



Editor Fusible Link:  
Brad Hart &  
Ana Crisostomo  
Tel: 646-572-3920  
Fax: 646-871-3920

# Society of Fire Protection Engineers

New Jersey Chapter

## FUSIBLE LINK

SEPTEMBER 2009

### Chapter Officers

#### President

Rich Reitberger - 973-541-6776  
Richard.reitberger@affiliatedfm.com

#### First V.P.

John Cholin - 201-337-8621  
jmc@jmcholinconsultants.com

#### Second V.P.

Ed Armm - 212-695-6670  
earmm@rjagroup.com

#### Past President

Dave Gluckman - 973-410-4635  
Gluckman\_da@willis.com

#### Treasurer

Bob Murray - 908-755-5001  
rmurray@acefirepros.com

#### Asst. Treasurer

Richard Ravaoli - 908-272-0066  
rravsf@verizon.net

#### Secretary

Joe Janiga—973-541-6774  
Joseph.janiga@fmglobal.com

#### Asst. Secretary

Brad Hart - 646-572-3920  
bhart@lockton.com

#### Director

Dave Kurasz—866-226-6006  
kurasz@nfsa.org

#### Director

Glenn Buser - 201-891-1405  
gbuser@gbrisk.com

#### Director

John Warnet - 212-915-6486  
John.warnet@xlgroup.com

#### Director

Jerry Naylis - 201-384-2059  
jerryaylis@aol.com

#### Special Executive Assistant to The Board

Vicki Serafin  
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

## President's Message...

Another summer is coming to an end which means it's time to be thinking about automatic sprinklers, fire alarms and all the interesting Fire Engineering stuff in between. I want to thank Immediate Past President Dave Gluckman for his leadership this past two years and for his dedication to the Chapter. Additionally I want to thank all the officers, directors and committee members for their continued hard work and enthusiasm which helps keeps the Chapter relevant and valuable to all the professionals in our field. Your Board of Directors have put together a great program this year which is both interesting and timely. We look forward to seeing all of you at the monthly meetings, a planned October bus ride (destination being finalized by NJSFPE Tours) and a possible joint technical seminar in the Spring 2010. Enjoy the rest of the summer and see you all in September !

Rich Reitberger  
NJSFPE Chapter President



U.S. CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD

An independent federal agency investigating chemical accidents to protect workers, the public, and the environment.

## CSB Releases Safety Video on Need for Chemical Emergency Preparedness, Based on Findings from a Decade of CSB Accident Investigations

Washington, DC, June 11, 2009 – The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) today released a [new safety video](#) showing the need for emergency response agencies, companies, and communities to work closely together to prepare for the kinds of tragic chemical accidents the CSB has investigated over the past decade.

The new video, entitled “Emergency Preparedness: Findings from CSB Accident Investigations,” uses computer animations, interviews, and news footage to depict a series of chemical accidents that illustrate the need for effective training, communications, and community planning. In some incidents, firefighters and police were overcome by toxic chemicals and forced to retreat from neighborhoods; in others, firefighters and workers were tragically killed and others injured.

The video is available online at [www.CSB.gov](http://www.CSB.gov), [www.safetyvideos.gov](http://www.safetyvideos.gov), and YouTube. It can be ordered on a new two-DVD set of all CSB safety videos by filling out the request form at [www.CSB.gov](http://www.CSB.gov).

In the video, CSB Chairman John Bresland notes, “Preparations by companies, emergency responders, government authorities, and the public are critical to reducing injuries and saving lives. It’s not only important to be prepared, but everyone must communicate, have an up-to-date plan in place and practice that plan regularly. We hope that our findings will help keep communities safe.”

In addition to comments by CSB investigators and board members, the video features observations by fire chiefs, a state fire marshal, and an expert on emergency preparedness and local emergency planning.

Danvers, Massachusetts, Fire Chief James P. Tutko, who led the effort to battle a massive fire and explosion at an ink plant in 2006, and oversaw the community evacuation, said he recommends “Emergency Preparedness” as well as other CSB safety videos. “I

can recommend CSB safety videos for their content and accuracy. They can be used for all aspects of emergency response training,” Chief Tutko said, adding, “Don’t wait for an accident in



your jurisdiction to learn about the CSB’s findings.”

