



Northern California Chapter of SAMPE

Presents

Dr. Robert N. Anderson

Ph.D., P.E., P.I.

"Rules and Roles of the Expert Witness in Composite Litigation Cases"

Hardboard siding is a composite. It is made of wood fibers and a resin binder. As with any product, it can be the object of litigation if it fails to meet the expectations of the consumer. This is because plaintiffs, such as building owner, can seek the cost of repairs or replacement when composite siding material fails. The material can be sensitive to moisture, with the result that it dimensionally changes - warps - and acts to support the growth of mold. When determining fault, the parties use expert witnesses in the appropriate engineering or scientific areas to support the presentation of their case.

Expert witnesses must follow the rules of testimony as established by court cases such as Fry, Daubert, and Kumho. These cases formed the basis by which expert testimony can be accepted by the court. The engineer or scientist in the role of the expert witness is responsible for understanding these rules and their boundaries on presenting expert testimony in the courtroom. Dr. Anderson will discuss this in his presentation on Wednesday, March 13, 2002 for the Northern California Chapter of SAMPE.

Dr. Anderson is the president of RNA Consulting, Inc., an engineering consulting corporation that specializes in forensic materials engineering and sciences. His expertise is the analysis of the behavior of materials, such as metal, plastics, glass, and ceramics in their related environments.

Dr. Anderson holds Ph.D. in Metallurgy from Stanford University and degrees in Chemical Engineering and Chemistry from the University of California at Berkeley and the University of San Francisco. He publishes extensively in the areas of thermodynamics, surface chemistry, fire analysis, and understanding of archeological materials.

March 13, 2002 Michaels at Shoreline

2960 Shoreline Blvd.
Mountain View, CA

Registration: 5:30 PM
Dinner: 6:00 PM
Speaker: 7:00 PM

Food Selections: Steak or Salmon

Members: \$17.00
Non Members \$22.00
Students \$10.00

Contact: Jack Jew 650-424-3011 jack.jew@lmco.com
or Carroll Bergdahl 408-446-4680 cbergdahl@aol.com



Announcements

March 13th Santa Clara County Science Fair - 5 or 6 Judges volunteered from ASM and SAMPE. Five to six hours needed for the day. Lunch is included. Contact: Jack Jew jack.jew@lmco.com

11th Annual Filament Winding Workshop - March 20-22 Salt Lake City, Utah. Host by Entec Composite Machines, Inc. Registration \$795.00. Little America Hotel. Contact: 801-486-8721, Fax 801-484-4363, e-mail: robyna@entec.com

Bridge Building Contest. Donations of supplier materials the kits. Last year kits contained, epoxy resin, adhesives, fabrics, tapes, prepregs, and braids, small spool of fibers, pultrusions, and various core materials. All materials are related to FRP fabrication. Target is for 60 entrants. Contact: Howard Klinger asklinger@voicenet.com

SAMPE International Coming Events

April 9 - 11, 2002 23rd International SAMPE Europe Conference and Tutorials/JEC, Paris, France

May 12 - 16, 2002 SAMPE 2002 Symposium /Exhibition, Long Beach, CA. www.sampe.org

November 4-7, 2002 34th International SAMPE Technical Conference Baltimore, MD

SAMPE Fellows To Be Honored at the SAMPE 2002 Symposium

Steve Loud, Dr. Michael V. McCabe, Dr. Ching -Long Ong Dr. A. Brent Strong

Are there Fellow in Your Midst? Contact George Schmitt at george.schmitt@wpafb.af.mil

Fifth Annual Super Light Weight Composite Bridge Building Contest SAMPE 2002, May 12-16, 2002 Long Beach, CA

The objective is to design and build the most weight efficient bridge constructed of composite materials. The maximum bridge envelop will be 22.5 " diameter x 6" high and will be supported by 3 posts equally spaced on a 21" circle. The bridge will be center loaded, and the most weight efficient bridge will be judged winner. Rules and entry form are on P50 of the SAMPE Journal.

Northern California Chapter of SAMPE Board Meeting

The board meets once a month, usually on the first Wednesday of the month, to plan technical meetings, organize the Composite Workshop, and take care of organizational activities such as the newsletter, new officers, scholarships, etc. The meetings are held during the dinner hour and we eat and meet. They start at 5:30 and are usually finished by 7:30.

New officers are often old timers who seem to be able to volunteer their time to their profession in some way. We really try not to put too many demands on anyone and often you can do a lot of your SAMPE work during lunch hours. Our membership has dropped below 200 members when just a few years ago we were at 750. Mailing the newsletter was really a big job then! We need to have you help by attending meetings, making suggestions for technical speakers, or volunteering yourself to deliver a paper. Our board noticed there are not too many papers on space applications in the 2002 Symposium in Long Beach. Well, the New Jersey Chapter probably would have loved to have five to ten papers on that subject. Someone needs make the suggestions to the right people at the right time. If you have suggestions or would like to participate as an officer or just talk with the board, call Carroll Bergdahl at 408-446-4680 or email: cbergdahl@aol.com.

Northern California Chapter of SAMPE 2001-2002 Officers

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