

The Halon Herald

News from the world of halon, halon alternatives, & special hazard fire protection

August 2009

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News You Can Use

NAM Slams Waxman Bill

The National Association of manufacturers recently concluded a study that took a stand AGAINST the Waxman-Markey Bill (HR 2454).

The NAM-ACCF study concluded that the bill will painfully cost 2.4 million jobs. The study was conducted by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), and funded by NAM and the American Council for Capital Formation (ACCF). NAM and ACCF input assumptions for SAIC to use in their assessment of Waxman's impact on manufacturing, jobs, energy pricing, and economy overall. The full report will be released in several weeks.

The NAM/ACCF study accounts for all federal energy laws and regulations currently. It assumed price increases in oil and natural gas supplies, tax credits for renewable source replacements, increased world oil price profile, and permit allocations for industry and international offsets. According to NAM's article, key findings include:

- * Cumulative loss in gross domestic profit up to \$3.1 trillion (2012-2030)
- * Employment losses up to 2.4 million jobs in 2030
- * Residential electricity price increases up to 50% by 2030
- * Gasoline price increases (per gallon) up to 25% by 2030

The full article can be found [here](#). The Halon Herald will stay on top of NAM's reaction to the Waxman bill, and provide the report and other materials as they become available.

FAA Publishes "Guidelines for Safe Use of Gaseous Halocarbon Extinguishing Agents in Aircraft"

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport and Aircraft Safety Research and Development division recently published the final report on usage of certain extinguishing agents in the aviation world.

The comprehensive report can be found [here](#).

Tyco & 3M Offer Webinar:

"Fire Suppression Systems and Climate Change: What Engineers Need to Know Now"

Tyco and 3M sponsored a "Fire Suppression Systems and Climate Change: What Engineers Need to Know Now" Webcast on Thursday, August 20. Experts in the field such as Tom Cortina, executive director, Halon Alternatives Research Corporation (HARC), Tom Wysocki, president, Guardian Services Inc. and technical director of the Fire Suppression System Assoc., and Mark Suski, senior consultant, Schirmer Engineering, an Aon Company were on hand to offer pertinent information for engineers.

The event can be viewed [On Demand here](#).

Don't forget to take [the CEU exam](#) to qualify for CEU credits for this webcast!

Editorial Corner

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Chrissy's Corner: Notes from the Editor-in-Chief

It's the end of summer and with it comes some ridiculously hot weather. I can't complain too much - NJ saw its share of dull and dreary rain for most of June, so it's nice to see the sun shine, albeit hot as Hades.

Summer is also a time where everyone and everything slows down. Offices hold summer hours, where they close early on Fridays. Most employees take the opportunity to take family and children that are out of school on vacations. Chances are, you have emailed or called at least one person this week and gotten a, "S/he is on vacation" response!



Chrissy George

While being outdoors and "doing things" is lovely this time of year, I have succumbed to air conditioner worship now and again on excruciatingly hot days. I don't enjoy sweating. I DO enjoy a chilled Corona in front of the tv on a sunny day.

Who doesn't?

The little break and momentary slowness is necessary, though. Everyone works hard year round, and sometimes, you need to recharge your batteries. Once fall starts up again, everyone begins to rev up their engines and get back to "business as usual", bigger and better equipped to serve customers and clients than before.

I hope you are enjoying your little momentary break - I hope you are even GETTING one - and are ready for Fall! Thanks for reading!

The Air Up There by John Demeter

This month's "The Air Up There" is a rerun of what we ran in our February 2009 issue. However, we felt it was important to repeat - helps get our point across!

The Grandma Test

Grandma was ahead of her time. She had a small carbon footprint. She wasted nothing. NOTHING!!

She traveled by foot when she could. She took public transportation when it was available and never owned a car. She grew her own vegetables and consumed only what she needed to maintain her simple - yet full - lifestyle --nothing more, nothing less. If it were up to us, she would be - at minimum - head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, but with more clout!

The first thing she would do would be to institute what we have termed the "Grandma Test". (She would have winced at the term. It was just common sense to her. We use the term all the time)



John Demeter

It's hard to describe the "Grandma Test", so we will give you an example of how it works. We don't drink bottled water. EVER. We used to until we took the "Grandma Test" which involved imagining explaining to Grandma that we just spent \$1.89 on something we could have gotten for free by walking across the room and turning on the spigot. And then, took the container in which it came (which she would have saved and used for the next ten years) and threw it into the garbage! Grandma would have looked at us as if we had two heads. Bottle water fails the Grandma test.

So does the push to eliminate uses of halon 1301 and halon 1211. As we've written on more than one occasion, the worldwide inventory of these two effective fire fighting is enough to supply the needs of those industries still using halons well into the 21st century. The fact that there are still companies using halons is not only an environmental benefit, since the management of these requirements prevents halons from being released into the atmosphere, it is also a safety benefit. The worldwide inventory of halons, estimated at 55,000 metric tons of halon 1301 and 95,000 tons of halon 1211, are, for the most part, stored in pressurized cylinders manufactured at least 15 years ago (in some cases, up to 40 years old). Unless these cylinders are inspected and cared for on a routine basis there is a risk of the contents leaking off into the atmosphere due to damaged valves or deteriorated seals. Or, worse, these pressurized cylinders pose a safety hazard unless they are handled by experienced professions.

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No, eliminating existing uses of halons would not pass the Grandma Test. And would probably **continue** to fail the Grandma test until someone comes up with a safe and economical way to gather halon for destruction. But why would you destroy something that could continue to be safely used and managed? Grandma would not understand that, unless there was more profit in the destruction. Grandma understood profits!

