

The Halon Herald

News from the halon & clean agent world

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What's Inside...

February 2008

Vol. 4 Issue 5

FSSA Meeting

FFEDA

The Air Up There -
J. Demeter

Recipe of the Month

Intersec 2008

Meetings Update

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[Click here](#) to email us

Chrissy George, Editor-in-Chief

FSSA Meeting a Success!

The Fire Suppression Systems Association (FSSA) recently held their annual meeting and conference in Clearwater Beach, FL, and all participants agree, it was a rousing success!

Over 50 companies attended the forum, including companies such as Amerex, Siemens Fire Safety, and Chemetron Fire Systems. The conference, held from February 9 to February 12 at the Sandpearl Resort in Clearwater, FL, was chock full of informative and fun activities, such as a golf tournament, a Fun Walk for Education, Casino Night, technical education sessions, forums, and beach olympics.

We here at Wesco would like to thank the following companies for supporting FSSA and sponsoring several activities throughout the week:

BFPE, Bourgeois, Chemetron, Fenwal, Kidde, Orr, United Fire, DuPont, and Wesco. In addition to the fun activities, several new Board Members were elected. The new members are listed below, and we wish them the best of luck in their tenure, and congratulations!

Board of Directors
Shawn Mullen -President
Gerry Connolly -Vice President
Rick Scott -Secretary/Treasurer

Installer Division
Steve Foulk -Chair
Roddy Bieber -Vice Chair
Voigt Lenmark - Director
Ed Vaillancourt -Director
Steve Carter -Director

Manufacturer Division
Dave Hoffman -Chair
Lance Harry -Vice Chair
Larry Grodsky -Director
Mark Pillow -Director
Dale Kent -Director

Some pictures from the very competitive Beach Olympics are listed below. It was a fun time for all!

Chrissy's Corner

Randomness from the Editor-in-Chief



Let me mention how THRILLED I am (and my husband also) that the NEW YORK GIANTS ARE THE SUPERBOWL CHAMPIONS!!!!

I WON'T mention that whole 19 and 0 massacre...or the fact that the Boston mayor already planned the victory parade in advance...or the quarterback sacks...or how, boy or girl, there's a good chance baby's name will be Plaxico...

Nah. I won't mention that stuff.

I WILL mention that NAFED's first regional meeting in Las Vegas is rapidly approaching! Wesco, specifically, myself and Shannon, will be attending and showcasing at this meeting, so please come by and visit! I'm looking forward to flying to some warmer weather than these 19 degree days in Jersey. Mmm. 65 degree days. They're so close.

We have a few new members to the Wesco family - our little Wescat had her babies! Who is Wescat, you ask? A few months ago, a stray kitty kept frequenting the warehouse back door, and George, our warehouse manager, started putting out food for her. Turns out kitty was pregnant! She had 4 adorable little babies yesterday, 2 black kittens and 2 gray and white kittens. Mama and babies are doing fine and are nice and warm and snuggly in the office, occasionally mewing in a highly adorable manner. Check out the newsletter next month for some pictures!

The next few months are going to be busy for

Thanks for a great meeting, FSSA!



The Air Up There:
CARB Part Deux
by John Demeter

Wesco. The yearly round up of meetings starts this March, and we can't be more excited to get out of the office and meet everyone - see some old friends, make some new connections, and enjoy talking with everyone! NAFED has 3 upcoming shows, HARC has a very important meeting in the beginning of March, and NFPA has their annual conference and expo in June. Be sure to check this issue of the Halon Herald for links and information - you don't want to miss these meetings!

In closing, I'd like to wish everyone a happy Valentine's Day (slightly late) and an early Happy St. Patty's Day...while, this year, I can't partake in the green beer, you can bet I will be eating my weight in soda bread! Enjoy the upcoming holidays and shows and stay warm while we eagerly look towards spring!

Thanks for reading,

Montreal Protocol has Key Lessons to Share

The December 4, 2007 meeting sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme's OzonAction Unit (UNEP), the U.S., Argentina, Mauritius, Micronesia, Sweden, and the Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development (UGSD) provided several key lessons for climate negotiators.

