Bay Area Chapter

The Bay Area Chapter of the System Safety Society elected in February, 2010. Chapter officers are: Tami Hengen, President; Graham Murray, Vice President; Rich Bacher, Secretary; and Jim Feeley, Treasurer.

The Bay Area Chapter has participated in the Synopsys Silicon Valley Science and Technology Championship annually for more than 20 years. This year's regional science fair was held at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center in San Jose, California on Wednesday, March 17.

The Bay Area Chapter gives certificates and cash awards every year to at least the top three entries that best utilize the principles of System safety. Judges review and critique every science project submitted to determine the degree to which those principles are upheld. There were more than 950 projects this year, the viewing of which was no small task for our judges. This year's judges were Dave Adams, Bay Area Chapter Past President, and Bill Batand, who has served as principle judge at this fair many times over the years. This year's award recipients were:

Third Place: “Anti-Rolling Mechanism for Automobiles,” Noorsher Ahmed
The premise for this project was to prevent the inadvertent rollover of automobiles as they are traveling around curves. Noorsher designed and implemented a scale model mechanism that shifted a weight from one side of the model car to the other as the car entered a turn to compensate for the inertia of the vehicle.

Jeffery used a small robot to pick up various objects to simulate a robot in space collecting debris. While ground based, he had many ideas on how it could be adapted to space.

First Place: “Traffic Light Dilemma Warning Using Fuzzy Object Recognition Algorithm,” Aarthi Ravi and Shruthi Ravi
These two ladies put together an amazing project. Everyone who drives has probably come upon a traffic light that turns yellow. What do you do, slam on your brakes or speed up? This project takes out the guesswork. They have developed, and worked out many of the bugs in a system that automatically tells you to stop or continue to move forward.
Georgia Chapter

The Georgia Chapter held an Executive Committee Meeting on April 8, 2010, to discuss upcoming meetings, guest speakers, tours of technical facilities and meeting locations.

The Chapter's April 29 meeting was membership drive with food and beverage. A call in number was supplied to members unable to attend. A Chapter newsletter will be disseminated detailing the upcoming meeting schedule, upcoming technical conferences, announcements and upcoming tour information to members. Ongoing activities include tours of the FAA Atlanta TRACON, the Coca Cola Museum, and a bowling outing. Also, efforts are continuing to recruit system safety professionals at the Lockheed Martin facility in the Atlanta Metro area and throughout Georgia who are not members of the Society.

Singapore Chapter

Due to popular demand, the Singapore Chapter organized another run of Dr. Rodney Simmons' course on "System Safety Analysis Techniques" from January 25-27, 2010. The Chapter has heard feedback on December's course and has revised the topics covered by the Executive Committee. Yap Kwee Seng, Fan Yue Sang and Siow Seet Ting made a joint presentation on "System Safety in Singapore." "Starting a Safety Assessment" and "Developing Fault Tree from Functional Flow" during the course. They shared how system safety is implemented on the new rail lines, as well as new projects like the floating platform in Marina.
On Feb. 23, 2010, the Singapore Chapter Executive Committee met to finalize plans for 2010. The Chapter plans to run another introductory course and an intermediate course on system safety this year. The Chapter also planned at least three sharing sessions for the year to promote system safety in the local community.

Tennessee Valley Chapter

Mike Pessoney presented the software safety assessment report to 21 members and nine guests at the Chapter's meeting on February 17, 2010. Qinetiq provided the facility and drinks. Thanks to Jim Covan for helping with the collection of money for the food that was delivered. The TVC special events coordinator presented a System Safety Society award at the Future City Competition to Hampton Cove School for its safety analysis and planning efforts during construction of its city.

Jim Blanteno's report on the Future City Competition will be published in the February newsletter. Don Swallom, Webmaster, has populated the Tennessee Valley Chapter System Safety Society Web site. It is up and running at http://www.isss-tvc.org/. Mike's presentation discussed a way of managing software safety efforts in an Access database. The database links software-related hazards to software requirements, and sorts and reports all software safety information in a way that describes the level of assurance of the mitigation of each software-related hazard.

Mike Pessoney identified the activities and products necessary, and the methods for melding products into the database that supports assessment of hazard risk for software-related hazards.

The 2010 North Alabama Regional Science and Engineering Fair was held March 3-5, 2010 at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. For the sixth consecutive year, the Tennessee Valley Chapter has sponsored three age group awards (a certificate and a $200 savings bond) for the best safety-related projects. This year's awards were given in the elementary (fifth grade), junior (sixth through eighth grade), and senior (ninth through twelfth grade) divisions. The projects are evaluated on four criteria:

a. The safety-relatedness of the project (40%)
b. Display (20%)
c. Write-up (20%)
d. Discussion with judges (20%)

The winners for 2010 are:

**Elementary Division:** Paige Sander, Columbia Elementary, "How Pure is the New Fallen Snow?" This project examined the purity of snow samples taken from multiple areas in Huntsville and the surrounding areas to determine if it was safe to eat the new fallen snow.

**Junior Division:** Amy Baer-Peckham, Hampton Cove Middle School, "Safety of Housepaints When Burned." This project examined the burning rate and ease of combustion of paper coated with different types of interior paint.

**Senior Division:** Christian Posey, Athens Bible School, "Is Food Safe That has Been Heated In Plastic?" This project tested different types of plastic containers to determine if toxic material leached from the containers after heating water in a microwave.

On March 24, 2010, SAIC hosted a chapter meeting. Twenty TVC members and six guests enjoyed...
the food and drinks provided by SAIC (thanks to Dave West) while APT Research provided the
Webcast via Go To Meeting (Thanks to Troy Farmer). Two guests, who were unable to be physically
present attended online. Members and guests gathered to hear a Webcast presentation on
Structured Assurance Cases: Three Common Standards presented by Scott Ankrum and Dr. Alfred
H. Kromholz of Mitre.

From Jerry Banister, Director of Chapter Services

Society Chapter Steering Committees

The Colorado Chapter held its second meeting in March, and I will forward a reactivation package for
an EC vote after the election of chapter officers.

There are 18 Society members in Colorado. Congratulations and kudos to Colorado Reactivation
Steering Committee Chair Don Riddle and his team.

The Australia Chapter increased Society membership from four to 19 in SY10 with only three
associate members. I will forward a new formation package for an EC vote after the Chapter holds its
second meeting and elects chapter officers. Kudos and congratulations to the New Chapter
Formation Steering Committee that is chaired by Dr. Holger Becht and Glenn Larsen,

Congratulations to new Kansas Chapter Formation Steering Committee Chair Matt Archer, and
thanks to former Committee Chair Paul Pillar who increased Society membership from two to four in
Kansas prior to his transfer to Missouri.

I will update the key member list with the chapter name and president after the EC approves of a
chapter formation or reactivation. New chapters in Australia and Colorado should be approved prior
to ISSC 28.

I encourage you to contact your chapter point of contact listed in the back of Journal of System
Safety and to volunteer to serve your chapter.