

## Reducing the Impact of Fire in Buildings and Communities

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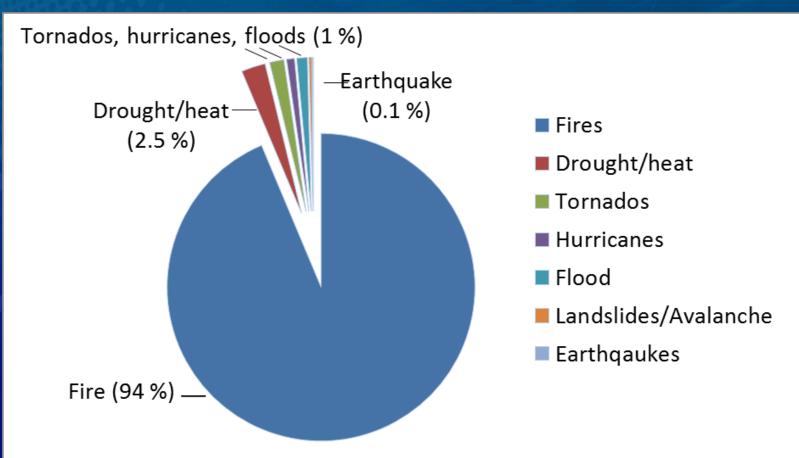
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#### **Hazard Types and Life Safety**

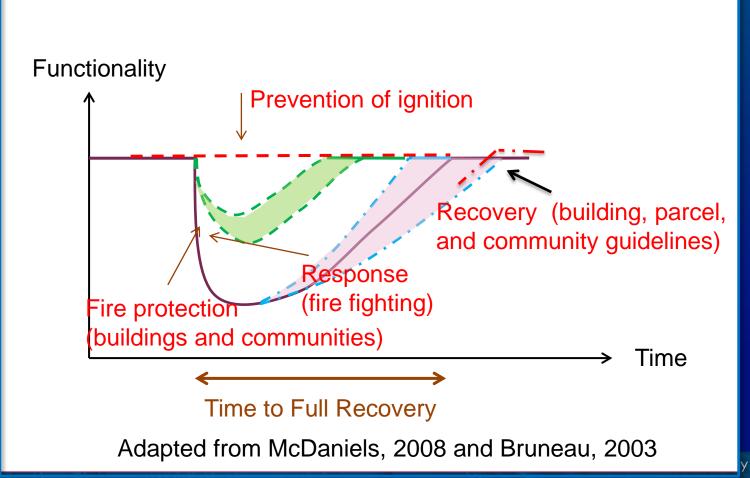
6200 Average Annual U.S. Fatalities due to Hazards (1960 – 2012)



Data sources: NOAA, USGS, Census, NFPA, Met. Life Statistical Bulletin

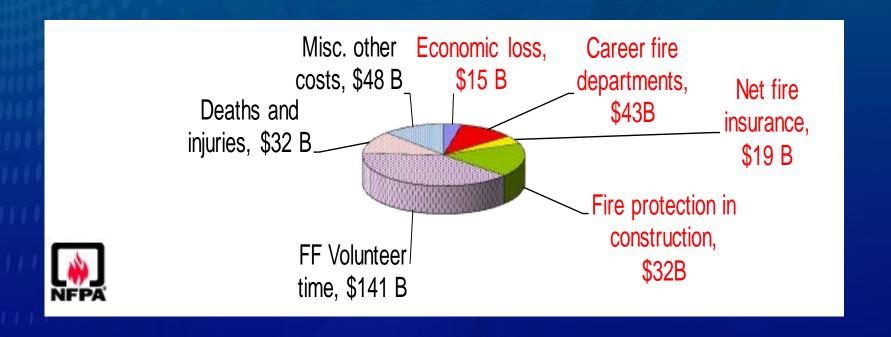
#### Resilience

PPD 21 (March 2013): the ability to <u>prepare</u> for and <u>adapt</u> to changing conditions and <u>withstand and recover</u> rapidly from disruptions. Resilience includes the ability to withstand and recover from deliberate attacks, <u>accidents</u>, or <u>naturally occurring threats or incidents</u>.