The Key Lessons presented as listed below in their entirety, copied right from Ozone News' news article.

1. Disaggregate further the climate problem into other manageable pieces and tailor governance measures to fit the specific source, sink, or sector selected, including MP-type measures.
2. Design governance systems that are dynamic and evolutionary, that learn by doing, and that can be quickly strengthened, including through procedures like the MP's "adjustment" procedure for chemicals already regulated that allow the Parties to accelerate control measures by consensus, and take effect in 6 months without ratification in capitals, with option for Parties to affirmatively opt out.

Upcoming Events

February 2008

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

- 9th - 12th - [FSSA 2008 Conference](#) 14th - Valentine's Day
- 18th - President's Day
- 25th - The Halon Herald's Editor-in-Chief's birthday
- 29th - Leap Day/Year

Upcoming Events

March 2008

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 6th - 7th - [NAFED Regional Conference, Las Vegas, NV](#) 17th - St. Patrick's Day
- 20th - First Day of Spring
- 23rd - Easter Sunday

Upcoming Events

April 2008

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

3rd - 4th - NAFED
Regional Conference,
Atlantic City, NJ
20th - Passover



We still like California!! Yes, we still like California even though the California Air Resources Board (CARB) did not heed our advice to leave HFC-227ea (FM-200 and FE-227 to those of you in the fire protection industry) off of their list of potential ways to reduce global warming in California. You can read why we thought ours was a good idea [here](#). Nevertheless, CARB is taking the next step toward some form of regulation of this popular, effective and non-ozone depleting fire fighting agent. We hope they proceed carefully!

On February 15, 2008 CARB held a Workshop on Stationary High GWP Early Items. The agenda for that meeting is [here](#). The next-to-last item on the agenda addressed "Alternative Suppressants in Fire Protection Systems". Read the entire report [here](#) and the [presentations here](#).

While it may be premature to conclude where this review by CARB will take the fire protection industry, it appears they are heading toward some form of regulation that might include: incorporating the fire protection industry's Voluntary Code of Practice (VCOP) into a California regulation (see VCOP [here](#)); voluntary use of low global warming fire protection agents; or possibly a tax on higher global warming products (i.e.: FM-200).

The fire protection industry has taken two important steps, voluntarily we might add. The VCOP (see link above) and HEEP (the HFC Emission Estimating Program) is an industry/government partnership aimed at controlling discharges of HFC's and PFC's through a combination of training, education and reporting. These are sensible steps, not only because they are the environmentally correct thing to do, but they also make financial sense. A false discharge of a 1,000 FM-200 system is going to cost someone about \$15,000, unlike the early days of halon 1301, which, at the time, was much less expensive.

We have some issues with CARB's presentation. For example, page (or slide) 6 (Comparison of Total Flooding Fire Suppressants) compares the cost of protecting a 500 cubic meter room with halon 1301 and HFC-227 and Fluorinated Ketone at \$5,300, \$16,000 and \$19,000 respectively. Our calculations put the amounts closer to \$26,000,

3. Design governance systems that treat all Parties fairly and that fully implement the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. In the MP, the common but differentiated principle is implemented through a 10-year grace period, a dedicated Multilateral Funding mechanism with a democratic decision-making procedure (7 + 7, with a double majority), a 3-year replenishment cycle to pay agreed incremental costs and independent assessment of the funds needed by Montreal Protocol's Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP). The principle is further supported by a spirit of cooperation and trust developed through 20 years of success.

