

SAFE News

Dedicated to Ensuring Personal Safety and Protection in Land, Sea, Air, and Space Environments

SAFE Association – Our 66th Year

Volume 26

Number 3

Summer 2023

President's Message

By Kevin "Dumpster" Divers, 2023 President

It is hard to think it has already been seven months that I have had the honor of serving as the SAFE President and that there are only four months remaining until Nicole Stefanoni takes the helm. Our Board has been working diligently to provide an easy transition for her Board in 2023 - 2024. But, that easy transition is looking to be one that has a lot of momentum behind it to reinvigorate the SAFE Association for the decades ahead!

The work that John Plaga has done as Chapters Committee Chair with our always outstanding Administrator Stacy Stuber has been excellent in standing up the membership dues sharing and pairing of members to our Chapters. We hope this helps build stronger Chapters and more networking amongst our members that enhance the knowledge base of our members.

Emma Sutcliffe has been tirelessly working on making this Virginia Beach Symposium in October another advance on the quality and impact of our symposia coming out of the pandemic. The city is ready to host our members and we hope you find the time to join us and see what great things we are doing in both the exhibit hall and the meeting spaces to include solid presentations.

We are seeing more of the membership step up and volunteer and you will soon or have maybe even voted by now for our elected positions. It is this volunteer service that allows the Association to be a representation of our membership and we encourage all

members to find a way to provide some time either as a member of the elected Board, a member of the appointed Committees, and even taking the time to share how you think we could improve what SAFE is.

As for what SAFE is, and as the pendulum swings in all organizations, we are looking at what SAFE is. From a start in 1956 as the Space and Flight Equipment Association to the Survival and Flight Equipment Association in 1969 and our change to simply the SAFE Association in 1976 is it time to make sure we are covering our base by altering the name again? Is it working on providing a more detailed and professional development Fellows program? Board Certification to help industry recognize SAFE members for their expertise? These items are what we are tackling while looking to see that we are covering Air, Land, Sea, and Space applications to ensure personal safety and protection in those environments. How do we define the SAFE acronym in the next decade or so? That is being developed and reviewed by our Strategic Planning Committee led by Edgar "Ted" Poe with our 11-year plan...why not 10 years? Simply because this one goes to eleven as we only want you all to have the very best in our Association!

I did put myself in a corner when naming names as I hate to leave someone feeling left out. Know that your Board has work hard to keep things not only moving but accelerating and I could not have asked for a better team! Plus, Joe Spinosa assures me that he did not retire recently due to any connection of what I have put him and Al Loving through as my

(Continued on page 2)



<https://www.facebook.com/SAFEAssociationUSA>

SAFE 5K RUNNER 2023

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH

Start Time: Walkers 6:45 AM • Runners 7:00 AM

COME JOIN US FOR A SUNRISE 5K WALK/RUN ON THE VIRGINIA BEACH BOARDWALK



OPEN TO ALL SAFE SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEES, FRIENDS AND FAMILY

LOCATION:

24th Street Park, Virginia Beach, VA

AWARDS RECEPTION:

Awards for top finishers and much more! Race shirt and reception for all participants.

DAY OF EVENT SCHEDULE

06:00 – 6:30 am Warm up
06:45: Start for Walkers
07:00: Start for Runners
07:45: Awards and reception

Check the SAFE Association website for updated details: www.safeassociation.com

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS:

Opens 10 July 2023 - Check the SAFE website for more details.

****Pre-registration recommended to receive a race shirt in your size****

ONSITE REGISTRATION and PACKET PICKUP:

Due to the early start on race day, onsite registration and packet pickup will only be on Tuesday, 10 October, from 10:00 - 16:00 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

TO BE A VOLUNTEER OR SPONSOR,

Please contact: Marcia Baldwin at:
mkbaldwin@coresurvival.com

"President's Message" Continued

Executive Advisors. So I would like to say that we are in a great place due to each and every one of our Elected Board Members and Appointed Board Members with the Chapters growing and becoming even more active! I applaud all of these folks for our success.

So, as these next four months will probably fly by, I hope you not only see some differences and improvements in operations, but you are also able to feel the progress and energy made by the efforts of our SAFE Board and Committees. Let me know when we see one another

at the 61st Annual Symposium in Virginia Beach, Virginia on October 10 - 12, plan to stay for the week to get the most out of our ancillary meetings and activities and to enjoy Virginia Beach and the camaraderie of the SAFE Association.

