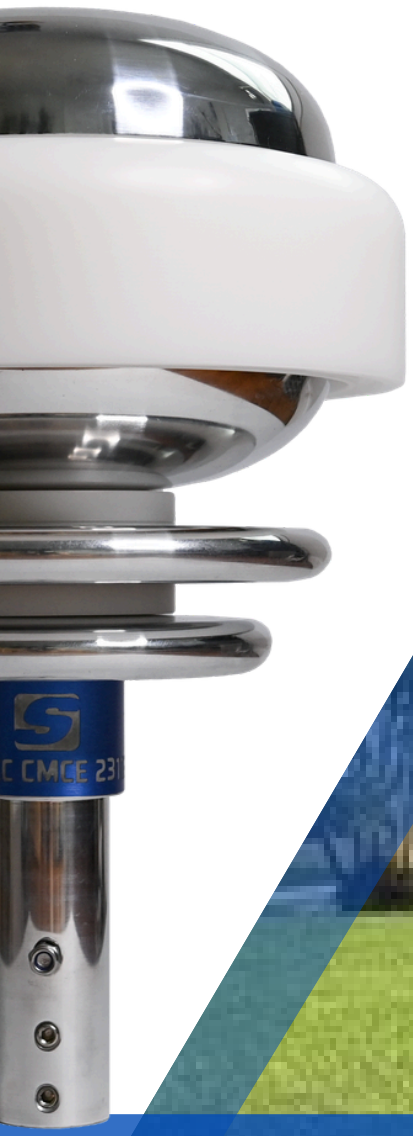
ENCORE
LAND AND SEA



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF FORT LAUDERDALE

CASE STUDY

CMCE LIGHTNING SUPPRESSION SYSTEM

CASE STUDY

Protecting an Entire Church Campus with CMCE Lightning Suppression Following Lightning Damage to a Critical Fire Alarm System

First Christian Church of Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Project Overview

Located in the heart of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, First Christian Church is a place of worship, fellowship, and community engagement. Situated at 201 SE 13th Street, the church serves its congregation and surrounding community through worship services and activities.

Like many properties in South Florida, the church faces significant exposure to thunderstorms and lightning activity. With critical electrical infrastructure, fire alarm systems, and occupied gathering spaces, protecting the campus from lightning-related damage is essential to maintaining safety and uninterrupted operations.

After experiencing a lightning strike that destroyed its fire alarm control panel, First Christian Church recognized the need for a proactive lightning protection solution.

The church partnered with Encore Land and Sea to install advanced CMCE Lightning Suppression technology, providing coverage for its entire campus.

The Challenge: Lightning Damage to Critical Life-Safety Equipment

Before partnering with Encore Land and Sea, First Christian Church had no lightning protection system installed.

The property experienced a lightning strike that resulted in the loss of its fire alarm control panel, a critical component of the building's life-safety infrastructure.

The incident highlighted the vulnerability of the church's electrical systems and the potentially serious consequences of future lightning strikes.

Key risks included:

- **Fire Alarm Systems**: Lightning-related damage to critical life-safety equipment.
- **Electrical Infrastructure**: Exposure of electrical panels, wiring, and sensitive electronics to lightning-related damage.
- **Congregation Safety**: Potential disruption to essential building safety systems.
- **Operational Continuity**: Unexpected repairs and interruptions to worship services and church activities.
- **Property Protection**: Exposure of campus buildings and infrastructure to additional lightning damage.

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With no existing lightning protection, the church needed a solution that would address its exposure while providing comprehensive coverage across the property.

The Solution: CMCE Lightning Suppression by Encore Land and Sea

Encore Land and Sea installed one CMCE-120 Lightning Suppressor, designed to provide lightning suppression coverage across the entire First Christian Church campus.



Unlike conventional lightning rods, which are designed to intercept lightning strikes and conduct electrical current safely to ground, CMCE Lightning Suppression is designed to balance the atmospheric electrical conditions that contribute to lightning strike formation.

The CMCE system utilizes passive deionization technology to balance the surrounding electrical field, with the objective of suppressing upward streamer formation within its coverage area.

The CMCE-120 provides approximately 500,000 square feet of lightning suppression coverage, encompassing the entire church campus.

CASE STUDY

The Results: Comprehensive Campus-Wide Lightning Protection

Following the loss of its fire alarm control panel, First Christian Church took action to strengthen its lightning protection strategy.

With one CMCE-120 Lightning Suppressor installed, the church now has a campus-wide system designed to prevent the risk of direct lightning strikes across approximately 500,000 square feet.

The installation delivers several important benefits:

- **Campus-Wide Coverage**: One CMCE-120 provides coverage for the entire church property.
- **Critical Equipment Protection**: Designed to significantly reduce direct lightning strike exposure affecting essential electrical and life-safety infrastructure.
- **Continuous Operation**: Passive lightning suppression technology operates without an external power source.
- **Minimal Infrastructure**: A streamlined installation reduces the need for extensive rooftop equipment.
- **Long-Term Risk Mitigation**: A proactive investment in protecting church facilities, property, and operations.

The church's experience demonstrates how a single lightning event can expose vulnerabilities in critical building systems—and why addressing lightning risk before additional damage occurs matters.

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