The video begins with an animation of a boiling liquid expansion vapor explosion, or BLEVE, in a large propane tank that killed two firefighters and injured seven others in a 1998 accident in Albert City, Iowa. The firefighters had not received accurate training or guidance on BLEVE hazards and approached within 100 feet of the burning tank when it suddenly blew apart.

“The Herrig Brothers farm explosion animation provides a tragic but important starting point for the video,” said Board Member William Wark. “Every day firefighters face challenges like these and sadly, sometimes lose their lives. We hope the video will make the case that training and communication are critical so that responders can do their jobs without death or injury.”

Another propane explosion seen in the video – which destroyed a convenience store and killed two propane service technicians, a volunteer fire captain, and an EMT in Ghent, West Virginia – shows the need for training to rapidly evacuate such danger zones. West Virginia State Fire Marshal Sterling Lewis states in the video, “We take a vow to protect life and property. Life comes first.” Commenting on the video’s central theme, Fire Marshal Lewis said, “We must train until it becomes second nature. We must educate ourselves and the public to the

point we can help each other.”

Apex, North Carolina, Fire Chief Mark Haraway, whose department is depicted in the video as battling a “worst case scenario” due to a lack of information from a hazardous waste facility that caught fire in 2006, said, “I recommend this and other CSB safety videos for the training opportunities they provide.”

Other accidents highlighted in “Emergency Preparedness” include an allyl alcohol toxic chemical release in Dalton, Georgia; chlorine releases in Festus, Missouri, and Glendale, Arizona; a reactive chemical explosion in Jacksonville, Florida; and a recent reactive chemical explosion and community evacuation in Institute, West Virginia.

Timothy Gablehouse, a preparedness expert who appears in the video as president of the National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) and a member of the Colorado Emergency Planning Commission, said, “The CSB has done us all a great favor by compiling many of their investigation findings into a crisp and clear lessons learned message – a great reminder for us all.”

The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial chemical accidents. The agency’s board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry standards, and safety management systems.

The Board does not issue citations or fines but does make safety recommendations to plants, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. Visit our website, [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov).

For more information, contact Director of Public Affairs Dr. Daniel Horowitz, 202-261-7613, cell 202-441-6074.



U.S. CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD

*An independent federal agency investigating chemical accidents to protect workers, the public, and the environment.*

## CSB Releases New Safety Video, “Combustible Dust: An Insidious Hazard”

### Features Three New Animations of Major Dust Accidents, Shows Need for Comprehensive Standard and Improved Safety Practices

Washington, DC, July 28, 2009 – The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) today released a new [safety video](#) depicting how accumulations of combustible dust at worksites can provide the fuel for devastating explosions that kill and maim workers, shut down plants, and harm local economies.

Entitled, “Combustible Dust: An Insidious Hazard,” the new video is available online at [www.CSB.gov](http://www.CSB.gov), and on [YouTube](#). It can also be ordered free of charge on a new two-DVD set of all CSB safety videos by filling out the CSB’s online [DVD request form](#).



“Combustible Dust” features all-new CSB computer animations which illustrate three major dust explosion accidents the CSB has investigated: [West Pharmaceutical Services](#) in Kinston, North Carolina; [CTA Acoustics](#) in Corbin, Kentucky; and [Hayes Lemmerz International](#), in Huntington, Indiana.

For each accident, the animations show how explosive dust accumulated over years on plant equipment, pipes, floors, ducts, dust collectors, and other areas. The video shows how conditions develop needing only an ignition source to set off a primary explosion, which lofts the accumulated dust, leading to deadlier secondary explosions.

News footage and still photographs depict actual damage caused by these explosions, as well as other accidents including last year’s tragedy which killed 14 workers at the [Imperial Sugar Company](#) in Port Wentworth, Georgia.

“No company wants to see its facility blown up and destroyed and its employees killed,” CSB Chairman John Bresland says in the video. “But they just don’t understand what the hazard is, they don’t realize that they have a hazard here, until that one day when the explosion occurs, and it’s a terrible tragedy for them. And they look back and say, ‘If we’d only known.’”