SAFE Symposium News - June '23

Join us in Virginia Beach at the Virginia Beach Convention Center from 10th- 12th October.

Registration for exhibitors, attendees and sponsorship opportunities are open for business!

Please follow the link to the Eventbrite page where you can buy all your tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/safe-symposium-2023-tickets-597653075437>

**WE ALSO WANT TO SAY A HUGE THANK YOU
TO OUR SPONSORS SO FAR!**

DIAMOND SPONSORS



PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



There are still Gold and Silver Sponsorship packages available, so please do check out the SAFE Association website for more information.

Emma Sutcliffe - SAFE Symposium Chair

SAFE Association Benefits!

INDIVIDUALS

- Quarterly SAFE Newsletter
- Proceedings from the SAFE
- Annual Symposium
- All Symposium-related Mailings
- Reduced Symposium registration cost.
- Access to members only area of the SAFE Association website
- Voting privileges for your SAFE Board of Directors
- Submission information for our Annual Awards Program

CORPORATE MEMBERS

- Quarterly SAFE Newsletter
- Proceedings from the SAFE Annual Symposium
- All Symposium-related mailings
- Reduced Symposium registration cost.
- Access to members only area of the SAFE Association website
- Voting privileges for the SAFE Board of Directors
- Submission information for our Annual Awards Program
- Corporate listing and description of products and services on SAFE Association website with link to company website.
- Reduced registration and exhibit space fees for the SAFE Annual Symposium
- Free use of the SAFE Newsletter to deliver news releases - such as personnel changes, new products, new office locations, and contact information
- Corporate Membership includes a Primary and Secondary Corporate Representative

SAFE Association 2023 Election of Officers

By Ebbby Bryce

The 2023 SAFE Association election of officers is approaching.

VOTING OPENS AUGUST 1 AND ENDS SEPTEMBER 1. PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE!

Elections are held annually, and only members in good standing are entitled to vote in the election of officers. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of those voting members.

Members will be notified of the pending vote by email (or U.S. mail only if the member does not have an email address). Email notification will be sent from announcement@associationvoting.com. This is a valid email and not SPAM so please do not delete. All eligible voting members must provide SAFE with a valid email address (or mailing address if no email address). In addition, notice of the election will also be posted to the SAFE Association website. The website posting is strictly a notice of an upcoming vote.

The notification email will contain a link or web address and a unique password for electronic voting. The eligible voters will go to the voting site, log in, and vote.

If a mail-in ballot is being used (due to the member not having an email address) it shall be included with the US mail notification. All paper ballots must be mailed back as directed in the mailed notification.

The service provider contracted to manage and accomplish the election process will collect and validate votes, tabulate results, and report those

results to the SAFE Certified Public Accountant in writing.

The integrity of the vote is paramount.

If a vote has not been returned at the stated election deadline, it is assumed the non-responding member has forfeited their vote.

In the event of a tie vote, the office in question shall be decided by a majority vote of the sitting Board of Directors. The only exception to this, is any Board member running for the office of the tied vote is ineligible to vote.

APPOINTED BOARD POSITIONS

Any SAFE members who have interest in serving in an appointed board position please contact the SAFE Administrator, Stacy Stuber at admin@safesassociation.com, a current SAFE Board member, or one of the following Nominations Committee members:

Ebbby Bryce, Chairperson, ebryce@ced.us.com (757) 927-2461

Jerry Reid, Committee Member, jerry.reid@skytexas.com (469) 355-6145

Edgar "Ted" Poe, Committee Member, edgar.poe@tedgarconsult.com (808) 594-9245

The Nominations Committee thanks you in advance...

REMEMBER TO VOTE

Welcome

NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Laura Diese
Bernardsville, NJ

Richard Barroso, II
Oxnard, CA

Shawn McClesky
Chatsworth, CA

Christine Hussey
Langhorne, PA

NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

Propel
Pawtucket, RI

Elbit America
Fort Worth, TX

Cooneen Aviation
Fivemiletown, United Kingdom

SAFE Secretary's Report

By Brian Bradke

We are delighted to bring you the latest update from the SAFE Association as we continue to make significant strides in advancing our mission to promote safety and excellence in the industry. In this summer newsletter, we will share the highlights and outcomes of our recent Board meeting, as well as important updates from various committees.