#### What is the U.S. Fire Problem?

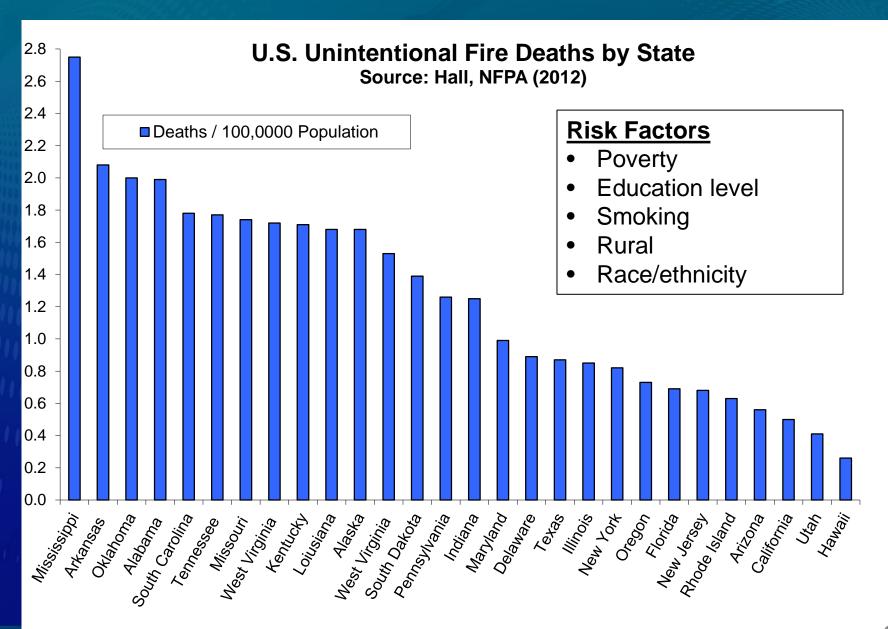
3,100 fatalities & 18,000 injuries (2010 civilian losses)
72 fatalities & 72,000 injuries (2010 firefighter line of duty)
2010 U.S. Total Social Cost of Fire : ~ \$330 B ± 100B \*\* (~2 % GDP)



<sup>\*</sup> Hall, J.R., The Total Cost of Fire in the United States, NFPA

<sup>\*\*</sup> NIST Fire Protection Roadmap, 2012

#### What is the U.S. Fire Problem?



#### **Urban Fires - A Long-Standing Global Problem**





- London, 1666
- Kyoto, 1788
- New York, 1835
- Hamburg, 1842
- Newcastle, 1854
- Chicago, 1871
- Boston, 1872
- Baltimore, 1904
- San Francisco, 1906
- Kobe, 1995

#### 2012 Super Storm Sandy: Breezy Point Fires





#### What is the Problem?

#### Top 15 U.S. Fire Loss Incidents (source: NFPA)

<u>Incident</u>	<u>Date</u>	Adjusted loss (2012 dollars)
1. World Trade Center, New York	2001	\$43 billion
2. Earthquake and Fire, San Francisco	1906	\$8.9 billion
3. Great Chicago Fire	1871	\$3.2 billion
4. Oakland Hills Fire, CA	1991	\$2.5 billion
5. So. California Firestorm, San Diego County	2007	\$2.0 billion
6. Great Boston Fire, Boston	1872	\$1.4 billion
7. Polyolefin Plant, Pasadena, TX	1989	\$1.4 billion
8. Cerro Grande Wildland Fire, Los Alamos	2000	\$1.3 billion
9. Wildland fire Cedar, Julian, CA	2003	\$1.3 billion
10. Baltimore conflagration, Baltimore, MD	1989	\$1.3 billion
11. "Old" Wildland Fire, San Bernardino, CA	2003	\$1 .2billion
12. Los Angeles Civil Disturbance	1992	\$0.9 billion
13. Power Plant, Dearborn, MI	2000	\$0.9 billion
14. Southern California Wildlfires	2008	\$0.9 billion
15. Laguna Beach Wildland Fire, CA	1993	\$0.8 billion

