

The Halon Herald

News from the halon & clean agent world

Published by 

For a printable version please [click here](#)

What's Inside...

January 2008

Vol. 4 Issue 4

2007 Ozone Hole

PAFED

The Air Up There -
J. Demeter

Recipe of the Month

FSSA Across America

Boeing Strikes Deal
with Air Europa

NAFED Recertification
Policy Update

The Halon Herald
c/o Wesco HMB
108 Liberty St.
Metuchen, NJ 08840

2007 Ozone Hole Over Antarctica

The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) announced in September 13, 2007, that an ozone hole as large as Antarctica appeared directly over Antarctica in mid-August 2007. This hole usually appears in August/September and grows to its largest size in September and October, as noticed in the past by NASA satellite data.

The hole decreases and disappears around November/December.

The amount of ozone depleting substances (ODS) has peaked in the 1990s and remained at high levels, thus causing the Antarctic hole. However, the good news is that the 2007 hole is not growing to the record size that 2006's ozone hole reached. The 2007 hole is right in line with average ozone hole size from the past 10 years.

While dramatic efforts to reduce ODS have been taken throughout the past decade and continue to be vigilantly pursued, the large amount of ODS still in the atmosphere will cause a yearly ozone hole for the next few decades.

For more information on this, please visit [the JMA](#).

The Air Up There:
Reruns are Good

by John Demeter

Chrissy's Corner

Randomness from the Editor-in-Chief



I just realized that last month, I ended my column with, "Happy Thanksgiving".

Well, THAT's embarrassing. Whoops.

I don't have much to talk about nowadays. The excitement of a new baby coming hasn't worn off yet (not even close - in fact, I'm more excited now than I was before!) but really, how often can you talk about how many fingers it has (ten! I saw them and counted!) or what it was doing in the last ultrasound (sucking its thumb!) or nursery decoration plans (jungle! or garden!) and who it's going to be named after (Mike Piazza if it's a boy...I swear). People other than myself, my husband, and both sets of grandparents get sick of it.

So, I will just spend that above paragraph talking about our little pierogi (it's very difficult to refer to it as "it", so I tend to turn to food names, and since I'm Polish, pierogi is only fitting). I'm done now. I promise. You won't hear from me about Pierogi George until next month.

But I WILL talk about all the upcoming trade shows we have in the next few months. Trade shows are one of my favorite things to do here at Wesco. not only does it provide a break from the possible desk/computer monotony, it really allows you to meet the people you talk with on the phone - names and faces can mesh together. In addition, it's just plain FUN. Who DOESN'T want to go to Vegas? Or Atlantic City? Granted, AC is in our backyard here but that doesn't stop me from

[Click here](#) to email us

Chrissy George, Editor-in-Chief



Upcoming Events

January 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		

- 1st - New Year's Day
- 13th - 15th - [Intersec Middle East 2008 Expo](#)
- 21st - Martin Luther King Day

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

January's travel schedule and resulting workload increase has caused us to do something new in the Halon Herald – publish a reprint of a past The Air Up There column. We simply ran out of time and are being pressured (some might say “hounded”){ editor's note: The editor would choose not to use the word 'hounded' in this situation} by our Editor-in-Chief to finish the story. Below is our first column, published in the April issue of the Halon Herald. We'll be back next month with some fresh observations from the world of halons and other clean fire suppression agents.

When people ask us what we do for a living, and we sense that they want the short version rather than the long, we simply say that we are in the environmental business. That always seemed to us to be the easiest way to describe the essence, or at least the end result, of what we do. If we've piqued their interest and they ask us to describe our business further, we usually start by pointing up and asking if they've heard of the hole in the ozone layer. The answer is always “yes” (a tribute to the twenty years of publicity given the subject). We then proceed to talk about halon 1301, halon 1211, halon 2402, replacement chemicals, fire suppression systems, valves, recycling, sampling, testing, the EPA, import regulations, etc, etc, etc.

