

# The Halon Herald

News from the halon & clean agent world

Published by 

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July 2008

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

[Click here](#) to email us

Chrissy George, Editor-in-Chief

## Minnesota HFC Reporting Requirement

The following article was taken directly from the Halon Alternatives Research Corporation (HARC).

A bill was signed into law in Minnesota on May 12 that requires reporting by producers and users of HFCs, PFCs, and SF6.

The law creates a coordinated process to set greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. It also established a reporting process, beginning on October 1, 2008, requiring that a manufacturer of HFC, PFC, or SF6 report the total amount of each gas sold to purchasers in the State.

Beginning October 1, 2008 and each year thereafter, a person in the State who purchases 500 metric tons or more carbon dioxide equivalent of an HFC, PFC, or SF6 must report the amount and the purpose for which the gas was used.

For reference, 500 metric tons CO2 equivalent of HFC-227ea is equal to about 380 pounds. It is not clear if the reporting requirement is just for bulk shipments or if someone purchasing a fire protection system would have to report.

HARC will try to provide more information at the next meeting in September.

## It's A Girl!

Editor in Chief, Chrissy George and her husband Tom, welcomed a baby girl, Cassandra Elizabeth George (Cassie) on July 13, 2008. Baby Cassie was born at 11:22 pm (38 minutes before Chrissy & Tom's 2nd wedding anniversary), and weighed 5 lbs, 15 oz, 20 inches long.

Baby, Mommy, and Daddy are doing great and settling into life at home with their new bundle of joy. Check out some pictures of the little peanut below!

## Chrissy's Corner

Randomness from the Editor-in-Chief



I'm a mommy!

As you read earlier in this issue, my husband and I proudly welcomed our new daughter, Cassie, on July 13, 2008 at 11:22 pm. Delivery was long, but well worth it - I absolutely adore my little Cassie-bug. Ironically enough, Cassie decided to make her appearance 3 weeks before her due date - and the day before our 2nd wedding anniversary! Our doctor promised she would deliver Cassie before midnight on July 14, so that Cassie would have her own birthday and not have to share - and she made it just under the wire! Cassie was welcomed into the world at 11:22 pm, 38 minutes before our anniversary!

I am home on maternity leave until September 9, getting used to having our first baby at home. We all are doing great and loving every gurgle, cuddle, coo, burp - and even the 2 am feedings - of our new Cassie!

Thanks to everyone who inquired about the baby and congratulated and checked up on me throughout the pregnancy - Tom and I truly appreciated it!

Thanks for reading,

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

### August 2008

August is a pretty quiet month - no events!

Upcoming Events

### September 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 - Labor Day

9th - 10th - [NAFED Seminars in NJ](#)

14th - 23rd -

[International Code Council Annual Conference and Final Action Code](#)

[Development Hearings,](#)

Minneapolis, MN

23rd - 24th - [NAFED Seminars in GA](#)

30th - Rosh Hashana



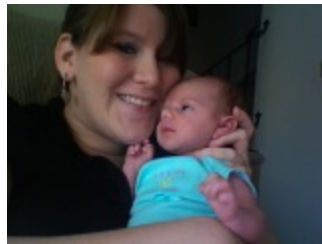
Baby Cassie's first picture!



She's ready for her close up



Mommy & baby



Best of The Air Up There:  
In Search of Balance

by John Demeter

### HARC Update from FSSA

The below article is courtesy of FSSA's Annunciator newsletter. By no means is this article Wesco's property. We thank FSSA for the following text in regards to updates about HARC:

#### Halon Alternative Research Corporation Activity Update

The Halon Alternative Research Corporation (HARC) is a non-profit trade association originally formed in 1989 to promote the development and approval of environmentally acceptable halon alternatives. In recent years, as a number of acceptable halon alternatives have been developed and made available in the market place, the focus of HARC activities has shifted to monitoring regulatory actions by EPA and other governmental bodies which could affect the availability and use of halon-alternative fire suppression agents. HARC also serves to educate regulators on the use and usefulness of fire suppression agents. You can learn more about HARC on the [website](#).

