

TO: AF&PA Recovery Boiler Program Company Representatives,  
Recovery Boiler Superintendents, Members, and Guests

**RECOVERY BOILER OPERATIONAL  
SAFETY SEMINARS & REVIEW OF  
AF&PA - BLRBAC GUIDELINES  
FOR 2018**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO SEND SOME OF YOUR OPERATORS, SUPERVISORS, MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS, AND ENGINEERS TO THE SEMINARS:**

**April 24-25, 2018     Atlanta, GA  
May 15-16, 2018     Atlanta, GA**

Fortunately, we have not had a recovery boiler explosion in the U. S. in 4 years. There were 56 incidents reported to BLRBAC in 2017, and of these, 18 were classified as critical. Some of these incidents were considered very serious and it was lucky that there was no explosion. BLRBAC defines “critical” as meaning that water entered the unit forward of isolating baffles, and there was the potential of an explosion. Training and reaction to the situations apparently saved the day in many cases. Learning to recognize the situation before it becomes critical is a big part of the battle. With the increased number of new people or lesser experienced people working in the recovery boiler area, companies are realizing the need for more training. Of the incidents reported last year, 84% were discovered by “walk-downs,” thus, finding small problems before turning into large problems.

Although only one dissolving tank explosion was reported last year, the Committee feels that there have been more upsets in that area that are not reported. AF&PA is studying the dissolving area in an attempt to reduce these upsets and to develop best practices to safely operate dissolving tanks.

Much is learned from the incidents reported. The Committee feels that more mills are realizing the need for people operating the boilers to further their knowledge and understanding of the safe operation of recovery boilers. As we see, the majority of pressure part leaks are still found during operator “walk-downs” which supports the conclusion that the operators are more aware of what, where, and how to look for leaks, and to find them as early as possible. The greatest challenge we face in the recovery boiler operation is the recognition of major tube leaks followed by the operator’s correct and timely reaction to the emergency. The seminars focus on the proper training and handling of these upset situations to minimize exposure to personnel; reduce injuries; as well as down time and damage. The outstanding dialogue among attendees was again cited as a key factor in responses rating the seminars as “Excellent.” The responses repeatedly mentioned that the **main objective of the seminars** - the need to **increase awareness in safely operating the boilers - as most important.**

Thus, with the above factors heard from the mills, there is greater emphasis for these seminars. The cost for someone attending these seminars is rather small compared to the possible injuries and costs of an upset in the boiler. Based on inquiries already received, we anticipate very good attendance from operators, supervisors, maintenance professionals, and engineers. The seminars are planned for active participation by each attendee. Therefore, to provide a program most beneficial to all, we try to limit attendance at each seminar to 64 participants. The Seminars are planned for two half-days allowing for travel to and from the seminars. An agenda and registration forms for each seminar are enclosed.

The registration fee for each Operational Safety Seminar is \$320 per attendee for member companies of the AF&PA Recovery Boiler Program (\$640 for attendees of non-member companies), and includes dinner, a continental breakfast and coffee breaks. Please complete the enclosed registration form indicating which Seminar you wish to attend and return it to me along with your registration fee made payable to "AF&PA". Registration for each Seminar will be on a first-come first-served basis. In order to avoid making unnecessary follow-ups, please let us know whether you plan to send people to the sessions this year. The attached form can be completed and returned to me as soon as you know by email, fax, or sent by mail to the address indicated on the form.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel for each seminar at a special rate per night of \$149 + tax. Registration forms for the Seminars and Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel are enclosed. Hotel registrations may be made by calling 1 (800) 228-9290 or (404) 766-7900, but you must request the **"AFPA Meeting" Group** rate.

The Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel is conveniently located near the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Hotel shuttles leave every 15 minutes during most of the day and every 30 minutes between 12 Midnight and 5:00 AM.

If there are any questions concerning these sessions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Wayne Grilliot  
American Forest & Paper Association  
Recovery Boiler Program  
Email: grilliot.wj@apec.com  
Cell: 937-602-1892

**Mailing Address:**  
AF&PA - Recovery Boiler Program  
Attn: Wayne Grilliot  
C/O: APEC, LLC  
204 Hiawatha Trail  
Springboro, Ohio 45066



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**AF&PA RECOVERY BOILER PROGRAM**  
**2018 OPERATIONAL SAFETY SEMINARS &**  
**REVIEW OF AF&PA AND BLRBAC GUIDELINES**

\_\_\_ We plan to send (number of people) \_\_\_ to the 2018 Operational Safety Seminars in Atlanta, Georgia at the Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel:

**April 24-25, 2018** \_\_\_\_\_

**May 15-16, 2018** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration fee \$320.00 for members of the AF&PA Recovery Boiler Program**

**Registration fee for non-members of the AF&PA Recovery Boiler Program is \$640.00**

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Titles: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephones: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phones: \_\_\_\_\_

Emails: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Mill: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to “AF&PA”**

**Return this form and payment to:**

AF&PA - Recovery Boiler Program

Attn: Wayne Grilliot

C/O: APEC, LLC

204 Hiawatha Trail

Springboro, Ohio 45066

Email: grilliot.wj@apec.com

937-746-5569 Fax

937-602-1892 Cell (Preferred)

937-746-4600 Main Office

**If paying by credit card (please provide the following)**

Type of credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card verification code (CVC): \_\_\_\_\_

Name on the card \_\_\_\_\_

Amount to be charged to credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