The quarterly Board meeting, held on May 9th in Virginia Beach, VA, and chaired by our dedicated President, Kevin Divers, proved to be an invaluable platform for discussing the association's business and strategies. These meetings bring together a dynamic team of industry and government members, serving as the key to developing future plans for the SAFE Association.

During the meeting, we accomplished several important tasks, starting with the approval of the minutes from the previous Board meeting held on February 8, 2023. We would like to express our gratitude to Joe Spinosa, Al Loving, and all the Board members for their unanimous approval of the minutes. Additionally, the Monthly P&L Statements were approved, ensuring transparency and accountability in our financial management.

Another significant decision made during the meeting was the vote for Science and Technology Co-Chairs. Dr. Peter Le and Dr. Ashton Rush were both appointed to this important position. We extend our congratulations to them and look forward to their valuable contributions.

Furthermore, we are actively working on expanding our organization

by adding local chapters. We are pleased to announce the creation of the Rocky Mountain Chapter, with the necessary funds already deposited. We are also exploring the possibility of establishing new chapters in Canada and Indonesia, which will further strengthen our collective impact.

In addition to the updates from the Board meeting, we have important updates from various committees. The Symposium Committee, chaired by Emma Sutcliffe, shared their progress in organizing the upcoming symposium. They are diligently working on Eventbrite registration, finalizing the quad fold, securing sponsorships, and addressing logistical considerations. We appreciate their efforts in ensuring a successful and impactful event.

The Treasurer's Report, presented by John Hampton, highlighted the financial stability of the SAFE Association. The symposium surplus played a crucial role in keeping SAFE in a healthy financial position. With a 3% increase in income, we are optimistic about the organization's future growth and sustainability.

We also received updates from other committees such as Membership, Awards, Journal & Editorial, Information Management, Science & Technology, Nominations, Site Selection, Association Development, and Strategic Planning. Each committee is working diligently towards their respective goals and objectives, ensuring the smooth functioning of our association.

As an all-volunteer organization, we are grateful for the passion

and dedication of our Board members. Their unwavering commitment to our field and to the SAFE Association is truly commendable. We invite you to join us in recognizing their remarkable contributions and express our sincere appreciation for their hard work.

Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for the upcoming Board meeting scheduled for August 16th in Reno, Nevada. We anticipate a fruitful gathering and encourage all members to actively participate in shaping the future of our association.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your continued support and participation in the SAFE Association. Your engagement is crucial to our success, and we value your contributions. If your company is interested in supporting future SAFE Board meetings, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Thank you for your commitment to safety and excellence in our industry. We look forward to the exciting times ahead and wish you a productive and rewarding summer.

Warm regards,

Brian S. Bradke, Ph.D.

SAFE Association
Secretary

SAFE Association Development Report

By Matt Miller

June 6th, the Anniversary of Operation Overlord or D-Day, is a day I recognize every year for two reasons. Not only does this mark the day that brave young men from numerous allied nations changed the direction of World War II, but more personally to me it also marks the birthdate of my youngest son. This past month I had the opportunity to educate both of my sons to the sacrifice of those that have helped keep them and the world free, through visits to the Memorial de Caen, regarded as the best D-Day museum in France as well as the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial overlooking Omaha Beach. Through observation of the personal sacrifices made as well as the equipment and technologies utilized during Operation Overlord; it is clear the impact the SAFE community and like organizations have had on the advancement of more safe equipment and operations for our allied armed forces.

One of the impactful organizations ensuring more safe solutions to our armed forces is the CAD/PAD Joint Program Office (JPO). During its 2022 Industry Day in conjunction with the SAFE Symposium, the JPO communicated its strategy on Innovation and Operational Excellence. These two areas of the CAD/PAD Strategic Objectives are intended to increase procurement for experimental purposes and prototyping that will allow rapid development of new CAD/PAD technologies providing safer and more timely supply of solutions to our armed forces. SAFE is excited to announce that 2023 will mark the third consecutive year of teaming with the JPO co-locating its industry day with the SAFE

Symposium. This synergistic alignment of our two organizations with overlapping missions provides the opportunity for centralized value add to both organizations and our industry partners alike. The Industry Day will be split between the afternoons of October 10th and 12th, respectively, and consist of general industry format as well as an opportunity for 1:1's with industry partners. More information will follow later this Summer from the JPO and will be posted to the SAFE website as well when available.

