

2024 retirement for John Courier from Chairman of EC committee

It has been over 50 years for me in this industry and I plan to retire in 2024.

You know John, I have significant respect for you, and what I have learned from you over the years is invaluable! I truly value our business relationship and well as friendship we have had over the years. I still recall the first time I met you back in Seattle at the airport hotel. What a start, right??? Your enthusiasm and drive in this industry will never be matched by anyone else. It is truly a shame that the work ethic by many today is NOT the same as it used to be.

But unfortunately, there comes a time to relax and enjoy the ride one had. That will happen to me one day, but like you, has been frustrating at times, but I enjoy the work / challenge, and it is still overall fun. Especially when you help someone and see the "light bulb" come on...

So, while you may be retiring, you ain't going away my friend!!! And you know what John, you have made a mark, and people do know who you are....

It has been a struggle to Grow this EC size, I was continuously trying to get more members, and increase the variety of the group, more Contractors, and equipment Specialists

Yes, well since we are all volunteers here, is not so easy at times to get the participation. As you may recall, we have had the same issue within PDA. It is not that some don't want to, they just don't have the time as out chasing that dollar. And many may feel that "what's in it for me" attitude rather than seeing how it will benefit the industry and their work. Not sure how to fix that John...

Right now, I am building a Battery-operated Generator. I have a Prototype model working now. These could totally change how you power your equipment with less space, weight, much quieter, and 100% less cost to operate your present equipment. Right now, it's a hybrid but a full battery system is in the works. Concentrating some energy to finish this project.

I Sincerely hope that the Equipment Committee could accomplish the goals that I gave to Bill Springer.

I need more time to work on my personal health. **YES!!!!!! And spend more time with the family and relaxing....**

Thank You, for putting up with my old quirks!

I have some outgoing proposals to think about.

Areas that I had great interest in and still think need to be worked on are:

Better Control of the heat of our products from the Drum to the gun. TT-G10.

IE insulate your Equipment components; we need to do this first. You need to insulate the long fluid hoses from the transfer pumps to the proportioner. It will pay for itself in many ways.

Yes, this is a valid suggestion. Could assemble as a tech update document to improve efficiency, kinda like that document we did years ago for PDA.

Get steel springs that cause **100 lbs. +** pressure loss on each pass out of our systems.

John, while this may seem like a sound idea and is valid, I feel that this is more of an equipment manufacturer issue, and not a task of the SPFA Equipment committee. We could comment as a suggestion in maybe a document on improving efficiency, but to say they need to change, well not really our mission.

Actually, getting the Fire rods out of the Chemical is the best. Fire rods burn the chemicals and change the performance.

The issue with this and the "fire rods" is that people have allowed air to get into the system. Why, well cavitating the supply pumps, running a drum dry, etc. such that there is no liquid present to offer the resistance. Again, this is more of an equipment manufacture issue, and proper training for the applicators. Look at what Titan did with their heater system, unfortunately they are no longer in business with the Helix system.

Reduce the Size and demands of our back up power equipment by reducing the size of the amp load demands needed. Better Control of heats, and air use can accomplish most of this. The Equipment manufacturers have not fixed the electrical load demands, nor have they attempted to insulate and control the heats. They have a long way to go on the air demands yet.

Again, good suggestion, but this is an equipment manufacture issue, not so much SPFA tech document issue.

You must get the two temperatures controlled before the Proportioner or meter pumps to match the Viscosity and Flow and coefficient of friction, then we can better proportion on ratio with a common drive system. Otherwise, you cannot control the ratio at the proportioner or meter.

So, have you seen the new Reactor 3 systems, which communicate with the electric drum pumps to adjust speed, balance flow to machine? This of course also addresses your next comment on reducing air requirements.

Reduce the Air CFM load as it is a dirty, expensive high maintenance commodity. Using Hydraulic drum mixers and electric mixers and alternative driving of the transfer pumps, if used or needed.

Converting our Backup Generator to be Environmentally friendly, Smaller, Quieter, Less Vibration, and less weight less expense and more space in the rig. Use a Battery-operated Generator!

Sorry but not gonna touch this one. While I feel that environmental issues are important, I don't feel the battery mode is the best. I am a chemist, but also have common sense when it comes to this issue with batteries, solar, etc. Why not go with Hydrogen fuel??? This of course is my opinion here John.

There is a lot to do in the heat and control of our hoses yet. Lighter is not as insulated as well. Note: These internal wire heaters need a big warning, to not get an air bubble in the hoses or the wire can overheat and burn in-to!

Yes, I will agree here. This is the same issue that can happen with the "fire-rod" comment previously. All about better training and the contractors paying attention to what they are doing. Too many 1-man shows out there....

Continue to make our Rigs safer, and less chance of a Fire and how to put out. The C-26 liquid no mess Fire ball is a more economical solution to stop the fire before it gets too large. It does not make a big powder mess.

Yes

I still believe in independent drive systems, better handling of the fluids, easier testing, less equipment, and problems much simpler to Troubleshoot. Transfer pumps are Not needed, and these pumps are a big added maintenance failure to our systems. If I had the funds could prove that we could put two (2) spray guns on one Independent Drive meter.

