



The Washington DC Chapter of the International System Safety Society



Chapter Newsletter Jun 2018-Jul 2019

WDC Chapter Website: Stay up to date on the latest news and happenings! Log in to the Washington DC Chapter's Website online at:
<http://washingtonchapter.net/>

Nominations/Voting for Chapter Officers: The WDC Chapter is taking nominations for Vice-President and Treasurer. Interested? Go online! It's fast & easy!
<http://washingtonchapter.net/nominationform2019.php>

President's Corner:



Greetings to all of our Chapter Members and their families! My 2-year term as President has just flown by. I am honored and privileged to have served such a dedicated and professional membership. Mr. John Burchett is succeeding me as President and Mr. Tyler Mann has been elected as Secretariat. Nominations are still in progress for WDC Vice-President and Treasurer.

Please step up to the plate and become an Officer of the WDC Chapter! Serving as a WDC Chapter Officer is an extremely important function and requires our members to step up and take charge of the operations for the membership. Without these key individuals the chapter cannot exist! All nominations are online through the WDC Chapter website. Online Nominations and Voting is fast, easy and ensures a record of all correspondence.

I'd like to congratulate Ms. Donne DiFiglia on her election to the position of Director of Chapter Services & International Outreach for the International System Safety Society. Her dedication to the mission of system safety and her hard work in everything she does has paid off for her. Well Done!

Congratulations to our Emeritus Member Mr. Dev Raheja who won the Professional Development Award at the 36th ISSC and to our distinguished member Mr. Arthur Barondes who is nominated for the award this year. Thanks to Mr. David Sadler and Mr. Tyler Mann for their educational presentations at the WDC Chapter meetings. See below for more on each of our events. *** Stay Safe!...E. Paul Denk, WDC President ***

Notable Meetings & Events:

- **JOINT INCOSE/ALL MEMBER CHAPTER MEETING:**
When: Tuesday, 21 May 2019
Who: All INCOSE & WDC Chapter Members.
Where: Parklane Tavern in the Spotsylvania Towne Centre
Address: 1 Towne Centre Boulevard, Fredericksburg, VA 22407
Speaker: Mr. David R. Sadler <[Bio](#)>
Topic: A General Theory of System Safety
- **Abstract:** Humans through various processes create, store, and move energy from one form or place to another. Le Chatelier's principle asserts that when a system is disturbed that it will seek equilibrium. Energy is therefore not passive in these human processes. When energy finds an unmanaged or insufficiently controlled path to equilibrium, an unplanned release of energy occurs. When such a release has sufficient energy, it produces catastrophic harm. All catastrophic harm or mishaps are the effects of human processes involving or associated with energy save for natural occurrences. A general theory of system safety is that energy is the universal hazard for catastrophic mishaps.
- **When:** Thursday, 08 November 2018
Who: All WDC Chapter members and their guests
Where: AECOM Conference Center
Address: 16156 Dahlgren Road, Dahlgren, VA 22448 <[map](#)>
Speaker: Mr. Tyler J. Mann <[Bio](#)>
Topic: Introduction to Cause Mapping and Accident Investigation
Abstract: A summary of the methodology and techniques used to evaluate the root causes after an accident and determine adequate control strategies to prevent the accident from occurring again. Includes an introduction to a step-by-step process for developing a cause map.



Incoming WDC Chapter President

JOHN BURCHETT

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Mr. John W. Burchett is the incoming President of the Washington DC (WDC) Chapter of the International System Safety Association. As President of the WDC Chapter, Mr. Burchett ensures the routine and daily business of the Chapter is executed and completed as required, conducts annual elections, signs all formal Chapter correspondence, reviews and forwards the Chapter annual reports, and conducts other business as required or decided by the Executive Committee. Ultimately, the President is responsible to the Chapter for the adequate management of all Chapter operations, properties, and monies. Mr. Burchett's two-year term as President starts July 1, 2019 and ends June 30, 2021.

Mr. Burchett is currently the NAVSEASYSKOM Technical Warrant Holder for Cartridge Actuated Devices and Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD) and previously served as the Principal for Safety for CAD/PAD in the Systems Engineering Department at the Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technology Division in Indian Head, Maryland. During his 34 plus years of service he has worked on energetic systems in a variety of aircraft and weapons systems across all US services, delivered several papers at national and international venues, and taught the NSWCIEODTD Basic Ordnance Technology course.

Mr. Burchett's work experience began as a production engineer manufacturing propellants and moved to an ordnance devices test engineer and project manager for qualification of weapons system components. He served as the NAVAIRSYSKOM Assistant Deputy Program Manager for Systems and Engineering for CAD/PAD, the lead in updating the CAD/PAD Quality Management processes, and was a key contributor on the creation of the CAD/PAD Virtual Fleet Support project.

Mr. Burchett holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI) and a MSc in Explosive Ordnance Engineering from Cranfield University. Off work activity has included teaching a summer rockets course for kids, teaching engineering at Germanna Community College, and involvement in professional society initiatives as a member of the American Institutes of Aeronautics and Astronautics, AIAA Energetic Components and Systems Technical Committee, and the International System Safety Society.

