

2022 Presenters

Scott Burgess (Keynote)

Scott Burgess is a 35-year veteran of the Nashville Fire Department and is currently an engine company captain/paramedic. Additionally, he serves as an acting district chief and an acting special operations safety chief. Previously he has been assigned to a technical rescue unit, a marine unit, and the department's training academy. On Christmas Day, Scott was an acting district chief and the first arriving chief officer. He was the initial incident commander, and then transitioned to the operations section chief. For the next 2 operational periods, Scott served in various roles within the unified command. Scott became involved in Hazardous Materials in 1992. Currently he is a Hazardous Materials Specialist, and a ToxMedic. For the past 9 years he has taught at the Center for Domestic Preparedness, where he is a Lead Instructor/SME in the Hazardous Materials Division.

Presentation:

On Christmas Day 2020, a vehicle borne improvised explosive device (VBIED) was detonated in downtown Nashville. The explosion destroyed 7 buildings that either collapsed or had to be demolished and damaged 34 others. Scott Burgess was the first arriving chief officer and the initial incident commander and later became the operations section chief. In this presentation, Scott will discuss the response by the Nashville Fire Department. He will share how hazardous materials teams, USAR teams, and fire suppression units were simultaneously deployed. Scott will talk about how the MCI plan was implemented along with the establishment of a forward triage area. Scott will explain how previously developed partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies were the linchpin to a successful response and multi-week unified command.

Dr. Mark L Norman

Dr. Mark L. Norman is a loving husband and father of two children. He is the owner of Centerburst Consulting LLC, based in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. He earned his B.S. in Chemistry from West Virginia Wesleyan College where he was also active in the Dramatic Arts program. After college, he received his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he investigated the infrared optical properties of upper atmospheric aerosols. He is an author on seven peer-reviewed publications, including a 2003 collaboration with global climatology scientists from NASA. For the past 20+ years, Dr. Norman has worked with detection technologies for emergency response, and he is an inventor on two patents for the development of hazardous vapor identification systems. He has developed and delivered numerous scenario-based training courses for chemical detectors and has taught chemical science courses including General Chemistry and Quantitative Chemical Analysis at Bridgewater State University. Dr. Norman's areas of analytical expertise include FT-IR, Raman, IR lasers, mass spectrometry, and chemical sensing. Moreover, he has a passion for video production and podcasting. With his youngest son, he produced 44 episodes of the "Mick Donato Show" video podcast. At a previous employer, he produced numerous training videos, marketing content including "The MX Files" and "The Instructors Lounge," and was a co-host of the

“Hazard Class” podcast. His primary mission now is to educate emergency responders in the field use of detection technologies using his combination of technical acumen and presentation skills.

Presentation: The A-B-Cs of Field Monitoring

You likely used a variety of field monitoring technologies for unknown chemical products at a hazmat incident, ranging from pH paper to sophisticated devices like infrared, Raman, or even mass spec. But do you know the science behind how these technologies are designed to work together? For controlled substances in particular, the Scientific Working Group on Seized Drug Analysis (SWGDRG) has defined various technology categories (A, B, and C) which relate to the analytical capabilities each technology provides. This scientific standard is now defined under the ASTM standard E2329-17. For you as a responder, these scientific guidelines can help you use all your field technologies together in a manner that meets the legal standard for the qualitative analysis of an unknown substance. Learn through this fun and interactive session the fundamentals behind the most basic and the more advanced field technologies, as well as some tips and tricks for utilizing them all together to obtain the most reliable results for unknown chemical products.

David Binder

David Binder is the Director of Quality, Safety & Regulatory Affairs and Training Director of the Ammonia Safety & Emergency Response Training (ASERT™) program with Tanner Industries, Inc. in Southampton, PA.

He has been in the ammonia industry and emergency response training and planning since 1992. David facilitates safety and emergency response training programs throughout the world for industry, fire department, emergency response and emergency management personnel. He also speaks and presents at numerous Federal, State and Industry Association conferences. He is very involved and in leadership positions with various industry associations and has served on various standards committees.

Since 2003, David has regularly been a faculty staff member at the Massachusetts Association of Hazardous Materials Technicians (MAHMT) conferences.

