

FRA Global Symposium 2026

SCHEDULE

September 21-24, 2026

Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay,
Cambridge, MD

Monday, September 21

Location	Start	End	Speaker	Organization	Topic
Golf	11:45 AM	12:00 PM	Noah Ryder Scott Bryant Tony Natale	Fire & Risk Alliance	Opening Remarks, Keynote Address, Golf Tournament Kickoff
Golf	12:00 PM	4:00 PM	Golf Tournament		
Golf	4:30 PM	6:30 PM	Golf Reception		

Tuesday, September 22

Location	Start	End	Speaker	Organization	Topic
Exhibitor Hall	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	Breakfast & Registration		
Chesapeake	8:30 AM	9:00 AM	Noah Ryder	Fire & Risk Alliance	Opening Remarks & Welcome to the FRA Global Symposium
Chesapeake	9:05 AM	9:50 AM	Jose L. Torero	University College London	Large Scale Fire Testing
Hallway & Exhibitor Hall	9:50 AM	10:10 AM	Snack Break & Group Photo		
Chesapeake	10:15 AM	11:10 AM	Matthew Paiss Paul Hayes Bob Davidson Paul Sincaglia	Sandia National Laboratories The Hiller Companies Davidson Code Concepts International Code Council	NFPA 800 & 855 Panel: Battery Energy Storage & Fire Code - Led by Committee Chairs
Chesapeake	11:15 AM	12:00 PM	Katrina Groth	University of Maryland	Engineering Trust in the Energy Transition: Safe Hydrogen Systems

Tuesday, September 22, continued

Location	Start	End	Speaker	Organization	Topic
Galleon	11:15 AM	12:00 PM	Josh Adams	NextEra Energy	Renewables, Energy Storage & Fire Safety: Lessons from the Field
Chesapeake	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Lunch		
Chesapeake	1:00 PM	1:45 PM	Yi Wang	FM	Data Center Fire & Explosion Hazard from Battery Systems -- UPS and BBU
Galleon	1:00 PM	1:45 PM	Tony Natale James Caulfield	Fire & Risk Alliance	BESS Project Siting: Successful Approaches, Best Practices, & Lessons Learned
Chesapeake	1:55 PM	2:40 PM	Lauren Gagnon	Fire & Risk Alliance	Hydrogen Fluoride White Paper
Galleon	1:55 PM	2:40 PM	Bryan Vasser	EPA Region 4	Post-Incident Decommissioning of Fire-Affected Sites
Chesapeake	2:50 PM	3:35 PM	Brandon Telford, CFPS	The Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co. Inc.	Battery Energy Storage: Safety, Technology & Real-World Applications
Hallway & Exhibitor Hall	3:35 PM	3:55 PM	Snack Break		
Chesapeake	4:00 PM	4:55 PM	Jim Biggins Liam Blodgett Tom Nappo Ed Martinez Yi Wang	CAC, Part of The Baldwin Group CNA Insurance PERse FM	Insurance Round Table
Hallway & Exhibitor Hall	5:00 PM	6:30 PM	Exhibitory Reception & Happy Hour		

Wednesday, September 23

Location	Start	End	Speaker	Organization	Topic
Exhibitor Hall	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	Breakfast & Registration		
Chesapeake	8:30 AM	8:45 AM	Noah Ryder	Fire & Risk Alliance	Opening Remarks

Wednesday, September 23, continued

Location	Start	End	Speaker	Organization	Topic
Chesapeake	8:45 AM	9:40 AM	Martin Schjoll Shannon McArdle Tanya Smelker	TerraPower Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited Fire & Risk Alliance	Nuclear Resurgence: Fire Safety & Regulatory Landscape
Chesapeake	9:45 AM	10:30 AM	Robert Kranz Mike Ferreira	Meta Fire & Risk Alliance	Fire Protection and Life Safety Design Challenges in Data Centers
Galleon	9:45 AM	10:30 AM	Jared Stolin Jeff Sutton	Global Risk Consultants Corp.	The BESS Boom Is Outpacing Fire Risk Management
Hallway & Exhibitor Hall	10:30 AM	10:50 AM	Snack Break		
Chesapeake	10:55 PM	11:50 AM	Jasen Dodson Rick Grassel Robert Kranz Mike Ferreira	Loudoun County Fire Chesterfield Fire Meta Fire & Risk Alliance	Data Centers: From Concept to Occupancy
Galleon	11:50 AM	12:35 PM	Bill Buirch Jeffrey Reetz	Pepco Holdings Fire & Risk Alliance	Rethinking Cable Space Fire Protection
Clipper	11:50 AM	12:35 PM	KT Tan	Viridian Solar	PV Fire Safety: How to Address This Issue Professionally?
Chesapeake	12:35 PM	1:35 PM	Lunch		
Clipper	1:40 PM	2:25 PM	Jeff Gonzales Joseph Mayonado Karli Steranka Micah Ryder	Joby Aviation Space X Fire & Risk Alliance	From Launchpads to Vertiports: Assessing Aerospace Fire and Life Safety
Chesapeake	1:40 PM	2:25 PM	Grunde Jomaas	Fire & Risk Alliance	PV Fire Safety: A Decade of Research, Experiments & Field Findings
Galleon	2:30 PM	3:50 PM	Ryan Fogelman Mike Goodman Maurice Jones Chuck Hatfield Holland Smith Robert Masse	Fire Rover ORR Protection Viking Group Inc. Astrolabe Analytics	BLITZ PRESENTATIONS
Clipper	2:30 PM	3:50 PM	Paul Sincaglia Deepanshu Bhatia Ridwan Ayinla Lenin Wung Kum	International Code Council Fire & Risk Alliance Fluence	BLITZ PRESENTATIONS
Hallway & Exhibitor Hall	3:50 PM	4:10 PM	Snack Break		

Wednesday, September 23, continued

Location	Start	End	Speaker	Organization	Topic
Chesapeake	4:10 PM	4:30 PM	John Zahurancik	Fluence	Live Fire Test Material Discussion
Chesapeake	4:30 PM	5:10 PM	Noah Ryder Brent Turner	Fire & Risk Alliance	FRA Research Campus & Day Recap
Pavillion	6:30 PM	9:00 PM	Pavillion Reception		

Thursday, September 24

Location	Start	End	Event
Hyatt	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	Breakfast
	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	Transport to Lab
FRA Lab	9:00 AM	1:00 PM	Live Fire Demo
	11:00 AM		Early Transport to Hyatt
FRA Lab	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch
	1:00 PM		Transport to Hyatt