FSSA is a member of HARC. FSSA Technical Director Tom Wysocki is assigned to regularly attend HARC meetings and report to the FSSA Board of Directors on HARC information.

HARC held a meeting on June 26 in Homer AK.

Here are the highlights of the information from that meeting:

California has passed legislation requiring that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) formulate a statewide greenhouse gas emissions policy to bring statewide greenhouse gas emissions down to 1990 levels by the year 2020. To this end CARB is forming working groups to consider early action items including fire protection. are expected to form later this summer with first meetings in late 2008 to help CARB formulate regulations to control emissions of high GWP agents. Tom Cortina will keep involved for HARC and several FSSA members companies have volunteered for the working group on fire protection.



We loved this column so much that we decided to run it twice - once in our March 2008 issue, and once again this issue. Enjoy!

Everyone, it seems, is looking for balance in life. A Google search of the phrase "Balance Life" turned up 18,500,000 hits, about half as much as "Sex Life", a clear indication of how important this subject is to all of us. So we weren't surprised when we learned that the Halon Technical Options Committee has taken up the problem of "Regional Imbalances" of halons in the world. In fact, we were downright giddy since this is exactly what we recommended HTOC do in a prior column.

We'd like to help HTOC cut to the chase. Regional imbalances are caused by regional regulations. Nothing more! There is a shortage of halon 1211 in the United States and in Europe. Why? U.S. tax code places an import tax on halon 1211 of nearly \$45 per pound. We doubt that the IRS has ever collected a penny of tax for imported halon 1211 since the tax alone is almost four times higher than the current market price! In Europe, the European Commission, in their eternal wisdom, has banned the importation of halons from anywhere outside of the EU! (They want to make sure that nasty halon doesn't get into the atmosphere over Brussels!)

Hence, none of the approximate 60,000 metric tons of halon 1211 residing outside of the U.S. and Europe will be sold into these markets. So it sits, in pressurized fire extinguishers, rusting, seals drying and corroding, waiting to self-vent into the atmosphere (at best) or injure or kill someone unaware of its pressurized contents. (But at least it won't happen in Europe!)

(By the way, we can understand a country not wanting to export halons, in an effort to maintain a supply for local industries and essential users, but why would a country not allow an import? If it's used, well then it served its purpose, if not - well, what difference does it make? Is it being imported just for kicks?)

The U.S. requires EPA authorization prior to the importation of any ozone depletion substance (a good thing), but bases that authorization on the importer having to provide the name of the company from which it came, a contact person at that company including his/her phone, fax and

On the federal level, it is likely that legislation on global warming will wait until 2009. Bush, in April 16 speech, said regulation of Global Warming Potential (GWP) substances should be done by Congress, not agency staff. A Supreme Court ruling, however, would require EPA to regulate greenhouse gases under clean air act.

Waxman bill on Ozone Depleting Substances (ODP) is of concern since it requires destruction of ODP substances in order to allow import of other ODP substances. Because of Halon 1301's high GWP, Halon 1301 could be a target for destruction. This could negatively impact the available supply of Halon for recharge of existing systems and for essential use. HARC staff has met with Waxman staff to educate them on this possibility and the problems that could ensue. Waxman staff was receptive but did not make any commitment to exclude Halon 1301 from the list of ODP substances which could be destroyed for import credits.

In aircraft industry, ICAO international certification body has required that newly certified aircraft must not use H1301 in portables, potty bottles and engine nacelle systems as of 2011. After 2014 new aircraft production will have same restriction.

Re EPA activities, EPA may publish a final rule on aircraft Halon bottles and possibly add Victaulic Vortex system to the SNAP list of approved Halon alternatives before the end of 2008.

