

# IEEE Las Vegas Tech Conference Expo

April 21, 2023, 8 am

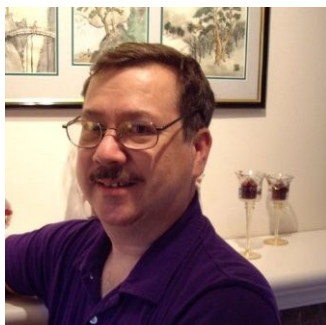
## Fire Codes: Performance Based Alternative

Performance-Based Alternative - a discussion of the pit-falls, advantages, and sustainability issues associated with choosing an alternative -approach to prescriptive codes and standards.

Effective fire protection risk control relies upon a team of professionals applying codes and standards as tools in the interests of the client and protection of public, assets and the environment. Performance-Based design has garnered considerable emphasis as the “scientific” pathway to design solutions; offering more cost-effective fire protection results, tailored to the needs and objectives of the project over more restrictive prescriptive provisions of codes and standards. Yet, questions remain as to the hidden costs of these model and algorithm-based offerings versus fire protection based upon anecdotal results. For example:

1. How does the Authority Having Jurisdiction obtain sufficient technical basis to make an informed decision about the efficacy of a performance-based approach? FP Engineer
2. My approach is at least as effective as the prescriptive requirement. How do we establish a comparison basis through more than just a current review of codes?
3. Can the contractor build it? Prescriptive codes and standards have influenced and been influenced by builders. How will quality and safety elements be met under new technical approaches?
4. There's a new code in town. As performance-based strategies are applied to a project, they become the code of record. How are these criteria maintained and sustained throughout the life of a facility?

This presentation offers some insights as to when it makes sense to develop a performance-based approach how to engage stakeholders, and responsibilities to ensure baseline controls are sustained after the project is built.



Thomas Kraft

**Thomas Kraft** is the Lead Fire Protection Engineer and Deputy Fire Marshal at Central Plateau Clean-up Company, a U.S. Department of Energy Contractor at the Hanford Site. He has served as the Authority Having Jurisdiction, Owner's Technical Representative, and Fire Protection Subject Matter Expert for numerous nuclear, process industry, energy, and institutional facilities. Thomas is a Certified Fire Protection Specialist; ICC master code Professional, holding over thirty inspector and plans examiner certificates in a wide range of codes. He is engaged in both active fire protection project development and management and the training and continuing education of Hanford Fire Protection Engineers and technicians.

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