The video points out that dust accumulations – and the resulting secondary dust explosions – can be readily prevented. National Fire Protection Association standards have long been available to general industry and, if followed, will prevent such accidents, as NFPA official Amy Beasley Spencer states in the video.

The video features comments by the CSB investigators who led each of the accident investigations, as well as Angela Blair, who led the CSB study resulting in a comprehensive CSB report on dust hazards in 2006. The report identified 281 fires and explosions that had occurred over the previous 25 years. “What is so frustrating about dust explosions is that they’re so preventable,” Ms. Blair said.

Combustible-dust expert James Dahn appears in the video to warn companies against complacency: “I mean we’ve been operating for 40 years and never had a problem,” Mr. Dahn states. “That kind of logic is one that can guarantee you will get into trouble.”

Laboratory footage in the video depicts how easily combustible dust ignites, as a small dust sample gathered by investigators in the rubble of a dust explosion site is lofted over a flame and creates an instant fireball.

Chairman Bresland said the CSB hopes the video will be viewed across general industry – in all facilities where combustible dust may be generated in the manufacturing process. “It is our hope,” the chairman said, “that company executives, safety managers, and labor groups will take 29 minutes to view this video and ask themselves, ‘Could this happen at our operation?’ And then take action to eliminate dust hazards from their facilities.”





**RENEWAL APPLICATION & 2009 - 2010 DUES NOTICE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address\*:** \_\_\_\_\_

- **PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS EVEN IF WE HAVE IT ALREADY SO WE MAY UPDATE OUR RECORDS. THIS WILL ENABLE US TO PROVIDE YOU WITH IMPORTANT AND TIMELY NOTICES SUCH AS MEETING CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER.**
- **Hurricanes are not considered inclemency's of the season here! Just normal circumstance that is not insured against in a normal homeowner's policy.**

\*\*\*\*\*

1. Are you a current member of the International SFPE?  
If not, would you like a membership application?
2. Are you interested in NJ Chapter Committee Participation?

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE REMIT BY - **ASAP**

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO - **"NJ CHAPTER SFPE"**

MAIL YOUR CHECK TODAY WITH THIS APPLICATION TO:

Vicki Lynn Serafin  
C/O NJ Chapter SFPE  
P.O. Box 8268  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196

**Dues - 2009-2010:** \$20.00 **E-mail copies** of Fusible Link and Meeting Notices  
**\$ 0.00 Retired member**

Email: vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

*Thank you for your continued support!*

Vicki Serafin  
Affiliated FM  
400 Interpace Parkway, Bldg C  
3rd Floor  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196  
Phone: (973) 541-6771  
Fax: (973) 541-6909

## MEETING NOTICE

**Date:** September 14, 2009

**Place:** Hanover Manor  
16 Eagle Rock Avenue  
East Hanover, NJ

**Price:** \$26.00

**Dinner:** 5:00-6:00 (Cash bar for mixed drinks)  
Dinner at 6 PM

**Topic:** Video Fire Detection Update—Andy Lynch of axonX LLC

**Please note for this meeting:**

All officers, directors and committee chairman are requested to attend a meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the Hanover Manor.

---

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "SFPE NJ CHAPTER" TO:

Vicki Serafin  
Affiliated FM  
400 Interpace Parkway, Bldg C - 3rd Floor  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1196  
vicki.serafin@affiliatedfm.com

OR PAY AT THE DOOR

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

## Meeting Dates/Programs 2009-2010

DATE	TOPIC
September 14	Video Fire Detection Update—Andy Lynch, axonX LLC
October 5	Viking Yacht Manufacturing Plant Field Trip—to be confirmed
November 2	IBC Fire Code Changes—Gary Lewis, City of Summit
December 7	MIC (Microbiological Corrosion) Update—Pete Carey, Potter Electric Signal Co.
January 4	Fire Pump Update—Bill Casey
February 1	Earthquake - Construction and Mitigation Analysis—EQ CAT
March 1	LSHV Fan Update
April 23	Annual Technical Seminar (possibly joint with AFAA)
May 3	Pop up Curbs—Flammable Liquids
June 14	FM Global Standards Update
June 21	Golf Outing—West Point

 **Associated Consulting Engineers, P.C.**  
A Professional Corporation

Robert E. Murray, P.E.  
President

214 Clarke Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07089  
(908) 755-5001 Fax (908) 755-5007 Email rmurray@acefirepros.com  
Fire Protection / Life Safety Systems / Security / Code Consulting.