Lastly, NAVAIR's Aircrew System program office (PMA-202) is planning to host a Virtual Industry day. The purpose of the PMA-202 Virtual Industry Day is to improve the understanding of Government requirements and industry capabilities, thereby allowing potential offers' to judge whether or how they can satisfy PMA-202's requirements, and enhancing PMA-202's ability to obtain quality supplies and services, at reasonable prices, and increase efficiency in proposal preparation, proposal evaluation, negotiation, and contract award. This opportunity is open to all companies that have innovative ideas and mature, cost-conscious solutions that can assist in supporting the future effectiveness of the Joint Services Aircrew.

TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS:

- Physiological Episodes and Physiological Monitoring
- Neck and Back Injury mitigation
- Enhanced Situational Awareness
- Noise Exposure Protection
- Post Egress location, identification, recovery

- Exposure Protection

The Joint Services Aircrew Systems Virtual Industry Day Event will occur 15 August 2023 at 1300 EDT. The event is being coordinated by the PMA-202 Strategic Planning Team and the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center. PMA-202 will provide an overview of the program's technology needs and challenges. Following the industry day event, presentations will be posted and then there will be opportunities for industry to submit white papers highlighting solutions that are directly relevant to enhancing the mission effectiveness of PMA-202 and the other services. White Paper evaluations identified as being of particular value may result in an opportunity to speak with Government Contracting Officers via a scheduled one-on-one [during the SAFE Symposium], in accordance with FAR 15.201 and FAR part 10.

For the complete announcement and any updates, visit the site below:

<https://sam.gov/opp/ebc5263805b0442a-ba50b4aabf43e67c/view>

Additional details as well as a complete Joint Services Aircrew System Virtual Industry Day August 2023 agenda will be available via the registration website:

<https://einvitations.afil.edu/inv/index.cfm?i=774206&k=0566460B7B51>

From the Dinosaur Den

By Al Loving, Chief Dinosaur

As most of you know, the Order of Life Support Systems Dinosaur's (OLD) has been reactivated to once again recognize those individuals who have served at least 25 or more years within any of the Life Support Systems professions and community.

Membership is comprised of all the various services, civilian and military, as well as members of industry. It includes the Life Support Systems, Egress Systems, Oxygen Systems, Program Management, Engineering and other related Aircrew Protection professions.

One-time membership dues of \$25 per member has been established to cover expenses such as the member certificate, lapel pins, and postage. An individually numbered Membership Certificate is prepared and provided to each new member along with lapel pins to recognize each OLD member and their spouse.

Our 2023 meeting will be held during the upcoming 61st

Annual SAFE Symposium being held October 10-12, 2023, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, Virginia Beach, VA. The annual meeting is held to recognize our new members, gather new members, and network with Club members in attendance.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 10, at 2:00 pm in Ballroom One at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. This information will also be included in the 2023 SAFE Symposium Program and Schedule, and posted in the SAFE Registration Lobby. All current and eligible OLD members are asked and encouraged to attend.

For those current and eligible OLD members who are not able to attend the meeting, your comments regarding the Dino Club can be provided electronically to the Chief Dinosaur, Al Loving, at:

Email: aloving@cox.net
Mobile Phone: (757) 218-8560
Please provide your comments no later than October 1, 2023.

Of particular note this year, 2023 is the 70th anniversary of the existence of the USAF's Personal Equipment, Aircrew Life Support (PE/ALS) and now the Aircrew Flight Equipment (AFE) career field.

Over the years there has been a 25th and a 50th anniversary celebration of the career field and now it is time to celebrate the 70th anniversary. The celebration along with the 27th Annual USAF ALS/AFE Reunion will take place in conjunction with the 2023 SAFE Symposium in Virginia Beach, VA, in October 2023.

We look forward to welcoming you our 61th Annual SAFE Symposium and the 70th anniversary of the USAF's PE/ALS/AFE career field's existence.



Share with us!