AF&PA – Recovery Boiler Program  
 Attn: Wayne Grilliot  
 C/O: APEC, LLC  
 204 Hiawatha Trail; Springboro, Ohio 45066  
 Phone: (937) 602-1892 Fax: (937) 746-5569  
 Email: grilliot.wj@apec.com

**AF&PA RECOVERY BOILER PROGRAM  
MAY 2018 OPERATIONAL SAFETY SEMINAR &  
REVIEW OF AF&PA AND BLRBAC GUIDELINES**

**May 15-16, 2018**

**Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel  
4711 Best Road  
Atlanta, GA**

**FIRST DAY SCHEDULE – Tuesday, May 15, 2018**

12:30 p.m.	Registration - Distribution of materials and table assignments
1:15 p.m.	Welcome and introductory remarks AF&PA Antitrust Policy Explanation and outline of seminar/review format by monitors <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bob Phelps - Extra Hand Plant Support Services</li><li>• Dean Clay - Boiler Services &amp; Inspection, LLC (BSI)</li></ul>
1:30 p.m.	Incidents 1 through 4 - Assigned reading and discussion at tables
2:15 p.m.	Group reports and open discussions of Incident 1
2:45 p.m.	Coffee break
3:00 p.m.	Group reports and open discussions of Incidents 2, 3, and 4
4:30 p.m.	Recovery Boiler Explosion Experience – Brief Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dean Clay</li></ul>
5:00 p.m.	<b>“Root Cause”</b> - Five key problem areas (training, maintenance, staff support, personnel qualifications, and production pressure) Summary and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bob Phelps</li></ul>
5:15 p.m.	Adjourn
6:00 p.m.	Dinner

**SECOND DAY SCHEDULE – Wednesday, May 16, 2018**

- 7:00 a.m. Continental breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Explanation of morning's activities
- 8:15 a.m. Incidents 5 and 6 - Assigned reading and discussion at tables
- 9:00 a.m. Group reports and open discussions of Incidents 5 and 6
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:15 a.m. General discussion of impediments to leak detection and of pyrolysis gas explosions
- 10:30 a.m. Review of submitted "AF&PA Operating Problems Discussion Suggestion Sheets"
- 11:00 a.m. **Discussion – Messrs. Clay and Phelps**  
What are the signs of a leak in the control room?  
    Indications of a Pressure Part Leak.  
    Decision Time.  
    Best Practices  
    Construction and use of decision charts;  
Interlocks and interlock bypassing:  
    Purpose of interlocks;  
    Major interlock systems on recovery boilers;  
    Specific procedures employed when interlocks are not functioning.  
Keeping spouts operating properly;  
Procedures for opening plugged spouts;  
Protective equipment.
- 11:45 a.m. How to use BLRBAC and AF&PA resources.
- 12:00 noon Adjourn

AF&PA – Recovery Boiler Program  
Attn: Wayne Grilliot  
C/O: APEC, LLC  
204 Hiawatha Trail; Springboro, Ohio 45066  
Phone: (937) 602-1892 Fax: (937) 746-5569  
Email: grilliot.wj@apec.com



**HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION**  
**AF&PA RECOVERY BOILER PROGRAM**  
**MAY 2018 OPERATIONAL SAFETY SEMINAR &**  
**REVIEW OF AF&PA AND BLRBAC GUIDELINES**

**May 14-16, 2018**  
**Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel**  
**Atlanta, Georgia**

**Please make Hotel Reservations by Monday, April 23, 2018**

(Reservations made after that date will be on an “as available” basis and possibly at a higher rate.)

**Please make sure to guarantee the room for late arrival.**

**To Make Hotel Reservations, Contact:**  
**Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel**  
**4711 Best Road**  
**Atlanta, Georgia 30337**  
**Telephone: 1 (800) 228-9290 or**  
**(404) 766-7900**

**ROOM RATE: Standard Guest Room \$149.00, plus tax**

**When calling: Request the “AFPA Meeting” Group rate and provide the following information.**

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Number in Party: \_\_\_\_\_  
Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number (If Charged) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please indicate type of card and expiration date.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

The Atlanta Airport Marriott Hotel is conveniently located near the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Hotel shuttles leave every 15 minutes during most of the day and every 30 minutes between 12 Midnight and 5:00 AM. The TSA lines at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport can be long at times. It is recommended to be at the airport at least 90 minutes prior to your flight time.

# OPERATING PROBLEMS DISCUSSION SUGGESTION SHEET

Please take a moment to share your thoughts!!!  
Just jot down some things that you would like to have discussed!!!

<b>SUCSESSES</b>
<b>CHALLENGES</b>
<b>QUESTIONS</b>
<b>ISSUES</b>

**POSSIBLE TOPICS:** Precipitators, carbon steel, sootblowers, steam outs, instrumentation, ID fan, green liquor, FD fan, burner management, hoppers, superheater, water wash, cyclone evaporator, egress, insurance, spout cooling, qualification, plugging, generating bank, density, lagging, corrosion, combustibles, ESP, blowdown, pumps, capacity, agitators, metal spray, NDE, scaffolding, refractory temperature, agitators, drum level, air heater, emergency, personnel, atomizing steam, nozzles, sarco strainer, safety shut/off valves, smelt, near drum corrosion, double valve and tell-tale, refractory temperature, metal spray, flame detector, studs, fire protection, sprayer plates.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Completed forms can be submitted anytime during the seminar.

Also, please offer your suggestions of how to improve these Operational Safety Seminars.

Thank you.