 **JMCC**

John M. Cholin P.E., FSFPE, M.E.E.

**J.M. Cholin Consultants, Inc.**  
Fire Protection Engineering and Consulting Services  
101 Roosevelt Drive, Oakland NJ 07436 USA  
Telephone: 201-337-8621 • Fax: 201-337-5603  
jmc@jmcholinconsultants.com • www.jmcholinconsultants.com

**SURVIVOR**  
**FIRE & SECURITY SYSTEMS**  
SERVICE • DESIGN • INSTALLATION

**RICHARD RAVAIOLI - SALES MANAGER**

39A Myrtle Street • Cranford, NJ 07016-3456  
Tel. (908) 272-0066 • Fax (908) 272-8144



 **GB RISK CONSULTING**

Glenn D. Buser, P.E.  
201-891-1405  
201-450-7559 (Cell)

**GB Risk Consulting, LLC**  
155 Moramarco Court  
Mahwah, NJ 07430  
Email: gbuser@gbrisk.com



## 2008-2009 CHAPTER COMMITTEES

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Program  
Ed Armm, Chairman  
Consulting - Peter Rullo  
Richard Ravaoli  
Arrangements  
Vicki Serafin, Chairperson

Membership  
John Cholin, Chairman

Nominating  
Dave Gluckman, Chairman  
Glenn Dietz  
Chuck Gandy

Scholarship Fund  
Chuck Gandy, Chairman  
Ed Armm  
Mike Machette  
Alternates: Rich Reitberger, Jim Tolos

Auditing  
Joe Janiga, Chairman  
John Warnet

Archivist  
Rich Reitberger, Chairman  
Nicole Smith

Historian  
Jim Tolos

Communications  
Fusible Link—Brad Hart  
Ana Crisostomo—Coordinator  
Mailing/Automation/e-mail—Vicki Serafin, Chairperson  
Website—Joe Janiga  
Facebook & Twitter Coordinator—Todd Vazquez

### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Bylaws  
Jim Tolos, Chairman  
Joe Janiga - Co-Chairman

Career Recruitment  
Al Dopart, Chairman  
Glenn Deitz  
Dave Gluckman  
Glen Buser

Golf Outing  
Richard Reitberger, Chairman  
Joe Janiga

Awards  
Rich Reitberger, Chairman

PE Examination  
John Cholin, Chairman  
Joe Janiga  
Mike Newman  
Chuck Gandy

Chapter Seminar/Field Trip  
Richard Reitberger, Chairman  
Dave Gluckman  
Joe Janiga

Legislative  
Rich Reitberger, Chairman  
Vinnie Fichera  
Jerry Naylis  
Dave Kurasz

Finance  
Rich Reitberger - Chairman  
John Cholin

### HELPFUL LINKS

**ADAAG** <http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/about/index.htm>

**AFAA National** <http://www.affaa.org/>

**AFAA** <http://www.affaa.org/>

**ANSI** <http://web.ansi.org/>

**ASHRAE** <http://www.ashrae.org/>

**Campus-Firewatch** <http://www.campus-firewatch.com/>

**Coffee Break Training** <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/>

**CPSC** <http://www.cpsc.gov/>

**CSSA** <http://www.csaaul.org/>

**Municipal Codes (E Codes)** <http://www.generalcode.com/Webcode2.html>

**FDNY** <http://nyc.gov/html/fdny/html/home2.shtml>

**FM Global** <http://www.fmglobal.com/>

**FSDANY** <http://www.fsdany.org/regs.htm>

**FSI** <http://www.firesprinklerinitiative.org/>

**FSSA** <http://www.fssa.net/>

**Fire Tech Productions—Nicet Training (FTP)** <http://www.firetech.com/>

**Home Fire Spklr Coalition** <http://www.homefiresprinkler.org/>

**HVAC Bld. Control Fire Safety** <http://www.iklimnet.com/hotelfires/hotelfiresmain.html>