**The SAFE
Information Management
Team is looking to hear from you!**

If you have anything you want to share with the SAFE community, you can email it to lauren@proflightgear.com or tag us on your post with these handles:

 [@SAFEAssociationUSA](https://www.facebook.com/SAFEAssociationUSA)

 [@SAFEAssociation](https://twitter.com/SAFEAssociation)

 [@safeassociation](https://www.instagram.com/safeassociation)

 [Safe Association](https://www.linkedin.com/company/safe-association)

Human Factors Activities Elsewhere

By Steve Merriman

AEROSPACE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (ASMA)/HUMAN FACTORS ASSOCIATION:

HFA will be publishing a newsletter soon...Please see Steve Merriman for details. AsMA | Aerospace Medical Association

DOD HUMAN FACTORS ENGINEERING TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (DOD HFE TAG):

Held its annual meeting in Dahlgren, VA on 23-27 May. A three- hour training session was offered by Steve Merriman on the new SAE Standard Practice for Human Systems Integration (SAE6906). More than a dozen sub-groups met during the week in addition to plenary sessions. The DOD HFE TAG is an excellent venue for networking. HFETAG - DCTO(S&T)

DOD HUMAN SYSTEMS COMMUNITY OF INTEREST:

The latest Newsletter is attached.



HS COI Newsletter -
Jun 2023 Final.pdf

HUMAN FACTORS ANALYSIS AND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (HFACS) WORKSHOP:

This workshop will be held three times in 2023. Please consult the website for details: Human Factors Analysis and Classification System - HFACS - Professional Education at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (enrole.com)

HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS SOCIETY (HFES):

The annual meeting will be held in Washington DC, October 23-27, at the Washington Hilton Hotel. HFES | Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

NATIONAL DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION (NDIA):

The NDIA HSI group held a conference earlier in the year. Dr. Debra Jones and Dr. Matt Risser co-chair the HSI committee for the Systems Engineering Directorate (SED). The HSI Committee is focused on improving communications and integration of HSI best practices in the execution of SE digital engineering processes, analyses, and documentation. The HSI Committee tracks the efforts,

gaps, and challenges of the DOD Joint HSI Working Group, and collaborates closely with the SAE G-45 HSI Committee leadership to establish digital engineering tools, lean processes, and human engineering best practices. Priorities include improving the representation of human-system interactions and handoffs, and moving toward a standardized set of warfighter (manpower & personnel) characteristics, to better inform designers and customers of changing informational requirements over mission timelines. Human Systems (ndia.org)

SAE INTERNATIONAL:

The G-45 Human Systems Integration Committee is currently updating four of its HSI and HSI related standards to incorporate tailoring appendices. These appendices should assist in adapting the standards to better fit the DoD's Adaptive Acquisition Framework pathways. It is expected that all of the revisions will be completed in 2023. G-45 Charter June 2021 Final (2).pdf

Steve Merriman

SAFE Association
Information Mgmt Committee

Reminder to All SAFE Members:

It is important that the SAFE Association has your current contact information so we can contact you and distribute SAFE products, such as the Newsletter. Periodically, please go to the "Member Login" at the top, right corner of the SAFE Association web page. When the SAFE Directory appears, click on "Update Your Profile" at the top, left. Please review your personal information and, update anything that needs to be changed, and click on "Save Profile" at the bottom of the page. Your efforts are much appreciated!

Membership Focus

By Steve Roberts

As you read this Newsletter, for every association, it's not just about the members it's only about the members !

The SAFE committee has managed to maintain the rates

membership to the highest number since 2019 (477) across 15 countries, with the US members remaining dominant.

This year we welcome more new individual members:

to increase above the 2019 level, across six countries and similarly with the US companies maintaining the majority.

This year we welcome Essex Industries and Propel LLC as new



for new memberships at \$25, new students at \$10 and new retirees at \$20. With renewals respectively also kept low at \$75, \$10, \$15 - incredible value for an association that maintains a network of 470 members that meet both at Chapter and National level to develop the personal relationships, the camaraderie and progress the science.



Corporate members. With such a thriving membership, the association remains in fine health and bodes

It is great to report that we have increased our individual

Joseph Rich, Ryan Shawler, MSgt Andre Stanton and Ronald Williger from the USAF, Ron Hayward (Hoffman Engineering), Tim Mason (Boeing Defence Australia), Eric Upchurch (Collins) and Steven Norris.