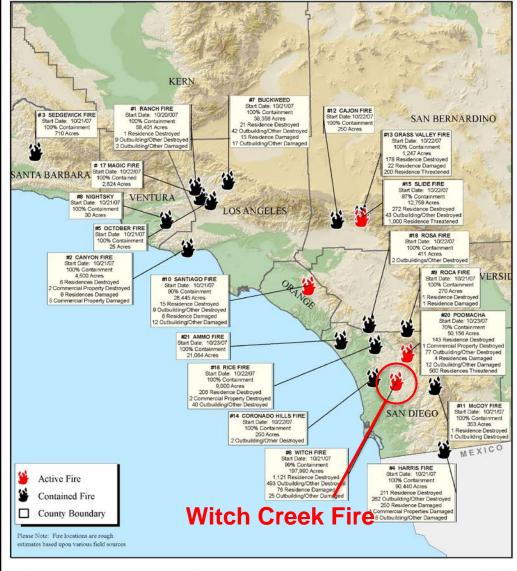
#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

as of 10/31/07 - 0600 Hours PDT with Start Dates - Chronologically



















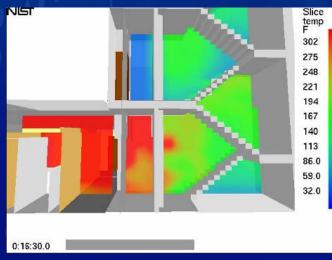
### Response to the 2007 Witch Creek Fire, San Diego, CA Courtesy of the San Diego Fire Department





#### Research to Enhance Resilience



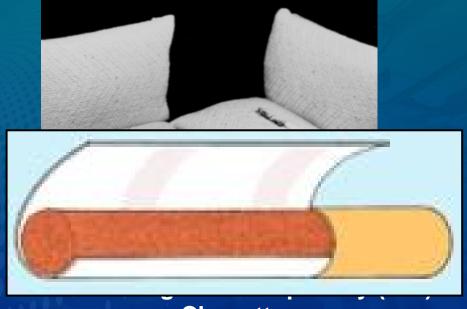






Fire Response

#### Research to Enhance Resilience: Prevention



**Cigarettes** 





**Barrier Materials** 



Fire Resistance of Building Elements

### Wildland-Urban Interface Fires: Hardening Buildings against Ember Showers

Decking

Test methods to evaluate the ignition resistance of building materials, components and assemblies, providing a technical basis for improved WUI building codes & standards



### Fire Resistant Coatings to Prevent Furniture Foam Ignition

**Untreated Polyurethane Foam** 

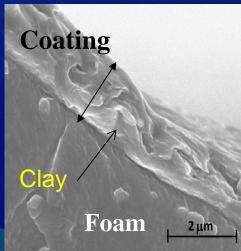


Treated Polyurethane Foam sodium polyborate - clay additive



Playing at 4X speed

Reducing product flammability using novel processes, technologies, and material additives (Layer by layer coatings, nano-clays, -tubes and -fibers, bio-inspired materials, etc...).



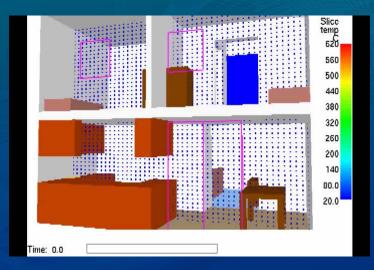
#### Research to Enhance Resilience: Protection



**Evacuation** 



**Smoke Alarms** 



**Fire Models** 



**Structural Fire Resistance** 

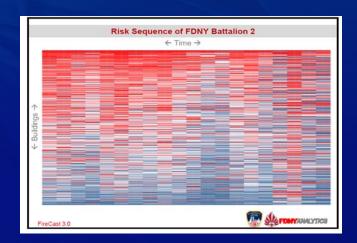
#### Research to Enhance Resilience: Response



**Personal Protective Equipment** 



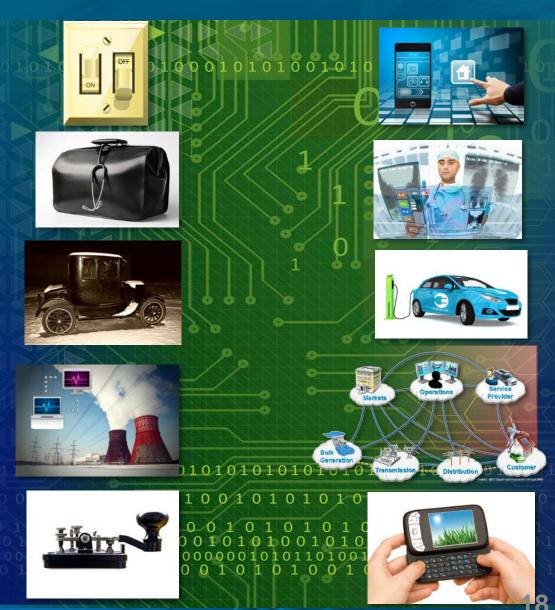




"Smart" Firefighting

#### **Future Directions: Cyber Physical Systems**

Massive integration of wireless networks, robotics, advanced sensors, 3D simulations, and cloud services



