

# FORCON INTERNATIONAL

**WALTER S. LAIRD, P.E., C.F.E.I., C.M.I., C.F.I.**

## **EDUCATION**

M.S. Materials Engineering, Johns Hopkins University  
M.S. Ocean Systems and Shipbuilding Management, MIT  
B.S. Naval Architecture, MIT  
Naval Nuclear Power School  
NWC diploma, Command and Staff Level Management Course, United States Naval War College  
Naval Surface Warfare Officer's School  
Naval Surface Ship Department Head School  
Accident Reconstruction, Northwestern University, Illinois  
Protective Coatings and Linings, National Association of Corrosion Engineers

## **PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS**

- Registered Professional Engineer, Mechanical Engineering, in Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Washington, DC and West Virginia
- American Welding Society Certified Welding Inspector
- Certified Marine Investigator

## **FIELDS OF SPECIALTY:**

**Failure analysis; accident reconstruction; fire origin and cause; mechanical maintenance and engineering; corrosion controls; marine engineering.**

## **MAJOR MARINE EXPERIENCE:**

Program engineer for U.S. Coast Guard vessel construction cost analysis; advanced underwater hull maintenance tool development for U.S. Navy; Engineering for Reduced Ship's Maintenance programs for U.S. Navy including coating systems analysis and evaluation, material compatibility evaluation, corrosion and failure analysis, test program development.

Operations Officer, USS CONNOLE (FF-1056). Developed ship's operational and training schedule. Directed operation and maintenance of all electronic Combat Information Systems. Developed ship's overhaul and maintenance programs. Watch stations included Tactical Action Officer, Officer of the Deck (underway), and Command Duty Officer.

Chief Engineer for Mechanical Systems, USS TEXAS (CGN-39). Directed overhaul of nuclear reactor, steam propulsion, and electrical plant mechanical systems during three-year complex overhaul. Managed division responsible for reactor plant chemistry, personnel monitoring and exposure control, reactor plant waste management, and radiological casualty response. Watch stations included Engineering Officer of the Watch, Officer of the Deck (underway), and Combat Information Center Watch Officer.

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U.S. Naval Academy Faculty, Officer In Charge of Yard Patrol Craft. Directed Midshipmen seamanship training that included ship handling, Rules of the Road, and coastal navigation.

Professional sailing and seamanship instructor at the Boston Sailing Center.  
Sailboat racing skipper and assistant coach for USNA Dinghy Racing Team.

Rear Commodore of Sail at Chautauqua Yacht Club in charge of Race Committee and protest resolution regarding Rules of the Road.

Personally re-powered and rebuilt a 42 foot Bristol Trawler.  
35 years direct experience with all types of watercraft operation, maintenance, and repair.

## **OTHER MAJOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Directed the maintenance of electrical and engineering infrastructure for Six Flags Great Adventure, the second largest amusement park in the US. Developed improved maintenance and corrosion control procedures; conducted engineering feasibility analyses for new ride installations and modifications.

Program engineer for multi-million dollar amusement ride development and installation at Universal Studios Florida and attractions at the MGM Grand Hotel Theme Park in Las Vegas. Conducted engineering development and reviews regarding materials and systems integration.

Materials research engineer for establishing new research programs that carried out contracted engineering testing and development of materials and processes that minimize corrosion. Managed entire research programs - metastable thin film development and testing, fastener protection systems evaluation and development, materials development and testing, welding analysis, marine corrosion training programs.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:**

The American Society of Naval Engineers; National Association of Corrosion Engineers;  
Society of Automotive Engineers, American Welding Society;  
National Academy of Forensic Engineers-Senior member  
International Association of Marine Investigators

## **AWARDS:**

National Defense Science and Engineering Fellow at Johns Hopkins University  
Graduate Fellowship at Massachusetts Institute of Technology