Equally our corporate sustaining members have continued

well for the future. Look forward to meeting everyone in Virginia Beach in October for another exciting symposium!

UP-COMING EVENT

EVENT

61st Annual Symposium

DATE

October 10 - 12, 2022

LOCATION

Virginia Beach, VA

NEW DTS Universal Data Logger – TSR AIR

THE ULTRA-SMALL SHOCK & VIBRATION DATA LOGGER ADVANCING PRODUCT & SAFETY TESTING

The new TSR AIR is a miniature shock and vibration data logger that is ideal for transient shock and long-term monitoring. The TSR AIR's innovative power management solution allows it to monitor for hours or even weeks. It's both easy to use and flexible.

Many new technologies have gone into the development of the TSR AIR, including key features from products DTS developed for NASA and the NFL. The TSR AIR features 11 built-in sensors, including high G accelerometers, low G accelerometers, angular rate sensors, and environmental sensors. It supports a wide operating



The miniature TSR AIR data logger from DTS includes 11 built-in sensors for shock and vibration testing. The TSR AIR is ideal for automotive, aerospace, and industrial test applications with tight size and weight constraints.

temperature range of -40°C to 60°C. Data writes to non-volatile flash memory, plus the TSR AIR offers real-time streaming capabilities.

TSR AIR applications include: Shock & Vibration Analysis, In-Flight Testing, Parachute Deployment, Engine Vibration, Transportation Monitoring, and High-Value Asset Tracking.

Learn more at <https://dts-web.com/tsr-air> or visit www.dtsweb.com to see the full line of DTS data acquisition systems, data loggers and sensors.

Pacific Rim Chapter Continues Outreach Education Efforts

By Dr. Robert Yonover

The Pacific Rim Chapter of the SAFE Association and Dr. Rob Yonover continued their education outreach efforts as part of a volunteer group of ABC Shark Tank alumni (“Shark Tank Pals”) that held a Mastermind Panel for high school students from across the country that are interested in entrepreneurship.

The seasoned panel provided valuable insights and experiences to inspire and educate high school students who are considering becoming entrepreneurs themselves. Dr. Rob Yonover and his fellow

Shark Tank alumni attempted to empower high school students, instilling in them the skills and mindset necessary to become successful entrepreneurs.

The outreach session consisted of short overviews of the Shark Tanker’s, followed by questions and answers, covering a broad range of subjects from entrepreneurship career paths to challenges and opportunities in starting a small business. Included in success stories were numerous “failures” that led us to pivot and keep pursuing



our own personal goals and aspirations. The engineering and life support field were highlighted by Dr. Rob Yonover for students that are more technically inclined and want to use their skills for applied problem-solving.

Dr. Robert Yonover

SeeRescue@juno.com
www.SeeRescueStreamer.com
808-395-1688 808-295-1866 c

NETWORKS ELECTRONIC'S NEW BEGINNINGS

Networks Electronic Company (NEco) is well-known within the SAFE community as a leading designer and manufacturer of miniature electro-explosive components and subsystems supporting mission, flight and life-critical applications across the Aerospace and Defense end markets. NEco carries a strong brand name with an industry-wide reputation for world-class quality, reliability and technical support. NEco's established customer relationships, in-house engineering expertise and ongoing technology developments have kept them at the forefront of the miniature Cartridge Actuated Device/Propellant Actuated Device (CAD/PAD) industry for over 60 years.

The Aerospace industry has seen a lot of change over the past few years and NEco is no exception - on November 4, 2021, NEco was acquired by PTI Technologies, Inc., a leading provider of filtration and fluid flow control solutions for the global commercial and military aviation markets. And in 2024, NEco will complete its transition into PTI's modern 126,000 square foot facility in Oxnard, California. This new NEco facility will be designed as state-of-the-art and PTI's market reach and substantial technical capabilities are expected to significantly contribute to the growth of the NEco CAD/PAD product line and brand. It is an

exciting new period in the company's development.

