

LIGHTNING DATA CENTER MINUTES
OCTOBER 7, 2011
ST. ANTHONY CENTRAL HOSPITAL, DENVER, CO

Monthly Quote: "The trouble ain't that there is too many fools, but that the lightning ain't distributed right." - Mark Twain

1. The meeting began at 11:45 PM and adjourned at 1:10 PM.
2. Members present: Clark, Yarnell, Wachtel, Cherington (Michael and Nancy), Foley, Gift, Cui-Gift, Elder, Claus, and Parsley. Ms. Parsley hails from Clearwater, Florida and was invited by Robert Gift. She hopes to attend again next spring. Clark moderated the meeting.
3. Clark presented a question posed by a member of the Yahoo Lightning group. Some of you have seen this. A conical pile of wood chippings about 15 feet tall was covered by a white polyurethane plastic tarp and was hit by lightning. Several holes, about the diameter of a big thumb, were in the plastic, in a swath about 1 to 2 feet wide and up almost the entire length of the cone. The owner wanted to know what could cause the holes. Clark thought it could be larger chunks of wood that were heated and blew the holes in the plastic. Foley thought they might show where upward leaders could have been, where the wood chips were in contact with the polyethylene. This would have melted the plastic upon ionization. Other e-mailed responses echoed Foley's response.
4. There is updated information on the Franklin Rod vs. ESE device issue. Foley told us in a vote conducted by the NFPA, the ballot count was in favor of the inclusion of ESE devices; however, the vote is being challenged procedurally.
5. Since the meeting, the Malaysian government has issued a circular requiring the Malaysian public to adopt the IEC Standard, which would ban the use of ESE devices in buildings within their country. Continuing this theme, Foley noted the Arizona Supreme Court some time ago declared some of the ESE manufacturers' advertising to be fraudulent.
6. Cherington recalled a study of pointed lightning rods vs. flat-topped rods. Which top was hit more often? Contrary to what you might think, the flat tops were hit more often.
7. Some time ago, these minutes reported the case of a woman struck by lightning while on an archaeology dig in New Mexico. Phil received an update from the woman's father. She still needs assistance in her day-to-day living.

8. CPR Update: Now you can do CPR with your hands only. No mouth-to-mouth required! The goal is approximately 100 beats per minute, to induce perfusion in the patient. For more information, see the link below.
9. About ten years ago, we had a case of a woman hit by lightning while playing golf at Kennedy Golf Course in Denver. She was severely impaired after the strike. We learned she passed away 1 to 2 years ago.
10. LDC Disclaimer: These minutes do not represent official positions of LDC or its members. They simply reflect the comments made at the meeting. Furthermore, the LDC does not explicitly or implicitly recommend or endorse *any* product or service. Any service or product presented in these minutes is done so for the purpose of discussion and analysis. The merit (or lack thereof) is open for consideration and review by the entire membership.
11. Next meeting: Friday, October 14, 2011 at 11:45 AM at St. Anthony Hospital West. Conference Room TBA. Subject: TBA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven E. Clark, Consulting Meteorologist

In Case You Missed It...Lightning in the News

This is a monthly listing of news and videos about lightning and allied areas as reported in the media. A headline is listed, followed by a link to the article. Please note that some of the links are perishable, which means you'll need to go to the source for the article. Enjoy!

From WSVN-TV in Tampa, FL:

Man dies after lightning strike at Tampa park

Read more: <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21005346925820/#ixzz1Y8oPt5r>

More on the Tampa Lightning Strike from Tampa Bay Online...

Lightning Strike at Park Scrutinized

<http://www2.tbo.com/news/breaking-news/2011/sep/15/menewso4-lightning-strike-at-park-scrutinized-ar-257809/>

OSHA Investigating Adventure Island Lifeguard's Death

<http://www2.tbo.com/news/breaking-news/2011/sep/15/osha-investigating-adventure-island-lifeguards-dea-ar-257702/>

Water Park Lifeguard Dies After Lightning Strike

<http://www2.tbo.com/news/news/2011/sep/11/menewso10-water-park-lifeguard-dies-after-lightnin-ar-256911/>

Adventure Island Lifeguard Dies After Lightning Strike

<http://www2.tbo.com/news/news/2011/sep/10/7/lightning-strike-hospitalizes-adventure-island-emp-ar-256780/>

From the pressofatlanticcity.com:

Lightning strike at Revel kills one worker, injures two others

http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/atlantic_city/lightning-strike-at-revel-kills-one-worker-injures-two-others/article_48f828fc-dfdc-11e0-8b53-001cc4c002e0.html
