

The Halon Herald

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

June 2009 Issue Volume
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Quick Look:
News You Can Use

FSSA Votes on White Paper

The Fire Suppression Systems Association (FSSA) recently issued a paper, with the joint help of HARC and Tom Cortina, president of HARC, to address the technical issues involved in the Waxman-Markey bill...

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Boeing Presents Necessary Steps for Transition From Halon

Engineers from Boeing presented details showing the complexity of converting from halon 1211 fire extinguishers to ones containing non-ozone depleting substances at the last meeting of the Halon Alternatives Research Corporation (HARC). Making a change like this in, say, your garage or car is fairly easy. All you need is a screw driver, a quiet Saturday morning and a nearby hardware store from which to purchase a new extinguisher.

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Editorial Corner

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

We've been seeing a lot of new news in the fire suppression world lately. With the proposed Waxman/Markey bill, it's easy to get "up in arms" and nervous about what that means for the industry...

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The Air Up There by John Demeter

We've come under a fair amount of criticism from some quarters lately for our comments concerning the future of HFC's in fire protection – primarily FM200. We are still trying to figure out why!

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Quick Look: Association Section

NAFED Elects New Officers

At the recent National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors meeting in Kansas City, MO, several new officers were elected as region directors.

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NAFED Kansas City Photos!

Wesco was lucky enough to be present at the recent NAFED show in Kansas City, MO. Check out some of our pictures!

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**Quick Look:
Upcoming Meetings**

A list of all the upcoming meetings and seminars for the remainder of 2009.

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**Quick Look:
Tech Tips**

Every month, direct from our warehouse, our two knowledgeable guys share a tip on the ins and outs of warehouse operations. Check out this month's tip!

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**Quick Look:
Recipe of the Month**

Umm, hello...hot dogs meets nachos? That equals love in this editor-in-chief's heart. I love nachos...I love hot dogs...add some guacamole and you've got my culinary version of Romeo and Juliet. Don't let the lengthy ingredients and prep list fool you - this meal is easier than it looks.

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News You Can Use

FSSA Issues White Paper on Climate Regulations

The Fire Suppression Systems Association (FSSA) recently issued a paper, with the joint help of HARC and Tom Cortina, president of HARC, to address the technical issues involved in the Waxman-Markey bill.

This paper can be viewed on [FSSA's website](#), and is a vital study for the government and the public of a technical standpoint in regards to the Waxman-Markey Bill.

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Boeing Presents Necessary Steps for Transition From Halon

Engineers from Boeing presented details showing the complexity of converting from halon 1211 fire extinguishers to ones containing non-ozone depleting substances at the last meeting of the Halon Alternatives Research Corporation (HARC). Making a change like this in, say, your garage or car is fairly easy. All you need is a screw driver, a quiet Saturday morning and a nearby hardware store from which to purchase a new extinguisher.

It's much different when you're trying to comply with a myriad of safety regulations and have the safety of the flying public at stake. In fact, it just may be rocket science. Check out the presentation on Wesco's website to learn more!

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Editorial Corner

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



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**Filling Stations on
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Phoenix, AZ!**

I'm not sure if the rest of the country is facing the same dreary weather that we are - one might get confused and think we live in Seattle, not NJ - but today we actually see the sunshine! Hooray!

We've been seeing a lot of new news in the fire suppression world lately. With the proposed Waxman/Makely bill, it's easy to get "up in arms" and nervous about what that means for the industry. It's difficult to interpret "government speak" - as, I am sure, the powers that be find it difficult to interpret our technical speak. Thankfully, we were able to "attend" DuPont's webinar on June 18, about [HFC Sustainability](#). Ken Blanchard and Dr. Mack McFarland did an excellent job of summarizing and explaining the bill, HFCs in general, its implications for the industry, and how you can discuss the bill and HFCS' future with your clients.



*Chrissy George &
daughter, Cassie*

We look forward to receiving and reviewing the webinar slides and question-and-answer transcript. It was perfectly lovely to attend a seminar without having to travel, stay in a hotel, eat bad hotel food, and overall reduce our carbon footprint! Kudos, DuPont!

Now more than ever, we need groups like HARC and FSSA to bring a technical and business aspect to proposals like Waxman-Markey. With the help of HARC and FSSA, and their very dedicated members, we can all be confident that the bill will eventually, concurrently benefit the government, the industry, and the environment, as well as business owners in the industry everywhere.

If you are not a member or involved in these organizations - as well as any industry organization - this is your perfect opportunity to join. Get involved and make a difference. The Waxman-Markey bill is a perfect example of how industry associations can - and will - have a HUGE impact on monumental decisions.

We here at the HH applaud our organizations for keeping our best interests in mind and helping bridge the gap between the government and the industry/technical view of things.

In closing - I'd like to say all of us here at Wesco - ok, let me be honest, myself and George McDonald are the only ones - both know how to catch a pop fly. And whoever emails me first to get that obscure sports team/recent game reference will be the proud recipient of a \$25 American Express gift card! [Email us your answers!](#)

The Air Up There: Kerfuffel, Konfusion, or Katastrophe? by John Demeter

We've come under a fair amount of criticism from some quarters lately for our comments concerning the future of HFC's in fire protection - primarily FM200. We are still trying to figure out why!

