

The Halon Herald

News from the halon & clean agent world

Published by 

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

What's Inside...

November 2007

Vol. 4 Issue 2

State Organizations

The Air Up There -
J. Demeter

Recipe of the Month

Airbus Alternative Fuel

Boeing's New Training
Program

How NOT to Ship!

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

[Click here](#) to email us

Chrissy George, Editor-
in-Chief

Spotlight on State Organizations!

The Halon Herald is proud to announce a new monthly column: Spotlight on States! The National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors is a valuable nationwide organization, but not to be overlooked are the hard working statewide organizations in several states that work within the state for the fire equipment distributor. In the next following months, The Halon Herald will focus on each state organization and discuss their history, goals, objectives, members, and milestones. These organizations do not have any specific affiliation with NAFED.

As of press date, here is a list of the current state organizations we will focus on. All information was taken from a list compiled by NAFED - please contact us or NAFED if there are any errors or omissions:

California
CALSAFE
California Association of Licensed Services & Fire Equipment
Darryl Hefley, President
Headquarters of the President: Jorgensen Co.,
Fresno, CA

Florida
FFEDA
Florida Fire Equipment Dealers Association
Paul Sherwood, President
Headquarters of the President: Advanced Fire Protection Services, Fort Walton Beach, FL

Georgia
GAFSED
Georgia Association of Fire Safety Equipment Dealers
Chris Hendrix, President
Headquarters of the President: Hendrix Fire Protection, Statesboro, GA

Louisiana
LAFED
Louisiana Association of Fire Equipment Distributors
Nicky Prejean, President
Headquarters of the President: Southland Fire &

Chrissy's Corner

Randomness from the Editor-in-Chief



So I know I said October was one of my favorite months last month, but, really - NOVEMBER is a favorite of mine! For real, guys. Trust me. November means true fall weather, new cute sweaters in the stores, butternut squash soup, and 2 of my favorite holidays: Teacher's Convention, and Thanksgiving.

For those of you not familiar with Teacher's Convention (aka, everyone who doesn't live in NJ) it's a conerence held in Atlantic City, NJ every Thursday and Friday of Election Day week for teachers. Why does this excite me, you ask? Because it means days off from school for the teachers to go. And most of the teachers don't HAVE to go.

And my husband is a teacher. And, with being a teacher comes limited vacation time (either you have to go away on Spring Break or in the summer). This year, his district had off the ENTIRE week in November for Election Day AND the convention.

Of course we didn't go to the convention. We went somewhere way cooler: on a Mediterranean cruise to France and Italy. OOH LA LA.

While you're learning all this about my husband, Tom, you might as well also know that he teachers 6th grade social studies, and one of the main things he teaches about is the Roman Empire. The trip focuses on all the Roman ruins, so he was in his element. I thought, prior to leaving, "Ehh, this will be somewhat interesting but my level of

Upcoming Events

November 2007

				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	

- 4th - Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 6th - Election Day
- 7th - 9th - Mexico Fire & Safety Expo, Centro Banamex, Mexico, NFPA ([NFPA Mexico](#))
- 22nd - Thanksgiving

Upcoming Events

December 2007

						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					

- 2nd - 4th - [NFPA Remembering When 2007 Conference](#)
- 5th - Happy Hanukkah!!
- 6th - HARC/HRC Board Meeting
- 22nd - Winter Solstice
- 25th - Merry Christmas!
- 26th - Joyous Kwanzaa!
- 31st - New Year's Eve

Safety Equipment, Inc., Baton Rouge, LA

New Jersey
 NJAFED
 New Jersey Association of Fire Equipment Distributors
 James Newell, President
 Headquarters of the President: Allied Fire & Safety, Neptune, NJ

Oregon
 ORFED
 Oregon Fire Equipment Distributors
 Ed Wallace, President
 Headquarters of the President: United Fire, Health, & Safety Equipment Co., Portland, OR

Pennsylvania
 PAFED
 Pennsylvania Association of Fire Equipment Distributors
 Bryan Lawrence, President
 Headquarters of the President: Liberty Fire Solutions, Altoona, PA

Texas
 FEDOT
 Fire Equipment Distributors of Texas
 Jim Shelton, President
 Headquarters of the President: M. Jacks Fire & Safety, San Antonio, TX

Look for this new, interesting feature in next month's issue! Our first spotlight will be on CALSAFE!

The Air Up There:
 Homer Nods

by John Demeter



ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) is an impressive organization. Founded in 1944 and dedicated to "safe, secure and sustainable development of civil aviation through cooperation amongst its member States" ICAO normally involves itself in some pretty important and heady matters involving air transportation safety. You

excitement can't possibly reach Tom's."

