



Olathe, Kansas, Nov. 6, 2014

## **Siemens Recognizes Local Fire Protection Consultant for Innovative Approach to Fire/Life Safety Design**

Siemens Building Technologies Division named Poole Fire Protection, Inc. of Olathe, Kansas, as the winner of its first annual Engineering Innovation Award for fire and life safety design. Poole Fire Protection used an innovative design approach that incorporated Siemens' FireFinder® XLS fire alarm panel into the Windsor Locks Readiness Center, a 110,000 square foot army aviation support facility located in Windsor Locks, Conn.

Facility owner the Connecticut Air National Guard asked fire protection consultant Poole Fire Protection to include a few unique building construction features to the design-build project. One of these included using a performance-based engineered alternative known as Enhanced Acoustic Simulator for Engineers (EASE) modeling to support and validate the audibility and intelligibility of a voice / mass notification system for the facility. The voice / mass notification system works with the fire alarm panel to deliver different pre-recorded voice messages as well as live voice messaging capabilities.

Poole Fire Protection used the innovative design approach to overcome some of the challenges that often occur with hard surfaces creating non-acoustically-friendly environments for a voice / mass notification system. The EASE modeling also reduced the number, spacing and tap settings of the speakers originally planned for the design, ultimately increasing the efficiency of the fire alarm and mass notification system design and saving construction and equipment costs for the project.

"Using the EASE computer modeling software helped us, as well as other engineers

**Poole Fire Protection, Inc.**

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and designers, understand and acknowledge the benefit of performance-based modeling up front early in the design phase,” says Michael Knoll, director of solutions sales at Siemens Industry, Inc. “Providing speakers with characteristics consistent to the speakers used in the modeling ensured that the system would pass testing without having to add or relocate speakers or change speaker tap settings to achieve the required audibility and intelligibility.”

“By approaching the project in this manner, the design-build team did not have to modify speaker locations or tap settings during the pre-final or final testing,” adds Jack Poole, PE, PSFPE, principal of Poole Fire Protection. “This ultimately saved time and resources during testing, which allowed the project to be completed as expected.”

**About Poole Fire Protection, Inc.**

Poole Fire Protection is a woman-owned, family-operated small business that has been providing clients throughout the U.S. and across the globe with integrated solutions to complex fire and life safety challenges since 1991. Its staff of licensed fire protection engineers and National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) certified engineering technicians is specifically trained in risk analysis, hazard assessment and the design of fire suppression, fire stopping and fire detection systems, and is actively involved in the codes and standards process. The team has consulted on public and private projects involving office buildings, industrial complexes, manufacturing plants, aircraft hangar and support facilities, healthcare facilities, educational institutions and lodging facilities. For more information, visit [www.poolefire.com](http://www.poolefire.com)

**About Siemens Building Technologies Division**

The Siemens Building Technologies Division (Buffalo Grove, Ill.) is a North American leader in the market for safe and secure, energy-efficient and environment-friendly buildings and infrastructures. As technology partner, service provider, system integrator and product vendor, Building Technologies has offerings for safety and security as well as building automation, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) and energy management. For more information, visit [www.usa.siemens.com/buildingtechnologies](http://www.usa.siemens.com/buildingtechnologies)

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