Often by now their eyes are darting around the room looking for someone else to talk too, figuring that this subject is either way above their head (which of course it is not) or way too boring (again, not so). Our favorite parting line was, “well, I guess someone has to do it?”

We believe that all work has value, but we are especially proud that our chosen field results in contributing to a healthier environment. That's why it is troubling when actions taken (or actions avoided), often in the name of environmental protection, result in the exact opposite!

In our April 2007 issue, we reported on a set of recommendations by the U.S. State Department to the Montreal Protocol that would speed the elimination of ozone depleting substances. This action, coming in the Platinum Anniversary (that would be the 20th for those of you who don't have crackerjack Editors-in-Chief to look up things like this). We don't doubt that this is a good idea. Expediting the elimination of HCFC's seems on the surface to be a good idea. Nevertheless, when we

enjoying the trade shows. I love meeting and talking with everyone that stops by, about anything under the sun - halon, baseball, weather, cheeseburgers (ooh, cheeseburgers...). you name it.

Every month we have a calendar of all the upcoming trade shows and the web links, when available. All of the organizations - FSSA, NAFED, and NFPA - are highly helpful and all have links for easy, electronic registration to each of their shows. hotel rooms are always discounted. Many organizations will sponsor events, like FSSA's golf outing, to offer some non-work-related activities throughout the time you're there.

We will be at all 5 shows this year - FSSA in February, NAFED in march, April, and may, and NFPA in june. Rest assured that as each of these shows approach, we'll give you a helpful little reminder to register, as well as any new details about the show itself. Be sure to stop by and visit us at any of the shows you attend!

With that, I have to draw my column to a close. I'm still thinking about the above mentioned cheeseburger, and well, baby wants one now :-)
Happy January, and GO BIG BLUE!

Thanks for reading,

FSSA Across America

[Photobucket](#)

The Fire Suppression Systems Association has a series of seminars across the country that address new products and approaches to fire suppression systems. With the ever changing marketplace and its technology, FSSA wants to bring new applications and ideas to achitects, engineers, inspectors, contractors, managers - anyone that is involved in fire suppression - through multiple locations across the country.

Regulations and regulatory requirements are also 2 areas addressed in these non-manufacturer specific seminars, to ensure that necessary personnel respond in a timely and effective

						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

look at the actions that could have been taken to make the Montreal Protocol even friendlier to the ozone layer, we can't help but think of the missed opportunities.

For example, the 2006 Report of the Halon Technical Options Committee identifies "regional imbalances" (of halons) as a growing concern. These "regional imbalances" (too much halon where it is not needed and not enough halon where it is needed), if not dealt with pose an environmental risk. Experience has shown us that unless halons maintain a value (as in \$\$), kept in the stream of commerce and handled responsibly by recyclers and end users, the result is, at best, dangerous high-pressure cylinders rusting and, at worst, a continuing damage to the ozone layer through escaping gas. We ought to be thankful that HTOC did see fit to identify "regional imbalances" as a concern. Perhaps some MOP (Member of the Party to the Montreal Protocol) will notice this and do something about it.

Now THAT would do something about **the air up there!**

Spotlight on State Organizations: PAFED



The Pennsylvania Association of Fire Equipment Distributors was founded in 1988 by several fire equipment distributors who saw a need for a statewide organization that directly addresses not only national issues and concerns, but also state legislations, regulations, and issues as well.

The current president of PAFED is Bryan Lawrence, from Liberty Fire Solutions in Altoona, PA. Vice president is Todd Peifer, from Piefer's Fire in Pillow, PA; Secretary is John Gillespie, of Keystone Fire Protection in Montgomeryville, PA; and Treasurer is Michael Kint of Kint Corporation in Harrisburg, PA. The association office is located at 3718 Westlake Rd, Erie, PA 16505, with a toll free number of 888-923-3473.

PAFED faces many issues each year. One of the most recent concerns it has undertaken is the 2007 version of NFPA 10 (with its certification requirements) will soon be implemented into the PA Uniform Construction Code. With this change, individuals will not have a choice of being certified

manner to any emergency, big or small. Trouble areas are also discussed for specific systems, as knowing the potential problems before they arise gives each technician an edge. The seminars count for continuing education credits, and provide not only detailed information but an overview of the entire industry's products.