Boy, was I WRONG. I was beyond fascinated, awed, and humbled not only by the Roman ruins, but by Vatican City, Florence, Nice, and Pompeii. Even thinking about the trip right now gives me chills. Later on in the newsletter, check out some of my pictures!

I became uber-tourist, taking over 500 pictures over the course of a week ("Stand over here!! Wait, no, pretend you're holding up the Leaning Tower!") and coming back to the ship every day with an air of pure and utter amazement over seeing what I did. I got choked up several times in St. Peter's Basilica. I raved over seeing Galileo's (THE Galileo!!) grave in Florence. I was amazed at the ingenuity of the people in Pompeii and their 2000 yr old technology.

But most of all, it made me appreciate our world. Walking in the Colosseum, I threw away all my school frustrations, work frustrations (we have no frustrations at Wesco, though ;-)) bill paying stress, everything and just basked in the glow that history provided for me, for us, for everyone. I would even go so far as to say it was a cathartic trip, because it made me stop and look around and really appreciate. And just "be".

And if this is too warm and fuzzy for you - we also got to drink limoncella, some damn good red wine, and some even better Napoli pizza.

At this year's Thanksgiving dinner, I have a lot to be thankful for - a wonderful, smart husband, a fabulous family, a warm house, a great work family, excelling in my Master's program...

And the opportunity to appreciate the world and its history, because I truly think it really did make me a better person to see what I saw.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone, from the Wesco family to yours!

Thanks for reading,

Shipping Dos and Don'ts

can read the preamble to the Convention on International Civil Aviation [here](#) and ICAO's strategic objectives [here](#). A recent speech by its president, Roberto Kobeh Gonzalez, touched on the following subjects: the rapid annual growth rate of air travel passengers (4.6%), anti-terrorism measures, global air traffic management systems, avian influenza pandemic plans, reducing nitrogen oxide emissions, jet engine efficiency and noise reduction. A worthy agenda, we believe.

We travel often, as do many of our colleagues, friends and associates, and are predisposed to liking organizations who keep us safe up there at 35,000 feet. ICAO is an organization that is easy to like. It is staffed by talented and experienced members of the aviation community. Its last three presidents (a lawyer, a mathematician and a mathematician/engineer) spent entire careers in the field. President Gonzalez, ICAO's fourth president since its founding, holds engineering degrees in Communications and Electronics and too, has spent a career serving the aviation community. ICAO's list of publications, workshops and training is equally impressive.

That's why we were surprised to learn that at the recent 36th General Assembly meeting of ICAO in Montreal this August group – faced with an agenda that covered a mind numbing 62 different issues and hundreds of working papers over 11 days – (you can see the agenda [here](#)) took time to both detract from aviation safety and harm the environment at the same time. Even Homer nods.

Resolution 30/2 which recognizes the environmental community's concern "with the lack of substantive progress in aviation" in their conversion away from halons, urges steps be taken to mandate that airlines and aircraft manufacturers begin eliminating halons from their planes. While it takes a tippy-toe approach – easy replacement now, harder ones later, it nonetheless puts commercial aviation on the path to halon-free planes long before the world runs out of halon and probably before the industry is prepared to make the switch in a safe manner. (Remember, at its current rate of use commercial aviation has well over a 100 year supply of halon remaining in the world. (We addressed this in June. You can read it [here](#)).

We realize that most organizations involved in this subject have their own agendas. For the most part it is an "anti halon" agenda to which we don't subscribe – mostly on environmental and safety grounds! We would have thought, however, that ICAO would have asked a few more questions before they said "aye" to this environmentally unsound, technologically suspect but oh so politically correct proposal.

This article was run in a 2005 issue. While it is 2 years old, we thought it was valuable to publish again!

Packing old, (sometimes rusted, sometimes high pressure and almost ALWAYS different sizes) halon cylinders for shipment is probably not something that you or your shop employees do on a regular basis. Doing this incorrectly, however, can result in danger to you, your employees or the motor carrier, so we thought it was time for a refresher course.

First, some "NEVERS!!!":

- NEVER ship a charged halon (or FM200) cylinder with ANY actuating devices in place!!
- NEVER ship a charged halon cylinder if it is missing a shipping plug or cap!!
- NEVER "skid" a cylinder with its valve hanging over the edge.