David is the Chair of the Philadelphia Local Emergency Planning Committee. He has served in leadership positions with the National Association of Chemical Distributors including the Responsible Distribution Committee. David serves on the National Transcaer Task Group and chaired the curriculum committee that put together the Anhydrous Ammonia training program.

David is a long-time faculty member of World Food Logistics Organization Institute programs including those at the University of Oklahoma, Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech University), University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA), and Arizona State University, Tempe AZ.

Presentation: Anhydrous Ammonia Response - Taming the Tiger Top Ten Tips

Be ready and prepared to handle anhydrous ammonia incidents by attending this session which will review top ten response tips from size up and product characteristics through response tactics for ammonia. Session will be interactive with live release footage. All students will also receive an ammonia emergency response guide card customized for ammonia.

The Hazmat Guys

BOBBY SALVESEN:

My name is Bobby Salvesen. I am a father of 2 that has a passion for teaching and helping people become better at their jobs. I spent 13 years in Squad 288 in Special Operations of the New York City Fire Department. During that time I gained valuable experience and certification as at minimum a technician level of High angle rope rescue, collapse, confined space, rigging, extrication, diving, shoring, and firefighter removal. I also am a current member of the NY-TF1 FEMA resource as both a Rescue Technician and a Haz Mat Specialist. After my tenure in the Rescue branch of the Fire Department, I transferred to the Hazardous Materials Command. I attained my Hazardous Materials Specialist certification for the FDNY in 2015.

I instruct for the Nassau County Fire Service Academy as a Deputy Chief Instructor for the last 9 years. I have taught Hazardous Materials and Confined Space, along with various firematic classes.

My volunteer career is ongoing and has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. I joined the East Meadow Volunteer Fire Department in 1994 gaining experience in ranks from Firefighter to Chief, going through the company level ranks 3 times, and recently went through the ranks as Chief of Department of a Department that has roughly 300 members. I am currently a member of the Training Committee, teaching both new members and Line Officers the ins and outs of the job.

So, with this experience, you may be asking yourself, “Why is he doing this now?” The reason why I have teamed up with Mike to bring you this content is because both of us must make sure the next generation of techs is prepared. It took me 20 years to learn what I have learned. If I could bottle it, and give it to you, I would. But unfortunately, that is not how it works. The things I have done cannot be directly downloaded. They must be absorbed. Slowly. So, listen to us give your ideas, techniques, and our thoughts on a topic. You may agree or disagree BUT LEARN. Don't stop learning.

Thank you for taking a moment to learn about me, I hope to get to learn about you. I am a real person and can (and will) communicate with you. If you want to chat or pick my brain, contact me at bob@thehazmatguys.com.

MIKE MONACO:

I joined the fire service in 1998 as a volunteer firefighter. I enrolled in the State University of New York at Stonybrook, graduating with a BS in Neurological Physiology (study of the Nervous system). I became a career firefighter as well as an A.L.S. (Advanced life support) provider in 2002. In 2004 I joined Hazmat Company 1 and became a Hazardous Materials Technician. I started teaching in 2008 and in 2012 became a local instructor with the International Association of Firefighters. In 2013 was made a Master Instructor with the IAFF and have taught in various jurisdictions. I have also done private classes as well as industry-based hazmat.

The art of teaching is something I truly enjoy. I do my best to take dry topics and make them interactive and entertaining. I hope to use this forum to learn more and connect with people across this country. I don't like long walks on the beach, mainly because I just don't like long walks. Sometimes my sense of humor makes me an awful human being, but it's all in fun. So, feel free to reach out and say hi. My email is mike@thehazmatguys.com.

Presentation: Oxidizers

This session will provide a more advanced understanding of oxidizers. It's designed to empower participants to make better on-scene tactical decisions based upon situations and variables at hand. Case studies will be provided to emphasize recognition of oxidizers and ability to predict harm to the responder.

Presentation: Haz Mat Escape Room: Dr. Baxter's Lab

Doctor Baxter asked us to go grab something from her lab, and we are in trouble. Help us get out! This is a real escape room. You will be isolated with your group and given difficult tasks and puzzles to complete in 60 minutes to help us escape. You will need real hazmat skills and knowledge to complete this game. The group with the lowest time wins!

