

DID THE SALOMON BUILDING COLLAPSE FROM FIRE?



This collapse should have changed everything for High Rise Fire Operations, Safety and Construction. **Has it?**

3:50 PM
5:20 PM first ever collapse of a Type 1 fire-resistive building from fire.



The Salomon building collapsed in under 7 seconds. NIST claims ordinary office fires were responsible and called it a “new phenomenon” of fire creating thermal expansion inducing progressive collapse.

WHEN NONE OF THESE DID?



WHY IT MATTERS...

- NIST claims that ordinary office fires brought down a Type 1 high-rise building for the first time. If this is true, it means we as fire professionals must learn from this building collapse to understand how to prevent and survive it.
- The history and evolution of firefighting has relied on proper investigations and reviews of critical incidents using physical evidence. NIST did *not* use physical evidence, critical firefighter and witness testimonies, video & audio recordings of explosions, nor follow the NFPA 921 Guide for Investigations.
- NIST claims, from computer modeling, a Single Point of Failure (column 79 on floor 12/13) brought the entire building down in free fall.

If NIST is right, then NFPA needs to RADICALLY change the National Standards for High-Rises!!



DID THE SALOMON BUILDING COLLAPSE DUE TO FIRE?

NIST INVESTIGATION

The investigation authority of the Salomon Brothers Building was delegated to the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST). The investigation was not released until 7 years after the collapse.

- NIST admits they used **NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE** for their investigation
- NIST ignored the basic NFPA 921 Fire & Explosion Investigation Guide Book including:

- NFPA 921 9.3.6 Spoliation of Evidence
- **NIST allowed the destruction of evidence**
- NFPA 921 14.3 Preservation of the Fire Scene
- NFPA 921 18.3.2 High Order Damage
- NFPA 921 18.12.2 High Explosives
- NFPA 921 18.15 Analyze Fuel Source
- NFPA 19.2.4 Exotic Accelerants (including Thermite)
- NFPA 19.4.8.2.6 Extremism (“Terrorists may use fire..along with explosives...”)
- **NIST did not test for any exotic accelerants/explosives**
- NIST rejected witness testimony including audio and video recordings of firefighters seeing, hearing and experiencing explosions.



P.A.P.A. | WHO WE ARE

We are an international alliance of firefighters, first responders, building professionals, fire protection engineers, organizations and people committed to protecting protectors.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Add your name to “NFPA TAKES A STAND!”

The NFPA must either:

1. Change the National Standards to reflect the new critical danger of “Fire Induced Progressive Collapse” as claimed by NIST

OR

2. Add a statement on the NFPA website and all NFPA guide books related to Type I high-rise national standards to **reject the NIST Investigation** of the Salomon Brothers building.

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