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Having read the Waxman Bill – or relevant parts of it – twice, two things are certain: one is that HFC’s (FM200 among them) will be subject to a production phased down (probably over decades); and, HFC’s will, on one form or another be taxed. We’ve reported on this and nothing more and would like to think that the Halon Herald has played a role in focusing the fire protection industry’s attention on the impact of this legislation and how to deal with questions arising in the field. The FSSA’s recently released report on current HFC legislation under consideration (reported elsewhere on these pages) takes a big step in the right direction.



So does DuPont’s Webinar on HFC Sustainability, which we attended earlier today. DuPont’s Ken Blanchard and Mac McFarland did a great job of explaining the potential impact of the Waxman bill.

Some in the industry think this is a pretty serious matter. Others have “shrugged” and suggested that we simply adjust to changing reality. We are not sure where this matter falls on the crisis chart. We’re inclined to think it is way short of the halon crisis of the early 1990’s . We are sure that the issue will require a sustained communication with the fire protection distributor in order to prevent a market shrinkage caused by market confusion. The actions taken this week by the FSSA and DuPont were a step in the right direction.

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Association Section

NAFED Elects New Officers

At the recent National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors meeting in Kansas City, MO, several new officers were elected as region directors. Below are the new appointees:

Region One Director: Diane Pein, Approved Fire Protection, South Plainfield, New Jersey

Region Four Director: Rod Getz, Getz Fire Equipment, Peoria, Illinois

Region Five Director: Larry Angle, M. Jacks Fire & Safety, San Antonio, Texas

Region Seven Director: Rob Ruch, Fire Chief Equipment, Redmond, Washington

Director-At-Large: Ed Hugill, Commercial Fire Inc., Jacksonville, Florida

Congratulations to all!

Recent NAFED Pictures

Check out our pictures from the recent NAFED show in Kansas City, MO!



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John Gioseffi, of Broward Fire, and John Demeter



John Demeter and Craig Volkert, of Amerex

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The Wesco Booth is ready for visitors!

New Literature from HARC Covers Changing Focus

The Halon Alternatives Research Corporation recently introduced several new pieces of literature that describe the group's intentions and goals. This literature is available for download on Wesco's website. HARC asks that any company who is an active member of HARC print and distribute the HARC literature at appropriate trade shows and also to any company who may benefit from it.

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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



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Chrissy George

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John Demeter
Steve Foulk

Contributors
George McDonald
Mark Buser

Special Thanks to Tamara

*Matthews of NAFED and
Bill Eckholm of Firetrace
for their assistance in this
issue.*

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)

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. 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.

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Tech Tips

Tech Tip by George McDonald & Mark Buser

This month's tech tip, presented by George and Mark in our warehouse, has to do with pressurizing a cylinder so that the gauge is in that all important "green area".

When pressurizing a newly repaired/refilled tank, one must remember to allow for "absorbtion". In absorbtion, the nitrogen in the tank will mix with the inside agent - whether it's halon, FM-200, or any other clean agent. If the tank is not shaken or vibrated after filling and repairing, the arrow on the gauge may slip back, leading one to believe there is a leak or under pressurization.

In this situation, it is likely that all is ok in reality, however, the misreading of the gauge will be cause for alarm, and cause issues in future gauge readings where there actually might be a real problem. So, the "shake & bake" and over compensating with the nitro addition ,is the way to go, to keep the arrow in the green!

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Recipe of the Month

Bobby Flay's Nacho Dogs

Umm, hello...hot dogs meets nachos? That equals love in this editor-in-chief's heart. I love nachos...I love hot dogs...add some guacamole and you've got my culinary version of Romeo and Juliet. Don't let the lengthy ingredients and prep list fool you - this meal is easier than it looks.

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

Ingredients

For the guacamole:

- * 2 ripe Hass avocados, peeled, pitted and coarsely chopped
- * 1 large jalapeno, finely diced
- * 3 tablespoons finely diced red onion
- * 1 lime, juiced
- * 2 tablespoons canola oil
- * 3 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro leaves
- * Salt
- * Freshly ground black pepper



For the grilled tomato-chipotle salsa:

- * 4 plum tomatoes
- * 4 tablespoons canola oil
- * Salt
- * Freshly ground black pepper
- * 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- * 2 teaspoons chipotle in adobo puree

For the hot dogs:

- * 8 kosher beef, turkey or chicken hot dogs
- * 8 hot dog buns, split 3/4 of the way through
- * 1 1/2 cups grated white Cheddar
- * 8 pickled jalapenos, thinly sliced
- * Fried blue corn tortilla chips, coarsely crumbled

For the guacamole:

Directions

Combine the avocados, jalapeno, onion, lime juice, oil and cilantro in a bowl and gently mix until combined. Season with salt and pepper.

For the grilled tomato-chipotle salsa:

Heat the grill to high. Brush tomatoes with 2 tablespoons of the canola oil and season with salt and pepper. Place on the grill until charred on all sides. Remove from the grill, slice the tomatoes in half, remove the seeds and coarsely chop. Whisk together the remaining 2 tablespoons of oil, vinegar and chipotle puree in a small bowl, add the tomatoes and stir to combine. Season with salt and pepper.

For the hot dogs:

Heat the grill to high. Grill dogs until golden brown on all sides, about 7 minutes. Remove to a plate. Place buns on the grill cut side down and grill until lightly golden brown, about 20 seconds. Place hot dogs in the buns, top with cheese, jalapeno, guacamole, salsa and tortilla chips.

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