4. Design governance systems that are informed by the best available, real-time information, including unpublished information, on science, technology, and economics of climate-friendly technologies and their accessibility from a body such as the TEAP, and their Technical Options Committees (TOCs) that report annually.

a. The IPCC should be supplemented with a TEAP-like process; and sectoral technical options committees (TOCs) should be set up under the GEF climate window for categories of sources, sinks, and sectors.

b. TEAP to consist of the 2 co-chairs, one each from developing and developed countries to be selected by COP, of each TOC. Co-chairs free to select experts as they need, giving equal representation, as much as possible, to all regions and groups. 2 Co-chairs of TEAP to be selected by COP. Reports of TEAP and TOCs to be placed before COP without any editing.

c. The GEF climate window, including adaptation funding, should be governed by a separate Executive Committee following the 7 developed + 7 developing (or more to allow representation to groups of countries with similar interests) , double majority procedure of the MP. COP to guide GEF on costs to be met.

d. Ensure coordination between regulatory measures and market-based measures, including cap-and-trade, to avoid perverse incentives (such as the perverse incentive under the CDM to expand the production of HCFCs to earn credits for destroying the HFC-23 by-product.)

e. Ensure that the full range of compliance approaches is considered from the outset for each governance approach, including compliance assistance approaches such as the Montreal Protocol, with the possibility of sanctions for willful non-compliance.

5. Further strengthen the Montreal Protocol to maximize its climate benefits, including by measures to:

a. Further accelerate the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances;

b. Recover and destroy "banks" of ozone-depleting substances currently contained in existing products and equipment;

c. Tighten exemptions for essential and critical uses of ozone depleting substances as well as for chemical feedstocks and process agents;

d. Strengthen efforts to combat illegal trade; and

e. Regulate HFCs under the Montreal Protocol or

\$32,000 and \$34,000. The chart on emissions (page 8) has us scratching our heads – are they single year emissions or multi year? If multi-year, then how many years are included? What caused a threefold decrease in emissions of halon 1301 from the 2005 period to the 2010 period? And where did all that halon 1301 go between 2005 and 2020?? Surely its not emissions! And if they weren't emissions, then there was simply a shift from a California "Bank" to some other state. Also, on page 11 under "Dry Chemicals" the industry uses mono ammonium phosphate (a fairly harmless powder) and not ammonium nitrate (that's the stuff that can go boom in the wrong hands!)

So let's sum things up . HFC-227ea, a highly effective firefighting chemical, created to address a serious worldwide problem of ozone depletion (successfully), with a global warming factor almost 60% lower than the product it replaced, is voluntarily controlled by an industry who already has a financial incentive to limit emissions, and who's carbon impact over a ten years period is probably less than the impact caused by one months use of bottled water in California is now being considered for additional controls and taxes – in an effort to reduce global warming.

What are we missing here??

Spotlight on State Organizations: FFEDA



The Florida Fire Equipment Dealers Association (FFEDA) was formed in 1963 by a group of Florida fire suppression dealers who all agreed that Florida deserved its own state organization to address specific state concerns, as well as support companies on a national level in continuing education and current and future issues.

FFEDA's president, Paul Sherwood, from Advanced Fire Protection Services in Ft. Walton, FL, resides over an impressive board of officers that includes dealers such as John Gioseffi from Broward Fire, and Timothy Stamp, from Cintas Tampa. The board members and officers list for 2007-2008 can be viewed [here](#). The Board of Directors for FFEDA is made up of nine dealers who are elected for 2 yr terms each. The president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer are elected by the Board of Directors. New Board members (who must be

under a Montreal Protocol-type regulatory regime so they can be phased-out, rather than traded as one of the six Kyoto basket gases.

Upcoming HARC Meeting

The Halon Alternatives Research Corporation (HARC) has an upcoming meeting on March 6, 2008, in Sacramento, CA. This very important meeting includes a presentation from the California Air Resources Board by Elizabeth Scheehle, CARB, and a presentation by Bella Maranion from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

In addition to the above mentioned presentations, The Voluntary Code of Practice and the HFC Emissions Estimating Program (HEEP) will be discussed, EPA activities, the Waxman Ozone Depletion Bill, among others.

This is an important meeting you cannot afford to miss. For more information on membership and attending HARC meetings, please visit their web page found [here](#).

Intersec 2008!