Rowland Ellis, President of PTI Technologies commented, "We are continually looking to expand our product offerings and gain more



content across our Aerospace and Defense platforms. This acquisition supports our internal strategy and positions PTI to capture additional growth in the missile and military fixed-wing aircraft market seg-

Over the past two years since the acquisition, Tammy Christen has been instrumental in providing leadership during this transition by working tirelessly to support PTI Management's integration goals and understanding of NEco and the CAD / PAD market segment. However, like with all great things and after much consideration, Tammy has finally decided to step down from her position as Sr. VP and General Manager of NEco and pursue her life's next chapter, still to be written. Tammy has done great things as the guiding force of NEco for the last 18 years and we wish her the best on her new journey.

As one career comes to a close, a new career opportunity arises. Shawn McCleskey has been appointed as the new General Manager of NEco to continue to lead the integration and growth of the business. Shawn started in Manufacturing Engineering when he came to PTI in April of 2009, and he has worked in various roles of increasing responsibility within the



organization up to his latest role of Director of Manufacturing at PTI. Additionally, Shawn has successfully lead the integration of two previous acquisitions into PTI during his tenure providing him the invaluable experience necessary to be successful in his new role at NEco. With the support of Andrew Campany, NEco's CTO,

ments through current customer and product synergies while providing access to new customers and markets. NEco's highly engineered, proprietary products and robust backlog provide a balanced mix of new production and spares, which was an attractive attribute to this acquisition."

organization up to his latest role of Director of Manufacturing at PTI. Additionally, Shawn has successfully lead the integration of two previous acquisitions into PTI during his tenure providing him the invaluable experience necessary to be successful in his new role at NEco. With the support of Andrew Campany, NEco's CTO,

(Continued on page 12)

and the core NEco technical and production staff staying to continue their work and complete the transition, the implementation of the NEco business unit into PTI's facility in the coming years should be seamless.

NEco is experiencing many positive changes. With their breadth of product offerings, including igniters, initiators, cutters, linear actuators, gas generators, pressure cartridges, thermal relays and fuses, squib switches and other products under development, the future looks bright for the NEco brand. Recent contract awards to support the production of the Martin-Baker Digital Inline Timer (DIT) and upgraded U.S. Army Stinger Missile are a testament to NEco's continued success in providing quality, reliable mission and life-critical products in support of the war fighter.

PTI is very much committed to provide the same engineering excellence and customer service the CAD/PAD industry has come to know over the past 18 years - the name will change, but the pedigree and values of the NEco brand will endure!

SAFE Journal

By Dr. Camille Bilger, 2023 Journal and Editorial Committee Chair

The SAFE Association Journal accepts manuscripts submission ALL YEAR ROUND!

WE ACCEPT:

- Original research articles
- Literature reviews
- Technical reports (example shown on the side)
- Short Communications/ Case studies (~4 pages)
- for example: acquisitions need or operationally observed challenges)
- Letter to the Editor: a short form of communication, to comment objectively on a previously published article.

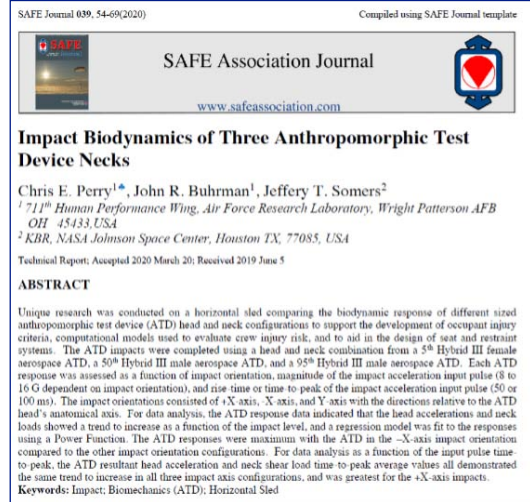
GET WRITING!

So that our community can benefit from your knowledge, your experience, your expertise; to make a difference for our servicemen and

servicewomen.

GET YOUR WORK PUBLISHED!

The process for manuscript submission and publication is comparable to any other international peer-reviewed journal. A Guide to Authors will take you through the submission and publication processes. Please email me at Editor@safeassociation.com for further information.



Attention Corporate Members

Please Send Us Your Advertisements!

The SAFE membership is eager to hear about what is going on with your organization! Members want to hear about anything new....like job openings, internal promotions, new products, recent contract awards, accomplishments, plans, and patents. It is up to you! SAFE members are interested in what is going on with your organization and your product lines. Please consider sending articles for future SAFE News editions. They should be sent to:

Stacy Stuber
admin@safeassociation.com

Steve Merriman
scmerriman@tx.rr.com

Switlik is Expanding!

