



The Manufacturing Society
Northern Lights Chapter # 370

The Northern Lights

September 2007

For the latest information check-out
<http://chapters.sme.org/c370/>

If you would like to be added to our monthly newsletter visit:
<http://maillists.bijouenhancements.com/lists/>

SME Northern Lights Chapter 370 proudly presents . . . **Development of a Fire Shelter for Use in Wild Land Fire Operations**

Presented by Mark Ackerman, P.Eng.

Fire shelters are used by wild land fire fighters in the United States as a last line of defense in the event that they are in danger of being over run by a fast moving forest fire. There are typically 2-4 deaths per year in the United States resulting from entrapment of wild land fire fighters and over the 20+ years the old fire shelter was in use it was estimated to have saved more than 200 lives through more than 2000 deployments. In 2000, while conducting experimental fires in the NWT in Canada, it was discovered that when exposed to the hot gases from a forest fire the materials used in the then current fire shelter would break down and form a flammable mixture of hydrocarbons within the shelter. This mixture of hydrocarbons would invariably ignite resulting in flames both inside and outside the shelter.



Mark was contracted by the Forest Service in the United States to explain the process that led to the breakdown and subsequent failure of the existing fire shelter, develop a process for screening potential new materials for use in a replacement fire shelter and finally develop test methods and equipment to test and evaluate new fire shelter designs. He and a group of equipment specialists at the Missoula and Technology Development Center, developed, tested and patented a new design for a fire shelter. The 'New Generation' fire shelter as it is being called is now in service in the US and to date some 200,000 shelters have been produced.

Mark will examine some of the hazards faced by wild land fire fighters and review the process by which the 'New Generation' fire shelter came into existence.

To learn about our speaker go-to <http://chapters.sme.org/c370/>

WHERE TO GO!

University Faculty Club
11435 Saskatchewan Drive

Wednesday, September 12, 2007

Social Hour: 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Dinner: 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Presentation: 7:30 pm

COST: \$20 members
\$25 guests
\$10 student members
\$15 student guests

Member pricing is always extended to members of other technical societies such as ASM, AWS, CWA, NACE, CSME, ASME, etc.

Please RSVP by the end of the day Monday, September 10, 2007.

RSVP Online for our event at

<http://maillists.bijouenhancements.com/sme/>

PLEASE DO NOT "REPLY" TO THIS NEWSLETTER

The SME Northern Lights Chapter normally holds technical meetings on the second Wednesday of each month except for the month of July and August.

REMEMBER...

Students and student members that attend the SME dinner meeting have a chance to win a FREE dinner drawn at the end of the meeting.

Northern Lights Chapter Executive



2007

Chair

Geoff Steele,
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Chair-elect

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Mailing Address

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Northern Lights Chapter #370
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Thank you...

for reading the **Northern Lights**. If you are interested in presenting at an SME dinner, please contact Dave Budney, drbudney@shaw.ca.

Call for Nominations! Enjoy the activities brought to you by the Northern Lights? Have your own ideas you would like to see happen with the chapter? Then join the *2008 Chapter Executive*. There are still positions to be filled. If interested please contact *Curt Stout* (curt.stout@ualberta.ca) for the available positions. **See you in the new year!**

Looking for a job related to manufacturing? View our online job postings at the bottom of our website.
(<http://chapters.sme.org/c370/>)

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Lean Manufacturing E-Newsletter available from SME at www.sme.org

LEAN DIRECTIONS
The e-Newsletter of Lean Manufacturing

Remember to keep SME information current

- We do not wish any of our members or friends to miss a newsletter. Please make sure to inform the newsletter editor of any changes to your email or employment address.
- If you have any newsworthy stories or information, we would be pleased to include it in our newsletter, subject to editorial approval.
- If you know of anyone who would like to receive this newsletter, please forward his or her address to Caren Steele at cgsteele@shaw.ca. The best part about it - it's FREE!!