Presentation: The Chemistry of Hazmat Workshop

Though we are known for breaking the tough topics down to the 5th grade level, there are sometimes you can't get around it. Take a journey with The Haz Mat Guys to explain some serious chemistry and let us try to make this dense topic something that is not only digestible, but useful on the street throughout your career.

Presentation: Gamify Your Classes

We look at some alternate course methods using some new technology to make classes memorable.

Paul Rogers

FDNY Lieutenant Paul Rogers has been a Lieutenant within the New York City Fire Department since 1993. Previously, he was a police officer for 8 years within the New York City Police

Department. As an FDNY officer, Lieutenant Rogers is a Fire Prevention Subject Matter Expert (SME) for the FDNY Special Operations Command (SOC) Hazardous Materials Operations Unit. Lieutenant Rogers serves on the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force (USAR) 1 as a Hazardous Materials Manager, and previously has deployed with FEMA USR 1 to Haiti shortly following the devastating earthquake. Lt. Rogers also serves as an FDNY liaison to the U.S. Marine Corps Chemical Biological Incident Response Force (CBIRF). He is a voting member representing first responders for National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855, 1991, 1992, and 1994 and assists in the development of national standards for Energy Storage Systems installation and chemical protective clothing (CPC) for first responders. Lt Rogers is the FDNY representative for the Office of Technical Certifications and Research for Energy Storage Systems (ESS) within the New York City Department of Buildings and has become the point person for FDNY ESS operational guidelines to ESS. He has taught all FDNY Staff Chiefs and Incident Commanders about their role in responding to ESS. Lt. Rogers has also participated in numerous projects for the National Grid, Consolidated Edison, AT&T and Kinder Morgan within the renewable energy sector and the development of standards, codes and regulation related to first responders. Lt Rogers developed a national online training course dealing with ESS first responder operations for the NFPA. He has written several articles on renewable energy and first responder/safety issues including “Responses to Energy Storage Systems,” published in the June 2015 issue of *Fire Engineering*. Lt.Rogers can be reached at his email address: paul.rogers@fdny.nyc.gov

Presentation: Lithium-Ion Batteries

This course will give you an insight to Lithium-Ion batteries and the different applications (Consumer products, Electric Vehicles, Utility scaled Energy Storage Systems). Battery failures and hazards associated with the failures. The concerns from the DOT FAA and regulations about battery fires in the airline industry. We will also discuss incidents that have happened in different parts of the world and explain the cause origins and fire department operations.

Glen Rudner

Glen Rudner recently retired as a Manager, Environmental Operations, for the Norfolk Southern Railway with environmental compliance and operations responsibilities in the states of Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Prior to moving over to Environmental Operations, he was the Hazardous Materials Compliance Officer for NS' Alabama Division covering the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Western Georgia, and Southwestern Tennessee.

Prior to NS, Glen served as one of the General Managers at the Security and Emergency Response Training Center in Pueblo, Colorado. Has worked as a private consultant and retired as a Hazardous Materials Response Officer for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Glen has nearly 42 years of experience in public safety. He spent 12 years as a career firefighter/hazardous materials specialist for the City of Alexandria Fire Department, as well as a former volunteer firefighter, emergency medical technician, and officer. As a subcontractor, he has served as a consultant and assisted in development of many training programs for local, state, and federal agencies.

Glen serves as secretary for the National Fire Protection Association Technical Committee on Hazardous Materials Response He is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs

(IAFC) Hazardous Materials Committee, member of the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM), and former Co-Chairman of the Ethanol Emergency Response Coalition. He has served a member of the FEMA NAC RESPONSE Subcommittee

Scenario Based Training – Running out of Ideas?

Scenario based training has become the most common way of training response teams to work together. However, the challenges that are always present include: the same ideas, little variation, lack of realism, and not setting attainable goals. Through a series of questions and discussions the presenters will guide you through the obstacles described and help you to develop more effective whole skill exercises and drills to improve your team and the others that respond with you.

Back to the Basics – Grounding and Bonding

The program will follow the recommendations as set by the NFPA 472 standards and discuss the misunderstanding of what ground resistance is and why we do it first. Then, by demonstration, the instructor will show how we set up a grounding field for the damaged container, grounding field for the recovery container and appliances, and how to bond them together. This is an interactive program that will ask the student to discuss the subject. You can bring your ground density meter with you and make sure you know how it works