#### **Future Directions: Cyber Physical Systems**











War fighting

**Transportation** 





**Production** 

#### **Future Directions: Cyber Physical Systems**

This publication is available free of charge from http://dx.doi.org/10.6028/NIST.SP.1174

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National Institute of Standards and Technology U.S. Department of Commerce



**Smartphone Apps** 



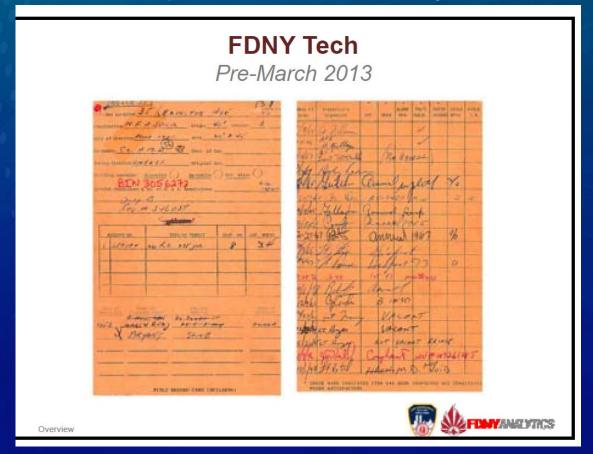
Fully interoperable a b o requipment



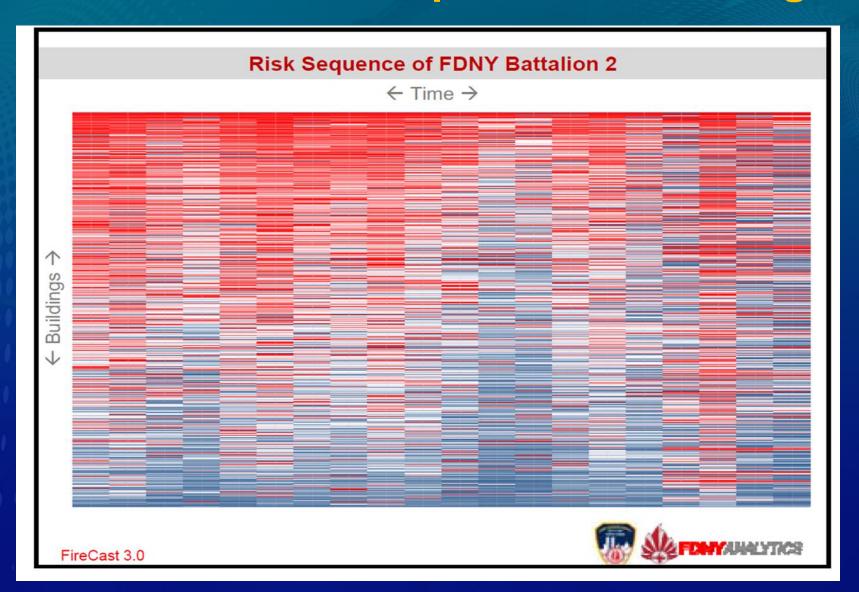
Risk Sequence of FDNY Battalion 2

#### **FDNY Building Inspections**

- 330,000 buildings in inspection portfolio
- 10% inspected per year
- 9 hours of inspections/week by each company



### FireCast: a data driven predictive risk engine



Jeff Chen & Jeff Roth, Analytics Unit, FDWY

#### **Summary**

- Fire is a major cause of human & capital losses.
- Research can deliver knowledge and tools to enable fire prevention, protection, and response, enhancing resilience and reducing fire losses and costs.
- Future is linked to engineering innovation, including cyber physical systems, new materials, and technologies.

