

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

**PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS**

- Registered Professional Engineer, Mechanical Engineering, in Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Washington, DC, South Carolina and West Virginia
- National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)
  - Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator
  - Certified Fire Investigation Instructor
- Certified Amusement Ride Device Inspector, the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Certified Welding Inspector, American Welding Society.
- Certified Marine Investigator

**EDUCATION & CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

1979	Bachelor of Science, Naval Architecture – Marine Engineering	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
1981	Masters of Science, Ocean Systems and Shipbuilding Management	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
1982	Nuclear Power School	United States Navy
1991	Command and Staff Level Management Course	United States Naval War College
1993	Masters of Science, Materials Engineering	Johns Hopkins University
1995	Protective Coatings and Linings	National Association of Corrosion Engineers.
1997	Traffic Accident Reconstruction	Northwestern University
1999	Investigation of Vehicle Fires	Lee S. Cole & Associates, Inc.
2002	Advanced Fire & Explosion Investigation	University of Eastern Kentucky
2005	Marine Investigations	International Association of Marine Investigators

**AWARDS**

Fellow, National Defense Science and Engineering, Johns Hopkins University.  
Graduate Fellow, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

The American Society of Naval Engineers.  
National Association of Corrosion Engineers.  
Society of Automotive Engineers.  
National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials.  
National Association of Fire Investigators.  
National Academy of Forensic Engineers-Senior Member  
National Society of Professional Engineers  
International Association of Marine Investigators

**FORENSIC INVESTIGATION & TECHNICAL EXPERTISE**

Motorcycle crash and causation analysis with over 30 years of operating experience  
Heavy equipment accident reconstruction and analysis  
Vehicle materials, parts, and mechanical system failures  
Vehicle/Equipment fire origin & cause  
Welding failures and analysis  
Power tools and consumer equipment accident analysis  
Marine vessel and equipment analysis  
Product liability  
Workplace safety  
Amusement Park Rides  
Corrosion failure analysis  
Failures of plastic and metallic plumbing components  
Fatigue related failures

**SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE**

Lead Forensic Engineer for FORCON International Va. Limited for over 10 years conducting investigations and providing expert testimony in areas of noted expertise.

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, materials evaluation, corrosion and failure analysis, test program development.

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

Senior Project Engineer, Auxiliary Systems and Materials Engineering for a major naval architecture and marine engineering firm, M. Rosenblatt & Son, Inc.

Lead Engineer in charge of two year investigation of vehicle axle and wheel end component failures.

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 which 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.

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.

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.

U.S. Naval Academy Faculty. Directed the Material Science curriculum. Developed state-of-the-art computer teaching methods for faculty. Materials Laboratory Manager.