The first seminar was held on January 23, 2008, in Omaha, Nebraska. Check back at the [FSSA homepage](#) for more information on upcoming seminars in YOUR area!

We here at Wesco think this is a great idea from FSSA and an excellent opportunity for all contractors, architects, and fire suppression technicians to enrich their knowledge of the marketplace and of the systems and their applications. As we hear of more seminars, you can be sure we will report it in The Halon Herald!

NAFED Recertification Policy

NAFED has recently updated their NAFED recertification policy for technicians to gain NAFED credits. Due to the specific nature of this update, we at The Halon herald have chosen to directly cut and paste the new policy, as opposed to reporting on it - we do not want to report anything inaccurately.

Please note that all of the below information is pasted directly from [NAFED's webpage](#). Please visit and or contact them with any questions or comments.

Passing the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors' (NAFED) Certification Exams is the initial step in obtaining certification from NAFED. Individuals who successfully complete the examination are issued a certificate in the appropriate discipline that is valid for 3 years from the date of issuance. To maintain the validity of the certification beyond the initial 3-year period, each certified individual must apply for recertification in accordance with this policy. To obtain a 3-year recertification, the applicant must provide proof of having obtained 100 Experience and Education Credits (EEC) (see Attachment A), submit the appropriate application, and pay the applicable fees. (Companies licensed by the State of New Jersey should see Attachment B, which addresses the particulars of that state's grandfather clause.)

I. Recertification through NAFED is required for all individuals who wish to maintain their NAFED

or not. In addition to providing a forum and legislative body to discuss current issues, PAFED also has a comprehensive certification 2 step process that is open to all PAFED members in good standing that addresses this issue. The certification is made up of 2 steps:

- Applicants must first successfully complete the Written Test by receiving a grade of 85%. The Written Test is given periodically throughout the state. If the applicant fails this test it may be taken again within one year at no additional cost.

- The Skills Test is given at the State Fire Academy in Lewistown, by Academy personnel. This test consists of ten skills stations dealing with fire extinguisher inspection and servicing.

Certification tests are offered in a variety of locations to meet the demands and implications of NFPA 10. In addition to certification, PAFED holds 2 meetings a year, one in spring and one in fall. The upcoming meetings for 2008 are April 17-19 (in Greensburg, PA) and October 16-18 (in Gettysburg, PA).

Current general membership has over 85 members as of press time, and associate members number over 25. For more information on types of membership and applications, please visit the [Application Section of PAFED's webpage](#).

Wesco HMB, Inc. is a proud PAFED member, and applauds this organization for being one of the most widespread and active state organizations in the country!

Boeing Completes Order with Air Europa Spain

Air Europa, an airline based in Spain, has just ordered 8 787-8 Dreamliners from Boeing, valued at a list price of \$1.3 billion, and obtained rights for another Dreamliner order in the future. This is a big order for Boeing with one of the air industry's largest and most influential clients. Air Europa is the first airline to offer its Spanish customers the comfort of traveling in the roomy, emission reducing 787-8 Dreamliner on long haul routes from Spain (such as Argentina and Mexico).

"The 787 is the best solution that meets our requirements for a superior airplane that offers better efficiency, better environmental performance and excellent comfort for our passengers," said María José Hidalgo, managing director of Air Europa. "After further development of the 787 by Boeing, it became very clear to our pilots, our fleet planners and our accountants that the 787 would deliver the best economics while also offering superior satisfaction for our passengers. We look forward to making history as the first Spanish airline to fly this magnificent machine."

certification for an additional 3-year period.

II. The application for recertification, applicable fees, and documentation must be received by NAFED no later than 60 days prior to the expiration of the current certification. Fees are non-refundable, even if the application for recertification is denied.

III. The application for recertification includes an affidavit that must be signed by the applicant stating he or she has provided accurate information regarding their individual EEC accumulations.

