

SCHULTE & ASSOCIATES

Building Code Consultants
880D Forest Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
fpeschulte@aol.com
504/644-8900

A TRIBUTE TO BUD NELSON

By Richard Schulte

On August 2, 2011, fpeschulte@aol.com wrote:

Ladies and Gentlemen-

I was thinking yesterday about the fire risk assessment analysis being done by the [ICC] CTC [Code Technology Committee] study group on elevators. The CTC's approval of the fire risk assessment at the CTC meeting about 10 days ago was historic for the code profession-similar to the GSA Conference on high rise buildings held in 1971. I believe that the CTC's approval of the fire risk assessment analysis was the same day that Harold (Bud) Nelson passed away. I couldn't think of a more appropriate tribute to Bud Nelson that [than] the CTC's action.

In the mid-1970's, Bud Nelson (and others) pioneered the development of what is known as the NFPA Decision Tree (also known as the "Lemon Tree" because the Decision Tree was printed on yellow paper). Thirty-four years later, we've come back to using NFPA Decision Tree with the fire risk assessment.

The use of fire risk assessment analysis to justify a code change is indeed revolutionary. A new day in code development has dawned.

Most of the credit for lobbying for the fire risk assessment analysis by the elevator study group should go to the chairman of the CTC, Carl Baldassarra. Thank you Carl.

May Bud Nelson RIP. We'll miss him.

rich schulte
Schulte & Associates
Pensacola, Florida
fpeschulte@aol.com
504.644.8900