Now for some "Do's":

- Pack your cylinders on pallets or skids with metal or plastic straps. This ensures that the cylinder will not fall over easily in the truck. A pallet/skid stabilizes each cylinder or set of cylinders. Most carriers require all cylinders to be packed on skids to be shipped.
- All discharge ports should be capped or plugged and any activation pins covered. If cylinder has an explosive or gas cartridge actuator (squib) this MUST be removed prior to shipment.
- Create shipping labels with a "To" and a "From" for each cylinder, just in case the shipment gets separated. Affix each of the shipping address labels to each cylinder/skid.
- Affix one 4"x 4" green "Non-Flammable Gas" label above each shipping label (these labels have the UN number on them).
- Make sure you have an MSDS detailing the information on the shipment. An MSDS is a Materials Safety and Data Sheet, which outlines the hazardous substance and its effects. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) requires a "hazmat emergency number" answered 24/7 in case the product discharges.
- Create a Bill of Lading for each shipment. The Bill of Lading is required for every shipment. It lists the shipper, consignee, who the shipment is getting billed to, and the specifications on the shipment. Make 2 copies of the Bill of Lading. At time of pickup, driver will sign one copy of Bill of Lading which you will keep. Driver will take second copy of Bill of Lading and a copy of the Material Safety Data Sheet.

One of the benefits from buying and selling with Wesco is that we do all the paperwork for you! We will prepare all the paperwork and make all freight arrangements, so you don't have to! We are in constant contact with several freight companies on a daily basis.

Airbus Fuel Alternative Group

At the Dubai Airshow on November 13, Qatar Petroleum, Qatar Fuel Company, Airbus, Rolls Royce plc, Shell International Petroleum Company Ltd., and the Qatar Science and Technology Park signed an agreement to research and study the potential benefits of synthetic jet fuel in their aviation engines. Gas to liquid (GTL) synthetic jet fuels have benefits that could be an economical reduction in CO2 emissions, enhanced payload range, reduced fuel burn, and increased engine durability.

GTLs are being developed for international standards for aviation use under the auspices of the industry wide Commercial Alternative Aviation Fuels Initiative - Airbus, Shell, and Rolls Royce are all members. The synthetic fuels are to be mixed with kerosene to enhance engine performance. While these will not be fully synthetic, they will enable proper research of the possibility of 100% synthetic fuels.

"Airbus is committed to becoming an eco-efficient enterprise, growing and adding value with less and less impact on the environment," says Christian Scherer, Executive Vice President, Strategy and Future Programmes, Airbus. "No one industry has all the answers, and as companies pool together in a united front to research options for alternative fuels, we are delighted to co-operate with Qatar, Rolls-Royce and Shell. We are engaging in a project aimed at understanding the potential of GTL Kerosene Fuel to power aircraft. For Airbus, co-operation remains key to finding technology driven solutions that address global and local environmental challenges facing us."

For more information on this, please visit [Airbus' Press Release](#).

Trivia Time!

Congratulations to our winners of last month's trivia!

Dave Catchpole, BP Alaska
Judith Robertson, Argus, Ltd.

This month's trivia is all about the tummy warming breakfast meal of oatmeal. Good luck!

- During what war, when the country's wheat supply was being sent overseas, did the president advocate eating oatmeal?
- Name any one of the 10 top cities for per capita oatmeal consumption.

Just answer the two questions below correctly and [click here](#) to email us. As long as you are one of the first two people with the correct answers to

If you have any questions about the safety and security of a shipment, please call our warehouse manager, George McDonald, prior to pick up by the carrier!

Boeing Introduces New Training

Boeing has successfully conducted its very first Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) training program. This landmark program opens the door for future virtual training, in areas such as the military, even. The technology that enabled this significantly decreases the live needs for a training program, thus creating a much more cost effective training environment while still maintaining full comprehensive training.

An F-15E aircraft was networked live along with an F-15E virtual simulator. Computer generated threats were integrated into the live and the virtual F-15Es. During the demonstration, technicians connected the live F-15E to a facsimile of the Distributed Mission Operations Network, which allows pilots to train together around the globe. The live aircraft and the manned F-15E simulator, operating as a wingman, targeted and destroyed the simulated threats that appeared on their respective radar displays.

"Today's event marked a huge leap in demonstrating Boeing's state-of-the-art technology that supports the U.S. Department of Defense vision of LVC training capabilities," said Tony Jones, Boeing vice president, Training Systems & Services. "To be able to link a real aircraft with a simulator and train is amazing. Most people just talk about this capability, but Boeing is delivering it."

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

L'Italia Bella

Some Pictures from Chrissy's recent trip to Italy!

email us, you win! Please note, you must get both answers right to win, and anyone who has won the contest in the last 3 months is ineligible this time! Good luck!

Save the Date!

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

HARC/HRC

December 6, 2007, San Francisco

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



Nice, France (pronounced, Neee-s)



The Monte Carlo Casino in Monaco



Florence



Galileo's tomb in Florence



The Colosseum, in Rome.



St. Peter's Basilica - St. Peter is buried RIGHT under that altar!



Pompeii



Mmmm, pizza in Sorrento