IV. Information provided on the recertification application and EEC documentation will be reviewed for accuracy, clarity, and relevancy. If required, NAFED will request explanation of the information provided.

V. NAFED retains the right to audit any application for recertification. A random selection process will initiate audits.

VI. An applicant's current certification will remain valid during the auditing process. All information requested for an audit must be submitted to NAFED within 30 days of notification of the audit. Failure to respond within the 30-day period will be cause for the loss of certification.

VII. Unless an extension is granted for collection of information or for an audit, all certifications expire on the date listed on the certificate.

VIII. For an applicant to be recertified, he or she must present proof of completing 100 EEC's during the previous 3 years. (See Attachment A for a listing of EEC criteria.)

IX. An expired certification can be recertified if the completed application is received within 180 days of expiration. However, an additional fee is required to process recertification application received after the expiration date.

X. If an application for recertification is denied, the applicant has two options for obtaining certification.

i) The applicant may challenge the decision and ask for a review by the NAFED Certification Committee.

ii) The applicant may apply to take the appropriate NAFED Certification Exam and successfully complete the exam.

XI. NAFED certification does not imply, represent, warrant, suggest, or signify compliance with any equipment manufacturer's or supplier's requirements, nor does NAFED certification grant any license or permit.

XII. NAFED certification does not grant membership into NAFED, nor does it bestow any NAFED Attachment A EEC Criteria

The NAFED certification period is 3 years. In order to prevent a lapse in certification, the certification must be renewed prior to the expiration date listed on individual certifications. Recertification is obtained by:

1. Completing 100 Experience and Education Credits (EEC) for each certified discipline, within the 3- year certification period, or
2. Successfully completing a current NAFED

The 787 Dreamliner is the fastest selling aircraft to date, since its introduction in 2004. As of press date, 56 customers have purchased the 787 Dreamliner. Air Europa's Dreamliners will offer a more comfortable ride for its passengers with increased cabin amenities, use 20% less fuel, and allow for direct point to point service, bypassing layovers.

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

Trivia Time!

Congratulations to our winner of last month's trivia!

Tina Nelissen, Amerex Corporation Tina has generously donated her gift to The Sheepfold, a shelter that provides support to abused women and children. Since she was the only winner this month, Wesco has donated \$150 in her name to The Sheepfold. Congrats and thank you, Tina, for being so selfless and thinking of others at this time of year! It's Superbowl time, and Wesco is proudly supporting the NY Giants as Eli and the boys put their skills forward to attempt to beat The New England patriots (sure, we have some Eagles fans here at Wesco and Comtec, but the editor in chief is a Giants fan, so Giants is who we will support!) So, this month's trivia is based on Big Blue - get your thinking helmets on, grab the buffalo wings, and be one of the first two people to answer both of the below questions correctly, and you will win a \$50 American Express gift card!

- Which of the NY Giants' current players was a 1st round (8th pick overall) draft choice in 2000, originally chosen by the Pittsburgh Steelers?
- What country was Osi Umenyiora born?

GOOD LUCK! The first 2 people to email us at thelalonherald@ushalonbank.com with both answers correct will each win a \$50 American Express gift card!

Save the Date!

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

FSSA 2008 Meeting

February 9-12, 2008, Clearwater, FL

HARC/HRC Meeting

March 6, 2008, Sacramento, CA

Certification Exam for the appropriate discipline.
3. Additional time will be granted for individuals who are active in the performance of a military or jury duty obligation, or an extended medical recuperation.

EEC Earning Potentials

1. Up to 25 credits are allowed for each 12-month period in which an applicant is actively involved in the area of their certification. To be actively involved, a participant must be engaged in activities that are directly related to the area of certification for a minimum of 600 hours (15 weeks) within the 12-month period.

2. One credit is allowed for each hour that an applicant attended and participated in a systematic training program relating to the area of certification. This training may take place at the location of employment or at other venues. The training program must be one that is organized, includes a specific training agenda, and includes a synopsis of the training. Details of this training must be provided if the application for recertification is subject to an audit.

