101, the Life Safety Code Technical Committee. Over the last 25 years, he has been a member of several other NFPA Committees. Carl has also authored numerous papers and presentations.