

# **Stephen M. Olenick, MSFPE, MBA, P.E., C.F.E.I**

## **Fire Protection Engineering**

Mr. Olenick graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science in Fire Protection Engineering and in 1999 with a Master of Science in Fire Protection Engineering. His master thesis research concentrated on material flammability in micro-gravity environments and included several experimental campaigns aboard NASA's KC-135 'Vomit Comet' parabolic flights. He is a licensed professional engineer (PE) as well as a certified fire and explosion investigator (CFEI), and holds an MBA degree from Loyola University in Maryland.

Mr. Olenick's professional interests include smoke and fire detection and notification, spacecraft and space environment fire safety, material flammability, fire modeling, computational fluid dynamics (CFD), carbon monoxide and fuel gas detection, and forensic fire investigation and reconstruction. These interests have led him to take leadership positions in the Fire Protection Engineering and Fire Science communities on these topics. He is a principal member of the *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code* (NFPA 72) Technical Committee on Single- and Multiple-Station Alarms and Household Fire Alarm Systems and was a principal member of the *Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning Equipment* (NFPA 720) Technical Committee on Carbon Monoxide Detection until the committee disbanded in 2017. He is Chair of the newly formed Fuel Gases Warning Equipment Technical Committee responsible for the new *Standard for the Installation of Fuel Gases Detection and Warning Equipment* (NFPA 715).

He frequently publishes and presents his work to the Fire Protection Engineering and Fire Science communities. He was the recipient of the prestigious Harry C. Bigglestone award for Excellence in Communication of Fire Protection Concepts in 2005, the William M. Carey award for best fire detection-based presentation at the National Fire Protection Research Foundation's SUPDET 2007 symposium, and the SFPE Jack Bono award for Engineering Communications in 2022. He is a frequent peer-reviewer for fire science publications and conferences including *Fire Technology* and the International Association of Fire Safety Science Symposiums. Mr. Olenick was also a member of the detection Program Committee for the NFPA Research Foundation's Suppression and Detection Research Applications Conference in 2008 (SUPDET 2008) and served as a guest editor for a special detection edition of *Fire Technology*. He is currently a member of the Editorial Board of *Fire Technology* and is a recipient of the *Fire Technology* Jack Watts Award for Outstanding Reviewer in 2017. He has also authored chapters on fuel gases detection and carbon monoxide detection (revised) for the NFPA Fire Protection Handbook (21<sup>st</sup> edition).

Presently, Mr. Olenick is a full-time, Principal Engineer at Combustion Science & Engineering, Inc. with over 25 years of experience in the field of Fire Protection

Engineering. As a senior-level Fire Protection Engineer at CSE, Mr. Olenick's expertise includes fire origin and cause investigation, fire detection, CO and fuel gas detection, fire victim toxicology, fire modeling, fire experiments, product failure analysis, post-fire reconstruction, fire protection systems, and building code review. Mr. Olenick has conducted numerous fire investigations and has served as a consultant on a variety of litigation matters spanning a broad range of both criminal and civil cases involving residential, commercial, and industrial fires. In this consulting roll, Mr. Olenick has gained experience giving depositions and testimonies at trial and court hearings.