Wesco was proud to be a part of the Intersec 2008 Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, this past January. Check out some pictures from the event!



regular members of FFEDA) are elected annually at the annual meeting. In conjunction with the annual meeting, FFEDA holds four quarterly meetings throughout the year, in February, June, August, and November. Their most recent meeting was held this past week, February 29-March 1, and addressed continuing education needs.

FFEDA's common goals include the following, directly copied from their impressive website:

- * To cooperate with the authorities having jurisdiction and other interested governmental officials in order to secure, so far as possible, the adoption of uniform standards and ordinances governing fire equipment and uniform interpretation thereof.
- * To recommend to the fire equipment industry such trade policies and practices as will stabilize the industry and protect the public interest. And to eliminate such practices which cause injury to the industry and to the public interest. To gather and disseminate information and ideas which will improve the State's fire protection and increase the competence of the fire equipment industry.
- * To further the joint interest of and to build good will between distributors, dealers and manufacturers of the fire equipment industry.
- * To gather information and statistics and other pertinent data relative to the fire equipment industry, and to make the same available to the members of the corporation and to other interested persons and agencies.
- * and to cooperate and work with insurance companies, government officials having jurisdiction over matters affecting the fire equipment industry, manufacturers of fire equipment and any and all other trade associations or individuals who may be of help in furthering the general purposes of the corporation.

Membership can be in one of two classes: regular members which are fire equipment dealer companies as the member with all employees of that company qualifying for member rates for FFEDA events and products; and associate members, which are supplier companies and manufacturers, with all employees of that company qualifying for member rates for FFEDA events and products. Membership benefits are wide and varied, including continuing education opportunities and HAZMAT emergency services at a drastically reduced rate. Membership is yearly and costs \$250, with a one time new member fee of \$50. More information on membership can be found [here](#).

In addition to all the membership perks listed above, FFEDA publishes a quarterly newsletter called Fireline that addresses regulation changes and news and events for Florida fire dealers. FFEDA's [associate members](#) include companies such as Amerex, Badger, and Buckeye. In addition to Associate members, some of the regular members of FFEDA are Broward Fire, Orr Fire Protection, and Cintas Fire Protection. Full information on this helpful and important



Save the Date!

Some upcoming important meetings to take note of in your date book:

HARC/HRC Meeting

March 6, 2008, Sacramento, CA

NAFED Regional Meetings for 2008

Mar 6-7, 2008, Las Vegas, NV

Apr 3-4, 2008, Atlantic City, NJ

May 8-9, 2008, Cleveland, OH

NFPA World Safety Conference & Expo 2008

June 2-5, 2008, Las Vegas, NV

Wesco will be attending all of the above meetings, so be sure to stop by and say hello!

Wesco Gold Success Update!

9:00am: Call from Customer (6 hours away) with an emergency discharge. It's 6 cylinders of FM200, total of approximately 1,200 lbs.

5:00pm: Cylinders and appropriate rebuild kits arrive at Wesco

6:00am: (next morning) Cylinders leave Wesco refurbished and filled

1:00pm: Cylinders reinstalled

organization can be found at .

Boeing and Others Fly First Biofuel Jet

Boeing, Virgin Atlantic, and GE Aviation plans to conduct the first commercial jet flight using a biofuel of babassu oil and coconut oil, mixed with traditional kerosene based jet fuel. This is a huge step forward towards a greener aviation world.

The Virgin Atlantic 747-400 will use this biofuel/kerosene mixture to fly from London to Amsterdam on Feb. 24, 2008. The biofuel components can be found in simple, everyday products, such as cosmetics and shaving cream. babassu oil can be found in the nuts of the babassu tree of Brazil, whose leaves are used to make paper products. Coconut plantations are mostly mature and do not contribute to deforestation while also being highly carbon neutral in its harvesting process. Absolutely no modifications had to be made to the existing fuel components of the jet to allow this fuel to run. Extensive testing in Boeing, Imperium Renewables, and GE's labs evaluated the potential performance and effects of the biofuel mixture.