So, John, there are independent drive systems that are out there being used. Most (in the US) are in OEM applications, not so much field work. Ah but in Europe, you see more of this, GAMA / Nova is big in this area.

Not sure what has happened with Akurate (independent drive, gear pumps) but Carlisle sure is making a push with their system. And while there have been a few issues along the way, many users of it seem to be happy overall.

Current equipment is getting way too electronic for the operators to try to troubleshoot. One cannot keep going to finish a job because of electronics if this is where the problem is. **Our Equipment companies need to come up with better ways to troubleshoot and manual Override options so that you can override the problem and get running enough to complete a project.** This is an added deterrent to our systems.

I will 100% agree with you that equipment is becoming too high-tech and making the applicators lazy.... I see this every day on the various posts on Facebook

about this. For example, “why am I getting an E 24?” They don’t know where to look, how to fix or address the issue. Why??? Well, some equipment / material supply people are supplying machine to anybody with NO TRAINING, 1-man shows thinking they will be millionaires by the end of the year!!! And training / certification is not being required / enforced by the end use customer. At least in Canada they have CUFCA to try and address this issue. This is the most frustrating part, and one of my pet peeves if you will!!!

Spray Guns:

We need to get the Screens out of the gun, and they must be 40 mesh. When they burst in the gun destroys everything. I had Designed and built years ago. Purge the mini strainer once a day and spray for weeks without taking the gun apart.

So, I preach daily to use the proper screens!!! 40-mesh, YES!! Just so you know, GRACO, in their industrial paint division, puts out the following chart related to screen size and spray tip being used in airless sprayers. But with these big companies like this, one group does not communicate with the other group. Gama for example supplies most of their spray guns with 40-mesh screens. Why, because they learned the importance. GRACO is a big company / machine, and it is hard to change the turning wheels so to speak. Again, comes down to education of the applicators / equipment users, and support from the distributors...

Graco Contractor Club
5,365 followers
3d · 🌐

+ Follow

Looking for that smooth finish? Make sure you have the right filter to match your sprayer's tip opening.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT FILTER

Tip Size	Filter Mesh
0.006" - 0.012"	200
0.010" - 0.016"	100
0.015" - 0.029"	60
0.031" +	30

Tip size

GRACO

Gun Safety Have had for years on my gun. All Guns need to have an Automatic like a Glock gun safety in the handle before it will spray. Make it a requirement on all guns! Not a manual but Auto Safety!

Good idea John. But what will happen is that new type safety will get covered with overspray, etc., and will eventually be disabled by the applicator, or they will complain that the gun is not working properly. Don't really see this as a big issue per say, proper training will handle this...

For now, institute this web Fluke multimeter training and our Power Point Training set up an Equipment maintenance Training program. Write this Training objective from our Power Point and institute it. Everyone that works on a spray rig needs to have the correct multimeter tester and know how to use a Multimeter to "Trouble shoot"!

So, I thought that ppt is well prepared and presented!!! And it comes down to proper training of the applicators. The reality is that most of these guys don't want to or claim to not have time to go to training or been doing this for 20 years and "I know" kind of attitude, when they really don't know.... They are all out there to chase that money. Look how many applicators are coming just to the SFWW event and not staying for the complete SPFA show. Why???? Unfortunately, they are more interested in a party and what kinda "freebies" they are going to get. Sad but true... It's all about being Committed and Competent, like that paper I wrote for SprayFoam Magazine on this subject.

I would like to see The Equipment Committee have monthly Zoom 1-hour meetings to keep the momentum going better!

I still think that committees could meet during Sprayfoam. Note: over the past 50 years the faculty has been too busy to want to have meetings at the Sprayfoam convention. They want a faculty member to oversee the meetings. Maybe you can fix this. We should be able to have non-sanctioned meetings. Or a committee meeting day for all committees at the Sprayfoam Conference.

I agree here John! We do this in the work with AMPP (SSPC / NACE) as well as PDA, ACI, etc.

We need to be making equipment recommendations to the Contractors in published bulletins and to have them contact the manufacturers to improve their components!

Yes, I will agree to a point about making recommendations to improve the efficiency of the spray foam, and polyurea work. However, need to be very cautious here. As an inspector, and teacher at certification schools, one of the

Golden Rules is to NOT modify equipment with add-ons from other supply sources outside the original equipment manufacturer. This is a no-no and will result in a written “non-Conformance” document related to the project work. Of course, this is in mainly industrial work where a proper specification is written, and I have in fact written these up before when on some projects. It all goes back to the proper training.

And as far as processing materials / equipment use, that setup recommendation should come for the specific system supplier for their materials, and not so much from just the equipment supplier. Remember how we used to do this at EnviroChem? More recently, I see that ProFoam is trying to employ the same (I am working with Doug on this, as well as ProFoam’s relationship with MCC – Equipment distributor). And take for example the OBIC group of independent contractors, they are also doing the same related to equipment set-up and use, all are on the same page here.

This could be a new Mission statement.

Later, John Courier and Thank You Dudley for controlling the center hub of our plural component wheel for these past 35 years!

John Courier

Web Ectech.com

Email 2johnpc@comcast.net

Cell 206-979-3533