

The Halon Herald

News from the halon & clean agent world

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What's Inside...

November 2006

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Meeting of Parties!

Certifications!

IASFPWG Update!

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Chrissy George, Editor-in-Chief

18th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

Last week in New Dehli, India, the 18th meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol took place. The meeting discussed the steady decline of methyl bromide and the critical use exemptions that is aiding in the ozone safe transition.

The critical use exemption program was developed to provide relief to those who are critical users of methyl bromide, while keeping track of consumption and forcing non-critical users to begin use of ozone friendly substitutes. Currently, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol ratify critical uses annually, and each year the EPA monitors and regulates what constitutes a critical user, and who can and cannot apply for methyl bromide use.

Methyl bromide alternatives are starting to be adopted, so usage has certainly scaled back in the U.S. In 2005, 9,553 tons were ratified for use, and in 2006, 8,062 tons were ratified. For 2007, 6,749 tons were requested, so usage is declining steadily. This is a perfect example of the Montreal Protocol working effectively to reduce ozone depleting substance consumption and providing opportunities for acceptable substitutes to be mainstreamed into everyday use.

Engine Nacelle Replacement:

IASFPWG

In last month's issue, we introduced you to a group called the International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Working Group (IASFPWG). The group examines many facets of fire protection with regards to aircraft, one of which being halon replacement in the engine/APU compartment.

In cooperation with the US Army, Navy, Airforce, FAA, and the aviation industry, a three-phase program was developed, entitled, "Halon Replacement for Aviation". The point of the program was initially to narrow down what chemicals were acceptable substitutes for halon replacement on a broad scale, then examine each of them more in depth to determine which ones were more specifically tailored to engine protection.

Phase one of the program developed by IASFPWG involved research into what factors are the most important in fire protection for the engine. After determining these factors, a large list was examined to find an acceptable substitute for halon that fits all the criteria necessary for the same type of protection halon offers. The chemicals that were decided on were CF31, HFC-125, and HFC-227ea.

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



All right, all right, I apologize.

I'm sure you all were waiting on the edge of your seats with baited breath for this month's issue of The Halon Herald. And here it's Dec. 7th already, and you're just receiving it.

Our excuse? Our internet has been down for the past week and a half, I have been twitching thusly as a result of being without said internet, and hence the newsletter was sitting in my outbox. Forgive me?

It's amazing how much we rely on technology nowadays. Don't get me wrong - I LOVE technology. It's made my life infinitely easier. In between yelling at Verizon, yelling at the router, yelling at the firewall, and yelling in general, I was able to laugh at how dependent we are on technology, on the internet, on email. It amazes me how far we've come as a society with things like the world wide web, halon recycling machines, and the George Forman Grill (which has quite possibly change my life).

However, despite all the technological advances, I am happy to say Wesco still remains somewhat grounded. Sure, we use email on a regular basis, and to save us the trial of walking 5 feet to each other's offices, we have Yahoo! Messenger. But we also still have a live human being to answer the phone and help out. EVERYONE at Wesco tries their best to know what's going on with everything - from accounting to recycling and back again. This way, when you call to buy, sell, or follow up, you'll get a live person on the phone right away, and if the person you're looking for isn't there, chances are SOMEONE will know what's going on.

Customer Service cannot suffer at the hands of technology, and Wesco is happy to say that we try our best to avoid that from happening. Sure, it'd be easier to have our phones go right to a recording. I don't mock any company who does that, not at all. It just doesn't work for us. We want you to get a live person on the line, right away, to help you out in any way possible. After all, YOU are what makes this

Upcoming Events

November 2006

			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		

- 1st - 3rd** - NAFED Executive Retreat, San Diego, CA (www.nafed.org)
- 7th** - Election Day
- 11th** - Veterans' Day
- 15th - 17th** - NFPA Mexico Fire & Safety Conference (www.nfpa.org)
- 23rd** - Gobble, gobble! Thanksgiving

Upcoming Events

December 2006

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 15th** - Happy Hanukkah!
- 22nd** - Winter Begins
- 25th** - Merry Christmas!
- 31st** - New Year's Eve

New Column!!

The Halon Herald is looking to feature several "war stories" of some of our readers' interesting experiences with halon or

Phase two of the program was to choose one of the above chemicals for further testing in phase 3. This decision was based on prior knowledge of each chemical, and evaluation of its similarities with halon. The chemical chosen was HFC-125.

The HFC-125 was put through rigorous testing which eventually provided equations necessary for engineers to develop a new aircraft engine nacelle protection system that incorporated HFC-125 in it.

Phase three was the technical nitty gritty phase. The HFC-125 was put through rigorous testing which eventually provided equations necessary for engineers to develop a new aircraft engine nacelle protection system that incorporated HFC-125 in it.

As of press time, HFC-125 was still being tested as a replacement. The IASFPWG made significant contributions to engine nacelle replacement in narrowing the field down and giving engineers the ability to turn their focus to a more specified direction.

company tick.

So rest assured, when you call Wesco you won't get one of those voice activated recordings - you'll get me. Or Joanna. Or Joan. Or sometimes even John. You'll get SOMEONE, on the line, ready to help you out, live and in person. Because YOU matter.

Certified Fire Specialist Program Becomes "Certified"

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has been administering a Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS) program, and is proud to announce the CFPS has been accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Personnel Certification Accreditation Committee. This is a huge step for anyone in the fire protection field, as now there is a certified standard to measure technicians against that is ANSI accredited.

"The ISO 17024 accreditation is an important milestone for CFPS and for the fire protection field of practice," states Dr. Robert S. Fleming, CFPS Board Chair. "Employers...can be confident that fire protection specialists holding the CFPS designation possess the necessary skills and experience to effectively implement fire protection policies and strategies."

The accreditation signifies that the CFPS position meets ANSI's requirements for openness, balance, consensus, and due process in accordance with the ISO 17024 standard. CFPS has to continually adhere to procedures set forth by ANSI. The certification is international and national.

"Employers...can be confident that fire protection specialists holding the CFPS designation possess the necessary skills and experience."
- Dr. Robert S. Fleming

As a result of the ANSI accreditation, the program gives professionals in and out of the field the confidence to trust any specialist with the certification. This is a huge step for the fire protection industry, and Wesco is proud to congratulate NFPA on such a feat!

Trivia Time!

Congratulations to last month's winners!

Doug Berry, Iron Mountain (who received extra credit for stumping the trivia gurus here at the HH!)
Bill Eckholm, Firetrace

This month, turn on your reading eyes. Somewhere in the HH there is a misspelled word. Can you find it and be the first (or second) to email us? Click [here](#) to send us the misspelled word! And, Hanukkah does not count - there are multiple spellings!

Good luck! The winners will receive a \$50 American Express gift card. And remember, if you have won the trivia contest in the last 3 months, you are not eligible to enter. Start reading!

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Got a story to tell? [Click here](#) to email us some facts - We'll feature you in an upcoming Halon Herald!

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