The WDC Chapter thanks Mr. Burchett for his exceptional service as the former WDC Chapter Vice-President and Membership Coordinator. His professionalism & dedication to the System Safety community over the years is a source of pride for our society and the WDC Chapter is grateful to have him as our new President.



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WDC Chapter Secretariat

TYLER J. MANN

Tyler.J.Mann@saic.com



Mr. Tyler J. Mann, GSP is Secretariat of the Washington DC (WDC) Chapter of the International System Safety Society. As Secretariat, Mr. Mann participates in all WDC Chapter and meetings of the Executive Council, takes meeting minutes, assembles the Chapter newsletters, assists the President in preparing the Yearly Report and prepares for review any unique correspondence from the WDC.

Mr. Mann is a 2016 graduate from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental, Health, and Safety Applied Sciences. Upon graduation, he received the designation of Graduate Safety Practitioner (GSP) from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals.

After finishing his degree, Mr. Mann worked as a Safety Engineer for Valero Energy Services at the Valero Refinery in Port Arthur, Texas. During this time, Mr. Mann supported several efforts throughout Safety and Health, such as implementing safety policies and procedures, managing the facility's Industrial Hygiene program, and assisting in Emergency Management efforts.

Mr. Mann began working for SAIC, Incorporated in March of 2018 where he currently provides safety support for United States Marine Corps Systems Command Communications Systems and Wargaming Capabilities, as well as support for Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division Major Caliber Weapons Systems.

Mr. Mann is currently a System Safety Engineer at SAIC, Incorporated supporting efforts for both the United States Marine Corps and United States Department of the Navy. He has been a member of the International System Safety Society since 2018.

Tyler gave a very impressive and educational presentation titled "Introduction to Cause Mapping and Accident Investigation" at the All Members Meeting on Thursday, 08 November 2018. It summarizes the methodology and techniques used to evaluate the root causes after an accident and determine adequate control strategies to prevent the accident from occurring again and included a very informative introduction to a step-by-step process for developing a cause map.

The WDC Chapter Officers thanks Mr. Mann for his dedication to the Chapter and we are grateful to have him as our new Secretariat.



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WDC Chapter Treasurer

MICHAEL RAMSBURG

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Mr. Michael Ramsburg has more than 45 years of professional engineering experience, which includes over 42 years of specialized system safety engineering experience. He has conducted safety analyses and evaluations on various U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, and Office of Naval Research (ONR) weapon systems, such as the Nulka Decoy System and DDG 1000. He has performed as Head of the Risk Assessment Branch, Head of the System Safety Engineering Branch, and Head of the Combat System Safety and Engineering Division at the Naval Surface Warfare Center/Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD) and holds a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering.

After retiring from the Civil Service with 38 years of service, Mr. Ramsburg supported Navy and Marine Corps system safety engineering programs for an additional seven years while employed with BAE Systems and URS.

After over a decade of service to the WDC Chapter as an Executive Officer, Mr. Ramsburg has decided to retire from the WDC Chapter Executive Council (EC). The executive committee and members of the Washington DC Chapter of the International System Safety Society wish to express our sincere appreciation for Mr. Ramsburg's service as the outgoing WDC Chapter Treasurer and former Vice-President. His professionalism and dedication to the WDC Chapter and the Systems Safety Community over the years is a source of pride for our society and we are forever grateful for your service.

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT AND TREASURER:

The WDC Chapter is taking nominations for the next Vice-President and Treasurer. Mr. Ramsburg will help with the transition to the new Treasurer, so nominate yourself or another candidate today! Nominations can be made online <http://washingtonchapter.net/nominationform2019.php>.

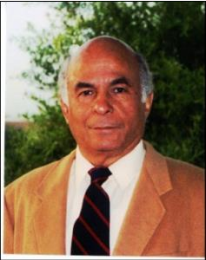
Qualifications for the positions are:

Vice-President, WDC Chapter [Elected Position - 2 Year Term]: The Vice-President supports the Chapter President in his duties and responsibilities,. The Vice-President serves as the Chapter President if one has not been elected and assumes the president's duties and responsibilities whenever he or she is absent or unable to serve.

Treasurer, WDC Chapter [Elected Position - 2 Year Term]: The Treasurer maintains the WDC bank accounts, financial records, and checkbook. The Treasurer, along with the President, has signing authority for financial transactions with the Chapters financial institution, and writes checks, conducts financial transactions as needed, and ensures all financial accounts are balanced. Checks are typically written to reimburse EC members for expenditures in support of official Chapter business, and to reimburse Chapter monthly meeting hosts for any snacks purchased for the meeting. The Treasurer also prepares the financial input to the annual report to the Society



36th ISSC Professional Development Award Winner: Mr. Dev Raheja



Mr. Dev Raheja has been a System Safety and System Reliability Engineering consultant for over 25 years. His range of consulting encompasses transportation systems, electric power systems, high tech industry, aerospace, defense systems, medical systems, and consumer products. He has conducted training in several countries including Sweden, Australia, Japan, UK, Turkey, Germany, Poland, Singapore, Brazil, South Africa, and Canada. He has done training and consulting work with NASA, U.S. Army, GM, Boeing, Eaton, Nissan Aerospace, Litton, General Dynamics, ITT, BAE Systems, Lockheed-Martin, Harley-Davidson, and United Technologies.