Association Section

PAFED & CALSAFE Announce Upcoming Meetings

The Pennsylvania Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (PAFED) and the California Association of Life Safety Fire Equipment (CALSAFE) both announced their upcoming meetings and locations.

PAFED's annual fall meeting will take place October 22-23, 2009, at the Holiday Inn Meadow Lands, at 340 Race Track Road in Washington, PA 15301. As fall looms closer, PAFED will announce more details on [their website](#).

CALSAFE will hold its annual meeting on October 2 - 3, 2009, in the San Jose area, at the Wyndham San Jose, located at 1350 North First Street, in San Jose, CA 95112. Details about the meeting can be found at [CALSAFE's homepage](#).

We hope to see you at both of these enriching meetings!

Upcoming Meetings

Have a meeting, seminar, or event you want added? Email us and we'll include it!

June

June 1-5 - NFPA Professional Development Seminar Week, Cranberry Twp, PA

June 8-11 - NFPA Conference and Expo

June 8-10 - Applying NFPA101(r): Life Safety Code(r) to the Joint Commission Statement of Conditions, Oakbrook Terrace, IL

June 10-12 - International Fire Safety Conference, Madrid, Spain

June 18 - DuPont Webinar on HFC Sustainability

June 22-26 - NFPA Professional Development Seminar Week, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

July

July 6 -10 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, San Francisco, CA

July 13-17 - Applying NFPA 101(r): Life Safety Code(r) to the Joint Commission Statement of Conditions, Baltimore, MD.

July 13 - Workshop on Management and Destruction of ODS banks and implications to Climate Change, Geneva, Switzerland (UNEP)

July 14 - Workshop for a Dialogue on high-global warming potential alternatives to ozone-depleting substances, Geneva, Switzerland(UNEP)

July 15 - 18 - 29th Meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Geneva, Switzerland(UNEP)

July 20 - 21 - 42nd Implementation Committee under the Non-compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol, Geneva, Switzerland(UNEP)

August

Aug. 17-18 - 58th Annual Standards Engineering Society, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

September

Sept. 9-11 - Applying NFPA 101(r): Life Safety Code(r) to the Joint Commission Statement of Conditions, NFPA Headquarters, Quincy, MA.

Sept. 14-18 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, NFPA Headquarters, Quincy, MA

Sept. 21-23 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Frankfurt, Germany.

Sept. 21-25 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Charlotte, NC.

October

Oct. 5-9 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Baltimore, MD.

Oct. 5-7 - Applying NFPA 101(r): Life Safety Code(r) to the Joint Commission Statement of Conditions, Phoenix, AZ.

Oct. 12-16 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Oak Brook, IL.

Oct. 19-23 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Cincinnati, OH.

Oct. 26-30 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, St. Louis, MO

Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 - 43rd Meeting of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol, Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt (UNEP)

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John Demeter
Steve Foulk

Contributors
George McDonald

November

Nov. 2-6 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Denver, CO
Nov. 3 - 1st Meeting of the Bureau of the 20th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt (UNEP)
Nov. 3 - Workshop on Quarantine and Pre-Shipment uses of Methyl Bromide, Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt (UNEP)
Nov. 4 - 8 - 21st Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt (UNEP)
Nov. 7 - 1st Meeting of the new Bureau of the 21st Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt (UNEP)
Nov. 9-13 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ.
Nov. 17-18 - International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Working Group Meeting, Atlantic City, NJ
Nov. 16-20 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Phoenix, AZ
Nov. 30-Dec. 4 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Fort Worth, TX

December

Dec. 7-11 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Rancho Cordova, CA.
Dec. 14-18 - NFPA Training Seminar Week, Orlando, FL.

Tech Tips

Tech Tip by George McDonald & Mark Buser

Transport of hazardous materials always requires special handling to avoid any accidental and dangerous discharges in transit. We'd like to offer two more tips, in addition to last month's Tech Tips, to ease in the packaging of hazardous cylinders for shipping.

- * When palletizing heavy cylinders its advisable to reinforce wooden pallets
- * Halon Spheres must be palletized

Recipe of the Month

Potato-Chicken Salad Lettuce Cups

A delicious blend of spices, chicken, and potatoes make this a satisfying lunch for a picnic, work, anytime!

This recipe was found [here](#), on Food Network's website.

Ingredients

- * 4 Idaho potatoes, peeled and cubed
- * 1 1/2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- * Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- * 1 (6-ounce) skinless chicken breast
- * 3 slices cooked bacon, crumbled
- * 1/4 cup diced celery
- * 1/4 cup diced onion
- * 1 garlic clove, minced
- * 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- * 2 teaspoons mustard
- * 1 tablespoon paprika
- * 2 tablespoons chopped parsley leaves
- * 2 sage leaves, chopped
- * 2 heads Bibb lettuce

Directions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.

Place potatoes on a sheet tray, toss with oil, season with salt and pepper, and roast until golden and tender, about 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a saucepan cover chicken with water and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Poach until cooked through, about 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from poaching liquid, let cool for a bit, and cut chicken into cubes.

In a large bowl, toss together potatoes, chicken and bacon with the celery, onions, and garlic. Add the mayonnaise, mustard, paprika, herbs, salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste. Mix until well combined.

Serve salad in Bibb lettuce cups. Roll up and eat.

Mark Buser

*Special Thanks to Tom
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their assistance in this
issue.*