Results of this flight will be analyzed for future biofuel developments. Another biofuel flight, based on the results of this one, will be conducted later this year with Air New Zealand.

"Today's flight is a continuation of a journey we embarked on last year with Sir Richard Branson and Virgin Atlantic to identify more sustainable forms of fuel for the aviation industry," said Marlin Dailey, vice president of Sales, Europe, Russia and Central Asia, Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "Change begins with a vision. Following that, innovation and technologies are essential to proving the feasibility of renewable, alternative fuel sources for an environmentally progressive future of aviation."

"A successful flight will not only validate the use of biofuels in aviation, but also provide a glimpse into the future of all fuels," said Imperium Renewables President and CEO John Plaza. "Today's biojet fuel offers higher-quality standards and a more sustainable fuel than traditional jet fuel. Additionally, it illustrates the potential for second-generation biojet fuel to be even more viable in the coming years."

For more information on this monumental purchase, please visit [Boeing's Press Release](#) .

"Innovation and technologies are essential to proving the feasibility of renewable, alternative fuel sources for an environmentally progressive future of aviation."
- Marlin Dailey, Boeing

In a little more than 24 hours from the time of the emergency call, the customer's system was back on track! That's what Wesco Gold is all about!

Recipe of the Month!

I'm going to introduce you all, my hungry, talented readers, to a blog (a web log, or "journal" online) that I like to frequent, called "The Pioneer Woman Cooks". Not only is Ree (the aforementioned Pioneer Woman) absolutely hysterical, she makes some of THE BEST recipes by using basic staple ingredients and whipping them into hearty, taste bud tantalizing foods that will make your mouth water. I personally have made Ree's Maple Cinnamon Rolls and I think my husband, Tom, proposed marriage all over again to me upon tasting them.

Unfortunately, Ree's recipe for cinnamon rolls is not in an easy printer format, so I had to choose another recipe to share this month. Tiramisu is one of my most favorite (and most craved) foods lately, and Ree's recipe is perfect to satisfy even the pickiest of Tiramisu eaters. The full text of this recipe can be found [here](#). Enjoy!

Tiramisu

First make the Zabaglione:

5 large egg yolks

1/4 cup sugar

1/2 cup Marsala wine OR 1/2 cup Brandy

In a bowl that will fit over a pot of hot water, beat eggs and sugar together until mixture is pale yellow, about three minutes. Bring water to a boil in pot, then reduce to simmer. Place bowl with eggs yolk mixture over water and gradually beat in Marsala. Keep beating continuously. Cook about 7 minutes, stirring to scrape sides and bottom of bowl. Mixture will be thick. Cover bowl and refrigerate 45 minutes.

When zabaglione is chilled, whip:

1 cup whipping (heavy) cream, chilled

4 tablespoons sugar

Fold gently into the whipped cream:

1 pound Mascarpone cheese, softened to room temperature

Zabaglione (from above)

Now mix together:

1 1/2 cups espresso or very strong coffee

1/4 cup Marsala or Brandy

1 tablespoon vanilla

Trivia Time!

Congratulations to our winner of last month's trivia!

Mark Smith, Keystone Protection
Shannan Odum, National Fire Fighter

This month's trivia contest is going to be less intensive, with only ONE question (ironically enough, because there is only ONE additional day in February!) We chose to focus this month's trivia question on the every-four-years-day of Leap Day! The FIRST TWO PEOPLE to [email us](#) with the correct answer will each win a \$50 American Express gift card!

- The longest time between 2 leap years was 8 years. When did this occur?

Good luck!

Also have on hand:

1 package Savoiardi cookies (ladyfingers)
Cocoa powder

Assembly:

Arrange ladyfingers in a single layer in a 9 x 13 pan. Spoon about 1/2 to 1 tablespoon coffee mixture over each cookie. Spread 1/3 of the cheese mixture over the cookies. Sprinkle with cocoa. Repeat two more times, ending with a sprinkling of cocoa. Cover and refrigerate for a few hours before serving so cookies will soften. Serve and prepare to be loved and worshiped.