



CASTHOUSE SAFETY

WORKSHOP

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Greg Blackstock - Arconic

Greg Blackstock is the Casting Technology Manager at Arconic. He has worked in aluminum casting operations for more than 30 years. His career has focused on casthouse reliability, process improvements, and capital project management. In his current role he provides explosion prevention guidance to Arconic's molten metal operations. He holds a degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech.

Jerimee Bortner - Kaiser

Jerimee is the Casting Operations Facilitator for Kaiser's second largest manufacturing facility located in Newark, OH. He began his career in aluminum as a temporary janitor in 2001, and worked up through Utility, Furnace Operator, Lab Tech, and Supervisor positions in the Wabash Alloys/Aleris secondary smelter facility in Wabash Indiana. Each of these positions gave him a unique perspective on molten metal safety and the challenges of implementing and managing a robust safety program.

In 2007, he became the Safety Supervisor for Aleris in Wabash Indiana, and in 2010 expanded into Environmental, Quality, and Continuous Improvement Management while working for Aleris at two recycling facilities in West Virginia.

Jerimee is a die-hard Indiana Hoosier fan now living in the heart of Buckeye Country.

Brad Burrige -Novelis

Brad Burrige is the Senior EHS Engineer for Novelis North America (NNA). He began his career in 1995 with Alcan at a plant in Logan, KY. He has many years of experience across a broad range of areas including: cold rolling, remelt and technical as an LSS Black Belt. He is a principle member of NFPA 652 and 484 Technical Committees that address metals combustibility and explosibility management. He is a retired combat veteran, serving in the Army and Army National Guard for twenty three years before retiring as a 1/149th Brigade Staff Officer. Brad holds a BS M.E and MBA from Western Kentucky University.

Mark Eliopolus – Kaiser

Mark serves as the Corporate Director of Safety and Health for Kaiser Aluminum. Mark has 41 years of experience in safety and health within the aluminum industry and serves on two American National Standards Institute committees (ANSI) for control of hazardous energy and confined space entry. He obtained both a BS and MS from West Virginia University. Mark has been speaking at the association's Molten Metal Casthouse Safety Workshop for over 20 years. He has also spoke at Aluminum USA and helped create the education module Fundamentals for Casthouse Safety. Mark was the 2017 recipient of the Aluminum Association's Marlan Boltinghouse Award, recognizing his contributions to the industry over his extensive career.

Davide Goi - Novelis

Davide has been working at Novelis since August 2003. At Novelis, he has worked his way up in the area of EHS starting as a Plant EHS specialist, and moving on to Behavior Based Safety Manager, then Regional EHS manager to his current role as Global EHS Manager.

Based out from the Zurich office, he started working with the the Global EHS team in April 2014. In his current role he does development and implementation of safety strategy, as well as the policies and procedures of the Company Safety System. Davide supports the regional Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) teams through global risk reduction activities and functional expertise.

He holds a masters in Environmental Engineering from Politecnico di Milano.

Larry Hudson – Novelis

Larry Hudson is a Principal Engineer with Novelis as a member of the Molten Metal Processing group within the R&D organization. Larry has been employed by Alcan/Novelis for more than 31 years in various production and development roles and has more than 38 years in the industry in melting, recycling and casting. Recent positions include Remelt Technology Leader and Remelt Process Leader in a production plant and was the Project Manager for an installation of new technology in a production casthouse. He is based out of Oswego, NY but responsibilities extend to all of the Novelis casthouses (13) across the globe. Larry is co-author of several papers given at TMS involving metal quality assessment and treatment and clad metal production and is a co-holder of several patents pertaining to the production of aluminum. One of Larry's on-going current assignments is leading the effort to implement "Hands-Free" casting throughout the Novelis organizations casting facilities globally. Larry has a BS from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Materials Engineering – Metallurgy.

Brian Pike – Hydro Extrusions

Brian is the Safety Programs Manager for Hydro Extrusion North America. He has 23 years of aluminum industry experience with Cressona Aluminum, Alumax, Alcoa, Sapa, and now Hydro and has 15 years of experience as a safety professional. He started in the aluminum industry as a Manufacturing Operator and has been in multiple roles since then including: QA Technician, Supervisor, Safety Coordinator, Group Leader, Manufacturing Manager, and EHS Manager. He started his career in residential and commercial construction before 'seeing the light' and switching over to aluminum.

Jack Patrick – Hydro Extrusions

Jack is the VP of EHS for Sapa and has been in that role since the 2013 merger of Sapa and Hydro's operations. Prior to that, Jack was the Safety and Health Director for Hydro Aluminum. Jack also has experience in the defense industry with heavy manufacturing and chemical weapons demilitarization. Jack was active duty in the US Army for 4-years also focused in the areas of chemical, biological and nuclear defense. He is a Certified Safety Professional (CSP), a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) and a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM).

Ray Richter – Aluminum Cast Shop Consultants, LLC

Ray has more than 40 years of experience in the aluminum industry and currently is a consultant for cast house related activities including molten metal safety, DC and EMC casting and molten metal quality. He retired after 36+ years with Alcoa. This included 17 years in their manufacturing facilities in various technical and supervising roles and 17 years at the Alcoa Technical Center in casting and molten metal safety research and plant casting technology implementation and trouble shooting. Molten metal safety research included investigations and testing of new casting pit protective coatings. His final two years with Alcoa were as Manager of Casting Technology for Alcoa Global Rolled Products. Ray has also been a presenter for 20+ years at the Aluminum Association Regional Cast House Safety Workshops. He holds a BS in Metallurgical Engineering from Purdue University.

John Zeh – Logan Aluminum

John is the Senior Engineer in the Logan Aluminum Remelt Department where he has more than twenty years of experience. He has previous five years experience at a Reynolds Metals aluminum smelter casthouse. John is an expert in raw material inputs for melting operations and their safe and efficient use. He is a leader for chemical analysis of aluminum using OES, XRF and LIBS. John has also helped the industry better understand molten metal splash testing of personal protective equipment. He is dedicated to ensuring and improving cast house safety and a contributor to Aluminum Association safety publications. John holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Metallurgical Engineering from The Ohio State University.