FSSA will continue to participate in HARC activities. If you would like a copy of the handouts from the meeting, please contact Stacey Johnson at FSSA Headquarters via email or by phone at 410-933-3453.

#### Recipe of the Month!

Another burger recipe! This one sounds delicious and is easy enough for a weeknight dinner, to change it up a bit! Enjoy!

The full text of this recipe can be found [here](#). Enjoy!

Chicken Sausage Burgers with Balsamic Onion Barbecue Sauce

Recipe courtesy Rachael Ray

Extra-virgin olive oil, for liberal drizzling plus 2 tablespoons  
1/4 pound pancetta, chopped  
2 red onions chopped

email address. (This is in addition to approval by the exporting countries environmental authority.)

The purpose of this is to allow the EPA to independently verify that the halon in question was truly reclaimed and not newly manufactured – which would be a violation of the Montreal protocol as well as the U.S. Clean Air Act. The problem is that there are no more manufacturing companies making halon 1301 or 1211 anymore. The last of the Chinese factories were shut down last summer. Another problem is that many of these halon containing cylinders were manufactured decades ago, installed decades ago and, in some cases, removed a decade ago!! What are the chances of finding that person who can attest to the installation and removal of a halon system ten years ago? In many cases the answer is slim to none.

So, the halon sits waiting, cylinders rusting, seals drying -- 50,000 metric tons of halon 1301 and 91,000 metric tons of halon 1211. Anyone still wonder why there are regional imbalances?

#### Trivia Time!

Congratulations to our winners of last month's trivia! Due to our editor in chief being out on maternity leave and unable to access her computer at work, we are skipping trivia time this month.

We also ask for cooperation and understanding from last month's winners, who have not received their gift cards yet. Chrissy is unable to access her computer at work, which has the winners names and addresses from last month's trivia contest - upon her return in September, the winners will receive their gift cards.

Thank you for your understanding! The next trivia contest (in our August issue) will be a "biggie" to make up for this!

Salt and black pepper

1 fresh bay leaf

2 pounds ground chicken

1 1/2 tablespoons fennel seed, lightly toasted

1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes -- go heavier for extra spicy

1/4 teaspoon allspice

Zest and juice of 1 orange

3 tablespoons finely chopped rosemary, 4 to 5 sprigs

4 cloves garlic, grated with a microplane or the small side of a box grater

2 generous handfuls of grated Parmigiano Reggiano or Romano cheese

2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce, eyeball it

1/2 cup aged balsamic vinegar

3 tablespoons honey or dark brown sugar

1/2 endive, chopped

1 cup arugula leaves, shredded

1/2 radicchio, chopped

4 crusty rolls, split, toasted and drizzled with extra-virgin olive oil or buttered

Put 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil in a pot over medium high heat. If you're cooking outside you can cook over the grill flames. Add the pancetta to the pot and crisp it up, 3 to 4 minutes, add the onion to the pot and season with salt and pepper - go heavy on that pepper. The black pepper will really balance out the sweetness of your sauce later on. Add the bay leaf to the pot.

While the onions cook, place the ground chicken in a bowl and add fennel seed, red pepper flakes, allspice, orange zest, rosemary, garlic, salt and pepper, to taste, and cheese. Mix the meat with seasonings and form 4 large patties. Make a shallow dent in each patty at the center of it to prevent the burger from bulging up as it cooks. Wash up and drizzle the patties liberally with extra-virgin olive oil. Place the patties on the grill and cook 6 to 7 minutes on each side.

When the onions are very soft and begin to caramelize, remove the bay leaf and add the Worcestershire sauce, balsamic vinegar, honey or sugar, and orange juice. Let the sauce thicken up and sweeten up 6 to 7 minutes until the liquids are syrupy. Adjust the black pepper level to your taste.

Mix the chopped endive, shredded arugula and chopped radicchio together. Pile the chopped lettuces on the bun bottoms top with burgers and lots of onion barbecue sauce. Set bun tops in place and serve.