SWITLIK



Trenton, NJ, – SWITLIK Survival Products is excited to announce that they have officially broken ground on what will be an expansion to their manufacturing facilities. The expansion consists of the addition of a new 20,000 sf building on their 1325 East State St. property in Trenton. This project is testament to the growth Switlik has been experiencing over the years as well as a commitment to keeping their business local.

Switlik has proudly manufactured out of Trenton since 1920, and has been employing both Trenton and Hamilton residents for over 100 years. Switlik is investing in the community and the future of its employees as this new addition is laying the foundation for the next generation of Switlik employees.

SWITLIK SURVIVAL PRODUCTS: LOOKING FORWARD WITH CONFIDENCE.

What does this mean for Switlik? This new addition is providing Switlik the much-needed space to expand their product offerings and bring on new innovative

ideas. The diversification of their products and markets, and their continued willingness to change with the times, will ensure Switlik maintains in its position as an industry leading American manufacturer.

“We’re thrilled to get moving on this project which will ultimately provide the residents of Trenton and Hamilton with new job opportunities and help those employed continue succeeding. For 102 years Switlik has been saving lives worldwide, providing jobs locally.” – Stanley Switlik II, CEO.

What does this mean for Switlik customers? The new manufacturing facility will enhance Switlik’s capacity in expanding its current product lines as well as giving head way to the creation of new features and enhancements. Switlik’s mission is to design, manufacture and sell technical textile products solutions that always meet our customers performance needs and exceed their value expectations, and this expansion will allow them to continue fulfilling their mission day in and day out.

“The expansion is pivotal for us” says Sarah Switlik, COO “it allows us a lot of opportunity as we look towards the next generation at Switlik.”



(Continued on page 14)

2022/2023 SAFE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT
Kevin Divers

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Nicole Stefanoni

SECRETARY
Brian Bradke

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Jerry Reid

VICE PRESIDENT & FINANCE
COMMITTEE CHAIR
Steve Bromley

TREASURER & FINANCE
COMMITTEE MEMBER
John Hampton

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE CHAIR
Dr. Peter Le

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE CHAIR
Emma Sutcliffe

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR
Ebby Bryce

EXECUTIVE ADVISOR &
SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE CHAIR
Allen "Al" Loving

STRATEGIC PLANNING
COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR
Edgar "Ted" Poe

AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR
Mark Jones

ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE CHAIR
Matt Miller

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE CHAIR
Stephen C. Merriman

EXECUTIVE ADVISOR
Joe Spinosa

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR
Steve Roberts

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR
Lauren Divers

JOURNAL AND EDITORIAL
COMMITTEE
Dr. Camille Bilger

CHAPTERS COMMITTEE CHAIR
John Plaga

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

CHAPTER ONE -
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Jim Shaw

PACIFIC RIM CHAPTER
Dr. Robert Yonover

DOWN UNDER CHAPTER
Steve Madaras

EAST COAST CHAPTER
Dave DeSimone

SAFE EUROPE (CHAIR)
Sarah Day

MIDDLE EAST CHAPTER
Mohanad Alakal

ROCKET CITY CHAPTER
Dan Meadows

WRIGHT BROTHERS CHAPTER
Mark Gruber

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER
John Hampton

GRAND CANYON CHAPTER
Jwenn Nikopoulos

DFW METRO CHAPTER
Lizanne Luchetti

"Switlik" Continued

ABOUT SWITLIK: QUALITY, PERFORMANCE, INNOVATION

Established in 1920, Switlik Survival Products has been owned and operated by the Switlik family for four generations, and is known worldwide as a manufacturer of the highest quality sewn and heat-sealed inflatable safety and

survival products for the aviation, marine, and military markets.

Their current product mix consists of anti-exposure suits, airline life vests, constant wear vests, man overboard and water rescue platforms, life rafts, and military based products outfitting the US Coast Guard, US Army, US Navy as well

as the US Air Force.

Switlik products are consistently at the forefront in design, performance and quality of manufacture. Switlik is proud of their long-standing reputation for quality, performance and innovation, having put their family name on their products for over 100 years.