Prior to consulting, Mr. Raheja worked at General Electric, Cooper Industries, and at Booz-Allen & Hamilton. He is the author of several books including *Assurance Technologies Principles and Practices* (Second Edition, Wiley 2006), and *Design for Reliability* (Wiley, 2012). A Fellow of the System Safety Society, he has received Scientific Achievement Award and the Educator-of-the-Year Award from the society.

Mr. Raheja serves on the Patient and Families Advisory Council at Johns Hopkins Hospital as a patient safety advocate. He is Associate Editor for Healthcare Safety for The Journal of System Safety and an Associate Professor at University of Maryland where he teaches the “Design For Reliability” course which includes design for safety and trustworthiness.

[Click Here](#) for books by Dev Raheja.

37th ISSC Professional Development Award Nominee: Mr. Arthur Barondes



Arthur D. Barondes Ph.D.(ABD) is the Principal and Senior Scientist for Analytics International Corporation with 15 years of broad-based experience in nuclear weapon safety developing, managing, conducting and reviewing life-cycle probabilistic risk assessments (PRAs) of entire nuclear weapon systems.

His previous experience included 11 years supporting the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA) in Europe, by identifying and filling diverse requirements for improving Theater Nuclear

Forces (TNF) in Allied Command Europe (ACE) and US European Command (EUCOM).

This included: improved survivability of nuclear forces; dispersed basing; and, design of a dispersed command and control system for nuclear forces in Europe, to augment/replace the ACE Status, Control, Alerting and Reporting System (SCARS II).

His earlier experience in the Air Force included: Special Assistant to the Air Force Chief of Staff for B-1 [bomber] Matters; command responsibility for a Minuteman III ICBM wing (150 missiles/450 nuclear warheads) and host for a B-52/KC-135 bomb wing, F-106 interceptor squadron and Army ballistic missile defense unit; preparation and presentation of Air Force R&D budgets to congress; identification of intelligence requirements for weapon delivery guidance systems; and, experimental flight test of air-to-air missile systems (4500 flying hours).



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Certificates of Appreciation:

The members of the WDC Chapter are a diverse group of Safety professionals, each member exemplary in their field of expertise. This year the WDC Chapter Officers issued Certificates of Appreciation to honor eleven outstanding members and associates of the WDC Chapter:

Date	Recipient
08/28/18	Arthur D. Barondes
08/16/18	Douglas J. Bower
08/16/18	Cathy Carter
08/16/18	Marilyn Eichelberger
08/16/18	Missey Lee
11/08/18	Tyler J. Mann
08/16/18,	David R. Sadler
05/21/19	
08/16/18	Robert E. Smith
08/16/18	Dr. Robert Thomas
08/16/18	Stuart Whitford
08/16/18	David Yu





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36th ISSC Conference Highlights:

The 36th International System Safety Conference (ISSC) was held August 13-17, 2018 in Phoenix, Arizona.



Ms. Donne DiFiglia participated in the Executive sessions, presented the 2017-2018 Yearly Report, taught an “Introduction to System & Software Safety” class to the Society Presidents & Executive Officers and presented Certificates of Appreciation to several accomplished members and colleagues of the WDC Chapter and served as a Session Chair.

Ms. DiFiglia is the newly elected Director of Chapters & International Outreach for the International System Safety Society. She served as the Scholarship & Education Officer and Past-President of the WDC Chapter and has been a member of the International System Safety Society and sole Webmaster for the WDC Chapter since 2007.



Mr. Doug Bower led an interesting and timely Roundtable discussion, “Opportunities for Synergy in Systems Safety and Security Engineering”.

- “Systems Safety Engineering and Security Engineering face distinct but similar challenges in developing and maintaining complex software intensive safety critical systems. To date these disciplines have been focusing on disparate solutions which often tend to conflict and sometimes even negate each other. This session opened a dialogue among professionals seeking solutions.” - Bower



Mr. David R. Sadler presented an outstanding technical paper, “A General Theory of System Safety” theorizing that “energy is the universal hazard for catastrophic mishaps”.

- “Humans through various processes create, store, and move energy from one form or place to another. When energy finds an unmanaged or insufficiently controlled path to equilibrium, an unplanned release of energy occurs. When such a release has sufficient energy, it produces catastrophic harm. All catastrophic harm or mishaps are the effects of human processes involving or associated with energy save for natural occurrences.” - Sadler



Ms. Marilyn Eichelberger, Ms. Missey Lee and Dr. Robert Thomas presented an outstanding research paper, “Risk Reduction Distributions Relating to the Benefit of Safety Efforts”.

Mr. Robert E. Smith CSP, presented an exemplary and well-received technical paper, “Verifying Software Control Categories (SCCs) Using Quantitative Fault Tree Analyses (FTAs)”.

Washington DC Chapter Officers

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Contact Information is online at: <http://washingtonchapter.net/contactus.html>