3. One credit per year will be granted for active membership in local and national associations that promote the professionalism of the fire equipment industry. Such associations include the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), and state and local fire- and safety-related associations.

4. One credit is allowed for each hour that an applicant has actively been an instructor for a training program that relates to the area of certification. This training must be specifically related to the design, installation, inspection, service, maintenance, or testing of the equipment and/or systems applicable to the area of certification.

5. The application for recertification includes an affidavit that must be signed by the applicant stating he or she has provided accurate information regarding their individual EEC accumulations.

Attachment B

New Jersey "Grandfather" Recertification

The State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety, has specific regulations that deal with the certification and subsequent recertification of individuals involved in the servicing of portable fire extinguishers and pre-engineered kitchen fire extinguishing systems. A grandfather clause granting licenses to some companies that met the defined requirements was written into the New Jersey regulations. However, per the New Jersey regulations, these individuals are required to be recertified by NAFED every 3 years.

These individuals need to apply for recertification and meet all of the requirements as contained in NAFED's Recertification Policy, including

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

Recipe of the Month!

Yum. Yum, yum yum yum yum, YUM. You can't look at this picture without having your mouth water a little bit! Perfect for the Superbowl or any night (pair it with a salad for dinner or some Spanish rice and beans!) and you're set! Enjoy!

This recipe was copied from [the Food Network's Website](#). Cheesiest Fried Chicken Empanadas with Chili Con Queso Dip

3 cups chopped, cooked chicken, about 4 to 5 chicken breasts
1 (8-ounce) package shredded colby and Monterey Jack cheese blend
4 ounces cream cheese, softened
1 chopped red bell pepper
1 jalapeno, seeded and chopped
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 (15-ounce) package refrigerated pie crusts
Water

Preheat vegetable oil in a deep-fryer to 350 degrees F.

In a large bowl using a rubber spatula, combine the chicken, colby and Monterey cheese, cream cheese, red pepper, jalapeno, cumin, salt, and pepper. Remove 1 pie crust from pie tin onto a lightly floured surface and roll into a 15-inch circle. Cut out rounds, using a 3-inch cookie cutter. Re-roll dough as needed. Repeat procedure with remaining pie crusts, making 12 to 15 circles total. Arrange 1 round on a clean, flat surface. Using a pastry brush (or your fingers), lightly brush the edges of crust with water. Place 1 heaping teaspoon of chicken mixture in the center of the round. Fold the dough over the filling, pressing the edges with a fork to seal. Repeat with the remaining rounds and chicken mixture. Place empanadas in deep-fryer for 3 to 5 minutes or until golden brown. They can also be pan fried in a frying pan with oil, just make sure to flip occasionally. Top with con queso dip.
Note: Up to this point, the recipe can be made ahead and frozen for up to 1 month

Chili Con Queso Dip

1 pound package Cheddar (recommended: Velveeta)
1 (16-ounce) can diced tomatoes, drained

attachment A. However, the recertification issued to these individuals will state that their certification is valid only in New Jersey and is not an endorsement from NAFED that their certification is in compliance with the full NAFED certification program.

This distinction could mean that authorities having jurisdiction in other locations will not recognize the New Jersey-only certification. Individuals wishing to obtain full NAFED certification must successfully complete the appropriate NAFED Certification Exam and comply with the NAFED recertification program.

Individuals that are applying for recertification based on their New Jersey "Grandfather" status must include a photocopy of their New Jersey issued permit and identification with their application for recertification.


FIRST the NFC...



**Next Stop,
Superbowl Rings!**



LET'S GO GIANTS!



1 (4-ounce) can diced green chiles
2 teaspoons hot sauce

In a medium sauce pot, slowly melt Cheddar over medium/low heat. When cheese is fully melted add tomatoes, chiles, and hot sauce, stirring with spoon until combined well.

Pour cheese dip into a small casserole dish and serve as a dip for the cheesy empanadas or pour on top for a real cheesy effect.